

## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Fair Trade Lebanon



Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: April 2019

To: April 2021

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

Please use the box below to include the statement of continued support signed by your organization's Chief Executive or equivalent.

29-4-2021

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Fair Trade Lebanon 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 any feedback on its contents. In this Communication of Engagement, 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,

Samir Abdelmalak

President

Part II. Description of Actions Please use the box below to describe the actions your organization has taken in support of the Global Compact. It is strongly recommended that the actions taken are related to one or more of the specific activities suggested. Please refer to the complete list of suggested activities for your type of organization found here.

Throughout the years, Fair Trade Lebanon has strived to improve the living of the disadvantaged people in rural area by building their capacities and improving their productions. Here are a couple of examples on the action taken the last 2 years that meet the SDGs.

***SDG2: Zero hunger***

During the terrible financial and economical crisis that Lebanon is going through, FTL has distributed food baskets in partnership with other NGOs to families in need. By doing this, we fed more than 740 families while supporting coops that supplied us with the food products.

***SDG 5: Gender Equality***

80% of the beneficiaries that Fair Trade Lebanon is supporting are women, individuals or cooperatives and SMEs led by women. This gender equality also applies in the internal organization of FTL as the top positions are occupied 50% by women and 50% by men.

***SDG 8: Economic growth***

FTL is building clusters to support more than 100 companies and cooperatives in accessing new international markets, giving them access to finance and building market linkages. On another hand, we strengthen the food value chains, fruits & vegetables, olive oil, zaatar, small ruminants by building the capacities of more than 2,000 beneficiaries from different cooperatives around Lebanon through more than 500 trainings (Access to market and Marketing, Safety and Quality Control, Management and Teamwork, Ethics and Child Labor..)

***SDG 12- Responsible consumption***

Throughout the years, FTL has always thrived to raise on Fair Trade principles and responsible consumptions. The last two years, despite the Covid19 constraints, sessions were given online to students of NDU and USJ universities.

***SDG 17 – Partnership Forums***

After the blast of the 4<sup>th</sup> of August, FTL joined forces with a group of NGOs to help families that were affected by the tragedy. We also participated to several UN Global Compact meetings. FTL is an active Steering Committee member at LHDF (Lebanon Humanitarian and Development NGO Forum).

***SDG 13- Climate action***

One of Fairtrade principles is protecting the environment. Thus, FTL sorts the waste in its premises. We have partnered with a recycling company that collects all waste and recycles them. We have rehabilitated the offices and switched to energy- saving light bulbs