

## The Emerging Global Consensus on Responsible Business

- Purpose
- Duties
- Transparency





#### **B** Corp

# B Corporation b b corporation.net

- A certification conferred by the non-profit B Lab.
- Companies in 41 countries have been certified.

#### **Benefit Corporation**

- A corporate form authorized by law that has a higher level of transparency, accountability and purpose.
- ➤ 33 U.S. states have amended their corporation laws.
- Legislation has been introduced in Italy and is being developed in Australia, Canada, Chile, and Columbia.





#### Legal characteristics of a benefit corporation

#### Purpose

The purpose of a benefit corporation includes having a material positive impact on society and the environment, taken as a whole, from the business and operations of the corporation.

#### Duties

When the directors and officers of a benefit corporation are making a decision, they are required to consider the interests of all of the corporation's stakeholders.

#### Transparency

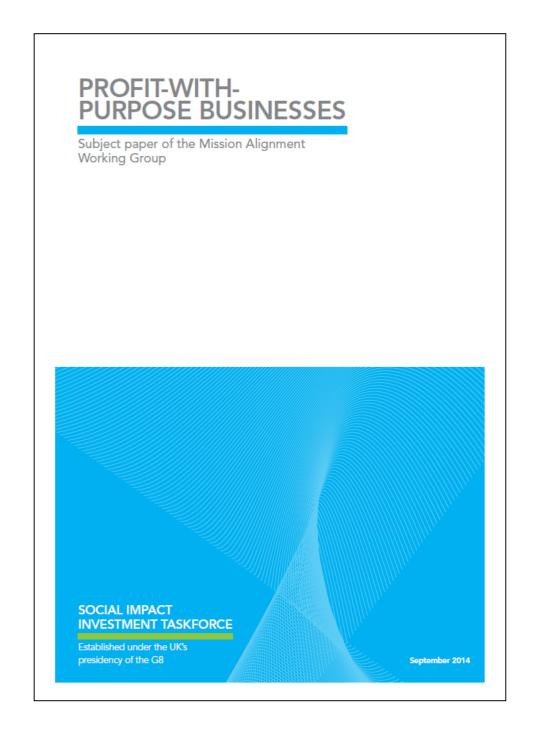
The benefit corporation must prepare a report each year that describes how it has performed in its pursuit of its broadened purpose.





### The G8 Perspective





http://www.socialimpactinvestment.org/subject-papers.php

Recommendation 6 (defining characteristics generally): The characteristics that define a social mission business and should be found in every social mission business organized under the law of the country are:

- (i) a social impact <u>purpose</u> as provided in Recommendation 7,
- (ii) <u>duties</u> of its directors and officers consistent with its social impact purpose as provided in Recommendation 8, and
- (iii) <u>transparency</u> regarding its creation of general social and environmental impact as provided in Recommendation 9.

primary commitment to impact	Charities that do not engage in trade	Charities that trade but do not distribute profits	Social and solidarity enterprises	Profit-with- purpose businesses
intent to create impact				Businesses- seeking-impact Sustainable
legal minimum on creating impact				Other businesses
level of commitment				
to impact  profit  and asset  distributions	no distributions	internal distributions only	partially limited distributions	unlimited distributions

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