

UN GLOBAL COMPACT

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT 2017-2019

DFPA

THE DANISH FAMILY
PLANNING ASSOCIATION

*This report is a stand-alone document for the period 25. October 2017 – 25. October 2019
It serves to demonstrate DFPA's commitment as a participant to the UN Global Compact*

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STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Copenhagen October 2019

Dear stakeholders,

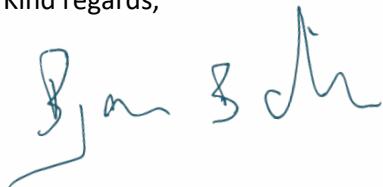
As a participant to the UN Global Compact since 2017, the Danish Family Planning Association (DFPA) is pleased to reaffirm its strong and continued support for the UN Global Compact, its 10 principles, and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. With this commitment, we express our intent to continuously support UN Global Compact in advancing these global frameworks.

As a Human Rights' CSO, DFPA's core contribution will continue to lie within the fields of Human and Labour Rights, where DFPA promotes and develops knowledge regarding human rights nationally and internationally - with a specific view to gender equality and health, including sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR). However, DFPA remains determined to maintain - to its best ability - high standards within Anti-Corruption and Environment as well.

This Letter of Commitment accompanies our Communication on Engagement (COE) with the UN Global Compact. The COE describes the actions DFPA has taken during the last two years to support the UN Global Compact, its 10 principles and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The COE is a key-requirement for participation in the UN Global Compact.

In the spirit of transparency and accountability, DFPA commits to report on progress as outlined in the UN Global Compact COE policy. DFPA further commits to sharing this information with our stakeholders via our primary channels of communication – and warmly welcomes any feedback.

Kind regards,



Bjarne B. Christensen
Secretary General
The Danish Family Planning
Association



ABOUT THE DANISH FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

DFPA is an independent Danish human rights' CSO working in Denmark and globally to promote the right to decide over own body and sexuality. DFPA's vision is a world in which sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and equality are acknowledged and respected as fundamental to human well-being and sustainable development. A world in which all individuals can make their own free and informed choices about sexuality and reproduction without risk of discrimination.

DFPA has been a participant to the UN Global Compact since October 2017 and is working dedicated to internalize, promote and disseminate the 10 UN Global Compact Principles. However, DFPA's commitment to human rights and sustainable development is not new. As a human rights' organization, the very *raison d'être* of DFPA has been to promote and contribute to an inclusive, equitable and sustainable world for more than 60 years now.

Globally, DFPA is a member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation and DFPA has sister organisations in most countries. DFPA's International Department works mainly in Africa and in a few Asian countries, where it implements human rights' programmes funded by different donors, including the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. DFPA's International Department works within 5 main themes, one of which is *Private Sector*. Within this theme, DFPA engages private sector stakeholders in support of human rights and sustainable development.

The World DFPA envisions, and promotes to its best ability, is a World in line with the 10 UN Global Compact Principles, the SDGs and The Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Hence, DFPA has been, and will continue to be, engaged in a variety of activities promoting the spirit and principles of the UN Global Compact. These activities include capacity building of private sector partners on health, including SRHR, and gender equality. They further include supporting the development of relevant policies and due diligence systems in companies.

DESCRIPTION OF PRACTICAL ACTIONS

1. Internalize

As a human rights' organization, it lies in DFPA's DNA to act ethically and to continuously work towards higher levels of responsibility. DFPA is committed to uphold high standards on human and labour rights as well as on anti-corruption. While environment and climate is not at the core of our mission, DFPA still aims to reduce its negative impacts as far as possible.

During the last two years, DFPA has strengthened its own governance structures. Key-steps include:

1. *Developing a new Code of Conduct* – the CoC can be found here: <https://sexogsamfund.dk/en/ourwork/anti-corruption-policy>
2. *Updating DFPA's Anti-Corruption policy* – the policy can be found here: <https://sexogsamfund.dk/en/ourwork/anti-corruption-policy>
3. *Giving even higher priority to the health, well-being and security of DFPA staff* – e.g. by:
 - a. Conducting an annual staff satisfaction survey and following-up on key findings
 - b. Implementing Security Training for DFPA staff travelling in high-risk areas
4. *Working to reduce negative environmental impacts* - by reviewing and changing our internal practices to reduce our organizational footprint, e.g. by:
 - a. Introducing a recyclable waste management system
 - b. Updating our procurement policy to include sustainable procurement
 - c. Reducing food waste by having joint Friday lunches
5. *Working to clarify DFPA's climate position* – DFPA is in process of reviewing its existing climate related statements with the view to develop an updated climate position, which makes clear how DFPA perceives the link between SRHR and climate adaption. The position is expected finalized by November 2019.

2. Engagement with Global Compact – in Local Networks and with the New York Office

DFPA engages where relevant with Global Compact local networks to gain new knowledge, inspiration and networks within sustainability:

- As a member of the Danish Network, DFPA engages in relevant network activities – mainly in the SDG and Human Rights' working groups. Over the last months, DFPA staff e.g. participated in the network meeting in Esbjerg and in the recent Climate Conference co-organised by Global Compact Denmark and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- In selected locations, where DFPA has established Private Sector projects – e.g. in Kenya, where a strategic partnership has been established with the local Global Compact Network, and DFPA provides funding for specific network activities within research and awareness raising.

In relation to the central UN Global Compact Office in New York, DFPA has:

- Reached out to the top of the organization with the hope to become a preferred and trusted expert and resource for the UN Global Compact on matters related to health, including SRHR, and gender equality. DFPA has

recently contributed to the making of the Gender Guidance on the UNGPs and would like to leverage its expertise more systematically at relevant UN Global Compact Forums.

- Participated in a side-event on the 2018 UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva.
- Contributed with a concept note for a side event on the 2019 UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva.
- DFPA has also engaged with the NY Office in relation to the development of this COE.

3. Join or propose design and implementation of partnerships on corporate sustainability

DFPA's *Private Sector Theme* aims at raising corporate awareness of and establishing partnerships in support of the 10 UNGC principles and the SDGs. A deliberate strategy is to design and implement innovative partnerships to build and strengthen corporate responsibility. Existing partnerships include:

- *Partnership with the Danish Investment Fund* – focusing on:
 - Building joint tools on how companies can integrate health, including SRHR, and gender equality in their due diligence processes.
 - Building the capacity of IFU investment officers to include considerations regarding equality and health in their investment screenings and decisions.
- *Partnerships with Employers' Organizations in East Africa* – please see under next heading.

DFPA's International Department has further developed a new *International Strategy on Private Sector Partnerships*. The strategy aims at streamlining DFPA's existing corporate engagement and increasing the number of responsibility/sustainability partnerships entered with private sector stakeholders, mainly companies - and mainly focusing on SDGs 3, 5, 8 and 17. DFPA has a fixed process in place for screening of potential key private sector partners.

4. Engage companies in Global Compact-related issues

In millions of workplaces around the world, challenges such as sexual harassment and gender-based violence are still widespread – due to root causes such as insufficient funding, policies, tools and capacity at company and national level. Under the *Private Sector Theme*, DFPA works to gradually address this situation by:

- Building the private sector capacity of our sister organisations and other partners to advocate for the required change at national level and to engage companies as change agents. This includes information regarding the 10 UNGC Principles, the UN Guiding Principles and the SDGs.

- Engaging employers' organisations as well as private sector companies to build their capacity on health, including SRHR, and gender equality. DFPA's training departs from a holistic human rights' approach and includes information on the 10 UN Global Compact Principles, the UN Guiding Principles and the SDGs. It is targeted e.g. at CEOs, HR staff and OHS committees in companies.

Presently, DFPA engages mainly with employers' organisations and companies in EPZ-zones in Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia.

MEASSUREMENT OF OUTCOMES

This being the first COE of DFPA, DFPA has had no specific KPIs to measure its progress on outcomes against. DFPA will look into development of relevant KPIs during the next reporting period. The following measurement is an initial documentation of activities that have been ongoing:

- DFPA's *Private Sector Theme* is funded by the existing 4-year strategic partnership frame with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This frame requires reporting on progress against a fixed monitoring framework twice a year.
- 20 percent of staff resources in DFPA's International Department have been allocated to implement the *Private Sector Theme*, which is driven by two trained specialists with relevant professional cross-sector backgrounds within corporate sustainability / human rights' NGO / SDG partnerships / Ethical Trading Initiatives.

LOOKING AHEAD

Within the next COE period, DFPA will continue to work dedicated to:

1. *Internalize* – the key focus will be on how to measure outcomes of our UN Global Compact related engagement and activities.
2. *Engage UN Global Compact* – the key focus will be on becoming a preferred partner on health, including SRHR, and gender equality through the Action Platform *Health is Everyone's Business*.
3. *Form partnerships* – the focus will be on entering partnerships with companies in support of SDGs 3, 5, 8 and 17.