



**UN GLOBAL COMPACT**  
**COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE) 2014-2015**

Statement of Support and Renewal of Ongoing Commitment



## INTRODUCTION

Ufadhili Trust is East Africa's leading proponent of responsible and sustainable development. Founded in 2001 as a non-profit, support organization under the Public Trusts Act (Laws of Kenya), Ufadhili Trust exists to promote a culture of responsible, sustainable and ethical practices among businesses, governments and citizens in East Africa.

### History

In 1998, the Ford Foundation East Africa Office commissioned work to explore the idea of self-reliance and community-led and resourced development. This work was occasioned by the need to reduce dependence on foreign aid. Called the *Africa Philanthropy Initiative* (API), the work involved research, focused discussions and debate on sustainability of development efforts by stakeholders throughout Africa. The efforts resulted in to important ideas, initiatives and institutions. Among these institutions was Ufadhili Trust.

## THEMATIC FOCUS

Ufadhili Trust work is based around **four thematic areas** namely;

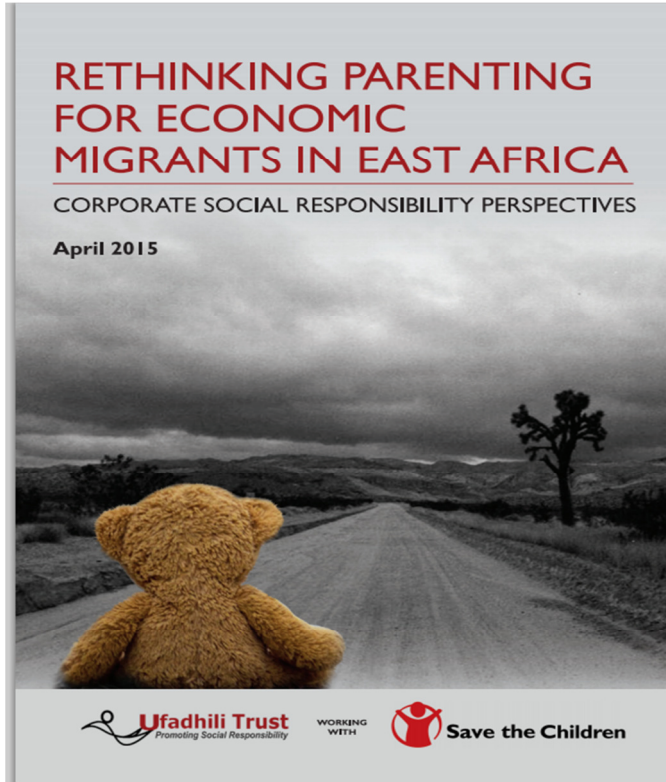
- Responsible Businesses
- Responsible Governments
- Responsible Citizenship
- Responsible Organizations

For more information please visit: [www.ufadhilitrust.org](http://www.ufadhilitrust.org)

### 1. PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES

Ufadhili Trust goal in working with business in East Africa is to inspire and encourage business to increase the quality and extent of its contribution to social and economic development, by making Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) an essential part of business excellence. The organization also works closely with Private Sector Membership Organizations to advance responsible business practices in the region. Ufadhili Trust aims to achieve this goal through;

**Research:** Over the years, the organization has sought to strengthen the knowledge base around Social Responsibility and sustainable business issues in East Africa by conducting and disseminating studies to key stakeholders on issues affecting business.



To read or download our publications kindly visit, <http://www.ufadhilitrust.org/publications/>

**Advocacy and Awareness Creation:** Since its establishment, Ufadhili Trust continues to provide consistent and appropriate information intended to give corporate sustainability a fixed identity, and encourage business involvement and contribution to the sustainability agenda.

**Benchmarking:** The organization continues to play a lead role in the development of corporate sustainability standards for business/companies in East Africa. This is in addition to profiling and celebrating these businesses through various award schemes tailored for the private sector. For instance, Ufadhili Trust is the lead technical advisor; social responsibility reporting for the *Financial Reporting (FiRe) Awards*; an annual event organized by the Kenya's [Capital Market Authorities \(CMA\)](#), [Nairobi Securities Exchange \(NSE\)](#) and [ICPAK](#).

**Training and Development:** Ufadhili Trust provides focused and needs based training programmes for sustainable practitioners to build their skills and expertise in delivering high impact sustainable programmes within business.

## UFADHILI TRUST WORK ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE EAST AFRICAN REGION

**Support to individual businesses:** Ufadhili Trust supports individual businesses/companies to mainstream sustainability within their business process. Ufadhili has supported such companies in areas especially such as; sustainable Policy & programme development, sustainability reporting, social and environmental audits, and grantee Management.

### 2. IMPROVING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE FLOWER SECTOR IN KENYA /EASTERN AFRICAN REGION

Ufadhili Trust in partnership with Hivos, the Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC) and Muzes organized a Blooming Conversations Round Table meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 during the International Flower Trade Expo - IFTEX 2015, Nairobi Kenya.



Ufadhili Trust made a presentation on the broader perspectives of Sustainability to flower sector stakeholders meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March during Hortiflora Expo, 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



### **3. ENHANCING COMMUNITY/CITIZENS PARTICIPATION IN THE EXTRACTIVES INDUSTRIES**

Ufadhili's goal is to have a responsible and sustainable extractive sector that respects and upholds the rights of diverse stakeholders particularly the citizens/ local communities through proper management of natural resources; mitigating the negative socio-economic, political and environmental impacts. Ufadhili Trust also seeks to enhance community –company's relationship. Since 2012, Ufadhili Trust has provided support to the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) Project in Malindi, Kilifi County – Kenya which aims at enhancing the sustainability practices by the salt extractive companies operating in that region.

### **4. PROMOTING IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS AROUND LAKE VICTORIA REGION**

Through the Lake Victoria Rights Project, Ufadhili Trust seeks to strengthen the economic wellbeing of the community groups living around the Lake Victoria region. The project is being implemented in five sites around the Lake Victoria; Mfangano Island, Osiri and Sio Port in Kenya, Ukerewe Island in Tanzania and Ssesse Island in Uganda. This is through the development of alternative and environmentally sustainable income generating activities, including;

- Strengthening savings and loaning techniques
- Increasing access to capital
- Business skills development
- Improving product design and quality for crafts
- Inculcating an entrepreneurial culture and attitudes
- Improving on-going income generating activities related to the fish sector
- Supporting new income generating activities and emerging economic empowerment ideas
- Linkage to feasible markets
- Increase bargaining power of fisher communities among others



## UFADHILI TRUST WORK ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE EAST AFRICAN REGION



**October 2015:** Sio Port community interacting with the officers from the Women Enterprise and UWEZO officers at Sigalame Secondary School in Sio Port, Busia County- Kenya. Meeting organized by Ufadhili Trust to link the community groups with Micro-Finance Institutions.



**November 2013:** Ufadhili Trust facilitated members of Osiri community village (Kenya); Dagnet Women Group to prepare nurseries for planting of vegetables that is used in supplementing family income.



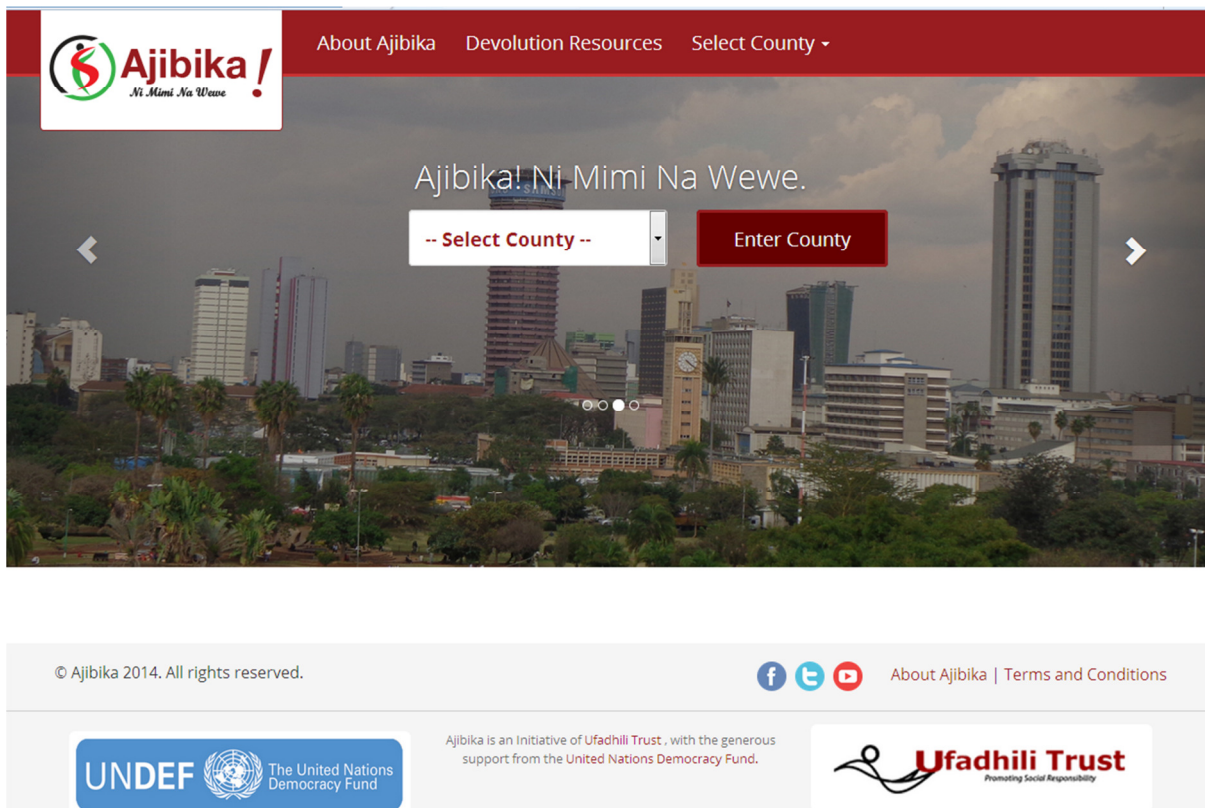
**July 2014:** Farmers post-harvest management training organized by Ufadhili Trust in [Mfangano Island](#) – Lake Victoria – Kenya.



**October 2015:** Community members in Osiri village, Kisumu County – Kenya admire some of the works and craft products they have been trained on by Ufadhili Trust and Zingira Nyanza Community Craft.

## 5. PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP & GOOD GOVERNANCE IN EAST AFRICA

Over the years, Ufadhili Trust has been at the forefront of enhancing social justice and good governance in Kenya and the region through the *Ajibika Campaign* and Citizens Assembly Initiative. These initiatives seek to mobilize, sensitize, engage and enhance citizens' participation in matters affecting their democratic rights in Kenya. Currently, Ufadhili Trust is implementing a devolution project; dubbed *Ajibika Campaign* ([www.ajibika.org](http://www.ajibika.org)) that aims at enhancing citizen's participation through the use of Information Technology (IT) tools in county/local planning and procurement processes in Kenya. This project is being implemented with the support from the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF).







*October 2015: Public sensitization meeting in Siaya County-Kenya.*

## **6. PROMOTING LOCAL /COMMUNITY RESOURCE MOBILIZATION, VOLUNTEERISM AND PHILANTHROPY IN EAST AFRICA REGION**

Ufadhili Trust is at the fore front of promoting local resource mobilization as well as promote the spirit of philanthropy and volunteerism as an important catalyst of national development. To this end, Ufadhili Trust builds the capacity of non-profit organizations in East Africa to mobilise local resources for their work. In the last decade, the wave of globalisation and its attendant economic reforms have required cutbacks in state spending. This has increasingly left the non-profit organizations sector with the burden of delivering social services. Despite the enormous contribution of this sector towards socio-economic development, it remains deeply and unsustainably dependent on foreign resources. East Africa has numerous resources, most of which are either misused or simply not harnessed effectively. On Volunteerism and Philanthropy, Ufadhili Trust believes that an individual can contribute one's time, skills and ideas to fulfill a social need without expecting corresponding financial reward. Ufadhili's volunteerism work is guided by the belief that human beings are the most valuable, useful and abundant resource.

## UFADHILI TRUST WORK ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE EAST AFRICAN REGION

Ufadhili Trust aims to;

- Provide technical assistance to organisations on prerequisites for effective resource mobilization
- Raise awareness about the potential and necessity for resource mobilization.
- Support initiatives that enhance the image and credibility of the non-profit sector.
- Promote discussion, celebration, recognition, and growth of philanthropy and volunteerism in the East African region
- Promote the spirit of philanthropy, volunteering and volunteerism as an important catalyst of national development
- Advocate for enabling laws and policies that promote philanthropy and volunteerism in East Africa
- Help civil society organizations, NGOs and CBOs through a peer learning process
- Build partnerships and solidarity groups that support philanthropy and volunteerism



**August 2014:** Training on Financial Sustainability for Non-Profit Organizations.