

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TRALEE UNESCO CHAIR



Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: [22.09.16] To: [22.09.18]

Part I. Statement of Continued Support

19.09.18

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that the Institute of Technology Tralee and its UNESCO Chair can at this point reaffirm our support to the United Nations Global Compact and its principles. We herein present our Communication on Engagement (COE) with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

This COE describes our supportive actions since joining the Compact and its principles as suggested for academic institutions, such as ours. We will share this information with our stakeholders using our primary communication channels. We look forward to continued actions in the following period to strengthen our engagement.

Sincerely yours,

Dr Oliver Murphy

Presidents, Institute of Technology, Tralee, Co Kerry Ireland

Part II. Description of Actions

Incorporate the GC principles into internal operations and communicate progress following the COP requirements (required) (see COP attachment)

• Promote the GC and its principles through one of the following activities (at least one of the following options is required)

1. Deliver education on topics related to the Global Compact

- a) Universal Fitness Innovation & Transformation (UFIT) is a social movement led by the UNESCO Chair at ITT building capacity in the fitness industry to support fitness clubs to be more inclusive. UFIT resources align with Global Compact principles 1 and 2, related to Human Rights – and principle 6, elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation. It features in the UN Global Compact publication BUSINESS ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (see page 9). This is available to businesses participants to inclusivize their fitness businesses.
https://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/publications/Accessible_Disabilities_Guide.pdf
- b) Plan2Inclusivize (P2I) Sport for Inclusion Training Programme (link/attach P2I 4 pager with more info about the training): 5-day training course with several trainings delivered in humanitarian and development contexts in various world regions from 2015-2018
- c) Developed resources that accompany the P2I training: K. Schlüter & F. Velthuisen (2018) Plan2Inclusivize – Sport for Inclusion Training Manual (incl. accompanying resources).
- d) Country Specific tools with relations to UNESCO Charter Policy alignment support
- e) Universal Fitness Innovation & Transformation (UFIT) is a social movement led by the UNESCO Chair at ITT building capacity in the fitness industry to support fitness clubs to be more inclusive. UFIT resources align with Global Compact principles 1 and 2, related to Human Rights – and principle 6, elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

2. Conduct applied research and thought leadership in relation to the Global Compact

- a) Masters by Research: Shivarkar, K., O'Dwyer, B. and Carty, C., 'The Business Case for Inclusion: Applications in the Fitness Sector'
This interdisciplinary research is being conducted by the UNESCO Chair in partnership with IHRSA, the lead global fitness industry body. The Universal Transformational Management Framework (UTMF) is a valid and reliable tool used to facilitate inclusion in the fitness sector. The UTMF is used in this analysis of current practice and experience of management in organisations in the fitness industry at a global level. Using the findings from the study, a business case will be presented for the inclusion of people with disabilities in the fitness sector. This will emphasise the benefits of inclusion at the social and economic levels. Preliminary findings show that 81% of the participants believe that increasing the number of clients with disabilities benefits the organisation by creating diversity to the customer base. 41% of participants believe there would be revenue benefits while only 8% believe it may not be profitable to actively promote inclusion. Only 40% of respondents reported that their club actively promotes inclusion. It seems that organisations are aware of the benefits of inclusion but are not actively taking efforts to promote their capacity to provide inclusive services.
- b) Leo, J., Schlüter, K. & Carty, C. (2017). Commit to Inclusion Africa Survey: Final Report. *(not published)*
- c) Schlüter, K. (2018). Research Study 'Attitudes towards inclusion of children with disabilities following Plan2Inclusivize Training' *(research ongoing, not published yet)*
- d) Reily, E., Mustafa, H, Masdeu G (2018). UNESCOs Charter Global Policy Implementation framework – Final Report ongoing

- e) UNESCO Chair, IT Tralee, (2015). UFIT: A Toolkit for Inclusion for the Fitness Sector. www.justdoufit.com and <http://unescoittralee.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/UFIT-Toolkit-sample-pages.pdf>

3. Disseminate the Global Compact principles

- a) We have conducted side-events at the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Conference of State Parties 10 & 11. In both instances, we refer to the importance of the principles of the compact in terms of businesses. We invited the voice of business to our session at CRPD11 which was hosted by the Permanent Mission of Ireland.
- b) We are running a session at the UN Human Rights Council Social Forum in Geneva on October 3rd 2018 at which the UN Global Compact Principles will be part of our private sector presentation.
- c) The UN Global Compact principles were mentioned through our work at the following events/conferences/fora:
- a. The IHRSA International Convention & Trade Show, March 2018 & 2017
 - b. Special Olympics Eurasia Meeting – Activating the Partnership UFIT & Special Olympics, April 2018
 - c. Workshop with the European Network of Academic Sport Services, May 2018
 - d. EU Commission funded project workshop “Movement Environment and Wellbeing”, May 2018
 - e. Chairholder Inaugural Visit at ITT, June 2018.
 - f. Innovations & Actions Against Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), July 2018
 - g. Inaugural meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on Model Indicators on Sport and the SDGs, September 2018
- d) Marseille Declarations signatories- from businesses willing and supporting inclusion
- e) Project application for the Development Education Annual Grant of Irish Aid, 2017, Title of project: Making Global Goals Local Business: Activating the Sustainable Development Goals & UN Global Compact in Communities in Munster. – not successful, Collaboration between: Kerry One World Centre & UNESCO Chair, IT Tralee

4. Provide support to UN Global Compact business participants in their own sustainability implementation and disclosure efforts

- a) Our resources and initiatives have been included in the UN Global Compact: GUIDE FOR BUSINESS ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (see page 9). This is available to businesses participants to inclusivize their fitness businesses. https://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/publications/Accessible_Disabilities_Guide.pdf
5. Lend capacity to Global Compact Local Networks and/or the Global Compact Office

Part III. Measurement 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.

- a) Represented at 50+ capacity building sessions where the GC principles were addressed nationally and internationally.
- b) Actively included GC principles in UN Side Events coordinated by us.
- c) 2016: 38 work placements - 21 promoting inclusion – 2017: 122 placements - 50 promoting inclusion
- d) Over 60 fitness clubs in the USA, Ireland, UK and Peru are currently involved in the UFIT movement. They are encouraged to embed GC principles in their operations and service offering.
- e) 150+ signatories to the Marseille Declaration
- f) Disseminating GC Principles across 3 business course boards in the institute
- g) 20 collaborative partnerships on implementing GC Principles internationally
- h) Embedded GC Principles into academic programmes
- i) Directed Post graduate research toward GC goals

COP Links Below:

Relevant IT policies

- [☒ Code of Conduct](#)
- [☒ Child Protection Procedures](#)
- [☒ Staff Garda Vetting Policy](#)
- [☒ Employment of People with Disabilities](#)
- [☒ Equality Policy](#)
- [☒ Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures](#)
- [☒ Dignity and Respect in the Workplace](#)
- [☒ Recruitment and Selection Policy](#)
- [☒ Work Against Racism](#)