Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

Strategic objectives

- By the end of 2023, we aim to assess our DE&I approach and identify gaps for continued improvement
- By the end of 2023, we aim to develop a more inclusive hiring programme and group guidelines
- 80% of our talents feel like they belong in the company yearly
- 100% of our talents are trained and have access to an anti-harassment reporting tool

Key highlights 2022:

- 85% of our talents are proud to work for our company
- 75% of our talents feel like they belong at our company
- We reached an Employee Net Promoter Score (eNPS) of 19
- We launched our Culture Club to share about culture and diversity.

We are building an organisation that goes beyond day-to-day business and bricks and mortar, creating a workplace that is profoundly human, and in which everyone belongs.

As a human-centric business, our people are our most precious asset. We have long prioritised their wellbeing, ensuring that we support them in their career journeys and cultivate a diverse and inclusive workplace where everyone feels welcome and valued.

STRIVING TO BE A RESPONSIBLE EMPLOYER

At mci group, we want to create long-term relationships with our talents that facilitate personal success and fulfilment, both at work, and in their personal lives.

In 2022, 81% of our workforce had a permanent employment contract, 3% had fixed-term contracts, 11% were long-term freelancers, and 4% were interns/apprentices.

Our permanent employee turnover rate in 2022 was 17.4% (16.9% in 2021). This rate looks likely to remain low, with 76% of our talents intending to stay with us for the next 12 months, as per our 2022 talent engagement survey.

We carefully monitor wage equality in the workplace at a country-specific level, ensuring our talents are paid fairly, and that we’re compliant with local laws and regulations.

Remuneration is aligned with local industry standards. And, whilst not all our agencies offer identical benefits, they typically include health and wellness programmes, health and/or accident insurance and/or retirement savings plans. Some talents are on a performance-based incentive plan, and our senior leaders may participate in a share-based incentive plan.

We support the rights of our people to join trade unions and to bargain collectively, although trade union membership is rare in our industry, especially in some of the regions in which we operate.

THRIVING THROUGH DIVERSITY

“The global nature of our group means that we’re lucky enough to work with talents from many continents, countries, and cultures. Our talents originate from 69 countries and collectively speak over 50 languages. This diversity fosters an international mindset and understanding of society that enriches our group, enhances creativity and amplifies our ability to work cross-culturally as we accompany our clients into new markets.”

Joëlle Zumwald,
Group Vice-President People & Culture
Our DEI&B commitment:
We are committed to creating a safe and accepting environment where everyone can thrive. We are committed to fairness and equity in all aspects of our organisation.

Our DEI guidelines, as outlined in our Code of business conduct, are designed to reinforce a culture of belonging by providing a working environment free from discrimination, where everyone is respected, heard and valued.

In 2020 we formed our DEI&B task force, and in 2022 The Culture Club section was created on our intranet: a place to learn about and be inspired by diversity & culture. We also created an open group on MS Teams, where our employees can interact, share personal stories, and spark inspiration.

In addition, we organise awareness campaigns and training on DEI during our yearly Academies, local Learning Weeks, and as part of our onboarding programme.

Many of our offices have also created their local DEI&B groups or Diversity Squads, organising local campaigns on the topics that matter most to them, and our US offices have introduced the Affinity Groups programme, creating a space for a range of communities to come together within the workplace, including African American, Latino, Asian American, Women in the workplace, Young professionals, military, LGBTQ+, Mental Health and Family groups.

Despite the successes here, we are always looking to go above and beyond. Using the Women’s Empowerment Principles and the LGBTIQ Standards gap analysis tools, we want to assess our current programme to identify areas of improvement, help us set future goals and targets and, ultimately, become signatories.

To increase our outreach and attract diverse talent, we also plan to review our recruitment strategy and develop a set of guidelines for more diverse and inclusive hiring.

LISTENING TO AND COMMUNICATING WITH OUR TALENTS
We take the time to engage with and listen to our talents regularly through various initiatives to more deeply with their needs and strengthen their relationship with the group.

That’s why, in 2022, we upgraded our talent feedback survey tool to an external measurement platform, which provides us with more detailed employee insights and comprehensive analytics. Managers are also provided with tips and guidance on areas that could be improved.

As part of our talent experience strategy, we plan to run shorter “pulse-style” questionnaires to help us spot problems early, and act on them swiftly.

Our annual engagement survey took place in October 2022, with a total of 963 talents. That’s 69% of our full-time workforce, our highest-ever completion rate.

Note: with our new engagement tool, the scale (1-5 vs 1-10) and methodology changed, which makes it harder to compare the results, but nonetheless the engagement result is consistent with our 2021 score (7.69).

ANNUAL ENGAGEMENT SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- eNPS: +19 which is a significant increase to 2021 (+12) while detractors have decreased from 30% in 2021 to 19% in 2022.
- 77% of our talents are proud to work for our company.
- 85% of talents trust their manager, 85% feel that their manager cares about their wellbeing, and 84% said that their manager recognises people when they do a good job.
- 86% of talents appreciate our CEO’s transparent communication.
Stories on diversity, equity and inclusion

Young Activists Summit 2022 (#YAS22)
- Together we thrive

We actively promote diversity within mci group. In December, #YAS22, a summit which promotes solidarity across social, racial and cultural groups, towards minorities, and encourages everyone to stand up for other people’s rights, was held at the United Nations in Geneva (Switzerland).

The Summit welcomed participants from 134 countries in honouring 6 young changemakers who have worked tirelessly for an inclusive and equal world. It was followed by live conversations with the activists on Instagram. This fourth edition of the Young Activists Summit reached an audience of over 8.2 million people on social media around the world.

Our teams at Dorier were proud to support the Summit by providing the lighting, projection, sound equipment, stage and technical assistance at discounted rates.

MCI Germany: driving discussions around inclusion

As part of MCI Germany’s Learning Week under the motto of “be brave, be proud”, the teams discussed diversity and inclusion.

Our Berlin office hosted a session with German actor André Dietz, who gave insights into one of 2022’s most special TV projects. The show, which featured 13 people with Down Syndrome who worked for one month in a restaurant under the guidance of a chef, was aimed at showing how much its participants could achieve with the necessary support.

During the show, Dietz, whose daughter was born with the Angelman-Syndrome, accompanied the participants both in front of and behind the camera, delivering his support and insights.

Christina Bock, Operations Director at MCI Germany, who attended the session, commented: “Andre’s story made a huge impression on me. Nobody believed in the project, but by giving them trust and patience, the participants were able to create something they could be proud of ..”
Breaking the Bias on International Women’s Day

To celebrate International Women’s Day, we joined the #breakthebias 2022 campaign and asked some of our talents from across the globe to tell us how they play their part in overcoming gender stereotypes.

The campaign brought talents together from across all our agencies to form one international force for solidarity, letting all our talents know that mci group is a space for them to feel equal, valued and encouraged to thrive.

Using the best industry practices to make the NYWICI’s Matrix Awards an inclusive event

Ashley Dowling, Director of Nonprofit Operations, MCI USA, brought her knowledge and experience as a deaf person and presenter at many deaf events to help a client create an event that would be inclusive for all.

For over 50 years, New York Women in Communications (NYWICI) has organised the city’s largest organisation of professional women in the communications industry. With MCI talents, honourees, presenters, vendors and interpreters, Ashley Dowling developed and executed the strategy to make the backstage space, equipment, and award process inclusive, and manage the participants’ expectations.
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