



Association of Banks in Lebanon

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

June 5, 2017 till June 12, 2019

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chairman

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that the Association of Banks in Lebanon (ABL) reaffirms its support to the ten principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

Here below is our Communication on Engagement with the *UN Global Compact*. Its content describes the actions taken by our organization to support the UN Global Compact and its principles. This information will also be shared with our stakeholders through our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Joseph Torbey

Chairman

Part II. Description of Actions

During the period covered by this COE, ABL took several actions to support the UN Global Compact principles and to promote the **three SDGs** that they chose: *zero hunger, quality education* and *gender equality*.

In May 2017, the Human Resources Development department at ABL launched its e-learning platform « *ABL-eT* » that includes courses related to banking such as “Anti Money Laundering” and “Information Security” and a MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses) that comprises hundreds of short videos that enhance employees’ knowledge in all fields related to banking.



ABL-eT
ABILITY

Association of Banks in Lebanon
Electronic Training Academy

ABL launched “*CSR – The Series*” in cooperation with Global Compact Network Lebanon in June 2017, a conference to which all operating banks in Lebanon were invited. This initiative

aimed at sharing best practices in CSR and introduced banks to the concept of the “Global Compact Network Lebanon”. The conference also included two success stories for two banks in Lebanon: how they started their CSR initiative and how their CSR involvement has become more structured, organized and sustainable over time.

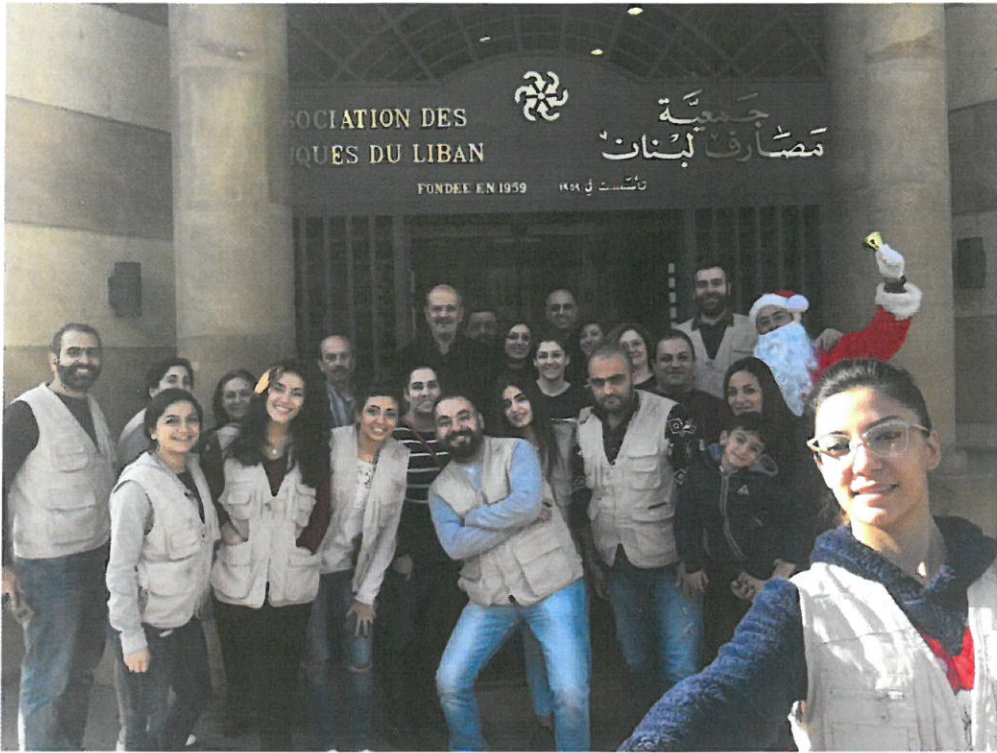


A second module of “CSR – The Series” was held during January 2018 at ABL, in cooperation with Global Compact Network Lebanon. The aim was to share best practices in the context of “Stakeholders’ Engagement” in CSR. The conference also included two success stories for two banks in Lebanon: why is “Stakeholders’ Engagement” a must today and how do banks engage their stakeholders in the context of CSR.



As part of its end year activities, ABL takes a humanitarian initiative involving all its staff :

- In December 2017, a group of ABL employees visited needy families in the area of Karantina and Mar Mikhael in cooperation with the local NGO “Rouh Zouroun Bi Bayton” and offered them food and gifts.



- In December 2018, ABL staff visited the Association of « Mar Zakaria » which takes care of orphans and children with difficult social status. ABL employees organized games and social activities with the children and offered them gifts.



In May 2019, ABL invited the children of « Mar Zakaria » Association to a restaurant where they played and had lunch.

Finally, for all the conferences that take place at ABL premises, ABL cooperates with local NGOs who provide coffee breaks and lunches for the participants. Thus, the money raised by the NGOs goes to help the less fortunate.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

Through ABL-eT, ABL was able to reach 494 persons by the end of 2018. ABL-eT enabled them to access learning anytime, anywhere.

Also, ABL gathered bank employees for two competitions on ABL-eT, the first on “Anti Money Laundering” and the second on “Information Security”. These competitions were beneficial as they created motivation among the participants who met with colleagues from different banks and exchanged ideas and thoughts around subject matter.



“CSR – The Series” was an initiative taken by ABL in cooperation with Global Compact Network Lebanon. This initiative will continue during 2019 tackling different topics of interest to our banking community.

As for the humanitarian initiatives, ABL diversifies the places and the regions to reach as many needy people as possible. And these initiatives have become embedded in ABL employees’ culture.

Finally, cooperating with NGOs to provide food and beverage during events occurring at ABL creates a win-win situation. On one hand, ABL highlights the name of the NGO and its mission at the beginning of the event while encouraging participating banks to use their services. In fact, few banks have already started using NGOs for their catering needs !

On the other hand, the money raised helps NGOs with their mission.

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