

# **UN Global Compact Communication on Engagement 2014-2016**

## STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT TO UNGC

21 October, 2016

I am pleased to confirm that the Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (CENN) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Nana Janashia



Executive Director  
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## WHO WE ARE

CENN is a non-governmental organisation working to protect our environment fostering sustainable development throughout the South Caucasus. We specialise in a number of areas including combating climate change, sustainable management of resources, building and developing healthy and prosperous climate resilient communities, and empowering women and girls to participate in creating inclusive solutions.

Since 1998, we have worked with local communities, national governments through to region-wide initiatives to engender green growth at every level. At CENN, we believe that sustainable development is best achieved through networking, cooperation, and engaging with all sections of society. We implement joint initiatives with equal participation across Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia to find viable solutions to local and regional environmental challenges.

With representation throughout the South Caucasus, more than 50 full time members of staff, and a network of volunteers across the region, CENN has the capability and commitment to provide a service that is consistent, professional and of the highest quality. We deliver modern solutions for the public and business sectors and communities, assisting them in managing their environmental and related risks and helping them to achieve a competitive advantage through improved environmental and social performance.

## OUR MISSION

Working with communities, governments, and businesses across the South Caucasus to create sustainable solutions for a healthy environment.

## OUR VISION

To foster modern and sustainable development values, building bridges between communities and their surroundings, to develop a progressive society which protects their environment.

## OUR GOALS

- Work with communities, governments and businesses to develop sustainable solutions, safeguard our environment and improve people's lives
- Be innovative and proactive in response to environmental concerns
- Build a strong and responsible civil society
- Provide open, inclusive and effective multi-stakeholder networking
- Support good governance and accountable business to safeguard our environment and improve people's lives
- Lead by example as one of the foremost organisation in the Caucasus

## OUR COMPETENCES

- Civil society development and institutional strengthening
- Environmental research and policy
- Compliance management
- Education, knowledge management and networking

## **OUR THEMATIC DIRECTIONS**

- Resources Management
- Climate Change and DRR
- Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)
- Gender and Environment
- Green Economy through Compliance Management
- Integrated Waste and Pollution Management
- Sustainable Development and Socio economic integration

## **DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS**

### **Youth Summer Eco Camps**

CENN's Green Center in Bulachauri has been hosting eco-camps every summer since 2010. The camps were divided into groups and hosted high school students from public and private schools throughout Georgia. In 2016, the syllabus of the camps included various environmental topics including forest ecosystems and their sustainable management, appreciating the difference among various plants, biodiversity conservation, integrated waste management and steps taken by Georgia in that area, the impact of mining on natural and socio-economic environment of Georgia, urbanization and trends in urban development, natural risk reduction and management possibilities, climate change and the consequences related to its risks, climate-smart agriculture and pasture management.

### **Development of Environmental Knowledge Portal**

The [Caucasus Environmental Knowledge Portal](#) is a platform that ensures provision of updated information on environmental related issues to stakeholders. The platform encourages public participation in the environmental decision making process through provision of information and activating public interest on environmental issues. The portal makes scientific and policy based information, as well as popular articles available for all interested parties, including, children, adults, people involved in environmental activities, and other stakeholders. Initiated by the WMTR programme, the information in the portal is there to support the programme's development and to promote it to a wider audience.

### **The Green APP "GreenWatch"**

GreenWatch is an innovative tool, which allows us to care for nature together. The app gives you an opportunity to reveal the facts that can be a threat to our environment. If you're facing: forest fire, forest degradation, illegal Wood trading, illegal hunting, pollution and littering, windstorm, forest road damage, ineffective waste management, unsustainable mining fact. The app allows you to identify the location using GPS services, to take a photo of an event, send it to CENN management and wait for verification. We will help you take care of the environment. App operates in Georgian language and can be downloaded for [Android](#) and [IOS](#).

### **Landscape Restoration under the Agriculture Modernisation, Market Access and Resilience (AMMAR) project**

Project aims at raising incomes of smallholder farmers and increasing climate resilience through public and private investments in upgrading climate-proof productive infrastructure, enterprises and smallholder farmer production systems and technologies in support of inclusive growth of climate smart agricultural value chains. The specific objective of the proposed service is the assessment of landscape restoration needs in the target areas of Shida Kartli, Samegrelo, Kakheti and Adjara and development of 8 landscape restoration action plans (2 per region) encompassing the details of needed actions to be undertaken.

### **Empowering Modern Research Practices of the Regional Agriculture-Related Institutions**

The overall objective of the action is to increase the capacity of regional agriculture-related education and research institutions to meet the challenges within the agriculture, food processing, environment and rural development sectors according to international standards in response to the identified lack of research capacity existing and being utilized therein.

### **Promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in Armenia and Georgia**

In the framework of the programme, CENN, together with international experts invited by Clima East Expert Facility, provided expertise to promote Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) policy and agenda and build local capacity in Armenia and Georgia. The specific objective of the assignment was to build capacity of policy-makers and other stakeholders from Armenia and Georgia in the CSA approach in order to further proceed already existing legislations on the CSA for implementation of the CSA in practice. Specific duties under this assignment included: assessment of situation with regards to CSA-related policies and practices, assessment of the barriers to adoption of CSA measures, managing climate risk, determination of coherent activities, and provide estimated budget for selected activities.

### **Sustainable Forest Governance in Georgia**

The Overall objective of the project is to contribute to the successful implementation of forest reform in Georgia via the development of policy tools, modernisation of forest management practices, strengthening the capacities of authorities and civil society, and enhancing issue based policy dialogue. The specific objectives include: Developing National Forest Policy implementation tools (National Forest Strategy and Action Plan for NFA and action plans for Tbilisi City Hall) and mainstreaming forestry priorities in relevant sectors' policy documents; Modernisation of Forest Management Practices via introducing participatory Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) planning and implementation, based on the best international experiences; Supporting forest management decentralization via capacity building of local authorities and fostering good governance and public engagement in the forestry sector.

### **Empowered Rural Women for Sustainable Agriculture in the South Caucasus**

Project aims to contribute to the empowerment of the rural population in the trans-boundary region of Armenia and Georgia, especially of women, and their increased awareness for the importance of sustainable agriculture in the South Caucasus; Also, enhance income generation in the agricultural sector by women actively participating in Rural Women Councils and men and women in local cheese production cooperatives in the transboundary region of Armenia and Georgia as well as applying and promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

### **Waste Management Technologies in Regions**

Project aims to support the competent central and targeted local government authorities, local businesses and communities in targeted regions, and municipalities in the design of an integrated waste management system and Implement pilot interventions in selected municipalities to support a cleaner and healthier environment, minimize adverse impacts from waste on human health and natural resources, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfills via the following actions: establishment of waste management systems and improvement of the capacity of public and private sectors; strengthening capacity and efficiency of recycling companies and improvement of enabling environment; development of waste management policies and strategies and elaboration of adequate waste collection tariffs necessary to maintain the waste management system; engagement of public awareness and participation in all aspects of the design, decision-making and implementation of a modern waste management system and the 4 R's to support improved waste collection and recycling efforts in the targeted regions.

### **Promoting Environmental and Social Accountability in the Mining Sector in the Caucasus**

The project aims at strengthening local capacity to empower affected communities and institutions to advocate and participate effectively in decision-making processes related to the mining industry and rural development; Developing issue based coalitions, state & non-state partnerships and structural policy dialogue to promote an environmentally and socially accountable mining sector; Lobbying agreed guidance and policy recommendations to prioritize the environmental and social safeguard issues in the state policy documents regulating the mining sector in the South Caucasus countries.

### **Climate Change – Building Resilient Communities and Adaptive Governance**

The overall objective of the action was to develop flexible and resilient societies in rural areas of Georgia capable of coping with the impacts of current climate variability and future climate change. Specific objectives of the action included strengthening local capacity (local authorities, local communities, CBOs/NGOs) and introduction of climate change adaptation and mitigation best practices (in the fields of agriculture, energy efficiency and natural disaster management) to reduce the susceptibility of local communities in the pilot rural areas of Georgia (Kakheti region and Adjara Autonomous Republic) to negative climate impacts through climate change adaptation (CCA).