



COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement:

From: October 2014

to: October 2016

October 17th, 2016
United Nations Global Compact
685 Third Avenue, FL 12
New York, NY 10017

Dear Madam or Sir,

I am pleased to confirm that Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SIF in BiH) reaffirms its support of the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

With this commitment in the form of biennial report, we express our intent to advance these ten principles within the framework of our influence, and will make clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders the general public.

We have focused on two U.N. Global Compact areas that are most aligned with our work – Human rights and Labour and we will take necessary actions to continuously improve the integration of the Global Compact and its principles into our projects.

Our mission is to, as a non-profit, non-governmental organization involved in searching, assisting and helping all those who are in need and marginalized by means of trained, disciplined, high-standard personnel and campaigns, passing on knowledge to society with no political affiliation, to realise all of the above by strictly abiding to our values: volunteerism, integrity, reliability, helpfulness/humanitarianism, improving human rights, offering better perspective and give respect for human life.

We aim to continuously increase the awareness of the society towards marginalized groups of people as well as awareness for the human rights field, increasing their level of understanding and evolve it to an active society for their better future and better quality of life.

Sincerely yours,

Ranka Ninkovic-Papic,
Director
Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SIF in BiH)
Branilaca Sarajeva 47, 71000 Sarajevo



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Description of Actions

The Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact

Human Rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Labour

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Environment

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.



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Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SIF in BiH)

About us

Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is a non-political, non-party, independent and non-profit non-governmental organization established by the Decision on establishment No IBHI/FSU u BiH/10 as of January 19, 2010 in accordance with the Law on Associations and Foundations of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina was officially registered as of January 28, 2010 with the Ministry of Justice of BiH.

Vision

Our vision is active and vital civil society with committed and functional NGOs which promote equal opportunities and full exercise of human rights of all citizens. Respect of human rights and transparency in decisions and procedures making processes are the basis for participatory democracy and implementation of Social Inclusion Strategy (SIS).

Mission

Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina enhances capacities and role of the non-governmental sector in strengthening social inclusion.

Goals

- Prevention and reduction of causes and consequences of social exclusion and poverty in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Direct support for identified most vulnerable groups in regards with poverty and social exclusion;
- Building and improving capacities of the NGO sector aimed at social inclusion, social entrepreneurship and poverty reduction of the target groups;
- Development of social entrepreneurship as a good practice in the field of employment and self-employment;
- Exchange of knowledge, experience, expertise and skills important for development of the NGO sector;
- Conducting various research projects;
- Active participation, support and promotion of partnership of government, non-government, public and private sector;
- Increasing availability of funds for NGOs from the local budgets through matching funds from local budgets (municipal, cantonal, entity) with SIF in BiH funds;



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- Strengthening transparency in making decisions on allocating funds from local budgets for projects and activities of NGOs in the field of social inclusion, social entrepreneurship and poverty reduction;
- Quality assurance is one of the primary principles of SIF in BiH work. SIF in BiH is committed to continued improvement of its own work and work of the partner organizations by applying international standards for quality assurance and having certified internal auditors for NGOs quality assurance management in its team.

Networks membership

SIF in BiH is a member of the network **AGREEMENT PLUS, UN GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK**, Coalition **KOMA**, Coalition **CIVILNI DIJALOG (CIVIL DIALOGUE)** and Network of Organisations for Support of Children with Development Delays.

Our values

The work of SIF in BiH is based on the following values:

1. Reduction of social exclusion

The smallest possible percentage of citizens excluded from social processes on one or several bases, due to disability, social status, nationality or sexual orientation. Advocating for and spreading the idea of tolerance and increasing general social inclusion. SIF in BiH is striving towards social progress.

2. Human rights for all

The differences that individuals acquire or are born with must not be a reason for the laws and standards in human rights to apply differently to them in comparison to other citizens in society. Fight against prejudice because differences mean additional quality and value!

3. Stop marginalisation!

Working towards is making the need for use of the term „marginalised individuals and groups” gradually fall out of use and towards prejudice leaving gradually the minds of individuals and specific social groups!

4. Transparency and accountability

Adherence to legal procedures, ensuring a quality system in day-to-day functioning and activities and principles of good business in the process of awarding grants, monitoring and reporting – through own example and expecting the same from our partners.

5. Stronger NGO sector

Promoting the values of civil society with active and functioning NGOs dedicated to their citizens. Making civil society organisations more efficient in representing, protecting and meeting the interests of the population they represent through enhancing their capacities and work methodology and systematic changes in financing and role of non-governmental organisations.

6. Promoting a society of equal opportunities

Advocating for and promoting a society and systems of social support that not only provide the bare minimum for the functioning of marginalised citizens (e.g. in the medical sense), but also enable them to become equally included into all social processes, with an emphasis on their remaining possibilities and



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capacities to function from starting positions which are favourable and adapted to the specificities of such citizens.

7. Partnership of all

A civil sector recognized as a partner to the public and private sector in the decision-making process, implementation and monitoring of those decisions, and civil society organisations that have earned the full trust of citizens.

❖ According to the Ten principles of the UN Global Compact, these are the achievements of SIF in BiH since it's been established in 2010:

- One of the main principle of the SIF in BiH work is social corporate responsibility which is best illustrated by the fact that SIF in BiH was selected as a member of the UN Global Compact Network and presented as a model of good practice in the Directory of “Best Practices of Corporate Social Responsibility in BiH”.
- SIF in BiH is the only non-governmental organization in BiH that focuses on the entire population of marginalized and excluded persons in the country and provides support to all the marginalized categories in the society, instead of working with and supporting only one marginalized group which is usually the case. SIF in BiH is registered at the level of BiH and in the period before 2014, it has supported 58 non-governmental organizations’ and social enterprises’ projects throughout the whole country.
- SIF in BiH can be rightfully considered as a roof organization for the support, assistance and inclusion of the marginalized groups and as well as a sectoral leader to the NGOs active in the area of social inclusion and poverty reduction. In regard of this, SIF in BiH proudly performs a role of Secretariat of the Coalition of marginalized groups in BiH “KOMA”, which gathers 78 members from civil, public and private sector.
- For the first four years, SIF in BiH established cooperation and partnership with 56 public institutions which matched funds with SIF in BiH and supported 58 projects of NGOs and social enterprises.
- SIF in BiH work with both the NGO sector and public institutions, is primarily based on several-level monitoring, control and evaluation system of both awarded funds and conducted activities, transparent and accountable usage of the awarded grants and public access to all the information concerning the SIF in BiH work.
- SIF in BiH was providing the NGO sector with a range of trainings (financial management, public procurement, legal and administrative matters, public advocacy and lobbying, reporting), written resources as well as daily consultations and advice-giving as well as strengthening the overall capacities, professionalism, transparency and visibility of the NGO sector.
- SIF in BiH has particularly strong expertise in conducting researches, assessments and analyses as well as dissemination and advocacy of the provided policy recommendations.
- SIF in BiH has been actively networking NGOs and CSOs working with the marginalized groups, networking was among NGOs and CSOs themselves as well as with the public institutions which was a



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very significant contribution of SIF in BiH to strengthening civil-public partnership in combating social exclusion and poverty reduction;

❖ ***SIF in BiH is continuously and actively working on the achievement of its strategic goals and objectives:***

- Preventing and reducing social exclusion and poverty of the most marginalized groups in BiH (persons with disabilities, minorities, the unemployed, the elderly, women, families with several children, the youth) through direct support and assistance to the marginalized groups;
- Development and strengthening of the capacities of NGOs in BiH in implementing projects and activities exclusively focused on strengthening social inclusion and poverty reduction of the marginalized;
- Development of social entrepreneurship by the marginalized groups as a good practice in the field of employment and self-employment;
- Conducting assessments, researches and in-depth analyses and providing policy recommendations in the area of social inclusion and poverty reduction of the marginalized groups, human development, social policies, strengthening of the NGO sector, democracy and good governance etc.

For the last biennial period (October 2014 – September 2016), we present our gained results and activities in accordance with UN Global Compact principles.

Abbreviations:

BiH – Bosnia and Herzegovina

FBiH – entity of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

RS – entity of Republic of Srpska

SIF in BiH – Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

KOMA – Coalition of the marginalized groups

PWD – persons with disabilities



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❖ *October 2014 – October 2015: Gained results and Influence*

The most important project for the SIF in BiH for the period 2014-2018 is Civil Society Sustainability Programme for the sector Human rights of marginalized groups. This project contains three components: Establishing and developing sectoral networks; Campaigns and monitoring; and Strengthening capacities and sustainability.

We gained significant progress in realisation of goals that were settled in the framework of the projects. Short-term goals were completely gained: analysis of the sector problems was successfully implemented. Coalition of marginalized groups in BiH – KOMA was also established, and in a short period of time the number of members has reached 64. Coalition KOMA has an organized structure with bodies that are performing specific functions and gather regularly: Executive Board, four Public advocacy bodies that manage and participate in four campaigns of public advocating and Committee for implementation of tracking Behaviour Code.

Coalition KOMA is recognized in the public and by the public institutions and authorities as a significant actor in the field of human rights of marginalized groups. Members from all over BiH contributed to the fact that public awareness about problems and needs of marginalized citizens was significantly increased. Media also showed strong interest for our activities, which additionally strengthened status of these activities in society. Although the most members of KOMA are from non-governmental sector, there is significant membership of public and private sector, and in order to that, we expect that number of members from that sectors will be increased.

Results that were planned for the first year of the implementation of second project's component were completely achieved. Two intensive campaigns of public advocating were successfully implemented – campaign for establishing a minimum of social security and equal possibilities, and campaign for the regulation of non-institutional support to the citizens from marginalized groups.

Document "Reform Agenda for Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period 2015-2018" that was adopted by the Council of Ministers, contains a point regarding the reform of social welfare and pensions, stating that "entities' governments, cantons' governments and Brcko district's government must improve targeting of social welfare through the package of measures that will make social welfare policies more efficient, effective and more legal. Social welfare should be in the function of those who are really in need, or those who are paying for it, and it has to be settled on the stable financial basis". That will involve accurate targeting of real needs of citizens, according to the goals of the first campaign of public advocating. Through adoption of the Reform Agenda, Council of Ministers, Government of FBiH, Government of RS and Cantons' Governments in FBiH committed that they will develop concrete initiative measures and projects for gaining settled goals.

On the 11th Session of the Government of FBiH that was held on June 18th 2015 it was adopted Working Agenda of Government of FBiH for the mandate period from 2015 to 2018. In the Working Agenda of Government were included goals that are directly connected to campaigns of public advocating that started in 2015 – campaign for the minimum of social security and equal possibilities, and campaign for the



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regulation of non-institutional support to marginalized citizens. In addition to this, in the Working Agenda of Government were also included objectives referred to social entrepreneurship.

As a result of campaigns and advocacy activities, in the Working Agenda of Government of FBiH was also planned "Establishing the unique minimum of social security for the region of FBiH, as well as including appropriate census through which will be determined existence of real social need". In the framework of that activity, it was planned a progress and adaptation of these measures/laws: Law on basis of social welfare in FBiH; Law on protection of families with children; Law on social services in FBiH; Law on changes of Law on basis of social welfare, protection of civil victims of war, and protection of families with children: Law on unique principles and the framework of financial support for the persons with disabilities, Law on unique register of users of benefits on whom contributions are not paid.

As a continuous activity, in the Programme was included "Developing a clear vision of social services model in FBiH through the development of existing social services network in the community and expansion of the network of missing services" that is directly connected to regulation of non-institutional support to marginalized citizens. In the framework of this activity, it was planned development and adoption of following measures and regulative: Public policy about protection of families with children; Public policy about social services in FBiH; Public policy about social work activities; Making an Action Plan of deinstitutionalization and transformation of institutes of social welfare in FBiH; The programme to improve the institutions for care in FBiH; Programme of co-financing associations and foundations that are doing psychosocial rehabilitation and social re-integration of psycho-active substances users; The programme of co-financing secure houses / shelters that are active in the area of FBiH in the framework of implementation of Law on protection of family violence; Implementation of Strategy of deinstitutionalization and transformation of social welfare institutions in FBiH according to the Action Plan; Implementation of activities from the Development Plan of services "Living in the community with support"; Implementation and evaluation of Action Plan for implementation Policy brief of welfare of protection of children without parental care and families at risk of separation in FBiH.

Agenda of Government of RS contains only titles of the laws that are planned to be made; and the titles of the reports and plans in particular activities. According to the Agenda of Government of RS, it was adopted "Law on changes and amendments about professional rehabilitation, trainings and employing PWD". With those amendments it was improved system of support to employing PWD, by including "work assistants" as a support to employed PWD, as well as "increasing amounts of stimulants by employing PWD, depending on a disability type". This contributes to equalization of possibilities and social inclusion of PWD.

Zeljko Volas, president of the Executive Board of Coalition KOMA participated in consultations before adopting Law in six public debates about Draft of the Law, organized by the Ministry of Labour, War Veterans and Disabled Persons' Protection; as well as other organizations of PWD and other participants of public debates organized by KOMA.

Agenda of the Government predicted in December an implementation of "Draft of the law on changes and amendments about social welfare" and "Draft of the Law on child welfare" that should be accorded to Reform Agenda and by whom it's been asked improvement of methods of targeting users of social welfare.



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SIF in BiH will, as well as KOMA in the further implementation of the project, continue to exert pressure and to lobby for making concrete steps in gaining settled objectives.

In the past year it was made a progress when it is about sustainability of Social Inclusion Foundation in BiH, although the general climate for progress and work of non-governmental organizations is still unfavourable, because of the limited financing sources (from the foreign and domestic sources), and limited possibilities of financing from alternative sources.

There is great public interest for activities of SIF in BiH, particularly as a role of KOMA's secretariat. This fact shows that external environment has started to recognize SIF in BiH as an important factor in improving status of human rights of marginalized groups in BiH. In addition to this, number of KOMA's members is constantly increasing, and in the next period the goal will be increasing a number of members from public and private sector.

❖ *October 2015 – October 2016: Gained results and Influence*

According to the implemented activities, there is noticeable progress in realisation of settled objectives. Establishing partnerships and cooperation between public, civil and private sector in the field of human rights of marginalized groups is a general objective that is mostly achieved through project activities. Achievement of this objective is reflected in the processes of producing relevant documents and policy briefs, as well as in monitoring of their implementation.

Specific objectives of the project are also achieved largely. Coalition KOMA is recognized in public as a significant actor in the human rights field. A large number of media appearances speak in favour, as well as media presentation of held events and following activities. According to settled objectives, it was also increased a number of KOMA's members. At the end of the past year, Coalition KOMA had 63 members, but in this very moment, Coalition has 78 members, what is significant enlargement of number of members (full list of members available at: <http://koma.ba/clanice-koalicije-koma/>).

Important result of implemented activities is also an opening a process of changing perception of citizens on marginalized groups. Participation of representatives of KOMA and its secretariat in thematic close round tables and panel discussions that are organized by other organizations was really significant in this context. In KOMA's activities, the assumption is that all the public campaigns (PR activities, street actions, etc.) represent a powerful tool for forming public opinion that, in addition to public advocating, leads to public policies improvement. Considering the complexity of government structure in BiH, it has always been long-term process, where short-term results are not possible. KOMA opened a process of law change, making new strategies, etc., that is included in official policies of the government in BiH. Their realisation (law changing) and implementation will enable sustainable and long-term results in the field of improvement of human rights and social status of marginalized groups.

According to implemented activities, a great progress was achieved in the second component of the project. General objective is to, through four campaigns of public advocating; make visible steps in solving key problems in the human rights field. As a result of these campaigns, it is planned that certain measures and policies will be included in agenda of executive bodies and legislature. According to that,



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implementation of the campaigns has influence on adoption of acts and their implementation in order to solve problems.

First two public advocacy campaigns achieved important starting results. In the Agenda of Government of FBiH were included measures for improvement of social entrepreneurship. Canton Sarajevo also adopted important measures for social entrepreneurship through its Development strategy 2015-2020. It is important to mention that Action Plan of the Government of FBiH planned adopting for the end of 2016 a new law on basis of social welfare for the FBiH in whose draft is contained concept of minimum of the social security and accurate targeting of users.

Considering the complexity of procedures at decision makers and processes of changes of law, and adopting new laws, amendments and strategies, specific objectives are partly gained. Advocacy activities are continued. In the Agenda of Government of FBiH for the mandatory period from 2015 to 2018 are included measures directed to minimum of social security and equal possibilities, as well as to regulation of non-institutional support to citizens from marginalized groups. Creating and adopting strategy for social entrepreneurship development will be on the Working Agenda of Government of FBiH in the next year, and currently it is on the agendas of the executive authorities and legislature.

According to the settled objectives, for the SIF in BiH, sustainability is reflected through four components: strengthening organizational sustainability by developing human resources; programme and project sustainability by establishing partnerships and cooperation in BiH and region; financial sustainability by strengthening capacities for fundraising from donors and from alternative sources of funds; influencing the external environment so as to contribute to increasing social awareness about the problems of human rights of marginalized individuals and groups.

Improving internal structures and capacity building is an important consideration when it comes to the sustainability of the organization, as well as the openness of local and international donors to support projects in the social sector, in line with the vision and mission of the organization. These two aspects are interdependent; internal capacity cannot be strengthened without projects.

SIF in BiH successfully completed its work on the financial sustainability by finalizing Study about social entrepreneurship for the Development Planning Institute of Canton Sarajevo, as well as by sending project proposal "Advocacy campaign – Overcoming discrimination against persons with disabilities based on the causes of disability between war and non-war PWD" to Mediacycenter. This project proposal has been accepted and its implementation has started on 1st September, 2016.



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Measurement of Outcomes

According to the UN Global Compact Ten Principles and to the mission and vision of the Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, we hereby certify that we have gained a lot in the past years. Human rights of the marginalized groups and activities regarding the labour of targeted categories are the main principles that we are implementing in our work. Engagement of the SIF in BiH regarding these principles is reflected in the following outcomes:

- SIF in BiH formed Coalition of the marginalized groups KOMA that gathers 78 members from the civil, public and private sector. Coalition is aimed at establishing cooperation among these sectors. As we already mentioned, SIF in BiH performs a role of the KOMA's secretariat and organizes and conducts activities aimed at the promotion of human rights of marginalized groups in BiH.
- We are conducting four campaigns of public advocating with our partners. Campaigns are aimed at the improvement and respecting human rights of the marginalized groups. In order to that, we are advocating with the decision makers in BiH, and results are visible:
- We opened a process of law change, making new strategies, etc., that is included in official policies of the government in BiH. Their realisation (law changing) and implementation will enable sustainable and long-term results in the field of improvement of human rights and social status of marginalized groups;
- First two public advocacy campaigns achieved important starting results. In the Agenda of Government of FBiH were included measures for improvement of social entrepreneurship. Canton Sarajevo also adopted important measures for social entrepreneurship development through its Cantonal Development strategy 2015-2020;
- The campaign for improvement of social entrepreneurship was noticeable in public, and it has initiated few conferences on this topic, that were organized in the framework of other projects and organizations soon after the beginning of our campaign. Federal Ministry of Development, Entrepreneurship and Crafts have begun with the preparation of incentive measures for development of social entrepreneurship, using the documents and recommendations of SIF in BiH, and its partner organization;
- Recommendations from the conference "We have also right to choose – Changes and amendments of the Electoral Law – human rights of the national minorities and others" that were delivered to all the members of Interdepartmental working group of the Parliament Assembly of BiH for the changes and amendments of the Electoral law of BiH, were adopted on March 15th, 2016.