

# **Code of Conduct**

For the Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer of the Grameenphone

> APPROVED IN THE 232ND BOARD MEETING OF 15 DECEMBER 2021

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**S M Imdadul Haque** Company Secretary Grameenphone Ltd.



# Code of Conduct for the Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer of the Grameenphone

#### A. Preface

This Code of Conduct ("this Code") shall be called "The Code of Conduct for the Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer of Grameenphone". This Code of Conduct is in compliance with the requirement of the Corporate Governance Code 2018 of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission.

### **B.** Formation of the Code

The Code of Conduct for the Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer of Grameenphone consists of two parts, i.e.:

- I. Part I: Code of Conduct of Grameenphone.
- II. Part II: Additional Clauses for the Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer of Grameenphone.



# PART - I

# **Grameenphone Code of Conduct**

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**Message from the CEO** 

Our Code is the foundation we stand on so that we can safely and ethically empower society and connect our

customers to what matters most.

This is Grameenphone's purpose. Building upon our founding goal to connect and empower the people of Bangladesh, we've evolved our practices and our culture for an even more sustainable and responsible business.

Striving to raise standards wherever we operate isn't something we do as an act of generosity or to satisfy

stakeholders – we do it because we believe it is right, and because we know it is good business.

When we empower, we also enable. Through responsible business, connectivity, cutting-edge technology and new solutions, we will contribute to make the world a better place – for our customers, employees, owners and the

societies in which we operate.

In Grameenphone we will always explore, create together, keep promises and be humble.

Our behaviours express what the Grameenphone culture is, but also what it should be. In other words, they are both descriptive and aspirational, because our everyday business is a balancing act. We need to explore, innovate and

find new solutions, but we also need to deliver with precision, efficiency and reliability. Delivering on both aspects,

what is and what should be, is the key challenge – and the key to continued success.

Our Code of Conduct is our baseline and foundation.

The Code is about how we do things in Grameenphone and how we want to be seen by our customers and business partners. Our behaviours outline attitudes we strive for. The Code is prescriptive – it's what we expect and require

from each of us, regardless of our designation, role or location. Our Code guides us through day-to-day dilemmas.

It is the basis for how we behave as guardians of Grameenphone's integrity.

The four Code Principles are designed to set clear expectations regarding our business conduct and to help us deal

with challenges we may face in the course of our work. The Code provides clear rules and guidance, with further reference to relevant policy areas. The Code cannot cover all possible events. It is a tool to help us make the right

decision.

My expectations are simple: keep coming back to these reflections regularly and take time to consider the dilemmas you may face. We are all required to renew our commitment to the Code every year, and with continuous reflection,

we can all succeed in being true guardians of our company's integrity.

Our Code is the way to act!

Best

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15 December 2021

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# Why we have a Code of Conduct

As a company with strong values, our conduct is not only about performance, goals and achievement. It is also about how we behave towards each other and the world around us. We strive to be a trusted partner – to our customers, shareholders and colleagues, and to our business partners and the communities in which we operate. Our business depends on this trust and we are committed to conducting our business in a responsible, ethical and lawful manner. The Code of Conduct is the foundation of our corporate culture and sets out high standards of integrity on how we do business. Everyone in Grameenphone must follow these standards. We make decisions every day that may influence our reputation. An uninformed decision, even made with best intentions, can damage our reputation.

The Code Principles set out the core requirements for our conduct in Grameenphone. The Code Sections include specific requirements and guidance for critical risk areas. The Code of Conduct helps us all make informed decisions and explains where to go for more information and guidance.

# **Code Principles**

The Code Principles form the foundation of our ethical culture and define the core of our business conduct.

#### We play by the rules

We follow laws, regulations and our policies and, if these are in conflict, we uphold the highest standard

#### We are accountable for our actions

We actively seek information, understand our responsibilities, and recognise our wider impact on the societies in which we operate

#### We are transparent and honest

We are open and truthful about our challenges

#### We speak up

We ask questions and raise concerns when in doubt and we encourage others do so by creating a culture where retaliation against those who report a concern in good faith is not accepted

#### Who must follow the Code

The Code of Conduct applies to all employees and everyone acting on behalf of Grameenphone, including the Board of Directors. We also expect our business partners to commit and uphold the same high ethical standards.

#### How to use the Code

The four Code Principles and specific requirements contained in the Code Sections form our basic obligations. Additional requirements in our Policies and Manuals must also be understood and followed. At the end of each Section of the Code you will find links to the applicable Policies and Manuals as well as links to available guidelines, practical tools, training materials and other helpful resources.

The Code sets clear requirements for our day-to-day operations and guides us when we are confronted with challenges and ethical dilemmas. You may always contact your line manager or the Compliance Function when you have questions or concerns. You may also seek advice or ask a question using the Integrity Hotline and may even remain anonymous if necessary.

The Code cannot cover every dilemma or situation we will face in our day-to-day work. There will continue to be business challenges and uncertain legal and regulatory developments. In such cases, we are not relieved from the obligation to uphold the highest ethical standard, but we should seek guidance to help us make the right decision. Beyond setting out our own ethical standards, the Code Principles require us to comply with applicable laws and

regulations. You should always familiarize yourself with the laws where you operate and seek guidance from the Legal Function if you have questions.

# What is expected from us as employees

As an employee of Grameenphone, you are expected to:

- Always act with high integrity
- Read, understand and follow the Code, Policies and Manuals
- Raise issues of concern as described under the section "How to Speak Up"
- Attend training sessions on the Code in a timely manner
- Know when and how to seek further guidance
- Cooperate fully and transparently in all investigations
- · Avoid any practices that may be unlawful, unethical or harm Grameenphone's reputation
- Assess the risks you may encounter and seek appropriate training and guidance to effectively manage them

## What is expected from our leaders

Leaders in Grameenphone are not only expected to follow the requirements above, but are also expected to:

- Live the "Tone from the Top" and communicate regularly on the importance of compliance
- Identify and anticipate business compliance risk areas that affect your teams' operations
- Proactively identify actions that will mitigate compliance risks
- Ensure that teams are sufficiently trained and prepared to deal with relevant dilemmas and provide guidance where necessary
- Foster an environment of open reporting to ensure that all team members are comfortable raising concerns without concern of retaliation
- Act as role model for our behaviours as demonstrated in decision-making and other processes
- Promote diversity and inclusion in the workplace
- Use high standards of integrity as a criterion in recruitment and promotion processes
- Avoid strategies, targets or timelines that could create pressure on employees or business partners to engage in unethical business practices

# **CODE SECTIONS**

# Anti-Corruption

We have zero tolerance for corruption.

#### What we need to know

- We do not tolerate bribery or improper payments or advantages of any kind
- We are committed to conducting our business in an open and transparent manner
- Bribery is illegal and exposes those involved and Grameenphone to reputational and legal risk
- Bribery may take many forms including facilitation payments, kick-back schemes and the use of shell companies or hidden owners
- Public officials are often subject to strict anti-corruption rules and should be treated with extra caution
- Gifts and hospitality may be considered as bribery or as providing an improper advantage in certain situations
- Even charitable donations or sponsorships can be seen as bribery if they are undertaken to secure a commercial advantage
- Corruption in our supply chain may create significant risk for Grameenphone even if we are not directly involved

#### What is expected of all of us

- We never engage in bribery or trading in influence
- We never offer, give, ask for or accept an improper payment or advantage
- We never make facilitation payments unless we believe that our life or health is in danger
- We always report any request from any 3<sup>rd</sup> party for a bribe or facilitation payment
- We never request someone else to engage in conduct that we are not allowed to engage in ourselves
- We carefully select our business partners and monitor their commitment to ethical and lawful conduct
- We maintain our books and records to accurately and fairly reflect our business
- We exercise appropriate caution when interacting with public officials
- We always speak up to our managers, the Compliance Function, or through the Integrity Hotline when we
  have concerns regarding corrupt conduct of our colleagues or business partners

#### What to look out for

- If we become aware of unusual or inflated payment terms that appear to have no clear business purpose
- If we suspect that a business partner is not complying with Grameenphone's standards for business conduct
- If we become aware of that a business partner is interacting with public officials on our behalf
- If requests are made to donate to charities or sponsor organizations that may be affiliated with a public
  official
- If we are offered or requested to provide gifts, travel, donations or lavish entertainment or to make cash payments for any reason

#### **Business Partners**

We expect our business partners to meet our standards and respect our ethical values when working for or with us.

#### What we need to know

- The actions of our business partners can damage our reputation and expose us legally
- Business partners include individuals and entities, with whom Grameenphone engages or plans to engage, such as suppliers, agents, distributors, franchisees, joint venture partners, sponsorship and donation recipients, sustainability partners and other relevant parties

#### What is expected of all of us

- We only work with business partners that demonstrate satisfactory standards of responsible business conduct and ethical values
- We expect our business partners to abide by all applicable laws, to meet Grameenphone's Business
  Partner Conduct Principles for responsible business conduct and to protect us from risks while working
  for or with us
- We exercise caution when selecting business partners, and we follow Grameenphone's procedures
  including risk assessments
- We monitor and support our business partners to conduct their activities in accordance with Grameenphone's standards for responsible business conduct
- We carefully evaluate business opportunities to ensure that they are in compliance with applicable trade controls including sanctions regimes and import-export requirements
- We treat all business partners with respect and in a fair and transparent manner

- If we encounter a business partner not fully committed to following our standards including, Grameenphone's Supplier Conduct Principles, where applicable
- If we seek to engage a business partner who will operate as a lobbyist, agent or other party which will act on behalf of Grameenphone

- If we become aware of that a business partner conducts business in a way that could reflect negatively on Grameenphone
- If any business partner has not been properly assessed and managed according to Grameenphone's requirements
- If we become aware of other behaviour or circumstances that make us question the conduct or
- ethics of a business partner

### Climate & Environment

# We are committed to protecting the environment and contributing to the prevention of climate change.

#### What we need to know

- We comply with local laws and internationally recognised environmental standards
- · We are committed to minimizing our use of resources including energy, water and raw materials

#### What is expected of all of us

- We seek to make reasonable efforts to minimise greenhouse gas emissions from our operations
- We consider climate and environmental impact when purchasing products and services, and evaluate our suppliers on responsible business criteria
- We support sustainable waste management including making reasonable efforts to minimise our waste
- We are transparent and report on how our activities impact the climate and environment
- We report incidents we see that are harming the climate and the environment

#### What to look out for

- If we become aware of Grameenphone's operations and suppliers that fail to meet our climate and environmental standards
- If we become aware of that applicable environmental regulations or company guidelines are being breached

# **Competition**

#### We compete fairly.

#### What we need to know

- Fair competition is important to society and creates long-lasting business opportunities for Grameenphone in all countries where Grameenphone is present
- Creating or benefiting from an unfair advantage will harm our reputation with our customers, business partners and the public
- Anti-competitive agreements or practices are not only against our standards, they are against the law

#### What is expected of all of us

- We make our own pricing and business strategy and compete on the merits of our offerings
- We limit communications with actual or potential competitors and do not share commercially sensitive information
- We do not, formally or informally, enter into agreements or practices with actual or potential competitors to share markets, fix prices or limit input or sales
- We obtain approval according to our internal requirements before joining a Trade Association or Industry
- We remove ourselves immediately from the discussion and report the conversation to our Legal Function and/or Integrity Hotline should a conversation with an actual or potential competitor turn to an inappropriate, anti-competitive subject

We have an obligation to promptly report suspected violations of competition laws to the Legal Function

#### What to look out for

- If we are approached by actual or potential competitors, customers or business partners with information about their pricing, strategies, business tactics or similar topics
- If we suspect formal or informal agreements exist, or otherwise are to be entered into, that limit our actual or potential competitors' access to customers or related markets
- If we plan to attend informal or social meetings with actual or potential competitors
- If we plan to interact with actual or potential competitors where there are indications that the objective is to exchange competitive sensitive information
- If we plan to establish pricing strategies or other market strategies that could be viewed as abuse of dominant position

## Confidentiality and Information Handling

We treat information as a valuable asset and act accordingly.

#### What we need to know

- As employees of the company, we sometimes come across confidential information regarding Grameenphone, customers or business partners
- Most information is digital and can easily be accessed, modified, shared and replicated
- Records are information with high corporate value. They are important to Grameenphone and must be identified and protected
- There may be external requirements as to how long you can or must retain different types of information
- Confidentiality is critical for Grameenphone's reputation, for protecting Grameenphone's interests in competitive and regulatory processes, and for securing the integrity of our assets

#### What is expected of all of us

- We only share confidential information when we are formally authorized to do so and there is a legitimate reason for doing so
- We protect confidential information from unauthorized access
- We promote a knowledge-sharing culture but take precautions when processing confidential information
- We treat information from third parties with the same level of confidentiality and care as our own information
- We do not discuss sensitive topics in public places
- We ensure that all information from Grameenphone is reliable and correct and complies with high professional and ethical standards.
- We use Grameenphone approved systems and perform information processing activities in line with any issued requirements

- If we overhear a Grameenphone employee speaking about non-public information in public
- If a business partner requests us to sign a confidentiality or non-disclosure agreement
- If we are handling information or company records which are sensitive and should be protected
- If someone attempts to engage us in discussions that lead into details of Grameenphone's business
- If you are sharing confidential information with any external parties

# Conflict of Interest

#### We always act in Grameenphone's best interests.

#### What we need to know

- A conflict of interest exists when our personal interest conflicts, or could be perceived to conflict, with Grameenphone's interests
- Personal interests include our financial interests, business opportunities, outside employment or the interests of people close to us, such as close family members, personal friends or business associates
- Even the perception that we may not be acting in Grameenphone's best interests can call into question our integrity and adversely affect our reputation
- All decisions that are made on behalf of Grameenphone must be based on an objective and fair assessment of the company's interest without being impacted by our personal interest
- Openness and transparency are essential to manage actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest
- A conflict of interest can still exist even if the company benefits in some way

#### What is expected of all of us

- We avoid conflict of interest and other situations which could impact our judgment
- We recuse ourselves from situations and decisions where we have a potential or perceived conflict of interest
- We promptly disclose actual, potential, and perceived conflicts of interest to our manager
- We work with our manager to resolve conflicts of interest and document our decisions and actions
- We always involve the Compliance Function if a conflict of interest cannot be avoided
- We do not hold external duties or positions that could affect, or be perceived to affect, our responsibility to act in Grameenphone's best interests
- We obtain written approval from our manager before accepting external directorships or other material assignments, and we keep records in accordance with company procedures

#### What to look out for

- If we have a financial or other interest in an existing or potential business partner of Grameenphone's
- If we hold outside employment or positions that could interfere with our ability to perform our duties for the company
- If we are recruiting, hiring, or directly supervising a family member, friend, or individual with whom we
  have a close personal relationship
- If we are offered anything of value in our personal capacity from existing or potential business partners including gifts, discounts or other benefits
- · If a business partner of Grameenphone is providing or will provide services to us in our private capacity

# Financial Integrity and Fraud

#### We maintain accurate financial records and comply with all disclosure standards.

#### What we need to know

- Financial integrity is key to maintaining the trust of our shareholders, customers, business partners and employees
- Meeting International Financial Reporting Standards is not only required, it enables us to best manage our business

#### What is expected of all of us

- We follow Grameenphone's Accounting Principles (TAP) and abide by internal controls implemented by Grameenphone
- We register all transactions correctly in accordance with legal obligations and good accounting practices
- We report accurately, reliably, transparently, consistently and in a timely manner

- We ensure that expenses are reasonable and recorded properly when we spend the company's money
- We make decisions in accordance with applicable Group or Local Authority Matrix and ensure segregation of duties where applicable
- We verify facts and completeness of information and underlying business rationale before approving a transaction or signing a document
- We do not create fraudulent records, falsify documents or otherwise misrepresent facts, transactions or financial data

#### What to look out for

- If we see financial or accounting irregularities
- If we become aware of that a colleague or business partner has falsified any documentation
- If we are unsure if we have recorded a transaction correctly
- If we become concerned that any employee is misreporting financial information, including sales results or forecasts
- If we become concerned that Grameenphone's resources are not being spent or recorded as consistent with our policies

# Gifts, Hospitality and Travel

We avoid business courtesies that may be perceived as impacting business decisions.

#### What we need to know

- Business courtesies such as gifts, hospitality and travel may create a conflict of interest or be considered bribery in certain circumstances
- Gifts are something given without the expectation of anything in return, including goodwill
- Hospitality takes many forms, including meals and beverages, seminars, receptions, social events and entertainment
- Travel includes the costs of transportation including taxis, buses, trains, flights, accommodation and hotels and other incidental travel costs
- Business partners, including public officials, may need to comply with strict rules on what they may give
  or receive

#### What is expected of all of us

- We never offer or accept business courtesies which could, or could be perceived to, improperly influence a business decision
- We never offer or accept cash, cash equivalents or expensive and extravagant gifts
- We do not offer or accept gifts except promotional items, of minimal value normally bearing a company logo, and only when it would be customary to do so
- Should an employee receive a gift that is not in compliance with these rules, it shall be returned or be turned over to Grameenphone as soon as possible
- We may offer or accept hospitality when the business purpose is clear and legitimate, the costs are reasonable, and the context is open and transparent, but we prefer to cover our own costs
- We always pay our own costs for travel, accommodation and related expenses. Likewise, we do not pay
  for travel, accommodation and related expenses for others
- We do not allow business courtesies to be extended to family or close friends
- We always discuss offering or accepting business courtesies with our immediate supervisor

- If business courtesies are offered during sensitive situations such as ongoing negotiations or procurement processes
- If asked to sponsor, donate or contribute to faith-based organizations, political, governmental, military, police and/or other public institutions and entities

- If we become aware of business courtesies that are not offered or accepted in an open and transparent manner
- If we believe that offering or accepting business courtesies could lead others to question our independence, objectivity or integrity
- If we become aware of repeated offers to or from the same business partner, or a related one

# Health, Safety and People Security (HS&S)

We provide a safe and secure workplace for all employees and our suppliers.

#### What we need to know

- We all have a responsibility to provide a healthy, safe and secure workplace for our employees, suppliers
  and visitors
- We recognise a shared commitment and responsibility to ensure the health, safety and well-being in our operations and throughout our value chain
- We comply with international and local HS&S legislation and guidelines, and aim to perform to the highest standards within this area
- We promote as one of our core values a proactive work culture of engagement and commitment towards the health, safety and well-being of employees and everyone who works for us
- We promote a culture of proactive HS&S incident reporting from employees and suppliers

#### What is expected of all of us

- We are conscious of our work environment, act responsibly and are accountable for our own actions
- We proactively foster a safety culture and collaborate with our suppliers in identifying and mitigating health, safety and security risks
- We make ourselves aware of potential risks in our workplace and continuously work to minimise any hazards to the health, safety and well-being of our employees and business partners
- We ensure that incidents, near-misses, unsafe acts and conditions are reported regardless of their severity, for lessons learned and continuous improvement
- We immediately stop and report unsafe work

#### What to look out for

- If we see any unsafe acts and conditions that might put ourselves, our colleagues or suppliers at risk
- If we have any concerns for the health, safety and well-being of any employee
- If our policies and requirements are not followed or do not comply with HS&S legislationIf there are any signs of unsafe situations, elevated stress, inappropriate behaviour or poor well-being of employees and/or business partners

# **Human Rights and Labour Rights**

We respect and support human rights and labour rights.

#### What we need to know

- We are all equally entitled to human rights and labour rights without discrimination as set out in international fundamental principles, conventions and local laws
- We have the responsibility to respect human rights. Respect for human rights is integral to Grameenphone's business and how we operate. Labour Rights are a vital part of human rights
- We are committed to contributing towards a positive human rights impact on society

#### What is expected of all of us

- We take necessary measures in order not to violate, nor are we complicit in violations by others, of the human rights and labour rights of our colleagues, the employees of our business partners, our customers and anyone impacted by our operations
- We will report on any actual or potential violation of human rights or labour rights to our manager or through other existing mechanisms, such as the Integrity Hotline
- We will contribute to positive human rights impacts, including children's rights and digital inclusion

#### What to look out for

- If we experience, become aware of or suspect any violation of human rights of our colleagues, employees of business partners or of any people where we operate
- If we, or one of our colleagues, are prevented from joining legitimate employee engagement forums, e.g. labour unions
- If anyone, including public officials, asks for personal data on Grameenphone employees, customers or business partners without the right authorization and without following due process
- If a contract we are negotiating has such a low price or short delivery period that it will likely lead to low wages or excessive working hours for business partner employees
- If an existing or potential business partner refuses to commit to the *Supplier Conduct Principles* or is not willing to collaborate in relation to inspections, audits or other transparency efforts

# **Insider Trading**

#### We do not share or act on inside information.

#### What we need to know

- Inside information is any non-public information that would impact the stock price of a company if it was known to the -public, such as financial results not yet disclosed publicly, potential mergers and acquisitions, senior management changes and significant legal matter
- Trading on inside information violates our ethical standards and is a personal criminal violation under any
  jurisdiction's laws, and may lead to severe consequences for you personally and for Grameenphone as a
  company
- Sharing inside information with others who then trade on that information is considered tipping and is a violation of both our governing documents and the law

#### What is expected of all of us

- When in possession of inside information about Grameenphone or any other company, we do not trade, engage in tipping or suggest that others should trade in any securities
- We treat all inside information that is not generally available to the investing public as proprietary and confidential

- If we become aware of a business or legal issue that may have positive or negative consequences for the price of Grameenphone's stock or that of a customer or business partner
- If someone suggests that we buy or sell a security based on material non-public information
- If we are notified that we are on an insider list
- If we are part of a merger acquisition or key strategic project
- If your business unit is publicly listed (stock exchange)

# **Money Laundering**

#### Grameenphone is opposed to all forms of money laundering.

#### What we need to know

- Money laundering is the process of hiding or disguising the proceeds of a crime
- The proceeds of a crime can be anything of value including money, goods, assets and real estate
- Money laundering may take many forms and can occur in all kinds of deals and transactions, including banking, investments, invoicing and property
- Trusts and shell companies may disguise the true owners of money and increase the risk of money laundering
- Money laundering also includes the use of legitimate funds to support criminal activity or terrorism

#### What is expected of all of us

- Grameenphone seeks to engage business partners involved in legitimate business activities with funds derived from lawful sources
- We avoid money laundering by screening and monitoring our business partners in accordance with Grameenphone's procedures
- We question unusual payments or banking arrangements and report unusual requests
- We always consult the Legal and/or Tax Function if we are in doubt about the origin or destination of money and property
- We promptly report suspicious transactions or incidents of money laundering
- We are attentive to potential under or over-valuing of invoices or assets

#### What to look out for

- If payments are performed by or through someone who is not a party to the contract
- If payments are requested or performed in a different manner than what is agreed to in the contract
- If payments are received in cash and are not customarily paid in this way
- If payments come from offshore bank accounts
- If payments come from unusual accounts not typically used by the party in question

#### News and Social Media

#### We always act responsibly in our external communications.

#### What we need to know

- Grameenphone employees are encouraged to share non-confidential news, milestones and achievements related to Grameenphone on their social media account(s)
- However, only mandated individuals are allowed to speak on behalf of Grameenphone, including on social media or other digital platforms
- Grameenphone does not take political positions or associate with political movements, though we may participate in public debates on topics important to our strategy and business performance
- Grameenphone does not support political parties, neither in the form of direct financial support, in-kind donations, nor paid time

#### What is expected of all of us

- We do not engage in external discussions, including on social media, on behalf of Grameenphone unless we have been previously authorized to do so
- We do not discuss sensitive or confidential information from our work in public or social media
- We reflect only our personal views in social media. However, as a Grameenphone employee we are
  mindful that social media posts can spread rapidly and are difficult to retract, and therefore exercise
  caution before we post

- We refer external questions about Grameenphone from journalists/media to the Communication Function and appropriate spokespersons
- We are mindful that Grameenphone operates across multiple countries with diverse values and legal frameworks, which means that local communication can have global impact
- We may participate in political activity provided it is lawful, conducted in our own time, with our own resources, and not linked to our employment in Grameenphone

#### What to look out for

- If we become aware of public discussions on social media or other media platforms with a potential reputational risk to Grameenphone
- When planning to speak at external events or other forums where we represent Grameenphone
- If we are concerned that our communications with outside sources could reflect negatively on the company
- If we promote our company and receive backlash from an external audience on social media or other media platforms

## **Privacy**

#### We earn trust by protecting all personal data.

#### What we need to know

- We hold personal data on all our customers and employees, and we have an obligation to protect it and only use it for legitimate business purposes
- Personal data includes employee, customer and business partner information such as content of communications, phone numbers, e-mails, addresses, locations, call and payment history, salaries and health information
- All personal data is to be considered confidential
- Responsible use of personal data is instrumental in maintaining our customers' and employees' trust

#### What is expected of all of us

- We do not share personal data with anyone who does not have a specific business purpose for it, unless sharing the data has been authorized or is legally required
- We only access personal data for specific business purposes
- We are open and honest with our customers and employees about how we use their data
- We ensure that personal data is processed with proper access control, security and data protection measures in place
- We stay informed of our responsibilities related to privacy when we work with projects or initiatives that involve personal data processing
- We follow established privacy procedures and processes

- If there is unauthorized access to personal data, including sharing of data with third parties without appropriate privacy safeguards in place
- If we are collecting data about our employees or customers which they would not reasonably expect us to collect or use in this way
- If the personal data of our employees or customers is being used in a way that may be considered intrusive
- If a government official requests information about an employee or a customer, including business records without following proper procedure
- If there are any indications that personal data has been or may be compromised

# **Public Officials**

#### We follow high ethical standards when interacting with

#### What we need to know

- Public officials include all individuals employed by or acting on behalf of a government including anyone holding a legislative, administrative, executive or military office
- Public officials execute governance functions that are vital to the societies in which we operate and are also vital to our license to operate there
- Grameenphone interacts with public officials at various levels and for many different purposes
- Information shared with public officials may become public due to laws regulating public access to government-held information
- Individuals employed by state-owned companies may be considered public officials

#### What is expected of all of us

- We do not engage in conduct which could, or could be perceived to, improperly influence a public
  official
- We exercise appropriate caution toward public officials when Grameenphone is engaging in a commercial or approval process
- We are always compliant with local laws or rules that apply to public officials
- We do not offer gifts to public officials except promotional items of minimal value, and only when it
  would be customary to do so
- We do not pay travel, accommodation or related expenses for public officials
- We offer only modest hospitality to public officials and only when there is a clear and legitimate business purpose, the costs are reasonable, and the context is open and transparent
- We always discuss offering business courtesies to public officials with our manager and seek guidance from the Compliance Function as needed
- We do not make facilitation payments to public officials and we report requests for such payments to the Compliance Function
- We only use lobbyists to advocate on our behalf in special circumstances with full transparency and with prior written approval by the Business Unit CEO
- We ensure the third party towards whom any lobbying activity is being conducted is aware of our relationship with the lobbyist. In the event a lobbyist is used, it shall be promptly disclosed to the third party the lobbyist represents Grameenphone. The obligation shall be included in the agreement with the lobbyist
- We do not engage in external discussions with public officials on behalf of Grameenphone unless we have been previously authorized to do so

#### What to look out for

- If a business partner directly or indirectly interacts with public officials on our behalf
- If a public official asks for the personal data of Grameenphone employees, customers or any other individual
- If a public official requests Grameenphone to send information or messages to our subscribers
- If a public official owns, manages or is affiliated with a business partner
- If a public official, or a close family member or business associate of the public official, applies for a position within Grameenphone

# Safeguarding our Assets

#### Security is embedded in everything we do.

#### What we need to know

- Company assets are everything that our company owns or uses to conduct business including equipment, facilities, systems and information
- Protecting company assets is a core responsibility for all of us

- Intellectual property such as trademarks, copyrighted works, inventions, trade secrets and know-how, are
  often valuable and may be important to Grameenphone's success in the market
- Security threats can affect our assets and have significant financial, operational and reputational impact

#### What is expected of all of us

- We always assess the security risks and follow security policies and requirements when we make business decisions
- We report any security incidents immediately and in accordance with local procedures, laws and regulations
- We protect company assets from loss, damage, theft, waste and improper use
- We limit employee and third-party access to company assets to what is necessary to accomplish assigned work
- We always follow proper protocols for granting access and do not share our access credentials, including PIN codes, tokens and passwords
- We only use Grameenphone approved systems for information sharing and storage
- We protect our premises from unauthorized access and we wear our Grameenphone badge visible when in the office
- We protect Grameenphone's intellectual property as appropriate and respect the intellectual property rights of others

#### What to look out for

- If we observe people on our premises or trying to enter our premises without authorisation or properly displayed credentials
- If our cell phone, laptop or computer is lost, stolen or suddenly behaves differently
- If we receive emails, messages or calls that are suspicious
- If we detect vulnerabilities in our systems, processes or facilities

# Workplace Environment

#### We treat each other with respect and dignity.

#### What we need to know

- All employees deserve a workplace environment, independent of work location, that is free from
  harassment, intimidation, discrimination or threats of violence for any reason, including actions based on
  gender, sexual orientation or identity, race, ethnicity, disability, national origin, religious or cultural
  beliefs or citizenship
- We view employee diversity as a competitive advantage, as it broadens our perspectives and allows us to better understand our customers' needs
- Grameenphone does its utmost to actively promote equality in all employment practices
- We foster a working environment where people are treated honestly and professionally and are valued for their unique ideas and differences

#### What is expected of all of us

- We show respect for our co-workers and treat them as we ourselves would like to be treated
- We do not retaliate against any employee, business partner or customer for raising a good faith concern
- We do not engage in conversations or send communications of any kind that contain offensive namecalling, jokes, slurs, stereotyping, blackmailing or threats, nor do we display or share offensive pictures, cartoons, drawings or gestures
- We actively listen to different points of view and consider those perspectives exclusively on their own merits
- We confront any incidents of harassment or inappropriate behaviour and proactively protect our work environment
- We do not use alcohol or illegal drugs in the workplace, or abuse prescription medication, and we never purchase sexual services on business trips or other assignments

#### What to look out for

- If we experience, witness or hear of any form of bullying, mocking, or harassment of any kind
- If we experience or become aware of incidents of harassment, sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind, involving anyone
- If our managers and supervisors are repeatedly identifying one colleague or a specific group of colleagues for criticism or special treatment based on characteristics unrelated to their work
- If we suspect that certain colleagues are not receiving fair consideration for promotions or project assignments
- If we are concerned that certain individuals or groups of colleagues are excluded from participating in activities or discussions

# How to Speak Up

One of the Code Principles is that we "speak up." We ask our managers and the Compliance Function when we have questions about whether activities are ethical or compliant with our Code, and we always challenge and report activities that we believe may breach our Code or applicable law. Through reporting we enable Grameenphone to keep its promise to operate legally and ethically and we help the company to protect its good reputation. It is a responsibility that we share as Grameenphone employees.

It sometimes takes courage to come forward and share your concerns. If you are not comfortable discussing or reporting an issue to your manager or the Compliance Function, you may use the *Integrity Hotline* which is available to all employees, business partners and stakeholders. The Integrity Hotline is designed to protect the privacy of individuals who report a concern, and individuals who are the subject of a reported concern, through a reporting channel that is operated by an independent company. All reports are treated as confidential, and a very restricted number of people are allowed access to them. The channel is always open and is available in most local languages. **You may choose to remain anonymous.** Your identity is kept confidential unless you agree otherwise.

All reported concerns are taken seriously and given fair and objective follow-up. The reports are first received and reviewed by Group Internal Audit & Investigation (GIAI). In cases that present serious allegations or concerns GIAI will undertake an independent investigation to clarify relevant facts. Other cases are transferred to the Business Unit and managed by an appointed independent function. All functions are required to maintain information in the strictest confidence to ensure the integrity of the process.

An important part of our compliance programme is taking effective corrective action and, where appropriate, employee discipline. In all cases, the Compliance Function supports management in resolving the investigated concerns to determine whether disciplinary or corrective actions are required. Anyone who violates the law, the Code, or a Grameenphone Policy or Manual may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. Such violations may damage Grameenphone's reputation and result in commercial loss, and violations of the law may expose Grameenphone, and even the individual violator, to fines, penalties, damages and, in some cases, imprisonment.

It is important to remember that we can all report suspected unethical or illegal behaviour without fear of retaliation. Grameenphone does not tolerate retaliation of any kind against those who speak up in good faith.

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#### Disclaimer:

This is the official version of the Code of Conduct, approved by the Board of Directors of Grameenphone, 15 December 2021, valid from 1 January 2022. If there are discrepancies between this version and any of the translated versions, the English language version is controlling.



#### **PART II**

# Additional Clauses for the Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer of Grameenphone

#### 1. Introduction

This Part II of the Code Conduct for the Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer of the Grameenphone shall be applicable upon the Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer of Grameenphone as additional clauses to Part I of the Code of Conduct of Grameenphone.

#### 2. Conflict of Interest

The Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall not enter into any transaction which is or is likely to be in conflict with the interest of the Company. They shall not take up any position or engagement that may be prejudicial to the interest of the Company.

Any situation which gives rise, or might give rise to a conflict of interest shall be disclosed as soon as it arises.

# 3. Prudent Conduct and Behavior

The Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall at all times in discharging their duties and responsibilities act honestly, ethically and in good faith and in the best interest of the Company.

#### 4. Statutory Compliance, Rules and Regulations

The Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall comply with laws, rules and regulations applicable to their roles. Additionally, they shall adhere to internal rules and regulations as may be approved by the Board from time to time.

#### 5. Prohibition of Insider Trading

The Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall observe all applicable insider trading legislation and regulation, including the duties of confidentiality and prohibitions against trading, and shall comply with the Insider Trading Manual of the Company, as amended from time to time. This includes the prohibition to purchase or sell the Company's securities on the basis of any undisclosed price sensitive information and also the prohibition to disclose such information to any other person (including relatives).



### 6. Relationship with environment, employees, customers and suppliers

The Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer are expected to monitor that the Company complies with the applicable laws, rules and regulations of the country related to the environment, employees, customers and suppliers. They shall deal fairly with customers, suppliers, competitors and employees in accordance with the law.

#### 7. Independency

The Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall exhibit high standards of integrity, commitment and independence in regards to discharge of their respective duties and responsibilities entrusted upon them, within the purview of the law and for the best interest of the Company.

#### 8. Confidentiality

The Chair of the Board, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall maintain the confidentiality of information not generally known to the public and entrusted to them, except when disclosure is authorized or legally mandated.

#### 9. Amendments to this Code

The provisions of this Code can be amended or modified by the Board from time to time, subject to recommendations from the Nomination and Remuneration Committee.

#### 10. Applicability

This Code shall be applicable and binding upon the Chair of the Board, other Board members and the Chief Executive Officer of the Company.