



CARE INTERNATIONAL IN VIETNAM

Hanoi Representative Office

9th Floor, CDC Building
25 Le Dai Hanh Street
Hai Ba Trung District, Hanoi, Vietnam
Tel:(+84)24 37161930

Fax:(+84)24 37161935

Ho Chi Minh City Office

Room 03
81 Truong Dinh Street
Ward 6, District 3
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Tel: (+84)24 37161930

info@care.org.vn | www.care.org.vn

May 20th, 2021

To our Stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that CARE International in Vietnam reaffirms its participation and 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 on 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,

Le Kim Dung

Country Director

CARE International in Vietnam

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.

Human Rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Programming of CARE International in Vietnam is underpinned by a human right-based approach.

Specifically, we work to promote and protect the rights of disadvantaged and marginalized groups including remote ethnic minority women (rural), and women factory workers in garment sector and gig economy workers (urban). As we explore the collaboration with businesses, human rights is one of key areas to be examined under our due diligence process.

Labour

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour;

and Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

The garment and textile industry is one of the key industries in Vietnam with the second-largest export turnover in the country. In 2019, the industry's export value contributed to 16% of total GDP. There are approximately 2.5 million workers in garment sector in Vietnam. More than 80% of them are women, most of whom are young and migrants from rural areas. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have been devastating, particularly for workers in this sector. COVID-19 is the not the only challenge facing the global garment industry. Automation and technological change also presents a significant transformation for the industry. CARE's Made by Women (MbW) Impact Growth Strategy is a regional strategy which harnesses the efforts of multiple CARE offices and partners to multiply impact and address social injustice issues for women working in the garment sector. The strategy was re-designed in 2020 taking into consideration the rapidly evolving context, including but not limited to COVID-19 and seeks three outcomes:

- Empowered women – strengthening the voice and collective action of women workers and their organisations
- Protected workers – strengthening the legal and social protection of worker's human rights by governments
- Ethical supply chains – promoting respect for worker's human rights by businesses in the supply chain.

CVN is committed to aligning our strategy and contributing to the achievement of this regionally-agreed strategy to multiply CARE's impact and address social injustice for women working in the garment sector.

Also, the gig economy is a growing market and one in which CVN sees an opportunity to improve worker rights. Evidence suggests that the gig economy may be experienced very differently in developed and developing country settings, owing to the fundamentally different employment landscapes. In developed countries, the gig economy has been described as reflecting the increasing encroachment of non-standard forms of employment, and furthering the erosion of workers' access to labour and social protections. In developing country contexts, gig economy jobs are likely to be on par with other casual and informal jobs, which constitute most employment, and have been perceived by some workers as offering advantages in comparison to other economic opportunities available to them. CARE Vietnam also works with platform workers to improve working conditions, protections, and benefits.

Environment

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility;

and Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Climate change and environmental protection is one of key programmatic priorities for CARE in Vietnam. We integrate climate change responses and environmental protection in all relevant projects targeting ethnic minority women and urban female migrants. In addition, we spare no effort to promote green office and sustainable behaviors among CARE Vietnam staff and partners, e.g. no plastic and recycling.

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

CARE in Vietnam has Zero tolerance policies towards fraud and corruption. This is clearly communicated among staff, business partners and other stakeholders that CARE works with. Actions include: having a strong policy on anti-fraud and corruption; regular trainings for staff and partners on these issues; institutionalizing anti-corruption in partnership agreements, code of conduct and other documents; and maintaining an effective reporting mechanism in the event of fraud and corruption.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes Please use the box below to include the most relevant qualitative and/or quantitative indicators to measure the outcome of the activities described in Part II above.

Below are some highlights of our work by June 2020:

	Reached 1,004 COVID-19 pandemic affected people with economic recovery assistance, indirectly benefiting a further 3,012 people
	Reached 76,300 people directly to support women and girl's rights to a life free from violence, indirectly benefiting a further 377,100 people
	Reached 17,700 people to build their resilience to climate change, indirectly benefiting a further 52,000 people
	Reached 11,700 women and girls directly to promote their access to and control of economic resources, indirectly benefiting a further 32,400 people

- CARE Vietnam has been working in partnership with over 15 businesses including both private sector donors and implementing partners in the following sectors: 1) Agriculture: Women's rights in coffee, tea and banana value chain; 2) Garment industry: Dignified work (working conditions, women's leadership, collective bargaining, protection from sexual harassment), 3) Finance & Banking sector (access to financial service), and 4) Gig economy (women informal/platform workers)
- Engagement of Global Compact Network in Vietnam: Our participation in Global Compact Network the past year is limited but information from the network is very useful which helps inform our programming in the country.
- On policy and advocacy front, CARE Vietnam has been very active in advocating gender equality in the Labour Code revision with the focus on: i/harmonization of retirement age; ii/equal pay for work of equal value; iii/equal employment and sharing unpaid care work responsibilities and iv/prevention of SH at workplace. We are also a member of the Public-Private Partnership Working Group for the sustainable development of Vietnam's textile and footwear industries (PPP Working Group) and advocate for just implementation of new free trade agreements including the EUVFTA.