



## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on  
Engagement:

From: January 2017 To: February 2019



## Statement of Continued Support by the President

19 February 2019

To our stakeholders:

fea – Forestry and Environmental Action, is pleased to continue to support the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption. With this commitment, we express our intent to advance these principles within our sphere of influence, and will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public.

This is our second COE – Communication on Engagement and it gives an overview of the activities and initiatives fea has taken since its previous report in order to support and promote the UNGC and its Principles.

We commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,



Aida Brzina, President

## Description of Actions

**fea** is a non-governmental organization established in 2007 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since fea's inception, the guiding principle of our work has been to support authorities and communities, as well as the private sector, in the responsible use of natural resources in accordance with the legitimate demands of society.

After joining the UNGC, fea has provided practical and professional support for a number of initiatives in the field of sustainable development. We have prepared planning and implementing documents for several development initiatives focused on nature protection, local community development and private-public-civil partnership. In addition, fea worked on the preparation of Bosnian version of the ISO 26000:2014.

**Considering the ongoing global and local challenges for environment and sustainable development, we at fea will continue to increase our capacities to tackle these challenges.**

## Activities

### Participation in the UN Global Compact and Local Network in Bosnia and Herzegovina

In order to actively participate in socially responsible actions, fea has continued its participation in the UNGC and the local GC network in Bosnia and Herzegovina

### Technical Committee 55 for ISO 26000:2014, Social Responsibility, 2014

ISO 26000 provides guidance on how businesses and organizations can operate in a socially responsible way. It helps clarify what social responsibility is, helps businesses and organizations translate principles into effective actions and shares best practices relating to social responsibility, globally. Technical Committee 55 is one of the committees of the Institute for standardization of Bosnia and Herzegovina organized in order to prepare the Bosnian version of the standard and to monitor its implementation and revision. fea participated in all sessions that were organized by the committee and gave its contribution in the preparation of Bosnian version of the Standard. Since it was launched in 2014 fea has been working on the promotion of the Standard.

## Volunteering Program

fea developed a program for individual volunteering with the main aim to promote its guiding principles among interested stakeholders. The program helps participants to build their capacities and skills and acquire relevant experience. The intention is to involve youth, women and other marginalized groups. During 2017 and 2018 volunteers from different areas of interest were engaged in fea's work (universities, local associations, private sector representatives).

## fea helped establishment of the first cantonal association of private forest owners in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

fea has recognized that the private forest owners are marginalized and are not aware of the resources they have. In order to improve the current situation and empower these groups, fea in cooperation with Danish Forestry Extension (DFE) helped in establishing the first cantonal association of private forest owners in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH). As this sector is traditionally led by men fea has put its efforts in involving women in the Association. In the next three years, fea will continue to strengthen the Association in order to boost positive changes in the private forest sector in CBC and beyond!

## Forest land afforestation action

In order to raise awareness on the forests and environmental responsibility fea implemented the activity of forest land afforestation which resulted in the planting of 1,500 new spruce seedlings and 1.2 ha of forested territory of private land owned by the Association members.

## Anti-corruption actions

fea implements project "Regional action for combating forest crime and corruption" with the main aim to achieve good governance in the forestry sector and combat forest crime and corruption, by increased transparency and networking in the Balkans.

## Measurement of Outcomes

Through its work fea encourages other NGOs and companies to join UN Global Compact and the local network in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We regularly inform our stakeholders about CSR policies and activities related to this topic.

Each fea's project has a social responsibility component. In the past two years we have implemented 5+ projects or activities that had special focus on one or more UNGC's principles.

Through numerous projects, we have been promoting networking and partnerships between the private, non-governmental and public sectors in order to develop rural tourism with the sustainable use of protected areas.

We continued our commitment in promotion of Bosnian version of ISO 26000:2014 Standard, first official guideline on the principles of social responsibility, recognizing social responsibility and engaging stakeholders, the core subjects and issues pertaining to social responsibility and on ways to integrate socially responsible behavior into the organization.

We have developed Volunteering Program that has gathered more than 50 individuals in the past two years.

Our projects gather around tens of NGOs, private sector representatives, academic institutions, government representatives and other stakeholders.