

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: August 2017

To: July 2019

Part I. Statement of Continued Support

04 August 2019

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that AID Foundation reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour and Environment. 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,



Tarikul Islam Palash
Founder & Chief Executive

Part II. Description of Actions

AID Foundation presently a national level non-government organization starts its journey on 17 December, 1992, in the name of Action In Development-AID as a club under the leadership of the present Founder & Chief Executive along with some young energetic and committed youths of progressive political background for helping the poor and meritorious students in the locality through distribution of books, clothes and other useful items including blood donation among the needy ailing people. To respond the increasing need of the poor people of the locality it becomes a non-governmental organization in 1996. Later on, it is renamed as AID Foundation in 2015 in order to contribute in the development process at national context and aims to upgrade the socio-economic condition of the disadvantaged and the underprivileged people in the society. Since its inception, AID was also committed and sincere to ensure the rights of the women, children, disabled people and the farmers. To work in a suitable natural environment, AID Foundation established its office in a panoramic location on the bank of river Nabaganga at the east of Jhenaidah town as AID Complex. It is a modern establishment with an attractive and natural atmosphere. Over the years AID Foundation is continuously undertaking number programs and project in response to need of the society and target people. AID works to develop the socio-economic condition of the disadvantaged targeting deprived women, children, adolescent, youth, People with Disabilities (PWDs), farmers, hazardous child laborers, informal laborers, drug users, disaster-affected people, legal aid deprived people, floating sex workers and trafficked people.

For over 26 years, AID Foundation has partnered with the private sector as well as with civil society organizations across Khulna and Dhaka Division in Bangladesh to promote the region's sustainable economic and social development. To that end, it has assisted local NGOs and individuals, in facilitating support to the development through providing capacity building training, IGAs, tailored and IT services that enhance program results while optimizing impact. By forming partnerships with a network of over 100 carefully vetted nonprofit organizations, many of which are signatories to the UN Global Compact, in Bangladesh. AID Foundation helps its donors/clients, again many of which are signatories to the UN Global Compact, to empower disadvantaged communities to gain and access the skills, knowledge and opportunities they need to improve their lives.

AID Foundation has wide working experience with country based initiatives that cover a wide range of program areas. By leveraging our extensive experience in grant making knowledge and multi-sectoral staff, AID Foundation makes it possible for donors and social investors to successfully maneuver the complex processes associated with supporting programs that promote the effectiveness and resilience of civil society and address some of the key challenges being faced by communities in the countries where programs are funded. AID Foundation collaborates with local nonprofit organizations and social enterprises to implement country-based initiatives that further the 17 Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs) and address a wide range of issues, from youth development, education, women's empowerment and economic advancement, to health services, vocational training, sustainable agriculture and climate change.

Inherent in AID Foundation's approach since our founding is the importance and priority placed on partnerships. Throughout its programs, AID Foundation seeks to effectively collaborate with both grantor donors/clients as well as with grantee local nonprofit organizations and social enterprises. Recognizing and understanding the interconnectedness of many development issues, AID Foundation advocates for holistic projects that not only address the root causes of development challenges but that look to build the resilience of civil society. In August 2017 to July 2018, AID Foundation implemented a number of programs; In the last years it have been able to successfully accomplish the DREAM project patronized by Manusher Jonno Foundation, Tobacco Control Project supported by The Union and Building Resilience of Returning Migrants supported by IOM. Upon which the development partners entrust us with shouldering the implementation of Combating Gender-Based Violence Project by Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) and another project named 'Introduce, implement and monitor National and Sub-national licensing policy for tobacco sales through advocacy, capacity building and multi-stakeholder engagement' by The Union, North America. As a result of continued successful

performance, AID Foundation have been rewarded with another new project Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture Practice (PSAP) financed by Asia Arsenic Network (AAN), Through Microfinance, Disabled Children Rehabilitation, Green energy, Handicrafts and VGD programs AID Foundation have been working relentlessly for the socio-economic development of the deprived and backward people of the society, especially alien children and women and to create a sustainable environment for the better living of the human. In addition, provide banking service to the door of the people Mobile Banking assist the organization financially to continue its development activities. AID Foundation has initiated a completely new project under the partnership with Jhenaidah Pourashava known as Faecal Sludge Management. AID Foundation is always concern about the environment and public health. Open defecation, unsanitary and unsafe toilets and the lack of proper Faecal Sludge Management affects the urban health environment seriously. Onsite sanitation and disposal of human waste are largely unregulated in Bangladesh. But it should get top priority to keep the urban health environment clean. The proposed action will develop viable business models for toilet upgrading and faecal sludge emptying services, transport, treatment-disposal and/or re-use. In the case, Jhenaidah municipality, local government engineering department and respective donor SNV will support the AID Foundation to play key roles in sludge management project and initiatives that focused primarily on building the capacity of its local civil society partners with the ultimate goal of building up their infrastructure and associated capacities so that they are able to optimize the resources they already have while also enhancing their ability to diversify funding sources, most notably at the local and national level. This not only ensures programs' efficiency and long-term sustainability but also serves to buttress an engaged, equitable society. In so doing, AID Foundation helps donor/clients, including leading corporations, to support programs that contribute to the internationally-established global agenda and the quest to achieve the 169 targets outlined in the SDGs.

To achieve effective solutions to sustainable development challenges, collaboration and active participation across sectors is necessary. Partnerships among private sector, civil society, and the public sector are required in order to make the achievement of the SDGs possible. To that end, AID Foundation has taken the following actions in furtherance of its mission and in support of the UN Global Compact and its Principles:

- AID Foundation had initiated the project named Combating Gender-Based Violence Project (CGBV). The objective of the project was the promotion of equal rights of women and girls for preventing VAW through sensitizing the key local actors, e.g. police, judiciary, doctors, youth, lawmakers, media and civil society's organizations in Jhenaidah district. Development Partner of the implementation of this project was the Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF).
- Establish the social status and empowerment of the PWDs in Jhenaidah municipality into society through providing them education, reasonable medical and rehabilitation services and inclusive sustainable livelihood opportunities. The financial and technical support of SLF- Netherland.
- Include these deaf children in the mainstream of the society; AID Foundation implemented this project with the financial support of Deaf Child World Wide, UK, through Centre for Disability in Development (CDD). The project was implemented in Jhenaidah Paurashava and Kalicharanpur Union.
- Empower children with disabilities and make them rehabilitate through providing them education and assistive device, AID-DCRP has implemented the project named Disable Child Rehabilitation and Empowerment with the financial support of Bangladesh NGO Foundation (BNF) in Kalicharanpur Union under Jhenaidah Upazila. The overall objective of the project was to increase awareness of disable children and assisting them to improve their education and life.
- The project named JIBIKA has been taken by AID-DCRP to rehabilitate the youth with disabilities in Jhenaidah municipality, Kalicharanpur and Porahati Union through economic empowerment. This project was supported by SLF-Netherland through DRRA. The overall objective of the project was to rehabilitate the youth with disabilities through economic empowerment by involving them in vegetable cultivation with the organic procedure. The donor was the Bangladesh NGO Foundation.

- Introduce stringent licensing system for tobacco sales in Bangladesh. This will be achieved through formulating bi-laws or gazette notification or a Government order by Local Government Ministry and capacitate the LGIs and another stakeholder to support law implementation for ultimate strengthening the various provision of MPOWER policy. The Project Working Area is Dhaka & Khulna Division, Supported by Vital Strategies through The Union.
- Make a 'Positive change in the livelihood of Ultra poor women with attention to protect further deterioration of living condition' in Jhenaidah district and Kotchandpur sub-district. The development Partner was the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs of Bangladesh.
- The durable economic reintegration of returning migrants to build resilience and community empowerment along with building awareness among the people about safe migration. The specific working area was Jhenaidah Sadder and Shailupa sub-district in Bangladesh.
- The term S4 is an abbreviation of Save Agriculture, Safe Food, Save Farmers & Save Environment. The S4 program introduced some smart technologies on agricultural Production, Environmental development and marketing linkage to the farmers. The S4 program has been proved to be successful in empowering the poor by augmenting their income.
- Promotion of sustainable agriculture practice with less irrigation water for making an environmentally sound agriculture system for reducing arsenic contamination of soil and hunger with poverty in Bangladesh. Development Partner: Asia Arsenic Network (AAN,)Project direct beneficiaries is 1,500 small and marginal farmers
- AID Foundation is very concern about the environment, so it has various initiatives for the forestation such as tree plantation, saplings distribution and participation in the tree fair for awareness building of the people. From the love of tree, AID Foundation is also trying to create a movement to make the earth green for establishing a non-threatening friendly environment through campaigning in social media regularly with different activities and publishing a magazine named 'Gachh Pagol '.
- Change of cooking habit of the rural people and to protect health of women and children from indoor air pollution through making smoke free kitchen at the rural households by introducing Improved Cooking Stove (ICS). AID Foundation has been implementing this program as a Partner Organization (PO) of Infrastructure Development Company Ltd (IDCOL). The program covered 6 sub-districts under Jhenaidah District and managed to install 59067 ICSs per year a total number was 91009.
- AID Foundation has initiated the Biogas program in 2014 with a development partner organization of IDCOL in order to prevent further environmental and agricultural deterioration. The overall objective of the project was to bring about the behavioral change of cooking habit of the rural people through the use of agricultural residues and animal waste in biogas plant. The project has had a positive impact on people who are now aware of the adverse effect of use biomass in cooking purposes and becoming interested towards biogas plant.
- With the increase of population, the increased production of the agricultural sector has become an inevitable factor in Bangladesh, where the use of underground water for irrigation played a complementary role. But irrigation through Deep Tube-wells (DTW) or Shallow Tube-wells (STW) generally operated by electricity or diesel is hampered due to load shedding of electricity or highest market price of the fuel oil or sometimes its availability affects the production cost and productivity. On the other hand, the diesel engine has a negative impact on environment. But the solar energy with PV systems, it has a smaller environmental footprint compared to conventional power systems. As the AID Foundation is highly conscious about the environment and safe agriculture products, hence it has taken Solar Irrigation Project (SIP) in 2014 with less hampering of the environment.

- Nakshi Bari project, an AID Foundation's Enterprise of handicrafts, initiated the twin purposes, one is to create an employment opportunity for the women and other is to promote and preserve our traditional culture. Women in our society are generally oppressed physically or and mentally due to economic dependency on their mail counterpart. For getting escape from this cursed situation this enterprise will create an employment opportunity for the women.
- AID Foundation is always concern about the environment and public health. Open defecation, unsanitary and unsafe toilets and the lack of proper Faecal Sludge Management affects the urban health environment seriously. On-site sanitation and disposal of human waste are largely unregulated in Bangladesh. But it should become a top priority to keep the urban health environment clean. The proposed action develops viable business models for toilet upgrading and faecal sludge emptying services, transport, treatment-disposal and/or re-use. In the case, Jhenaidah municipality, local government engineering department and respective donor SNV will support the AID Foundation to play key roles in sludge management.
- Increase knowledge and skills of the AID Foundation's staff, the organisation has been implementing various types of activities like staff orientation, Organization orientation, Leadership training, Basic training on communication, Training of trainers, Project/Program orientation and necessary workshop since the beginning of the journey of AID Foundation. For the purpose, AID Foundation has the following programme sectors: AID Central Training Centre (ACTC), Documentation Cell (DC), Information and Communication Technology Sector (ICTS), Surjya Shena Pathagar.

AID Foundation has taken another following action in furtherance of its mission and in support of the UN Global Compact Principles:

- Continued to engage with Global Compact local network members on initiatives that further UN Global Compact Goals and principles.
- Developed partnerships with the business community with presence in Bangladesh to support regional education and gender equity programs.
- Develop employee engagement and service projects in Dhaka and Khulna Division areas.
- Advised and helped develop locally relevant corporate responsibility strategy.
- Developed policy level programs in Khulna and Dhaka Division areas that promote greater participation and empowerment of women and girls.
- Implemented capacity building trainings in Khulna and Dhaka Division in Bangladesh.
- Partnered with Corporate, Public and Civil society organizations in Bangladesh to control tobacco use and provide training and support to local stakeholders providing policy and enforcement support to the LGI Institutions.
- Partnered with Corporate, Public and Civil society organizations in Bangladesh to address the humanitarian needs of the Jhenaidah migrant, and provide training and support to local stakeholders providing support to the population.
- Partnered with Corporate and Civil society to support communities affected by other natural and man-made disasters, such as earthquakes, tropical storms and floods in Bangladesh.
- Provided support to corporate partners with regards to CSR reporting as related to programs funded through AID Foundation necessary for the Corporate Sustainability reporting and COPs.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

In support of its Communication on Engagement, AID Foundation presents the following indicators to measure the outcome of the activities described:

- Established and develop a tobacco sales licensing system with model a guideline by Local Government Institutions-LGIs for tobacco control and support partnered network members to facilitate policy level activities for tobacco control and corporate engagement actions in 22 Districts at Dhaka and Khulna Division with 05 City Corporation in Bangladesh.
- Through programs supported in August 2017 to July 2019, AID Foundation collaborative initiatives have benefited approximately 12.02 million men, women and children.
- Developed a social map to identify local resources for development of the people with disabilities.
- Developed 06 ECD learning center for the mental and educational development of PWDs children.
- Established a Primary school for PWDs.
- Five groups of disadvantage youths are involved in vegetable cultivation with the organic procedure.
- Formed 06 sub-district level violence against woman support committee.
- Established a Community economic infrastructure of 50 remittance migrants.
- Fostered collaborative partnerships among private, civil sector and public organizations in Bangladesh.
- Provided program impact analysis and input to donors in support of their corporate sustainability reporting requirements.
- Provided capacity building support to partners and employees in Bangladesh on impact measurement and SDGs, compliance with applicable rules and best practices.
- Established 85 Vermi Composting Center, 05 Organic Pesticide production center, 02Cow rearing and Milk production center for increasing the capacity of the small and marginal farmers to produce agricultural products.
- Formed 50 farmers groups for promotion of sustainable agriculture practice with less irrigation water for making an environmentally sound agriculture system.
- Movement to make the earth green for establishing a non-threatening friendly environment through Road Plantation of 10 KM with 1500 seedlings.
- Protect health of women and children from indoor air pollution through making smoke free kitchen at the rural households by introducing ICS. The program covered 6 sub-districts under Jhenaidah District We managed to install 59067 ICSs per year, the total number was 91009.
- Installed 35 Solar Irrigation Plant on the areas covered by 1780.44 bighas and Increased interest is growing up among the farmers with this technology and Farmers have no tens with fuel oil crisis and it has got an acceptance among the farmers.
- Developed a viable business models for toilet upgrading and faecal sludge emptying services, transport, treatment-disposal and/or re-use.
- Sample of tree plantation campaign Material:

