



COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

The Nawaya Network

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement [Ideally the two years prior to this report]

From: [August 2019]

To: [August 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.

Dear Stakeholders,

It has been an honor for The Nawaya Network to be part of the United Nations Global Compact. We have been and remain fully committed to the main principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment, and Anti-Corruption.

Below we have outlined the main areas of our work and how they relate to the Global Compact Commitments and to the Sustainable Development Goals.

We look forward to continuing our efforts to promote these principles in our community and the wider network.

Sincerely,

Zeina Saab
Founder & Director



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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](#).*

Nawaya's Story:

In 2009, a 14-year-old girl named Nadeen, living in a remote village in Lebanon, approached Nawaya's future founder, Zeina, and began showing her sketches of dresses she had drawn. Nadeen's designs really impressed her, and made her realize that hidden talents and potential exist in even the most marginalized youth - they just needed access to the right resources to thrive. Because of this serendipitous encounter, Nawaya was established three years later, and Zeina went back to find her to enroll her in a fashion school in Beirut. Nadeen graduated in 2016 and is now a talented designer with a promising path ahead of her, while Nawaya continues to empower thousands of others like her.

Nawaya's Programs:

The Generation of Innovation Leaders Program - In Partnership with UNICEF Lebanon:

Since 2016, and through a partnership with UNICEF Lebanon, Nawaya has supported upwards of 6,000 youth across Lebanon through its entrepreneurship program and the Career Path Program.

The entrepreneurship program aims at teaching youth how to use their talents and skills to generate an income. By focusing on design thinking, innovation, creativity and business development, youth come up with innovative micro-enterprises that strengthen their livelihoods.

The entrepreneurship program promotes the following SDGs:

- ✓SDG 1: No Poverty
- ✓SDG 4: Quality Education
- ✓SDG 5: Gender Equality
- ✓SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

The Career Path Program launched following the Beirut explosions in August 2020, and aims at equipping university graduates with soft-skills necessary in the workplace, career coaching, and hands-on internships while receiving a monthly stipend for the three-months-duration of the program.

It promotes the following SDGs:

- ✓SDG 1: No Poverty
- ✓SDG 4: Quality Education
- ✓SDG 5: Gender Equality
- ✓SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth



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Through the Generation of Innovation Leaders program, Nawaya has launched several events and initiatives that continue supporting youth beyond their involvement with the program itself:

- ✓ Competitions for advanced level entrepreneurs to access additional coaching and funding
 - ✓ Events that offer networking opportunities and visibility for entrepreneurs and other youth
 - ✓ Events that offer sales opportunities for youth
 - ✓ Mentorship linkages
 - ✓ Townhall Sessions
 - ✓ A Facebook support group
- ★ *In 2020, and with the spread of the COVID19 pandemic, some of these activities were adapted to an online format to ensure the safety and health of staff, participants, and attendees.*

SE Factory Coding Bootcamp:

With 5,000 job openings in the Lebanese digital sector annually, you would expect that the 4,000 computer science graduates would easily find employment opportunities. Unfortunately, though, most graduates do not have the **high-caliber technical skills** that employees are looking for, while most employers do not invest in training fresh graduates. This results in hundreds of graduates getting employed in unrelated positions, while others leave the country.

Nawaya's answer to this gap is SE Factory. SE Factory is a coding bootcamp that develops the technical and soft skills of youth from various socio-economic backgrounds across Lebanon. Via in class and online courses, SE Factory seeks to make youth more employable, filling the big demand locally and regionally, and turning Lebanon into a hub for tech talent. So far, 90% of our graduates have become employed.

SE Factory promotes the following SDGs:

- ✓ SDG 1: No Poverty
- ✓ SDG 4: Quality Education
- ✓ SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Tafawoq - in partnership with Swiss Contact

Tafawoq is a four year program in partnership with Swiss Contact. The program aims at growing the local economy in Beirut by providing some job opportunities to youth post-coaching sessions and enhancing the business skills of various MSEs to improve their viability.

The program works around these four axes to reach the desired outcomes:

- ✓ **Business Support Center:** is a hub for local MSEs in targeted areas around Beirut to access HR, accounting, marketing, social media and other business services provided by Tafawoq.
- ✓ **Business Solution:** is a reliable, quality centric online platform for service requests, service providers, and the labor market to connect, request and access services.
- ✓ **Business Training:** aims at building the capacities of MSEs to elevate their soft skills and give them an edge to compete in the market.
- ✓ **Employment Office:** Aims at building the capacities of youth from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds in Beirut and Mount Lebanon through one-on-one coaching, apprenticeship and the



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provision of an employment office which connects youths benefiting from this program with MSEs looking for employees or workers.

Tafawoq promotes the below SDGs:

- ✓SDG 1: No Poverty
- ✓SDG 4: Quality Education
- ✓SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

The Action for Rural Economic Development Program, ARED - in partnership with John Paul II and GVC

The Action for Rural Economic Development, ARED program, in partnership with GVC and John Paul II , is a program that aims at contributing to the social stability in Lebanon, by promoting local development, improving the socio-economic conditions and reducing the levels of conflict in the North East Bekaa.

The program targets women and youth through income generation and job opportunities, through environmentally sustainable agriculture and efficient food processing, leading to improved quality, diversification and resilience in the local economy and regional competitiveness in domestic and international markets.

The program also aims at strengthening local governance through participatory multi-stakeholder dialogue, improved services and linkages, while promoting social cohesion.

ARED promotes the below SDGs:

- ✓SDG 1: No Poverty
- ✓SDG 4: Quality Education
- ✓SDG 5: Gender Equality
- ✓SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- ✓SDG12: Responsible Consumption and Production



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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.

Entrepreneurship:

- 6,881 Youth Trained
- 91 Training Locations across Lebanon
- 61% females of all youth trained - Entrepreneurship Program
- 1,048 teams incubated - Entrepreneurship Program
- 929 enterprises launched, 89% of the 1048 teams incubated - Entrepreneurship Program
- 67% of enterprises reached 6 months post-incubation were generating revenue - Entrepreneurship Program
- 845,310 USD Total revenue generated by enterprises reached 6 months post-incubation - Entrepreneurship Program
- 243 USD Average Monthly revenue generated by enterprises reached 6 months post-incubation - Entrepreneurship Program

Career Path Program:

- 83 Youth Trained
- 61.4% Females
- 50.6% of Participants were Affected by the Beirut blasts

SE Factory:

1. 400+ Youth Trained
2. 90% Employed
3. 60% Working Remotely