

ŌMINA

FOUNDATION

Communication on Engagement
2018-2019 Period

United Nations Global Compact





Communication on Engagement
2018-2019

I. Statement from CEO.....	3
II. Actions.....	4
III. Outcomes.....	7



Communication on Engagement
2018-2019

I. Statement from CEO

March 12th, 2020

To our stakeholders:

We are now facing challenging times -socially and environmentally. Lately, things seem to be getting out of hand. During these trying times we must not look the other way, we must be brave and face reality head on. The world is full of challenges and in order to thrive we must all join efforts, work together and look towards the future with optimism and excitement, because there are many breakthroughs we have yet to experience.

Since 2017, OMINA has been focused on the solutions, on the breakthroughs and on the light that darkness brings within. I am pleased to reaffirm that every day the OMINA family works towards the accomplishment of the very powerful UN 2030 Agenda. Through all of our actions we strive towards doing our part to transform the world into a place deserving of future generations, and nature itself.

OMINA Foundation is pleased to showcase, on this communication on engagement of the period 2018-2019, the actions we have taken to support the UN Global Compact, its principles and its very pertinent goals.

Once again, we reaffirm our complete and utter support to the Global Compact, the United Nations, the Sustainable Development Goals, and any other organization that works towards a better society and a better world.

Anyone who wishes, and acts for, a thriving world is welcome in the OMINA Family.

Sincerely yours,

Andrea Somma Genta
CEO & Founder
OMINA Foundation

II. Actions

For over three years now, OMINA has been challenging the status quo in the region, differentiating itself through high quality-content heavy events and innovative projects:

2018

OMINA Summit 2018: In June 2018, for the first time in Latin America, OMINA gathered in San José Costa Rica over 40 of the world's most inspiring people to explore our options for a better future. With an audience of over 500 people per day, we had the honor to learn from and share experiences with Paul Hawken, Gisele Bündchen, Cameron Saul, Claudia Donaldson, Isabella Springmuhl and many more. To know more: ominafoundation.org/omina-summit-2018/

Wellbeing Economy Alliance: As of July 2018, OMINA acts as the Latin American regional hub for WEAll. The Wellbeing Economy Alliance consists of a group of institutions, individuals, organizations, governments and civilians, that believe that to achieve national success and global progress in the 21st century we must adopt an economy that puts people and the planet first. The creation of the government chapter of WeAll, WEGov, was formally announced for the first time during the 2018 OMINA Summit. To know more: ominafoundation.org/we-all/

The Kane Abacá Project: In August 2018, Dejando Huella, a Costa Rican NGO that works with native communities, partnered with OMINA to upscale the Abaca community project -an ambitious project of agricultural diversification in remote rural areas of Costa Rica that aims to improve the life of the country's native communities- and to amplify its social and environmental impact. To know more: ominafoundation.org/abaca/

Descubre Program: In September 2018, OMINA was named part of the Descubre Program Advisory Board. Descubre is a Costa Rican inter-institutional program that promotes the diversification and attraction of investments in the rural areas. It is a public-private alliance articulated by COMEX, MAG and PROCOMER, with the participation of the private sector and the academy.

OMINA Platform: In October 2018, OMINA launched www.ominafoundation.org, a free and accesible to all platform where hundreds of hours on multiple topics such as circular economy, sustainable consumption, urban ecology, are accessed by over 1,000 users around the world.

Communication on Engagement
2018-2019

OMINA Cities Seminar: In November 2018, we held the OMINA Cities Seminar in San José, Costa Rica. Our keynote speaker, the Spanish urban ecologist Salvador Rueda, has developed a comprehensive system of urban mobility and public space to counteract pollution and the energy demand of modern cities. His proposals are already in place in cities such as Barcelona, Quito, and Buenos Aires, with impressive social and environmental results. To know more: ominafoundation.org/omina-cities-seminar/

2019

New Economies & Social Innovation Forum: In April 2019, OMINA Foundation participated in the New Economies and Social Innovation 2019 Forum held in Malaga, Spain, where more than 300 entrepreneurs, leaders, academics, politicians, activists and students focused on co-creating a better future.

Diversity Hallmark: In May 2019, OMINA Foundation became member of the Evaluating Committee of the Diversity Hallmark presented by the Diverse Chamber of Commerce of Costa Rica. The Diversity Hallmark is an initiative that seeks to certify those companies with healthy and inclusive work environments towards the LGBTIQ community. The Evaluating Committee is made up of representatives of the United Nations System in Costa Rica, the Costa Rica-USA Chamber of Commerce, the Alliance of Enterprises for Development, the Association of Homoparental Families and OMINA Foundation. To know more: ominafoundation.org/diversity_hallmark/

OMINA Circular Economy Seminar: In June 2019, OMINA presented the OMINA Circular Economy Seminar in San José, Costa Rica. The seminar exposed how the circular economy builds social, natural and economic capital, creates prosperity and reduces energy and raw materials dependence. The keynote speaker was Femke Groothuis, expert on circular economy and founder of the think tank Ex'Tax. Other speakers and panelists were executive directors of companies with circular initiatives, national and international experts and government representatives. To know more: ominafoundation.org/circular-seminar/

OMINA International Committee: In July 2019, OMINA announced its international committee in order to bring the public the most relevant themes and solutions around the world.

Communication on Engagement
2018-2019

INATEX Seminar: In September 2019, at the textile congress *INATEX 2019: Reinventing Sustainably*, OMINA Foundation's CEO, Andrea Somma, moderated the panel discussion "Entrepreneurship, sustainability and innovation". INATEX 2019 focused on sustainability, innovation, entrepreneurship and new leaderships in the textile industry and the fashion sector. To know more: ominafoundation.org/inatex/

UNESCO LAC Forum: In October 2019, OMINA Foundation was invited to present its projects on innovation, sustainability and well-being, in the Latin American Forum of UNESCO Partners that took place in Panama City. Andrea Somma, CEO of OMINA Foundation, participated in the plenary conference "Corporate Social Responsibility and Philanthropy in Latin America and the Caribbean", where she presented the work of OMINA Foundation. To know more: ominafoundation.org/forum-unesco/

Agrotransformation Event: In November 2019, OMINA Foundation was invited to participate at the Ministry of Foreign Trade event Agrotransformation 2019. OMINA had a stand at the event where we could showcase the projects we lead with minority populations throughout Costa Rica that are being provided with high quality jobs through the production and manufacturing of natural fibers in high global demand. To know more: ominafoundation.org/agrotransformacion

OMINA Ecosystem: Throughout its 3 years active, OMINA has been creating alliances with private and public actors, national and international, in order to understand the political, economical, social and environmental situation in Costa Rica and globally. Through these alliances, OMINA has been able to join efforts with different actors in order to potentiate -and not replicate- actions.

2020 - 2021

The best is yet to come.

III. Outcomes

Through the high quality-content heavy events OMINA has presented in San José, Costa Rica, **70+ international speakers** have addressed and educated an **audience of over 2,500** people from all over the world on the most pressing matters in terms of climate change and 21st century challenges.

OMINA Seminars are 3 day events, free of charge and we welcome anyone and everyone to learn how to thrive in a challenging world. We have had people attend the free seminars from Cañas, Guanacaste, a place that is around a 5 hour drive from San José. We have had **people from all over Central and South America, and Europe** joining us. Attendees also have the unique opportunity to interact with the speakers at the dinners organized after the seminars, in a much more private and casual environment where people learn and **become friends with their idols**.

At these events we have been able to meet extraordinary people doing extraordinary things. Through the OMINA Summit 2018, we met Kate Sibaja, President of Dejando Huella -an NGO working with native communities in Costa Rica. OMINA allied with Dejando Huella in order to lead the **Kane Abacá Project**. Thanks to this alliance, the Kane Abacá Project was declared a project of national interest by the Ministry of Foreign Trade and to this day it has given high quality work to over **130 native Costa Rican families** (500+ individuals) -who have seen an **increase on their monthly incomes by 85%+** - through the cultivation of abacá, the strongest natural fiber in the world. The Kane Abacá project is part of the **Descubre Portfolio**, an initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Costa Rican Promoter of Foreign Investment, that aims to bring investment to the rural areas of the country through innovative projects -Andrea Somma, OMINA CEO, sits on the **Advisory Committee of the Descubre Portfolio** representing the civil society, along with the Minister of Foreign Trade and the presidents of all the agricultural chambers of Costa Rica.

Through the participation in multiple events like the UNESCO Regional Partners Forum, INATEX 2019, Agrotransformación 2019, NESI Forum, WEAll worldwide sessions, and many other seminars and strategic meetings, OMINA has been able to build an **ecosystem of allies with over 25** national and international, public and private organizations that join efforts with OMINA in order to maximize their impact in the region. Among those allies and partners, we work hand in hand with UNESCO, The Wellbeing Economy Alliance -of which **Andrea Somma, OMINA CEO, was named Worldwide Ambassador-**, Project Drawdown, The Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica, The International Development Bank.

Communication on Engagement
2018-2019

Besides having an ecosystem of allies, OMINA also has an **International Committee** made up of the worldwide leaders on sustainability, innovation and wellbeing. This international committee is comprised of **Maxime Beaugrand**, President Macron climate advisor and Director of the Paris Office for the Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development.; **Paul Hawken**, Author of Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming; **Carmen Hijosa**, creator of PIÑATEX, an innovative natural textile made from pineapple leaf fibre; **Salvador Rueda**, creator of the Superblocks, a new mobility system; **Katherine Trebeck**, Founder of WEAll, the wellbeing economy alliance and **Oskar Metsavaht**, founder of Osklen, leader on sustainable fashion. Through this committee, that is scattered all over the world -from Brazil to Scotland-, we are able to know the most pertinent themes around sustainability, innovation and wellbeing. This way we bring the regional audiences the most relevant topics, solutions and actions that are being taken in order to turn the current situations around.

Through our website, ominafoundation.org, we welcome everyone to revisit the seminars we have presented and the projects we are currently working on. All talks, presentations and speeches of all speakers we have had the honor to host, are available on our website, for free and for everyone -there are **more than a hundred hours** of material on the most relevant subjects on sustainability and innovation around the world. We encourage people to utilize our platform as an educational platform and so far every month we have **1,000+ visits to the website**.

We have been working hard for three years, and are very proud of what we have accomplished so far. Our biggest pride is the relationships we have built along the way. Along the way we have met the most amazing, creative, caring and exciting people. We thank all the individuals and organizations that have been with us since the beginning. Together, we will achieve the common goal: **to transform the world we live on into a thriving one**.