



## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

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### SeaTrust Institute

UN Global Compact Report

#### Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: January 1, 2018

To: January 2020

#### Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

January 1, 2020

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that SeaTrust Institute 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 some of the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. Although registered with the UN Global Compact as civil society, we are an educational and research entity, so some of our actions cross over into the proposed academic categories. We commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Following participation in COP25 in Madrid, Spain in December 2019, we believe that it is more imperative than ever that business be appropriately engaged as partners in addressing the SDGs. The climate crisis is affecting all parts of all societies and significantly impacts each of the SDGs. Our work supports appropriate collaboration of the private and public sectors on these matters. We wish to thank the UN Global Compact for allowing our inclusion in the Compact as a bridge organization between sectors to provide education, research, and policy advice.

Sincerely,

Lynn Wilson, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
SeaTrust Institute



SeaTrust Institute COE: Actions and Outcomes January 2018 - January 2020

### **Description of Actions**

Actions taken over the last two years by SeaTrust Institute in support of the UN Global compact and its aims and objectives spans both NGO/Civil Society and academic suggested contributions. SeaTrust Institute is a research and educational NGO and as such provides educational services, research, and leads capacity building development projects on climate change adaptation and resilience, and the SDGs, as well as engaging in UNFCCC policy work and partnerships with governments, business, and other civil society.

Actions have included:

- Led UNFCCC delegations to yearly COP and intersessional meetings and engaging with UNFCCC sub-groups and supporting efforts by organizations such as the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change).
- Served as steering committee member and launch committee member of the UNCC, a group of global educators on climate capacity development and supporting the development of the PCCB within the Convention.
- Redesigned and delivered the SeaTrust Institute flagship educational program AWARE<sup>(SM)</sup> (Action Within a Resilient Environment) for capacity building for populations vulnerable to climate and environmental change.
- Developed new capacity building projects and partnerships with government and business support to train trainers on climate change adaptation
- Worked with local businesses to create awareness of the SDGs and the UN Global Compact goals and objectives as they apply to local communities and development.

### **Measurement of Outcomes**

Outcomes for the above- mentioned activities include:

- We provide opportunities for both students and professional colleagues including business as part of our delegations to UNFCCC climate change meetings, training them before the meetings to better understand the process and to participate as part of an NGO delegation to learn how government, business and civil society interact in these sessions. Daily debriefings further contribute to their working through some of the conflict areas as well as consider what meaning collaboration in these arenas entails, including the role of the business community in negotiations, actions and policy implementation.
- PCCB involvement as well as participation with RINGO (the research NGO constituency) and other policy groups within and tangential to the formal UNFCCC process (such as the UNCC – University Network on Climate Capacity) is part of



participating as an admitted observer in the process. As I am also an IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) reviewer for the AR5 which is currently used as the scientific basis for decisions and the upcoming AR6 which will be published in 2 years, the critical dialogue of integration of science into the process, and where all stakeholders need to concern themselves with that science is part of the collaboration dialogues with all stakeholders including business.

- By redesigning our educational program AWARE<sup>(SM)</sup> to be a process whereby for any age group can learn and apply climate science with policy at scale, including as a tool for policy decision makers, the integration of all stakeholders into the process can be simulated in an educational setting or used by a stakeholder to develop policy plans and platforms as a deliverable. We delivered the new version of AWARE in American Samoa in August 2019 to student groups from both the environmental and the health organizations to work together to develop resilience plans for the island together with local organizations on topics the participants found most critical including sea level rise, disaster risk, trash, and the changing patterns of tuna migration affecting their largest industry, the tuna cannery.
- Projects and partnerships engaging all private and public stakeholders in education on building resilience and integrating the SDGs into plans and policies for ages from high school to adults were begun in two regions: Pacific Islands and West Africa. The West Africa partnership was formalized in 2019 through an agreement with a West African NGO and local businesses supporting energy and infrastructure as well as ministerial endorsement by Nigeria to deliver train the trainer programs through that NGO, expanding to other NGOs upon completion of the successful pilot. The pilot for that training will begin in 2020.
- The Pacific Islands partnership meetings followed the AWARE<sup>(SM)</sup> training in American Samoa and included the Coral Reef Advisory Group, EPA and other agencies along with the local college to expand the climate change resilience training and activities to local community groups and agencies to help address the current and future crises affecting the island (including economic issues from changing tuna migration patterns as well as sea level rise and other SDG related issues) with the intention to include neighboring islands. This process is supported by including island AWARE participants in the 2020 delegation to COP26, where we will partner with Pacific Island nations presenting in their pavilion at COP26. This partnership has been a long time in the making, including visits to the South Pacific as well as working with countries, the U.S. territory, and regional organizations supporting resilience efforts in the South Pacific. As people in these areas all hold multiple affiliations with the public and private sectors, there is little separation by sector so business, citizens and government are represented in the decision making structures and organizations.
- In 2018-2019 we began discussions with Rotary about delivering a joint presentation at the UNFCCC on collaboration for capacity building and resilience of vulnerable populations. Locally, we have expanded understanding through dialogues with banks, religious organizations and local businesses about the SDGs, the UN Global Compact, and supporting projects to raise local awareness and action.