



## **Communication on Engagement (COE)**

*October 2017*

Period Covered by this Communication: September 30, 2015 – September 30, 2017

### **Part 1: Statement of Continued Support**

16 October, 2017

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that the Pacific Institute 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,

Jason Morrison

President, The Pacific Institute

## Part II: Description of Activities

### Suggested activities:

Engage with Global Compact Local Networks • Join and/or propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability • Engage companies in Global Compact-related issues • Join and/or support special initiatives and work streams • Provide commentary to companies on Communications on Progress • Participate in Global Compact global, and local events

The Pacific Institute remains committed to the principles and goals of the UN Global Compact and is actively supporting their achievement through the ongoing partnership that the Institute has with the UN Global Compact for delivery of the special issues initiative, the CEO Water Mandate, and serves as the co-Secretariat for the Mandate.

Via the co-Secretariat, the Pacific Institute works closely with the UN Global Compact in the following areas:

- 1) **Engage Global Compact Local Networks:** In the past two years, there has been ongoing close outreach with the networks in India, Colombia, South Africa, and Brazil. Pacific Institute staff has worked closely with the networks to tailor water stewardship activities for the local context by creating special webinar series, directing staff of the networks to pertinent resources, co-convening meetings, and facilitating dialogue around water issues in the specific countries.
- 2) **Join and/or propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability:** The Pacific Institute has highlighted the importance of partnerships and collective action to address local water challenges. As such it has promoted the use of the Water Action Hub and helped convene stakeholders in Colombia, South Africa, and California to discuss opportunities for local collective action.
- 3) **Engage companies in Global Compact-related Issues:** The Pacific Institute continues to explore opportunities to engage both leading companies and those new to water stewardship by holding informational calls with companies interested in joining the CEO Water Mandate on water issues and developing guidance, tools, and resources for companies across the spectrum. The Institute plays a pivotal roll in convening the Mandate's annual multi-stakeholder event held in Stockholm during World Water Week to help support companies learn about and implement good water-stewardship practice.
- 4) **Participate in Global Compact global and local events:** The Pacific Institute helps provide content and organizational assistance for the Global Compacts meetings, including its Making Global Goals Local Business event held in New Delhi as well as for the Global Compact's Leaders Summit in 2017.

## **Part III: Measurement of Outcomes**

### **Activity Outcomes:**

- 1) Local Network engagement: The Institute has had deep engagements in South Africa, Colombia and India while holding discussions, meetings, and webinars with networks in Australia, India, Chile, and Uganda.
- 2) Partnership projects: The Institute plays a pivotal role in the California Water Action Collaborative which emerged from a CEO Water Mandate convening around the Water Action Hub in 2014. It also represents the CEO Water Mandate in other broad collaborations including the Business Alliance for Water and Climate and the WASH4Work initiative which emerged from conversations Institute staff had with relevant agencies to promote more corporate action on water and climate, and water access, sanitation, and hygiene.
- 3) Company engagement: During the past two years, an additional 15 companies have joined the Mandate.

Overall the Institute has found changes changes in financial and economic (including corporate) strategies of major players in the global business community. The Institute staff examined the public sustainability reporting of major corporations to see how they incorporate the guidance that the Institute develops on good corporate water stewardship practices, from human rights issues to the latest indicators and metrics on water performance. Institute staff also monitored how large investment institutions, such as pension funds and others, are incorporating water into their investment decision making.

In general the Institute has found more companies and pension funds developing water strategies and/or integrating water into decision making processes.