



Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: February 4, 2017 To: February 4, 2019

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

February 4, 2019

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Solar Sister 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,

Neha Misra
Co-Founder & CCO

Part II. Description of Actions

Solar Sister envisions a brighter world powered by women entrepreneurs. Women's rights, climate justice and energy justice are intersectional issues that need integrated solutions. Solar Sister believes women are a key part of the solution to the sustainable energy access and climate change challenge. This is why we invest in women's enterprise and leadership in off-grid communities. We see the opportunity to empower women and to reach those who aren't reached by business-as-usual energy models. We know that centering local women in a rapidly growing clean energy sector is essential to eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable solutions to climate change and a host of development issues.

Local women are enterprising, creative, hardworking, and committed to improving the wellbeing of their families and communities. Women like Solar Sister Nanbet, a formidable woman raising five children on her own. A farmer and clean energy entrepreneur, Nanbet sells solar lights, phone chargers and clean stoves in her community and uses the profits to pay for fertilizers and laborers for her farm and to send her grandchildren to school.

We founded Solar Sister in 2010 to provide women with economic opportunity, training and support to distribute clean energy to underserved communities in Africa. Since then we have directly supported women to create over 3700 sustainable businesses that provide clean energy to over 1.5 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Over the next five years, Solar Sister will support over 10,000 women to build clean energy businesses that reach over 10 million people in sub Saharan Africa with clean energy technology. We will achieve our mission by accomplishing the following strategic goals:

1. **Women Power** – generate economic opportunity and livelihoods for women
2. **Energy Access** – eradicate energy poverty in underserved communities
3. **Advocacy** – advocate for investment in women and gender inclusion at all levels of the clean energy value chain
4. **Scaling What Works** – grow our impact through direct replication of our proven model and through data-driven innovation and partnerships

As a pioneer in building a gender-inclusive energy access sector, Solar Sister will continue leading by investing in women, to build better lives for themselves, their communities, and, in turn, the world. By scaling our model, Solar Sister will continue to contribute to multiple United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 1 - No Poverty, SDG 2 – Good Health, 5 - Gender Equality, SDG 7- Affordable and Clean Energy Access, SDG 13- Climate Action, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goal.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

- Built a network of over 3700 million grassroots Solar Sister entrepreneurs in Nigeria, Tanzania, and Uganda
- Delivered clean energy access to over 1.5 million people in last mile communities.
- Launched Women + Energy: WE Shine: A Multimedia and Advocacy Campaign to Bring the Stories of Women Clean-Energy Entrepreneurs into the Light. In its first phase, the Campaign reached over 5 million people in Tanzania through powerful, inspiring and strong stories of women clean-energy entrepreneurs through radio and digital features.
- Launched the inaugural WE Shine Awards, which recognized 21 Solar Sister entrepreneurs who exemplified the values of grit, trust, and sisterhood as clean-energy leaders in their communities.
- Engaging policymakers through the Tanzanian government's SE4All initiatives. As part of the WE Shine Campaign, Solar Sister, with the UN Foundation's Energy Access Practitioner Network and ENERGIA, conducted a workshop in Dar es Salaam that brought together energy sector leaders from the government, private industries, and civil society. The workshop resulted in commitments from participants to increase the availability of energy products or services to women and include more women in leadership positions. Solar Sister gave feedback to the Ministry of Energy on SE4All-related policy documents and advocated for the inclusion of women in clean-energy value chains.