

07-06-2022

H.E. Ban Ki-moon

Secretary-General

United Nations

New York, NY 10017

USA

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I am pleased to confirm that Global Women's Social Enterprise supports the ten principles of the Global Compact with respect to human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption by means of a strong responsibility in implementing them through our activities. With this communication, we express our intent to advance those principles within our sphere of influence. In point of fact, we are committed to making the UNGC and its principles part of the strategy, culture and day-to-day operations of our company, and to engaging in collaborative projects which advance the broader development goals of the United Nations, particularly the Sustainable Development Goals.

GWSE was born to provide to women and girls in developing countries, notably in Africa and Asia, the possibility to succeed and be the architect of their own future. In order to achieve this purpose, we are establishing projects focused on education, entrepreneurship and economic empowerment. The implementation of the educational area originally started with reading activities for young women across Africa to help them improve their educational and socio-economic status. The projects progressed and evolved since today under the name of STEAM, pursuing the aim to engage more girls in scientific and artistic subjects and give them the tools to develop a critical thinking attitude. Correspondingly, the will to make available to women the tools to sustain and empower themselves economically through social entrepreneurship activities lead to the creation of the SocEnt (Social Entrepreneurship Development) project. The aforementioned activity commenced as a simple sharing of information and inputs related to entrepreneurship theme until it evolved into a SocEnt mentoring program in order to give to the women participating a concrete guidance into the implementation of their ideas. Moreover, in 2020 this possibility was extended to supporting women in India to start a skills development program that provides sanitary pad making workshops in order to help address the poverty, hygiene and reproductive health issues, but also educate and develop social entrepreneurship skills.

All mentioned activities are supported by a strong network of strategic partners to ensure that our projects are relevant and straightforward in their fulfilment. Due to their commitment, financial, social and spiritual support to involve these women in the social and economic evolution of their countries, we decided to collaborate with local organizations that established programs more focused on the leadership and socio-economic aspects. A meaningful result of this collaboration is increase of women who are now able to have social enterprises, develop diverse skills and become more independent. These women also go on to gather local experts and influential figures in their fields of business and entrepreneurship with the aim to reshape and analyze the trends in their communities and present new ideas by means of showcase their projects. Coincidentally, the partnership with a pensioner group on Africa-the Zion Women Group, gives us the opportunity to widen our area of inclusivity considering their commitment in social and entrepreneurship activities with adult and senior women lacking in access to technology, resources and facing many barriers that exclude them gaining the support and help they need. Some of these include age, lack of stable income, jobs and health reasons to name a few.

Global Women's Social Enterprise will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders, partners and the general public.

As a key requirement for participation in the UNGC, we share our Communication of Engagement (COE) that describes our organization's efforts to implement the above-mentioned principles. We support public accountability and transparency, and therefore commit to report on progress within one year of joining the UNGC, and annually thereafter according to the Global Compact policy.

We wish to avail of this letter to thank the UN Global Compact for the many engaging and valuable events that we have been able to participate in, we also thank our volunteers, our partners and all the people who have demonstrated interest towards our empowerment initiatives and activities.

Sincerely yours,

Global Women's Social Enterprise