

COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS (COP)

Freewa Project d.o.o.



Period covered by this Communication on Progress

From: **17.2.2020.** To: **17.2.2021.**

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

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Freewa Project d.o.o. 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 Progress with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Progress, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andjelko Novak', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

FREEWA[®]
FREEWA PROJECT d.o.o.
ZAGREB, OIB 81089462060

Andjelko Novak
Manager and owner

Part II. Description of Actions

Attracting new participants from both public and corporate sector to the UN Global Compact through the development of sustainability partnership projects that are transparent and beneficial to the city, region and/or greater community.

Activity 1. Freewa IoT bottle for water analyzing and purification with GPS locator & panic button

Freewa Project owns a Freewa bottle and Freewa application for mapping water sources*, enabling users to enter locations and water source descriptions, making the collected data available to general public. Since users do not have the information on the water quality at the located source nor do they have the tool to analyze it, we have recognized the need and opportunity to create an IoT bottle which will provide data on water quality tendency to the Freewa app, based on physiochemical parameters and geolocation of the taken sample.

In the first stage of this project (which ended in spring 2020) we've managed to develop the prototype of the UVC based filtering device that could be used with and without the Freewa bottle. However, due to the pandemic we were unable to test the prototype of the filtering device since the only laboratory in the country able to do the testing and certification is in Andrija Štampar Institute whose all available resources were engaged on PCR testing and generally on pandemic related issues. As a consequence we still haven't tested the device which implies that we cannot produce initial quantities.

**at the moment there are 2.315 sources mapped (a slight increase compared to 2020)*

Activity 2. – Less water in plastic = less plastic in water

Freewa has developed a concept which tackles the problem of plastic waste in Croatian National Parks/other tourist venues (with large circulation of visitors) in cooperation with the National Parks and Ministry of the Environment and Energy. The main aim of the activity is to reduce the quantities of packaged water in plastic bottles brought to the parks. The mechanism is the following: whoever comes with the plastic water bottle to the entrance of the park is given a recyclable Freewa glass bottle and asked to either pour the water from the plastic bottle into Freewa bottle or pour water from the source in it at designated spots /water sources in the park. These spots will both be marked on the spot and available on the Freewa free app for mapping of freshwater sources. Plastic bottles collected at the entrance will be recycled.

At the exit of the park, visitors could either give Freewa bottle back or buy it. Those that will be returned, will be washed and offered to a new group of visitors. Additional staff needed to carry out the activity (distribution and collection of bottles, washing them) will be disabled persons living in the vicinity of the park(s).

The activity under the same headline has been adjusted for HORECA, but currently we are in the process of finding the right partners to execute it. The idea is that each hotel room should be equipped with glass Freewa eco bottle which the guests will be offered for free during their stay and which they can refill at designed spots (in hotel or at the source, urban or rural). If they'd want to keep the bottles they can buy them, and if not, they can give them back (as is the case with bathrobes which you can use, but if you'd want to take them with you, you'll have to pay for them).

Due to the pandemic none of this activities have been executed, however they may be carried out in near future depending on the situation and with, hopefully more support from the National parks and Ministry since the problem of plastic waste remains and is growing.

Activity 3. Curriculum on socially responsible entrepreneurship in cooperation with The Zagreb School of Economics and Management

Due to the pandemic many of the extra curriculum activities have been either cancelled or postponed since The School of Economics and Management dealt mainly with the internal issues, such as the organization of on line model of education which was not used previously.

Activity 4. Odd and The Kedgers, responsible educational mission – recognition of Freewa as one of the companies contributing to SDG's

We were glad that the Odd and The Kedgers, a responsible educational mission around the International Sustainable Development Goals (by Kedge Business School, <https://oddthekedgers.wixsite.com/website/post/freewa-advocates-less-water-in-plastic-to-have-less-plastic-in-water>) selected Freewa Project as one of the companies contributing to the SDG's.

Their representatives visited us in October 2020 and after learning about us (what we do and what we plan, our mission, vision and goals) prepared and released the final Article on their web page and social network profiles to be shared by their numerous followers.

Activity 5. Donation programme for Petrinja

In cooperation with social cooperative Humana Nova (<https://www.humananova.org/hr/home/>) Freewa bottles are to be distributed free of charge to people in Petrinja and Sisak (which were hit by the devastating earthquake on 29th of December 2020). Humana Nova and Freewa are to donate a cistern of drinking water along with a substantial amount of bottles (as there have been cases of water pollution seemingly caused by the aftermath of the series of earthquakes). Cooperation between Freewa and social cooperative Humana Nova started three years ago and has been extending ever since. At first they were sewing the pouches for our bottles (out of the recycled material they collect on several locations in Croatia), then they've also started to distribute our bottles to some of

their clients and suppliers (majority of which also contribute to SDG's putting an emphasize of CSR), now we are cooperating on the donation programme for Petrinja.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

The estimated outcomes of the enlisted activities:

Activity 1. IoT bottle

Final outcome of the activity should have been the production of the new IoT bottle prototype. However, we've managed to create the prototype of the filtering device but were unable to test it due to the pandemic (the responsible lab could not do the testing and certification as their absolute priorities were PCR testings).

Activity 2. Less water in plastic = less plastic in water

Since only Plitvice National Park has 7.500 visitors a day, if every third person does not bring plastic bottle into the park it will imply 2.500 plastic bottles less in the park. And 2.500 plastic bottles recycled. If we calculate this on the level of two high season months *it may imply 150.000 plastic bottles recycled and not wasted*. However, this year due to the spread of the 2019-nCoVn virus the number of tourists may be severely diminished, so that the it is even harder to make any serious estimates. The outcome of HORECA activities depend on final negotiations with selected hotel chains. Hopefully at least one of the hotel chains (such as are Valamar Riviera with total of 4.735 rooms on different locations in Croatia) should be interested in the described activity. If agreed our eco glass bottles may be distributed throughout this large network which would substantially increase the usage of tap water instead of the bottled one. **Unfortunately, this activity has been put on-hold due to the pandemic.**

Activity 3. Curriculum on socially responsible entrepreneurship

This activity has been postponed due to the pandemic.

Activity 4. Freewa Project contribution to SDG's by Odd and The Kedgers

As the result of this activity final Article has been posted on Kedge Business School web page and social network profiles – article attached.

Activity 5. Donation programme for Petrinja

Still work in progress.