IndustriALL Global Union

Why Responsible Steel?
Matthias Hartwich, Director, Oct/Nov. 2022
IndustriALL Global Union in numbers

50
MILLION
WORKERS

600
AFFILIATES

140
COUNTRIES
Just Transition: a trade union priority

IndustriALL Global Union: “The objective of a Just Transition is to provide a hopeful and optimistic future for all workers, especially for those in industries that may be impacted by efforts to limit greenhouse gases or by the introduction of new technologies. (...) We must fight for a good future.”
IndustriALL: why ResponsibleSteel?

Why trade unions welcome multistakeholder approach?

- Steel sector in transition
  - piloting affiliates and members through changes + raise their voice/concerns
  - Ensure that transition is «just» and keeps steel makers on board

- Multi-stakeholder = «broad» approach
  - All important stakeholders on board = improves acceptance
  - Make it a well-accepted standard and accompany progress/development

- Standard = accepted (voluntarily) by all participants
  - Strength: standard is willingly accepted + respected
  - Progress possible when Responsible Steel is growing

- Influence standard + discussions for the sake of steel makers
  - Make it a «good» standard, enabling «just» transition
  - Safeguard jobs, working conditions, OHS: (ILO Conventions +)
Two major transformations:
Digitalization + Green Tech: transform the steel industry

- Digitalization and the energy/green transition: the two major transformations at work today.
- The processes are neither instantaneous, nor homogeneous, nor synchronous.
- The areas of overlapping between them are numerous. And the effects of these transformations are major and a source of upheaval, in particular for employees, employment and working conditions.
Just transition in steel industry

...must reflect both mega-trends and respect workers