

HDG-21 GOVERNANCE STANDARD

Halal Development Goals (HDG-21)

Governance Framework for Halalpreneurs Worldwide

Issued by the World Halalpreneur Council (WHC)
Version 1.0 | 2026 Edition



Official Website: <https://worldhalalpreneurcouncil.org/hdg21>

FOREWORD

The global halal economy is expanding across finance, technology, tourism, consumer services, healthcare, education, and cross-border trade. While halal certification governs permissibility, halalpreneurship requires a broader governance framework that strengthens trust, ethicality, sustainability, and responsible innovation.

HDG-21 — Halal Development Goals — was established to translate the holistic principle of **Halalan Tayyiban** into a structured governance model specifically designed for Halalpreneurs in the 21st-century halal economy.

The HDG-21 Governance Framework was authentically conceptualised and developed under the leadership of the World Halalpreneur Council and formally initiated by its World President and Founder, [Prof. Dr. Jeffery Yap](#), who holds a Professorship in Entrepreneurship and a Doctorate in Humanitarian Services. The framework integrates entrepreneurial governance principles with humanitarian ethical responsibility, providing structured guidance for Halalpreneurs operating within the Global Halal-Economic Network.

HDG-21 is intended to serve as a principled governance reference — strengthening responsible enterprise while fully respecting national halal authorities, regulatory sovereignty, and religious institutions.

HDG-21 is a governance framework for Halalpreneurs.
It is not a certification scheme, regulatory instrument, religious ruling, or national halal development policy.

1. SCOPE

1.1 This document establishes the HDG-21 Governance Framework applicable to Halalpreneurs and organisations operating within halal-permissible boundaries.

1.2 HDG-21 provides structured ethical governance guidance inspired by *Halalan Tayyiban* and universally recognised halal-aligned principles.

1.3 This framework applies to:

- Entrepreneurs operating within halal sectors
- Corporations and SMEs
- Industry associations
- Financial institutions
- Educational institutions
- Technology enterprises
- Cross-border trade organisations

1.4 HDG-21 applies exclusively to halalpreneurship governance and does not claim jurisdiction over national halal certification authorities, regulatory frameworks, or state-level halal development strategies.

2. NORMATIVE STATUS

2.1 HDG-21 is principle-based and non-regulatory.

2.2 Adoption is voluntary and intended as a governance reference for Halalpreneurs

2.3 Compliance with HDG-21 does not replace compliance with national laws, halal certification systems, or regulatory requirements.

2.4 Organisations remain fully subject to their respective legal and regulatory environments.

3. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

3.1 Halalpreneur™

An entrepreneur or organisation operating within halal-permissible boundaries while pursuing ethical enterprise and sustainable development.

3.2 Halalan Tayyiban

Permissible (Halal) and Wholesome (Tayyib); a holistic ethical principle guiding responsible conduct.

3.3 Governance Framework

A structured system of principles guiding ethical leadership, accountability, and operational responsibility.

3.4 Alignment

Good-faith integration of HDG-21 principles into organisational practices.

3.5 Custodian

The World Halalpreneur Council as steward of HDG-21.

4. ETHICAL FOUNDATION

4.1 HDG-21 is inspired by the holistic principle of **Halalan Tayyiban**.

4.2 The framework draws inspiration from widely recognised halal-aligned ethical values, including:

- Amanah (Trust)
- Sidq (Truthfulness)
- Adl (Justice)
- Ihsan (Excellence)
- Maslahah (Public Benefit)
- La Darar wa La Dirar (No Harm)
- Mizan (Balance)
- Khilafah (Stewardship)
- Wasatiyyah (Moderation)
- Maqasid-based protections (Protection of Life, Wealth, Mind, Dignity, and Faith)

4.3 These principles are referenced as moral inspirations and do not constitute theological interpretation.

5. FRAMEWORK STRUCTURE

4 Pillars × 21 Governance Classes

5.1 Pillar I — Trust & Governance

- 5.1.1 HDG 1 – Integrity & Truthfulness
 - 5.1.2 HDG 2 – Transparency & Disclosure
 - 5.1.3 HDG 3 – Accountability & Governance
 - 5.1.4 HDG 4 – Fairness & Justice in Trade
 - 5.1.5 HDG 5 – Consumer Trust Protection
 - 5.1.6 HDG 6 – Anti-Corruption & Ethical Conduct
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5.2 Pillar II — Economy & Finance

- 5.2.1 HDG 7 – Ethical Banking & Finance Practices
 - 5.2.2 HDG 8 – Inclusive Economic Participation
 - 5.2.3 HDG 9 – Responsible Investment & Capital Use
 - 5.2.4 HDG 10 – Poverty Reduction Through Enterprise
 - 5.2.5 HDG 11 – Fair Employment & Human Dignity
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5.3 Pillar III — Innovation, AI & Future Systems

- 5.3.1 HDG 12 – Responsible Innovation
 - 5.3.2 HDG 13 – Ethical Artificial Intelligence
 - 5.3.3 HDG 14 – Data Responsibility & Digital Trust
 - 5.3.4 HDG 15 – Technology for Sustainability
 - 5.3.5 HDG 16 – Knowledge & Talent Development
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5.4 Pillar IV — Planet, Life & Global Impact

- 5.4.1 HDG 17 – Environmental Responsibility
 - 5.4.2 HDG 18 – Sustainable Tourism & Cultural Respect
 - 5.4.3 HDG 19 – Medical Ethics & Human Well-Being
 - 5.4.4 HDG 20 – Animal Welfare & Biodiversity Protection
 - 5.4.5 HDG 21 – Global Collaboration & Peaceful Trade
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6. IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES

- 6.1 Leadership Commitment
- 6.2 Governance Mapping
- 6.3 Risk Identification
- 6.4 Documentation
- 6.5 Continuous Improvement

Organisations should integrate HDG-21 into internal policies and governance structures.

7. SECTOR APPLICATION

HDG-21 applies across halalpreneurship sectors, including:

- Fashion & Jewellery
 - Wellness & Beauty
 - Finance & Banking
 - Technology & Innovation
 - Tourism & Hospitality
 - Lifestyle & Consumer Services
 - Trade, Startups & SMEs
 - Modern Arts & Heritage
 - FMCG (Halal)
 - Education & Career Development
 - Food & Beverages (Halal)
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8. ALIGNMENT DESIGNATIONS

- Referencing HDG-21
- Aligned with HDG-21
- Advocating HDG-21
- Contributing to HDG-21

Designation does not constitute certification or regulatory approval.

WHC reserves the right to withdraw public referencing recognition in cases of misrepresentation.

9. FRAMEWORK GOVERNANCE

- 9.1 Custodianship — World Halalpreneur Council
 - 9.2 Amendment Authority
 - 9.3 Version Control
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10. HALALPRENEUR FRAMEWORK 2030

HDG-21 supports the structured development of halalpreneurship toward 2030 as a recognised ethical governance benchmark.

11. HALALFORPEACE — HALAL 2035 VISION

HDG-21 serves as the governance foundation toward Halal 2035, envisioning a halal economy that advances trust, sustainability, ethical innovation, and peaceful global cooperation.

12. LIABILITY & LEGAL DISCLAIMER

HDG-21 does not constitute:

- Halal certification
- Religious ruling
- Statutory regulation
- Legal compliance verification
- National halal policy

WHC assumes no liability for organisational misconduct or regulatory breaches.

Organisations remain solely responsible for compliance with applicable laws.

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