Promoting Responsibility in SMEs through Supply Chain Management

Deon Rossouw (Moderator)
Role and Impact of SME

• Prevalence
  - Vast majority of enterprises globally are SMEs

• Impact
  - Drivers of local economic development
  - Biggest creators of jobs
  - Lifeblood of corporations
SMEs, CSR and Ethics

• CSR and Organisational Ethics often neglected in SMEs

• Reasons for neglect:
  - Lack of management & governance structures
  - Limited resources
  - Lack of time
  - Under the disclosure radar
Corporations and SME Suppliers

• Corporations responsible for conduct of their suppliers
  - You cannot outsource your immorality

• Legislative pressure on companies to promote responsibility in supply chain management
  - Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (USA)
  - Bribery Act (UK)

• Also supported by best practice codes
  - Global Compact
  - OECD guidelines
Relationship with SMEs

Abusive

Precautionary

Paternalistic

Developmental

Mutually supporting
Central question

What can corporations do to support responsibility in SMEs in their supply chain?
Company Perspectives

Prabashni Naicker (South Africa) SNC-Lavalin

Andrea Moreno (Angola) Grupo Mieres

Connie Wong (Hong Kong) Kiabi