

ARTICLE 13'S INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS 2009

In 2009 Article 13 has committed to monthly events to action our UNGC commitments. We have directed our efforts towards areas which we believe will have the most impact as well as those areas which resonate most strongly with the Article 13 team.

Labour rights

As part of our commitment to upholding the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, over 2009 Article 13 will work with a Trade Union on integrating CSR and the MDGs within member organisations, effectively raising awareness, action, and potential sustainability improvement. This will be part of our [ongoing client work with Trade Unions](#).

Human & labour rights

To evidence our commitment to supporting and respecting Universal Human Rights, as well as towards the elimination of forced, child and discriminatory labour practices, over 2009 Article 13 will conduct a research programme and Supply Chain Audit across a major product supply chain. It aims to explore the human rights, labour rights and environmental impact of a particular product being used regularly in Article13's offices.

Environmental protection

To contribute to the protection and management of environmental resources, Article 13 will actively endeavour to support at least one environmentally friendly technology over 2009-2010. Over this period of time, we will continue to act not only as a link between emerging green technologies and funding, but also to assist start up companies in being investment ready and effectively entering the market to make a positive difference.

Transparency and anti-corruption

As part of our commitment to actively work against corruption and share best practice of building transparency, Article 13 will develop and disseminate best practice of building transparency and combatting corruption, targeting a 20% response rate to our call of action. Over 2009 we will research, write and publish five case studies on best practice transparency and examples of corruption at different levels, and different perspectives, which we will publish on our website [transparency pages](#).

UNGC EVENTS DIARY 2009

Explore our UNGC diary below or read [press releases](#) on what we've done over the previous year...

JANUARY 2009

[World future energy summit, Abu Dhabi - 19 to 21 January 2009](#)

Top government officials, heads of global organisations, leading environmentalists and the largest international investors met at the [World Future Energy Summit](#) in Abu Dhabi to discuss, debate and plan for the Future of Energy. The summit addressed all aspects of sustainable energy solutions on a global scale and acted as a potential platform for policy decision making, investment and high-level business deals.

Article 13 followed the event and you can download our [report on the Future Energy Summit](#).

[Poverty and Homeless Action Week \(PHAW\) - 31 January to 8 February 2009](#)

This [Action week](#) was celebrated in over 100 events across the UK with the primary purpose was of raising awareness of the problems of poverty, homelessness, poor housing and other related issues across the UK. The current economic downturn is likely to have a major impact on unemployment, homelessness and poverty and increases the importance of local and national participation towards reducing the nation's problems of homelessness and poverty.

Article 13 committed itself to the cause of alleviating homelessness in the UK with a member of our team volunteering for St Paul's Church Drop In Centre, which assists local homeless people. This was a huge success and resulted in our team member being directly involved in the local community support network.

We also targeted organisations that, amongst other positive initiatives, actively help the homeless and needy to post links on our website to act as a portal for further help. This also aims to help widen the level of concern and awareness about poverty and enable people to learn more through accessing important information.

[Oxfam's World Food Crisis Appeal](#)

According to Oxfam's website *"...967 million people are going hungry. One child is dying every five seconds of hunger-related causes. The human cost of the World Food Crisis is staggering. With Oxfam, £10 can buy food to feed a hungry family for a month..."*

As part of the World Food Crisis Appeal, Article 13 disseminated Oxfam case study films and an optional petition to our network to raise awareness and stress the urgency of the situation. The voluntary petition demands action from the G8, UN and EU leaders.

FEBRUARY 2009

Human Rights

As part of Article 13's commitment to advocating human rights we celebrated Social Justice Day on 20 February by disseminating information and raising awareness throughout our

network. We approached ten social justice organisations, inviting them to become hotlinks on our website.

Labour Rights

This month, Article 13 set up a behavioural chart to monitor coaching; regular feedback; wellbeing events, Friday night club; expressed appreciation and value. These are actions which already exist in Article 13's day-to-day activities and we intend to not only continue but improve their impact for our staff.

Environmental protection

Article 13 celebrated World Wetlands Day (2 February) with a member of the team volunteering for the [Biodiversity Action Team](#) in Stoke Common on 19 February. The task involved clearing a space for a public footpath by battling with the overgrown birch. Stoke Common is the largest heathland habitat in South Buckinghamshire, but owing to birch trees and scrub taking over large areas of the Common it is beginning to turn into a woodland and the rare heathland habitat is being lost. This volunteer event involved cutting down varying sizes of birch trees and burning the excess materials in a controlled fire.

We will also celebrated [World Sustainable Energy Day](#) (25-27 February) by disseminating information and raising awareness throughout our network, with a report on the [Sustainable Energy Day Conference 2009](#).

Transparency & anti-corruption

In February and March, Article 13 will conduct the first of five case studies on best practice transparency and anti-corruption in business. This case study will concentrate on a European organisation and be disseminated throughout our network, as well as published on our website.

Poverty and hunger

As part of our strategic commitment to advocate the elimination of extreme poverty and hunger, Article 13 provided research and promoted Care International's campaign 'Living on the Edge', by emailing information to our in-house team offering them the chance to be involved, responding to the millions living in starvation and poverty.

Women's empowerment & gender equality

As part of our commitment to empowering women and contributing to greater gender equality a member of Article 13 has contacted a local women's support group to be involved in future work.

MARCH 2009

Human rights

As part of our commitments to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for 2009, Article 13 has begun a supply chain audit for a well-used product within our office.

Labour rights

This month, Article 13 has monitored our behavioural chart in order to improve our commitment to coaching; regular feedback; wellbeing events, Friday night club; expressed appreciation and value. We aim to continually improve our existing day-to-day activities.

Eliminating discrimination

Article 13 celebrated [World Book Day](#) (5 March) with a collective donation of books to Oxfam. This action was communicated and updated throughout the month by our in-house UNGC champion.

Poverty and hunger

As part of our ongoing strategic commitment to alleviating extreme poverty and hunger, Article 13 is volunteering a member of the team once a month to Saint Paul's Church Drop in Centre. On the 25th of this month the volunteer will offer their services.

Environment

Article 13 celebrated [World Water Day](#) (22 March) with a [report](#) on the water life cycle analysis, a [press release](#) and by conducting a spot check on our in-house use of water, paper, electricity and fuel.

Environmental technology

Article 13 created awareness and highlighted the latest information on environmental technologies with a press release targeted towards current and topical issues in the areas of [sustainable technologies](#).

Anti-corruption and transparency

Article 13 has researched and started writing case studies on best practice transparency and anti-corruption (T&AC) to disseminate T&AC practice to our network of partners, clients, associates and visitors.

APRIL 2009

Labour rights

This month, Article 13 brainstormed to engage all employees around our in-house behaviour. Our objective was to improve our commitment to coaching; regular feedback; wellbeing

events, Friday Night Club and expressed appreciation and value. We aim to continually improve our existing day-to-day activities.

Eliminating child labour

Article 13 celebrated 'Save the Children Week' (26 April-2 May) by donating materials and resources to a local school. Article 13 also release a press release aimed at creating awareness and highlighting the latest information on eliminating child labour, such as the latest policies and business participation.

Fighting global hunger and poverty

As part of our ongoing strategic commitment to alleviating extreme poverty and hunger, Article 13 volunteers a member of the team once a month to Saint Paul's Church Drop in Centre. This member volunteered their services on the 29th of this month.

Environment

Article 13 conducted an environmental progress report for the office to monitor our progress on our [2009 KPIs](#).

Article 13 also celebrated World Earth Day on 22 April with a member of the team volunteering their time and effort towards the protection and management of environmental resources. The volunteer offered their services on 3 May at Burnham Beeches, Berkshire, through conservation work. The task involved building a public footpath in Burnham Beeches to improve facilities for the public and prevent park erosion.

MAY 2009

Human rights

As part of Article 13's commitment to advocating human rights we celebrated World Fair Trade Day (9 May). Article 13 purchased Fair Trade coffee and tea products for the office and included a reference to Fair Trade in our email signatures.

Labour rights

This month, Article 13 brainstormed to engage all employees in our in-house behaviour. Our objective is to improve our commitment to coaching; regular feedback; wellbeing events, Friday Night Club and expressed appreciation and value. We aim to continually improve our existing day-to-day activities.

Poverty and hunger

As part of our strategic commitment to advocating the elimination of extreme poverty and hunger, Article 13 has developed our strategy and action plan for regional support with our chosen charities, CARE International and West London Missions.

Anti-corruption

Article 13 completed the first of five case studies on best practice transparency and anti-corruption in business. The first case study focuses on the [transparency and anti-corruption efforts taken by Ford](#). This case study has been disseminated throughout our network, as well as published on our website and in our e-newsletter.

Fighting global hunger and poverty

As part of our ongoing strategic commitment to alleviating extreme poverty and hunger, Article 13 volunteered a member of the team once a month at Saint Paul's Church Drop-in Centre on 27 May.

Environment

As part of our ongoing commitment to lowering carbon emissions and our overall environmental impact, a member of the team promoted conference calling instead of air travel throughout the office. We aim to continually improve our existing day-to-day activities.

JUNE 2009

Fighting global hunger and poverty

As part of our ongoing strategic commitment to alleviating extreme poverty and hunger, Article 13 volunteered a member of the team to St Paul's Church Drop-in Centre on the 25th of June, 2009.

Environment

Article 13 celebrated World Ocean Day on the 8th June by disseminating information and raising awareness throughout our network by means of a media release and World Ocean Day email signature.

Environment

As part of our ongoing commitment to lowering carbon emissions and our overall environmental impact, a member of the team monitored and reported our monthly consumption of paper, fuel and electricity, as well as our overall emissions from air travel.

JULY 2009

Human rights

As part of Article 13's commitment to advocating human rights we celebrated World Population Day (11th July). Article 13 disseminated information and raised awareness throughout our network on this day by means of a media release and World Population Day email signature.

Labour rights

This month, Article 13 brainstormed to engage all employees in our in-house behaviour. Our objective is to improve our commitment to coaching; regular feedback; wellbeing events, Friday Night Club and expressed appreciation and value. We continually improve our existing day-to-day activities.

Support Abolition of Child

As part of our ongoing strategic commitment to supporting the abolition of child labour, Article 13 decided to volunteer to a project in the save the children's Programme on Child Labour.

Environment

Article 13 conducted an environmental progress report for the office to monitor our progress on our [2009 KPIs](#).

Eradicating poverty and hunger

Article 13 implemented a strategy and action plan for regional support programme with the West London Missions Day Centre which provides a valuable service for the homeless.

AUGUST 2009

Labour rights

In order to improve our wellbeing Article 13 plans a common activity for our staff which is aimed at doing something together beyond the office.

Environment

Article 13 celebrated World Water Week from the 16th to the 22nd August by disseminating information and raising awareness throughout our network in this week by means of a media release and World Water Week email signature for the duration of the week.

Eradicating poverty and hunger

As part of our regional support strategy with West London Missions Day Centre Article 13 published a [Case Study](#) about the duties and responsibilities of the West London Mission.

Anti-corruption and transparency

Article 13 published the second Case Study on best practice Transparency and Anti-Corruption (T&AC) to disseminate T&AC best practice to our network of partners, clients, associates and visitors.

SEPTEMBER 2009

Support Abolition of Child

As part of our ongoing strategic commitment to supporting the abolition of child labour, Article 13 plans to volunteer with a project in the save the children's Programme on Child Labour.

Labour rights

This month, Article 13 will review our behaviour chart to improve our commitment to coaching; regular feedback; wellbeing events, Friday Night Club and expressed appreciation and value. We continually improve our existing day-to-day activities.

Environment

As part of Article 13's [United Nations Global Compact \(UNGC\) commitment](#) we supported this year's London Trees for Cities Tree-athlon in our efforts to promote greater environmental responsibility (Principle 8). Once again, Article 13's team spent their energy helping the environment, and at the same time improved fitness and most of all had a great day of fun!!

Environment

Article 13 celebrated World Water monitoring Day on the 18th September by disseminating information and raising awareness throughout our network by means of report about water monitoring ([URL](#)).

Environment

As part of our United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) commitment to respect human rights, Article 13 supports the 'Seal the Deal!' campaign 2009. This UN campaign is calling for a fair, balanced and effective post-Kyoto climate agreement at the [UN Climate Change Conference \(COP 15\)](#) (to be held from 7-18 December 2009 in Copenhagen. Article 13 supports the 'Seal the Deal!' campaign 2009 by raising awareness throughout our network by means of a media release and a Seal the Deal email signature. One of the Directors of Article 13 Neela Bettridge wrote a testimonial on the [importance of an agreement in Copenhagen](#) which will be published on the United Nation' website with testimonials from CEOs from all over the world.

OCTOBER 2009

Labour rights

In October we finalised our behaviour chart which now shows in an innovative way our commitment to coaching; regular feedback; wellbeing events, Friday Night Club and expressed appreciation and value. This overview already has improved our expression of feedback and highlighted areas of strength and synergy in our staff engagement. It has also shown gaps and areas for improvement.

Human rights

Article 13 celebrated the Day for the Eradication of Poverty on the 17th October by disseminating information and raising awareness throughout our network by means of a press release advocating support and linking through to a call to action.

Support Abolition of Child

In October a member of our staff volunteered with the charity Save the Children. Julia was working one day at the 'living and giving' shop in Hendon. The shop's profits help disadvantaged children around the world. This is part of our ongoing strategic commitment to supporting the abolition of child labour.

Anti-corruption and transparency

Article 13 has published the fourth Case Study on best practice [transparency and anti-corruption \(T&AC\)](#) to disseminate T&AC practice to our network of partners, clients, associates and visitors. The case study looks at Vodafone's key drivers for change integrating T & AC.

Eradicating poverty and hunger

As part of our ongoing strategic commitment to alleviating extreme poverty and hunger, Article 13 raised awareness throughout our network by means of a press release, about the World Food Day on the 16th of October.

NOVEMBER 2009

Anti-corruption and transparency

Article 13 published the fifth transparency and anti-corruption case study out of a series of five case studies as part of efforts to disseminate best practice information on transparency and anti-corruption to our network of staff, partners, clients, associates and visitors.

Environment

We have written our environmental progress report for 2009 for the office to monitor and report our progress on our [2009 KPIs](#). This will be published for public access in December.

Women's empowerment & gender equality

As part of our commitment to empowering women and contributing to greater gender equality a member of Article 13 embarked on a trip to Ghana to support women of a local community to improve their living conditions and day-to-day livelihoods. She also will work closely with an orphanage.

Labour rights

In November we had a dinner at a local restaurant. This signifies not only the company's commitment to the team's wellbeing but also to farewell one of our much loved staff on a four month journey. "This was a great time for reflection in a cosy and ceremonial atmosphere"

DECEMBER 2009

Anti-corruption

The 9th of December is the anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) which took place in 2003. Since the ratification each year the 9th of December is declared as International Anti-corruption Day. We at Article 13 support the UNCAC convention and UNODC's principles and raise awareness around the UNAC Campaign via information dissemination throughout our network.

Women's empowerment & gender equality

As part of our commitment to empowering women and contributing to greater gender equality a member of Article 13 is in Ghana to support women of a local community. We will report on her trip regularly and follow her adventure and that of the community in which she is working.

Labour rights

In December will have a in-house X-mas party including gift giving before everybody is leaving for the holidays! Happy Christmas!