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Establishing sustainable partnerships in response to COVID-19

The global COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of solidarity and encouraging dialogue between civil society government and business on how to respond to the crisis in the immediate term, as well as for achieving better SDG and ESG long-term outcomes? What are the first lessons learned and emerging good business practices that can shape future - partnerships? Some examples from French companies are instructive:

Schneider Electric¹, a large multinational company in the supply and automation of digital solutions, is attentive to the vulnerabilities surrounding its value chain and has committed to making these vulnerabilities visible and improving crisis resilience. It has set up a "[Tomorrow Rising Fund](#)" with some 400 partners in 60 countries working to help young people return to school. In addition, it aims to provide food, protect the elderly while working on the development of educational programmes.

For Veolia², another large transnational company in services such as water management, waste management and energy services, the emphasis is on ethical [commitments](#) that should be at the heart of partnerships, which go well beyond compliance and should also not be locked into excessive procedures.