

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)



Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 2 October 2021

To: 2 October 2023

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.

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

We also pledged to participate in and engage with the UN Global Compact in the following way(s):

- To support and facilitate Businesses that support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges." (Principle 7)
- To collectively promote business "undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility" (Principle 8); and
- To encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies (Principle 9).

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,

TAKAHASHI Yasuo
Executive Director
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan

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](#).*

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) has promoted the GC and its principles through the following activities:

- Collaboration with Global Compact Network Japan (GCNJ) to promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among business and other stakeholders in Japan and beyond through:
 - ✧ A series of joint researches on the status of SDGs awareness and integration into business strategies among GCNJ member companies and organisations to understand the overall picture of SDG implementation taken by Japanese private sector. Those results were compiled into a joint report, which also includes the status of GCNJ members' efforts on important themes of the day (e.g. ESG and COVID-19 response) as well as interview articles with GCNJ member companies and organisations. The reports can be accessed from below links:
 - SDGs and Business to Overcome the COVID-19 Pandemic: Actions by Companies and Organisations in Japan (<https://www.iges.or.jp/en/pub/sdgs-and-business-covid-en/en>)
 - SDGs and Business in the ESG era: Actions by Companies and Organisations in Japan (<https://www.iges.or.jp/en/pub/en-sdgs-and-business-esg/en>)
 - ✧ Disseminated the key findings from the above-mentioned joint research reports through invited events and lectures, media briefings and articles by other organizations (e.g. HLPF/APFSD side events, International CSR & Sustainability Summit 2020, WBCSD website)
- Various supports to GCNJ and its member companies and organisations to promote their SDG implementation and disclosure efforts through;
 - ✧ Being a board member of GCNJ (IGES president) and a member of GCNJ SDGs Taskforce (IGES researcher)
 - ✧ Regularly participating in GCNJ study groups on SDGs, ESG, Reporting, etc. and shared knowledge and experiences that IGES has acquired through its own research activities
 - ✧ providing information in GCNJ monthly meetings for members
 - ✧ Helping GCNJ representative build strategies and suggestions to participate in the SDGs Roundtable hosted by the Japanese government.

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.

As a result of the above-mentioned activities, IGES has contributed to the increased recognition of GC 10 principles and SDGs among Japanese business and beyond through several outcomes witnessed so far, including: increased media coverage, invited symposium, events and lectures, as well as a growing number of business participants and membership in UNGC/GCNJ networks. More details are as follows:

- ✧ Witnessed the significant increased number of new UNGC/GCNJ membership in this two years
- ✧ Increased media coverage on the key findings from the IGES-GCNJ joint research in key Japanese newspapers and online articles (approx. more than 20 times).
- ✧ Increased number of invited symposiums, events and lectures on the key findings from the IGES-GCNJ joint research (approx. more than 20 times).
- ✧ During 2017 – 2019, IGES conducted more than 40 lectures in Asia,
- ✧ Increased number of partnerships formalised with mutual aims to advance the GC 10 principles and SDG implementation through joint research and participation to GCNJ working groups