

**VOLTA RIVER AUTHORITY**  
**UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT (UNGC) COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)**  
**2015 REPORT**

UNGC COE REPORT REQUIREMENTS		
CE's Statement of Commitment	The Volta River Authority (VRA) is committed to maintaining the highest standard of safety and sustainability of the environment by conducting Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies in line with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and World Bank's standards for power related projects.	
	The VRA is a signatory to the Kyoto Agreement to reduce Greenhouse Emission. As a result it is taking advantage of the benefits of the UN Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), which allows a country with an emission reduction or emission limitation commitment to implement an emission reduction project.	
	Our renewable energy dovetailed into Ghana's 2020 vision of ensuring 10% of its electricity needs come from renewable sources.	
	We are also committed to the protection of right of employee and customers by providing information, public education, media encounters and consulting services.	
PRACTICAL ACTIONS TO SUPPORT THE UNGC PRINCIPLES		
Action	Description	Measurement of Outcomes
Commitment to Fight Schistosomiasis (Bilharzia)	The Authority in 2015 took its fight against the spread of the Schistosomiasis in its impacted communities to a higher level by providing improved sanitation facilities to its communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open defecation has ceased and all dug holes covered within a month after the improved facilities were handed over.</li></ul>
	A total of 30 separate micro-flush standalone toilet facilities were constructed for households in the Kebenu community of the Central Tongu District, Volta Region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Measurement of the disease prevalence levels are yet to be taken.</li></ul>
	Biofil toilet is an off-grid alternative to septic tank that treats faecal matter on site in a digester separating solids and liquids under aerobic composing condition making the system odour free.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The VRA/Ministry of Health continuous education has heightened the level of awareness on the disease in most communities.</li></ul>
	Other communities to benefit from the project are Dikapanya in Ada East,	

	<p>Korankyi in Asuogyaman, Morkplipkor in North Tongu and Dzabetator in South Tongu districts.</p> <p>Other interventions in the past have been providing treatment of the disease and health education in collaboration with Ministry of Health.</p>	
<b>VRA Educational Scholarship</b>	<p>The VRA Scholarship Scheme started in 2011 to provide an avenue for brilliant students in VRA operational areas to maximize their potentials and thus contribute to Ghana's human resource development needs.</p> <p>The year 2015 saw 61 students receiving the awards including persons rescued from child trafficking in response to the International Organisation Migration's (IOM) call for organisations to support.</p> <p>Since its inception, the scheme has supported more than 500 students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been general improvement in performance levels of students who migrate from Junior to senior secondary school.</li> <li>• Stakeholder involvement and commitment towards the education of children has gone up tremendously due to the introduction of the scheme.</li> </ul>
<b>Submission of Communication on Engagement (COE)</b>		
<b>Date Submitted</b>	<b>Recipient (Location)</b>	<b>Copied</b>
July 4, 2016	Global Compact Website	UNGC Ghana Coordinator

- **Requirements**

- **A statement from CE expressing VRA's continued support to the Compact principles**

- VRA is committed to the protection of right of employee and customers by providing information, public education, media encounters and consulting services. Committed to maintaining the highest standard of safety and sustainability of the environment by conducting EIA studies in line with the EPA and World Bank's standards for power related projects. VRA is a signatory to the Kyoto agreement to reduce greenhouse emission.

- **Descriptions of the practical actions VRA is taking to support the principles.**

- One or more of the actions can be mentioned
      - This explains why the Authority is sensitive to its image and will continue to strive to meet its commitments to customers, the business community and communities in which its operations are integrated.
      - Commitment to fight the spread of Schistosomiasis in riverine communities – Latest handing over of 30 separate units of biofil toilet facilities to the inhabitants of Kebenu; collaboration with Ministry of Health to intensify education and treatment of the disease.
      - Educational scholarship to brilliant but needy school children living in VRA impacted communities. In 2015, the Authority
    - Measurement of outcomes
      - Open defecation has ceased and all dug holes destroyed

- Prevalence levels have reduced in most communities. VRA/MOH continuous surveys have shown.
- **Submit COE to the Global Compact website**