



## **CENTER FOR ETHICS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CESD)**

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement (February 13, 2017- 2019)

### **Part I.**

#### **Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive**

12<sup>th</sup> February, 2019

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Center for Ethics and Sustainable Development 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,

Dr Olajumoke M. Akiode

Executive Director/CEO

### **Part II.**

#### **Description of Actions**

As an independent non-profit Think Tank we operate as a research organization within the civil society space. Hence our activities encompass expectations from both academic and civil society organizations. CESD incorporated the UN Global Compact principles into its internal operations. We did this by making advocacy for human rights especially women's rights, sustainable infrastructure delivery, environmental sustainability and anti-corruption integral parts of our corporate identity. In addition promoting UNGC principles is stated as one of CESD's corporate objectives.

As a Think tank we have promoted the GC and its principles and accomplished the following:

**Deliver education on topics related to the Global Compact** - CESD created awareness and provided training to organizations and umbrella bodies of SMES such as Association of Small Business Owners in Nigeria (ASBON) on How to write basic CoPs in 2017.

**Conduct applied research and thought leadership in relation to the Global Compact** – CESD embarked on an ongoing survey on UNGC Nigeria local network membership participation assessment. We participated in discussions on how to strengthen GC local network in Nigeria

**Disseminate the Global Compact principles** – Because of CESD's commitment to UNGC, we disseminate the UNGC principles at our events and to our stakeholders. We regularly introduce UNGC to our clients and prospects.

**Provide support to UN Global Compact business participants in their own sustainability implementation and disclosure efforts** – CESD conducts trainings on corporate sustainability. We have submitted proposals and are in negotiation with more organizations on delivering such trainings. We engaged LCCI members on the importance of joining UNGC local network and the adoption of UN GC principles.

**Lend capacity to Global Compact Local Networks and/or the Global Compact Office-** CESD has consistently supported the Local network head office in all its activities, actively participated and attended all programs organized by the local network office.

As a civil society organization we do the following-

**Join and/or propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability** – Presently in negotiation with SMEs and corporate entities. We are in partnership with University of Lagos Center for Housing and Sustainable Development.

**Join and/or support special initiatives and work streams** – Supported and actively participated in Local Network's anti-corruption initiative/ Workshops such as the UNGC Ethics and Compliance Workshop.

**Participate in Global Compact global, and local event-** CESD consistently participated in all local network events. Participated in several UNGC Global events especially the Webinars.

Other activities of CESD in line with GC principles of Human rights, Environment and Sustainability of includes the following:

#### **Human Rights-**

- Hosted a FOI Report Launch and Media Presentation themed "The Freedom of Information Act: Evaluation of Current Advocacy, Social Realities and Charting a Roadmap for Sustainable Proactive Action and Impact" - 30th October, 2017

- Women's right- Established Women in Infrastructure Community Africa (WICA) as an advocacy platform for women inclusion in infrastructure delivery in Africa
- Hosted Women in Infrastructure Community Africa (WICA) Lagos Consultative Forum (November, 2018)

#### **Environment-**

- Organized a UNEP/DHI Eco- challenge Nigeria for youth in Nigerian universities as UNEP/DHI Competition Partner (October 2018). A capacity building initiative on water and environmental management
- Hosted 2 (2016 & 2018) Sustainable infrastructure Delivery Colloquium (SID) - CESD's 2nd Sustainable Infrastructure Delivery Colloquium (SID) themed "Sustainable Infrastructure Delivery: Innovation, Policy, Economic Incentives and Practice towards Environmental Sensibility" 27th -29th March, 2018) and Colloquium themed "Reshaping the Infrastructure Delivery Landscape for sustainable Development in Nigeria". 22nd-23rd November, 2016
- SDGs Capacity building for secondary schools in Lagos State with focus on Waste management and environmental sustainability & Setting up SDG School clubs (May, 2018)
- Hosted capacity building on Sustainable cities' Stakeholders, organizations in the informal sector & civil society groups (June, 2018)

#### **Part III.**

#### **Measurement of Outcomes**

CESD's activities in compliance with the UNGC principles, expectations from network members and SDGs in the last 2 years have produced substantial qualitative and quantitative outcomes. Some of the outcomes include the following:

1. **Deliver education on topics related to the Global Compact-**  
We successfully created awareness about GC in CESD's sphere of influence, among our stakeholders. We have more than 25 people in the formal and informal sector who have shown interest in becoming members of the UNGC local network
2. **Join and/or propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability-**  
Negotiations are ongoing with about 5 private and public institutions as regards partnerships on advancing theirs and their members' corporate sustainability
3. **Sustainability Capacity building project-** UNEP/DHI appointed us to host Nigeria 2019 competition on water management and environmental sustainability. More than 7 Secondary schools both private and public approved of our setting up SDG clubs for their students