MTN Group’s position on Responsible Supply Chain

Commitment to responsible supply chain

MTN strives to conduct its business in a way that supports the long-term sustainability of the societies in which we operate. To meet this objective, we work with suppliers and partners who share our commitment to high ethical standards and operate in a responsible manner.

Our Supplier Code of Conduct

Our Supplier Code of Conduct sets out our approach to ethical and sustainable business practices and aims for the highest ethical conduct. It outlines our commitment to respect and promote human rights and fair workplace practices, environmentally sustainable business activities, and a zero-tolerance policy against bribery and corruption.

The Code of conduct provides clear and concise information detailing the required standards expected of every supplier in their interaction with MTN and its representatives.

MTN expects its suppliers to embrace this commitment to integrity by complying with and training its employees and sub-suppliers on the Supplier Code of Conduct.

Our Supplier Code of Conduct Purpose

The Code is aimed at helping the current and continued implementation of our commitment to local laws and international standards including:

• Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Guidelines for multinational enterprises;
• UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;
• United Nations Global Compact;
• Carbon Disclosure Project standard;
• Core Conventions of the International Labour Organisation.
• Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment and related regulations.

Read more: MTN Supplier Code of Conduct

• MTN ensures that all suppliers and employees are aware of our Supplier Code of Conduct, all relevant policies and procedures through its various internal communication channels.
• The Code and policies are made available in universally accepted languages and translated to local languages.
• Training is provided to suppliers, staff, partners, buyers and various members of MTN’s supply chain.
MTN Group’s position on Responsible Supply Chain

Ensuring adherence to our Supply Chain Code of Conduct

MTN manages its group supplier base through a rigorous end-to-end supplier management framework, which includes the identifying vendors, onboarding, due diligence and performance management.

Non-performing suppliers are given an opportunity and the necessary support to improve their performance.

Suppliers are blacklisted when there is an issue of fraud or unethical behaviour, or do not improve their performance following their initial grey listing warning. All Suppliers, new and existing, are made aware of our zero-tolerance approach to bribery, fraud and corruption and they are regularly reminded of our policies throughout the year.

Our suppliers are required to adhere to Code of Conduct as part of their agreement with MTN. Only upon passing our due diligence process and signing the supplier code of conduct, can suppliers participate in sourcing events through MTN’s online sourcing platform.

During onboarding of new suppliers and annual due diligence for existing suppliers, self declaration of compliance towards environmental, social, and governance standards is required by all suppliers.

MTN conducts health checks through online questionnaires covering these critical areas. In 2020, over 850 suppliers were assessed, and 12 were found to be not suitable for sourcing due to compliance and financial risks. Suppliers not approved for sourcing, were about 12 due to compliance and financial risks.

Membership to recognised supply chain initiative

MTN is a member of the Joint Audit Cooperation (JAC) and the Global e-sustainability initiative (GeSI), two globally recognised industry bodies committed to promoting technologies and practices that foster environmental, social and governance sustainability.

Not many telcos – particularly pan-African telcos – are members of both JAC and GeSI. In being members of both organisations, MTN will ensure ethical, sustainable, environmentally responsible supply chain partners.

These bodies cover 90% of our existing Group supplier base.

Membership to these organisations will enable MTN to:
• Conduct gap assessments and tracking of open items
• Conduct desktop and physical ESG audits
• Supplier training and capacity building
• Supplier mentoring, secondments, or supporting suppliers through sharing best practice
• Conducting and reviewing supplier monitoring, audits and results
• Join collaboration initiatives with other members on a number of ESG topics

MTN senior management has direct involvement in the governing bodies of both entities.