



## UWS Academic Portal

### Global supply chains, global value chains and the SDGs

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Published: 27/06/2018

[Link to publication on the UWS Academic Portal](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Struthers, J. (2018). *Global supply chains, global value chains and the SDGs: UWS-OXFAM policy workshop Glasgow.*

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## **A Scottish Business Pledge that Works for All:**

**How can a renewed Scottish Business Pledge help Scotland to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals?**

**Wednesday 27th June 2018 (9.30am- 1pm)  
The Lighthouse, 11 Mitchell Lane, Glasgow, G1 3NU**

This event will ask how the review of the Scottish Business Pledge can help Scotland to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Can the Pledge be broadened to encompass policies on corporate governance, Human Rights, climate change targets and tax? In the current pledge 'internationalisation' means pursuing international business opportunities, but how can we integrate an international outlook into other aspects of the pledge in a meaningful way? We think this is a time to question whether growth and productivity means the same thing as responsible business, and whether the ambition of the pledge can be made clearer and more powerful.

### **About the UWS-Oxfam Partnership**

The UWS-Oxfam Partnership is an innovative model of research and knowledge exchange between the University of the West of Scotland, Oxfam Scotland and a range of civil society organisations.

The Partnership was launched in 2012 after years of successful collaborations between the University and Oxfam Scotland. Since then, the Partnership has brought together the academic expertise from UWS, the social justice and anti-poverty advocacy strengths of Oxfam Scotland, and a wide range of civil society organisations linked to Oxfam's UK Poverty Programme in Scotland. Under the umbrella of the Partnership, the impact of public policies on equality, sustainability and poverty in Scotland have been critically examined. The overarching aim of the Partnership's diverse activities has been to inform the public debate about the future of Scotland.

The Partnership's agenda is led by its Policy Forum which regularly invites stakeholders to discuss and challenge existing ideas and policies. These discussions also feed into Oxfam Scotland's work.

To find out more, please visit the partnership website at:  
[uwsoxfampartnership.org.uk](http://uwsoxfampartnership.org.uk).

## Programme

09:30	<b>Registration and Coffee</b>
10:00	<b>Introduction and welcome</b>  <b>Anela Anwar</b> <b>Programme Manager, Oxfam Scotland</b>
10:05	<b>Setting the scene: The Scottish Business Pledge and the Sustainable Development Goals</b>  <b>Alex Maitland</b> <b>Oxfam Ethical Trade Initiative</b>  To speak on the work of the Oxfam Private Sector Team around the role of business in delivering the Sustainable Development Goals, case studies of best practice and what it means to go further: corporate governance and alternative business models.  <b>Karen Halford</b> <b>Strategic Business Engagement Team, Scottish Government</b>  Introduction to the Business Pledge and the scope of the Scottish Government review.
10:20	<b>Table discussions</b>
10.40	<b>A joined-up approach: how the Scottish Business Pledge interacts with Human Rights, Climate Change targets and an international outlook.</b>  <b>Judith Robertson</b> <b>Chair of the Scottish Human Rights Commission</b>  To speak on the Scottish National Action Plan for Business and alignment with the SDGs.  <b>Mike Robinson</b> <b>Chief executive of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society</b>  To speak on how the pledge can help Scotland to meet climate change targets.  <b>John Struthers</b> <b>Director of the Centre for African Research on Enterprise and Economic Development (CAREED) School of Business and Enterprise University of the West of Scotland</b>  Global supply chains and global value chains: how businesses can harness opportunities for growth whilst maintaining responsible and sustainable business practices.
11:15	<b>Break</b> Tea and coffee provided
11.30	<b>Table discussions</b>

12:00	<p><b>Decent work in a domestic and international context</b></p> <p><b>Caroline Colliston</b>    <b>Director and Member of the Diversity Steering Group, Corporate Tax, DWF LLP</b> Decent work and gender equality, the business perspective on what drives meaningful change.</p> <p><b>Nikki Slowey</b>            <b>Programme Co-director, Family friendly Working Scotland</b> Achieving gender balance; the role of workforce engagement; and accreditation schemes - what works and what are the barriers.</p> <p><b>Martin Rhodes</b>        <b>Director of the Scottish Fair Trade Forum</b> Decent work in global supply chains - lessons from Fair Trade on the power of accreditation.</p>
12:20	Table discussions
12:50	<p><b>Summary and close</b></p> <p><b>Chair, Anela Anwar, Programme Manager, Oxfam Scotland.</b></p>
13:00	Networking lunch
13:45	Close