

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Round Table on Responsible Soy Association
(RTRS)



Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: January 2016

To: December 2017

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

Please use the box below to include the statement of continued support signed by your organization's Chief Executive or equivalent.

20/03/2018

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that the Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS) 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.

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. We welcome feedback on its contents

Sincerely yours,

*Marcelo
Visconti*

*Executive
Director*

Part II. Description of Actions

Please use the box below to describe the actions your organization has taken in support of the Global Compact. It is strongly recommended that the actions taken are related to one or more of the specific activities suggested. *Please refer to the complete list of suggested activities for your type of organization found [here](#).*

RTRS participates in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Green Commodities

Within the framework of the Green Landscape Production Programme (Green Commodities) of the UNDP, RTRS is an active member of the National Dialogue Platform for Soy in Paraguay.

In this context, the RTRS participated in the meetings of the Sustainable Finance Round Table, formed by 8 banks to encourage soy certification by enabling access to credit, with lower interest rates and other financial benefits, and also positioning with them the huge commitment financial institutions have when deciding who and how to finance

RTRS is a member of the PCI (Produce, Preserve and Include)

Since December 2017 RTRS has become a member of the PCI. PCI (Produce, Preserve and Include) is an initiative in the state of Mato Grosso to increase agribusiness production, stop deforestation and provide more work and better lives for state residents.

RTRS is involved of the GCF (Governors' Climate and Forest Task Force)

RTRS started conversations with this initiative in September 2017, through Earth Innovation Institute. RTRS could be an important tool for states to achieve their goals of bringing an end not only to deforestation but to improve key social aspects as well. Some states that participate in the GCF in Brazil have begun a dialogue with RTRS (Maranhão, Mato Grosso, and Tocantins).

RTRS participation in Proyungas Foundation International Seminar

Participation in the International Seminar on Business Management in Biosphere Reserves in Jujuy, Argentina, organized by the Proyungas Foundation. Proyungas is a promoter of the Global Compact for Climate.

RTRS participates in the Pilot project on the implementation of the OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains

The OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains provides a set of steps for conducting risk-based due diligence and measures for mitigating risks in the agricultural sector. Risk-based due diligence means that the nature and extent of the due diligence process should correspond to the type and level of risk of adverse impacts.

RTRS present in an event hosted by the Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit and Unilever

RTRS participated in the 'High Level Meeting on Deforestation-free Commodity Supply Chains by 2020: How to Accelerate Progress' hosted by the Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit and Unilever, on 24-25 October in London, UK.

RTRS has participated in the GEF Commodities Program (Good Growth Partnership)

The Good Growth Partnership Production Project helps to address challenges in the production of sustainable agriculture by focusing on key commodities that are significantly driving deforestation and related trends. The Good Growth Partnership supports the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda which seeks to end poverty, reduce inequality & tackle climate change.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

Please use the box below to include the most relevant qualitative and/or quantitative indicators to measure the outcome of the activities described in Part II above.

The actions taken by the RTRS are aligned to the Ten Principles of Global Compact of the United Nations.

Through the alignment of the Principles of RTRS with the Principles of Global Compact, RTRS works to make Responsible Soy production a reality worldwide and a possibility for every producer, company and organization. Better agricultural practices, good relations with local communities, legal compliance, adequate labour conditions for all workers, and biodiversity protection make the difference in agriculture and more specifically in soy growing.

The responsible soy production and hectares-being RTRS certified grew globally a 30% in 2016 and 2017.

The producers RTRS certified are 30.000 from 8 countries in North and South America, Asia and Africa.

In 2016 there were 14 new members from the industry, trade and finance sector and 17 in 2017 from Europe and producers from Argentina and Brazil. The 80% of the RTRS Members belong to the industry, trade and finance sector.