

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

2016 – 2018



30/11/2018

Mr. António Guterres,
Secretary-General,
United Nations`

Dear Mr. Guterres,

Re: Communication on Engagement

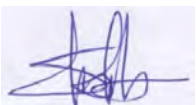
I am pleased to confirm that Centre for Global Solutions and Sustainable Development (CENGSSUD) is in full support of the ten principles of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). With this communication, we express our intent to advancing the UNGC principles within the confines of our influence. As a solution driven and offering organization towards achieving sustainable development, CENGSSUD is committed to supporting the advancement of these principles which address human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption, and we are committed to conveying information and supporting our stakeholders, partners, community, clients, etc. through our engagements, initiatives, programs and operations.

This Communication of Engagement aims to summarise our progress and efforts in advancing sustainability and SDGs in Nigeria and beyond, 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, and to promote, support, and achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders and the general public using our primary channels of communication. At CENGSSUD, we shall continue to adhere to the principles through capacity building, advisory, advocacy, policy and continued research. We develop research that creates solutions to global issues in a rapidly-changing world.

Our research is carried out with interdisciplinary experts from diverse background across the world with focus areas like, Sustainability, Climate Change, Economic Stability, Education, Environmental, SDGs, Policy, Global Economy, Social equity/inclusion, Poverty etc. This interdisciplinary approach provides a fertile ground for the development of our unique solutions to emerging and existing problems.

Therefore, as we continue our day to day pursuit of global solutions that are workable and sustainable, we will be stepping into unknown spaces with uncertain realities. This is why the need for revitalized global partnerships, collaborations, and interdisciplinary approaches are so important. One specialist, organization or government cannot solve these problems alone. We need to come together in innovative ways to creatively form solutions that not only work for today, but set us on an adaptive path to addressing the solutions we will need tomorrow.

Yours Sincerely,



Debo Adeniyi
Executive Director and Global Sustainability Leader

About CENGSSUD



Centre for Global Solutions and Sustainable Development (CENGSSUD) is a multi-focused/dimensional Think-Tank and a not-for-profit making organisation with the primary objective of advancing sustainable development and contributes to seeking practical and workable solutions to the world's global issues through research, policy development/analysis, advocacy, advisory, capacity development and partnerships. We define sustainable development as the pursuit of four societal objectives: (i) economic development, including the end to extreme poverty in all its forms; (ii) social inclusion; (iii) environmental sustainability; and (iv) good public and private sector governance, including peace and security.

CENGSSUD was established under Companies and Allied Matters Act No 1 of 1990 Part C with registration number: CAC/IT/81573 with the Nigeria's Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) and the organisation is duly registered in accordance with the provisions of Section 5(1) (a) of the Money Laundering (Prohibition) Act, 2011 of the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC).

To effectively create holistic sustainable development solutions and function with optimum capacity, the organization further established CENGSSUD SUSTAINABILITY CENTRE which streamlined its engagements into 3 different arms/parts which are:

1. CENGSSUD Sustainability Advocacy
2. CENGSSUD Sustainability Advisory
3. CENGSSUD Sustainability Academy

Our VISION



CENGSSUD strives to be an advocate of achieving sustainable development globally and best practice with significant impact. It strives at building partnerships with businesses, NGOs, governments, and stakeholders everywhere to work faster and better to find solutions that are sustainable; and to transform lives, and communities from what they are today to what they can be, tomorrow.

Our MISSION

CENGSSUD will build bridges from ideas to action, by providing research, advisory, training and advocacy to influence policy makers and business leaders in developing sustainable development priorities and address them through a cooperative approach.

AIMS/OBJECTIVES

- 🌱 We aim at transforming ideas into action that increases prosperity, ensures global sustainability, addresses inequality, safeguards human rights, and promotes a more secure world.
- 🌱 We seek to promoting practical solutions to the pressing challenges of sustainable development problems through research, advocacy, advisory, training, policy development and partnerships.
- 🌱 We strive to address the full range of issues on the global development agenda including the Sustainable Development Goals, sustainability, poverty, hunger, global health, disaster relief, crisis management, food security, human rights, rule of law, conflict prevention, disarmament, education, equality, climate change, development financing and international coordination.

ACTIVITIES OF YEAR 2017-18 to promote the UN Global Compact Agenda

CO-HOSTING OF SUSTAINABLE FINANCE AND INVESTMENT WORKSHOP

In fulfillment of our mandate towards achieving a sustainable world and future, we co-hosted with Fritaz Resources Ltd, on the program: SUSTAINABLE FINANCE AND INVESTMENT SEMINAR for the financial services sector in Nigeria on 20th -21st November 2018. Sustainable finance & Investment is a main topic on the international agenda. Financial decisions worldwide are increasingly influenced by the scarcity of resources, the search for profits through efficiency, and climate change. We observe an increasing investment appetite for green bonds. Investment funds and asset managers worldwide search for innovative products that increase profitability but also create environmental and social value. We are also now in the era where environmental and social risks become reputational risks, credit risks, and financial risks to financial institutions. In view of these new developments, we identified the urgent and imperative need to educate operators in the financial services industry in Nigeria on why Sustainable Finance is most critical for the well-being of their various institutions and the country in general.



Picture Clips from the Sustainable Finance and Investment Masterclass





IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Present



CENGSSUD
Centre for Global Solutions & Sustainable Development

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE & INVESTMENT
Masterclass
Managing risks, compliance and opportunities

Date: 20th & 21st November
Venue: Lagos Chambers of Commerce & Industry (LCCI) Conference Centre, Alausa Ikeja, Lagos.
Phone: 08181027128, 07068499279
Email: sustifinance@cengssud.org
Website: www.cengssud.org/sustainability



INNAUGURATION OF SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION (SCP) COMMITTEE



On October 17th, 2018, we inaugurated the **Sustainable Consumption and Production Committee**. The aim of this committee is to bring forward practical solutions and proposals that enable companies and consumers to move to a more sustainable pattern of consumption and production (SCP) in ways that boost competitiveness, cleaner/safer environment, better living conditions for all and contribute to economic growth.

It has become worrisome the level in which material consumption of natural resources is increasing and the rate in which different kind of solid waste including a variety of different materials, such as plastics, nylon, paper, cardboard, packaging materials, wood, scrap metal, E-waste, etc. have ransacked Nigeria's landfills, gutters, canals, rivers, oceans and all other water-ways causing flooding, pollution, health hazards, etc., which has now called for more urgent than ever to find solutions to reduce, reuse, recycle and recover 'post-consumer' waste and move towards a more circular economy model. We are also acutely aware of the causes and consequences of the linear "take-make-dispose" model of production that is being practiced by most manufacturers in Nigeria and we want to change it. Moving away from the linear model of consumption to a circular Economy where the production loops will be closed is a key priority in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goal 12 (SDGs 12) – Sustainable Consumption & Production.

The inauguration took place in CENGSSUD's Penthouse Office in Sabo Yaba, by the Executive Director and Global Sustainability Leader, Mr. Debo Adeniyi. The committee comprises of a group of conscious sustainability practitioners and professionals with Mrs Lissy Sowho as the chairperson, while Mr. Shola Oladimeji as the Vice Chairperson, Oyinlola Akiboye as its Secretary, Mr. Ayodele Fanida as the Treasurer, and while Ekaette Udoh as the Head, of Communication, while the remaining people were inaugurated as members of the Committee.



HOSTING OF SUSTAINABILITY IN WORKPLACE MASTERCLASS 5.0



On October 3rd and 4th, 2018, we hosted Sustainability in Workplace Masterclass 5.0 in Lagos. This reason the employee engagement Course was designed was to foster education, create and deepen green workplace culture and inspire workforce to find solutions that support their organizational sustainability goals and initiatives towards a more Efficient, Environmental, Ethical, & Profitable business.

The workshop was also designed to relate how organizations can create shared value by using people, the natural resources, and community which they operate as a means of generating long-term resilience and sustainability. It also focuses on how organization can manage their carbon footprint, ecological footprint, reducing business waste/expenses so as to facilitate profitability, competitiveness and longevity, manage stakeholders, sustain the supply chain and develop an understanding into a relationship between the business strategy, the people and the environment.



HOSTING OF CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT 4.0, ABUJA



In fulfillment of our CENGSSUD's mandate towards advancing responsible business practices in conformity with the United Nations Global Compact's 10 (ten) Principles, by engaging businesses and training personnel on practical application of Business Sustainability Strategy with consciousness to the society, economy and the environment they operate, our organization CENGSSUD launched the fourth edition of its sustainability Capacity Building program called: CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT 4.0, ABUJA, with the Theme: Embedding and Implementing Sustainability in Corporate Strategy and Operations.

The training program was held at the VENUE: Discovery Mall, Box Office Incubator Conference Hall, Plot 215, Ademola Adetokunbo Crescent, Wuse 11, Abuja. DATE 10th & 11th, April, 2018.

The primary aim of this first-of-its-kind Sustainability Masterclass training program is to bring conceptual clarity about sustainability in theory and practice to organizations by helping them understand the three pillars of sustainable development (Social, Economic and Environment) and their role in "creating value"(production) and "capturing value"(marketing) in businesses. The modules/curriculum cut-across a 'Plan-Do-Check-Act' approach to understanding the journey of sustainability, as well as group activities and interactive brainstorming which would instill confidence in the attendees to champion their companies' sustainability practices.



The two-day Masterclass workshop was established to help employees from different companies and background tackle emerging business risks and assist them in tapping into emerging opportunities for a more sustainable business.

The Masterclass was shaped around four key themes; applying/operationalising sustainability, sustainable innovation, sustainability leadership and business strategy. The workshop provided a deep dive into topics such as Environmental Impact Assessment, managing carbon footprint, stakeholders engagement, supply chain sustainability, reducing business waste/expenses so as to facilitate profitability, competitiveness and longevity, and develop an understanding into a relationship between the business strategy, the people and the environment. The training program was held at the VENUE: LCCI Conference and Exhibition Centre Alausa Lagos, DATE 27th & 28th, September, 2017.



HOSTING OF BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY MASTERCLASS 2.0, PORT HARCOURT

This was the first Business Sustainability Masterclass that will be hosted in Port Harcourt South-south region of Nigeria between June 20th and 21st, 2017. Our intention was to train personnel in that region the principles of sustainability as it affects businesses and encourage them to act responsible in taken business decisions. Port Harcourt is one of the most affected cities interms of oil spillages, burning of gasses, tyres causing black sooth, land degredation, pollution etc.

Another aim of this first-of-its-kind Sustainability Masterclass training program is to bring conceptual clarity about sustainability in theory and practice to organizations by helping them understand the three pillars of sustainable development (Social, Economic and Environment) and their role in “creating value”(production) and “capturing value”(marketing) in businesses. The modules/curriculum cut-across a ‘Plan-Do-Check-Act’ approach to understanding the journey of sustainability, as well as group activities and interactive brainstorming which would instill confidence in the attendees to champion their companies’ sustainability practices.



HOSTING OF CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY MASTERCLASS 1.0, LAGOS



This was our first Sustainability training after joining the UN Global Compact, and in fulfilling the mission in spreading the knowledge about doing good and being responsible, we hosted the Corporate Sustainability Masterclass 1.0, Lagos which was designed to give participants the confidence and knowledge to discuss CSR and Sustainability topics in a professional setting. During this course participants were able to build an understanding of the key areas required to implement and to communicate CSR/Sustainability in day-to-day responsibilities.

To maximize the outcomes for participants in this introductory training, the curriculum adopts a holistic approach to the material and introduces current issues, trends, and frameworks while also motivating participants to forecast future opportunities and manage challenges of Sustainability.





HOSTING OF "ENDING POVERTY IN COMMUNITIES" (EPIC)

Our organization, Centre for Global Solutions and Sustainable Development (CENGSSUD) launched the program/initiative called EPIC (Ending Poverty in Communities). The program was setup to assist over 100,000 poorest of the poor to getting out of poverty in rural communities especially women, children, youths and poor families across Nigeria. The empowerment scheme focused on three major areas — Agricultural Empowerment, Small/Medium Scale Entrepreneurship Empowerment and Educational Empowerment.

We believe that poverty is highly endemic; a threat to human existence and it is more rooted in rural communities.

In 2016, 200 people in Ijede/Oke-Eletu community in Ikorodu were empowered in a sustainable way for 3 days. Agricultural Empowerment is the strongest tool to ending poverty, hunger and job establishment which include catfish farming, snail farming, poultry farming, piggery and grass cutter rearing.

The second empowerment we did was for Small/Medium Scale Entrepreneurship Empowerment training for youths, women and girls to acquire knowledge in bead making, makeup and 'Gele' tying, event decoration training and others, while the third area of focus by the initiative was rendering education empowerment to people of the communities through donations of books.



Measurement of outcomes



Since April 2017 that we commenced the Sustainability masterclass toward bridging the knowledge gap towards the practical application of sustainability and SDGs to business, government and individuals, we have since trained over 300 people from various backgrounds and industries, 80 participants were nominated and sponsored by us from the Civil society organisations, 30 were sponsored by us from the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to attend the masterclasses across the three states we have held the program (Lagos, Port Harcourt and Abuja), while so far, about 191 have been trained within the various private sectors and industries.

Great impacts have been felt in various quarters, as our participants have started applying sustainability strategies and principles in workplace, homes and personal lives. More than 15 unemployed youths who attended our trainings have gotten employment in the field of sustainability in different companies, while 33 of them have been recently promoted in their various companies to take up more tasking roles relating to sustainability.

Through our social media campaign about the importance of sustainability, and why people should take our courses, over 500,000 people were reached, which raise their consciousness about the topic, and the amount of enquiries from the public have increased also.

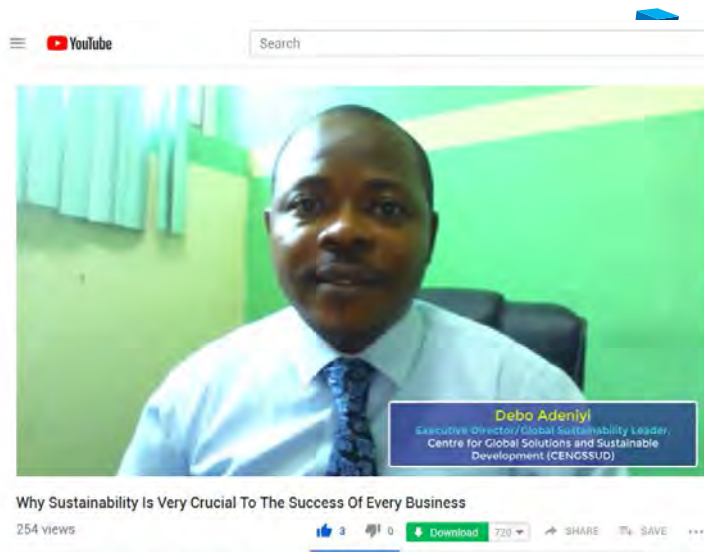
In our EPIC Program in 2016, (Ending Poverty in Communities), 200 people in Ijede/Oke-Eletu community in Ikorodu were empowered in a sustainable way. 150 women and girls were trained on Soap making, Pastries, Insecticides, antiseptics, Facial Makeup, Gele tying, while about 50 men were trained on fish farming. Today, about 80% are still earning living on the skills they acquired.



PUBLICATION

In a bid to expanding the scope of awareness of sustainability and its importance, our organisation releases its first video lecture series published on July 30, 2017, through the Executive Director and the Global Sustainability Leader, Mr. Debo Adeniyi on the video lecture titled: Why Sustainability Is Very Crucial to the Success of Every Business.

The aim of the Video lecture is to deepen the understanding of people, educating them towards the meaning of sustainability, the relevance to business and why it is very key to business success.



In the video, 10 vital points were raised and highlighted; siting reasons every business must adopt sustainability, including some practical case studies. The content is very rich in research; the delivery was rendered in animation which makes it to be highly interactive and descriptive. Over 250 people have seen this video from Youtube, while over 11,000 have viewed from our website sources.

Link to the video can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gDJ-Pe9zlug>

Partnerships



We have in the last two years formed partnership with many organisations both locally and internationally.

Fritaz Resources Ltd

CENGSSUD was in strategic partnership with Fritaz resources Ltd towards the hosting of Sustainability in Finance and Investment Workshop in Lagos on the 20th and 21st November 2018. Fritaz Resources Ltd is a company managed by Licensed Banking Practitioners and Fellows of Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria

Civil Society Coalition on Sustainable Development (CSCSD)

Our organization also coalise with **Civil Society Coalition on Sustainable Development (CSCSD)**, the CSCSD is a global initiative poised to mobilize global citizens, governments and concerned stakeholders to contribute to evolving a new development agenda that will be suitable for the healthy and sustainable development of “the world that we want”. Campaign2015+ campaigns alongside other civil society, the poor and the marginalized, donors, development partners, and international community, pressuring governments and other stakeholders to look beyond 2015 and give the lives of people a meaning through upholding justice, human rights and development.

The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation

We also joined the The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation which is a multi-stakeholder platform to advance the effectiveness of development efforts by all actors, to deliver results that are long-lasting and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

AccountAbility

CENGSSUD also got licenced by AccountAbility as a certified body to offer sustainability assurance services across the globe. AccountAbility is a global consulting and standards firm that works with business, governments and multi-lateral organizations to advance responsible business practices and improve their long term performance.

PECB

We have also recently signed partnership with PECB towards offering PECB products/services. The services that are offered through the partnership are:

- Offering training courses and examinations, which are followed by certification services from PECB, and/or
- Offering Management System Certification services.



For more information, contact us:

E: info@cengssud.org, debo@cengssud.org

T: +234 818 102 7128,

W: www.cengssud.org

Office: Penthouse/6thFloor, 44/46, Commercial Avenue Sabo-Yaba, Lagos Nigeria.

