

# **Commitment of Engagement (CEO) Report**

## **Global Utmaning**

### **Period covered by this Communication on Engagement:**

December 2018 - August 2020

### Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

A statement by the chief executive or equivalent expressing continued support for the UN Global Compact and renewing the participant's ongoing commitment to the initiative (in attachment).

### Part II. Description of Actions

A description of the practical actions that the organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact principles and to engage with the initiative. As strongly recommended the actions taken are related to one or more of the specific activities suggested. Global Utmaning is a registered Swedish civil society organization and have within the reporting period taken the following actions:

#### **Engage with Global Compact Local Networks**

Global Utmaning, wish to express its continued support for the Global Compact initiative and aims at deepening its engagement in the coming period. We aim to further deepen our engagement with the and together define where the think tank can have the largest impact and be of particular value for the initiative.

#### **Join and/or propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability**

This is the core of the think tanks work. We currently run 10 sustainability projects within the framework of four thematic but transversal programmes: Climate & Resources, Economy & Governance, Health & Welfare and Sustainable Cities. The think tank applies, in all its programmes and activities, two perspectives: Advancing local, national, regional and global good governance; and involving multi-stakeholders ie representatives from civil society, academia, business, administration and politics.

#### **Engage companies in Global Compact-related issues**

We have a wide range of partner organisations both companies, academic institutions and government agencies. In all these relations we strive to communicate the values of the principles and encourage our partners to respect these values but also to join the UN Global Compact.

#### **Participate in Global Compact global, and local events**

We have participated in the Global Compact Network Sweden kick off in februari 2019 and in the 2020 UN Global Compact 20th Anniversary Leaders Summit in june 2020.

In detail, Global Utmaning has continuously and actively promoted and encouraged the ten principles of Global Compact within our organization, with partners and within our sphere of influence:

### **Human Rights**

*#1 "We require adherence to the United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights within our sphere of influence"*

- We actively support and promote the idea of everyone's equal value in our action as a consumer, when choosing our partners and other processes and programs we take part in, as well as the other values integrated in the Universal declaration of Human rights.
- We strive to choose our partners considering their values, and make sure they are in line with Global Utmaning's visions of a sustainable society.

*#2 "We work to ensure that we are not complicit in any human right abuses"*

- We strive to purchase "fair trade" products and services whenever possible.
- We continuously work on increasing our and our partners awareness on human rights issues through using our power as a consumer and an influential actor in our field of work, and strive to be associated with companies that have codes of conducts that match our high ambitions in promoting human rights.

### **Labor**

*#3 "We respect the rights of our employees to form unions and participate in collective bargaining"*

- The employees at Global Utmaning have the right and are encouraged to form labor unions as well as having a high standard in working conditions in accordance with Swedish legislation.

*#4 "We do not allow forced or compulsory labor in any aspect within our operations or supply chain"*

- Employees are free to leave their employment after an agreed time of notice, regulated in their contracts.
- A balance between work and free time is strived for. More hectic periods are compensated by less hectic periods when the day may be shortened, i.e. flexible work schedules.

#5 *"We do not allow child labor within our operations or supply chain"*

- No person under the minimum legal age for employment is or may be employed at Global Utmaning.
- Should illegal child labor be found in our sphere of influence it is our ambition to demand corrective actions or determinate cooperation with that partner.

#6 *"We do not allow discrimination within our workplace in respect of employment and occupation"*

- We strive to create a work environment where everyone feel welcome and accepted, regardless of ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, age or gender.
- We have recently made a gender and diversity analyses of our organization in order to improve our conditions for an inclusive organisation. We constantly strive to improve internal structure and external communication in thies field.

### **Environment**

#7 *"We take a precautionary approach to environmental challenges"*

- Throughout all our activities we actively discuss on how to contribute to a sustainable society with long-term solutions, internally as well as externally with our partners.
- Our travel policy promotes travelling by train or subway rather than by airplane or car, when rational.

#8 *"We promote greater environmental responsibility"*

- Throughout all our activities we actively discuss on how to contribute to a sustainable society with long-term solutions, internally as well as externally with our partners.
- We participate in seminars, networks and take part of the most recent reasearch to increase our knowledge on the subject.

#9 *"We proactively encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies"*

- We closely monitor the development on environmentally friendly technologies to be able to promote it whenever possible. Global Utmaning emphasizes the technological development as one of the cornerstones of the solutions to the challange of high and arising CO2 emissions and its environmental consequences.
- We strive to use, whenever possible, environmentally friendly goods and services.

### **Anti-Corruption**

#10 *"We do not tolerate fraud, corruption, extortion or bribery in any form within our operations or supply chain"*

- It would be against Swedish legislation and the code of conduct at Global Utmaning to engage in any of the illegal actions named in principle 10.
- If any of the above mentioned violations would occur within Global Utmaning's sphere of influence, we would demand corrective actions or determinate cooperation with that partner.

Below are the most relevant qualitative and/or quantitative indicators to measure the outcome of the activities described in Part II above. The actions taken by Global Utmaning throughout the reporting period has resulted in the following measures:

### **Number of new UN Global Compact business participants resulting from your organization's promotional efforts**

It is difficult to control the number of new UN Global Compact business participants resulting from our efforts formally. However, we know that all the following of our partners agree to the values expressed in the principles at least informally. Those can have been subject to new UN Global Compact participants, company codes of conducts or sustainability strategies. In addition, our 6 employees, 10 board members and 100 senior advisors all comply with and sign off on the principles.

#### *Our partners:*

Baltic Sea States Subregional  
Cooperation  
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation  
Council of the Baltic Sea States  
EU:s Interreg Baltic Sea Region  
Programme  
Folkuniversitetet  
Forum Syd  
Horizon 2020  
HSB  
Hyresgästföreningen  
KFO  
Mistra Urban Future  
Nordic Council of Ministers  
Frejas Fondation

Sweden International cooperation  
development agency  
Swedish Institute of  
Södra Skogsägarna  
Vinnova  
Vision  
White arkitekter  
LO  
Signify  
kamtech  
Telge Energi  
Tieto

### **Expertise provided by your organization to further the aims of Global Compact Local Network in your country**

The think tanks engagement with our Global Compact Local Network is rather recent. However, we intend to become a much more active participant and will shortly together with the representatives for the local office define within which fields to scale up our engagement and where the think tank can make the best contribution and largest impact.

### **Partnerships formalized with mutual aims to advance the UN Global Compact principles**

Within this widened and deepened engagement with the UN system we are focusing on a number of paths where we estimate having the greatest impact:

- We have further recently been assigned consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). We have prepared statements during the Sixty-third session of the Commission on the Status of

Women (CSW63), 11-22 March 2019 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, on the theme "Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls". Organisation of side events by Health & Welfare and Sustainable Cities programmes.

- We have participated in the COP25 in Madrid. Together with the Nordic Council of Ministers we organized the no-fly parallel conference *Nordic Climate Action Weeks* in Stockholm, December 2 - 13.
- We have a general cooperation agreement with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) since 2014, formalised by MOU in 2016 within the field of sustainable urban development. We participated in the World Urban Forum organised by UN-Habitat in February 2020 in Qatar.
- We have on the initiative of the UN Secretary general establish a Local 2030 Hub - Sweden local 2030 hub - to gather stakeholders working with localizing Sdgs in Sweden and globally.
- In addition to our Global Compact engagement we are also members in the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Nordic Countries since 2017.