



Knowledge/Innovation/Strategies

**MANAGEMENT
CLUB**

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement:

From 2019

To 2021

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chairman of the Management Board

17.07.2021

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Knowledge, innovation and strategies management club - KISMC 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 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,

Dimitar Hristov

Chairman of the Management Board

Part II. Description of Actions

We hereby confirm the following actions taken by our organization, as an NGO in relation to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles:

KISMC main principle and aim is to transfer, promote and introduce novel methods, concepts, methodologies, models for business, education and research in Bulgaria. Our main focus is on innovation development and enhanced competitiveness of the organisations in our country by implementing innovations. Our mission is also to inform about the most advanced trends and challenges at global level. We distribute newsletters every three months and make regular blog posts and articles on our website and on the websites of our strategic partners – Cluster Sofia knowledge city, State university of

library studies and IT, Prof. Ivan Apostolov private high school, etc. Thus, we cover diverse type of organisations and industries.

We engage with the Global Compact Network in Bulgaria by involving them in our initiatives, projects, events – e.g., BASET conference - Investing in social challenges – on 24th June 2019 where we discussed and presented challenges for sustainability, education, social entrepreneurship.

Join and propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability – we are active in Erasmus+ projects under KA2 Strategic partnerships with the main scope of development of education and training:

BASET (2017-1-BG01-KA204-036360) is a project in the field of Adult training – the aim is to develop training toolkits for social entrepreneurship with two main target groups – trainers and investors of social entrepreneurs. The project finished in September 2029. There was a series of events, discussions and round tables on the topic of social entrepreneurship and start-ups fighting with climate change, social challenges, poverty, education, etc.

i2SustainIT (Project No. 2019-1-UK01-KA204-061873) is a project whose overall goal of the project is to maximise the understanding and transfer of knowledge on impact, impact investment and sustainability to tackle societal and environmental challenges.

Fight Climate change (Project No. 2020-1-UK01-KA204-079203). The main goal of the project is to produce a set of empowering tools to contribute to the fight against climate change through collective innovation and efforts. The specific objectives of the project are structured as follow:

1. Educate educators on the topic of climate change and the UN SDGs and equip them with interactive training instrument to embed within their trainings.
2. Upskill entrepreneurs and SMEs owners/ managers on how to use the innovation management process in developing their sustainability strategies to contribute to the fight against climate change.
3. Guide entrepreneurs and SMEs owners/ managers on becoming agents of change for their colleagues/ employees and transforming their business culture and values to eco ones.
4. Provide a user-friendly digital platform to educators, entrepreneurs, SMEs and individuals to measure their carbon footprint and provide valuable tips on how to help reduce the negative impact on the environment and support the fight against climate change.

The UN SDG are at the core of the project and we focus our work to achieve the above set objectives.

Smart technologies by design thinking (Project No. 2019-1-BG01-KA202-062298) - The main objective of the project is to develop a knowledge and skills development package for the target group of „smart city innovators” to drive smart disruptive technology for the cities’ needs. It covers all main aspects of such developments including social, environmental and technological challenges and solutions to be provided.

We are very much engaged with the concepts of smart city, knowledge city and Industry 4.0. In this respect we implement two projects:

TransIT (Project No. 2019-1-HU01-KA202-061224) - Work-based management training kit for the transition to Industry 4.0. The project develops and provides innovative curricula, educational methods and training courses that guarantee an effective transition to Industry 4.0 standards. It provides a solution for company leaders, industry executives, HR professionals, SMEs and VET centers.

Upskilling Lab 4.0 (Project No. 2019-1-BG01-KA204-062308) – the project outcomes are providing skill improvement opportunities to companies’ staff (managers and employees) in order to connect international start-ups, scaleups, and established companies operating in specific verticals with focus on modern technologies and innovation (Industry 4.0) through a robust model of collaboration under the paradigm of open innovation.

Through our projects and research, we engage companies in the above issues and tackle such challenges as environmental, educational and social inclusion. We further explore and inform about the Sustainable development goals and the Ten principles. We encourage businesses to take further and stronger steps and roles to embrace and follow activities that are aligned with the global values, goals and challenges. Business organizations are the main driver of economies and social welfare. As such they are in good position to act upon fighting common problems and provide solutions and/or encourage other to take further actions.

Join and/or support special initiatives and work streams related to innovation as our area of expertise especially in relation to new technologies, digital skills, creativity, social entrepreneurship, social inclusion, business-academia relations.

In summary, we take up actions and activities to raise awareness of our community, members, stakeholders, partners; we also have specific and particular projects and initiative to provide materials, outcomes, information and encourage people act and embrace the social responsibility.

We promote and disseminate the events, initiatives and activities of the Bulgarian Network of the UN Global Compact and participate in Global Compact local events of the Bulgarian network and initiatives like: *‘Proud of my parents’ work’ and Bazaar of professions projects; The responsible choice.*

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

Expertise provided by KISMC in terms of quality education, sustainability, economic growth and innovation to further the aims of Global Compact Local Network in Bulgaria.

Project partnerships formalized with mutual aims to advance the UN Global Compact principles – we have concluded 3 projects in the past two years related directly or indirectly to the UNGC principles.

We have developed also series of case studies and showcased specific approaches, social innovation and tools to improve the competitiveness and social responsibility of Bulgarian companies through innovation and new clean and digital technologies under the development of our various projects.

We sent out newsletters – at least four per year reaching the audience of our members and stakeholders among which at least 50% are business organisations – thus we reach more than 1000 stakeholders in total.

We have raised awareness about UNGC and the local network through our social media, including our 3000 subscribers, social media followers and members of the organization.

KISMC is a member of the Cluster Sofia Knowledge city with focus on development of smart cities and knowledge cities in partnership with Vienna Knowledge city driving forward to sustainable development of cities and innovative clean technologies.

Organisation of at least three workshops per year with foreign companies in the innovation and research scope. During the Covid-19 pandemic situation we organized a series of webinars, discussions with stakeholders, target groups and members related to the projects and initiatives of the organization: we reached out around 300 people in total – 3 webinars in 2020 and in 2021 so far with average of 50 participants.

Signature and stamp

