

AIESEC Communication on Engagement (COE)

Covering the period from January 2020 to December 2021

May 25, 2022

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that AIESEC International reaffirms its support for 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 for the year of 2020 and 2021. 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 and the measurements of outcomes 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Louise Tina Kim".

Louise Tina Kim
Global President, AIESEC



ABOUT AIESEC AND ITS COMMITMENT TO THE GLOBAL COMPACT

AIESEC is a global youth-led organization striving to achieve peace and fulfillment of humankind's potential. The actions taken by the organization to support the Global Compact principles and to engage with the initiative are being currently delivered through the Global Volunteer Program and several Engage with AIESEC initiatives of AIESEC together with our corporate partners and more than 30,000 young people that form the active membership of AIESEC today.

We believe that the youth are an integral part in achieving the SDGs, thus since March 2016 AIESEC has been implementing a varied range of actions related to the role of Youth regarding the Global Goals. We not only engage Young people with our activities, but also we develop Partnerships that allow us to have a deeper reach on society.

These actions aim to raise awareness on the different topics covered by the UN 2030 agenda, and to incentivize young people to take action on them. Our engagements with young people in 2019 and 2020 have continued to be about developing young leaders for the world, who are aware of the contribution they can make towards the 2030 agenda for the SDGs.

The COVID-19 pandemic also drove AIESEC to innovate the way we mobilize young people from the comfort of their homes towards impactful conversations and raising awareness.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, AIESEC's Global Office was monitoring the outbreak in all the countries and territories where the organisation has a physical presence and ensuring that measures were being taken in compliance with international advice and precaution measures by the World Health Organization, as well as national and local authorities to ensure no members, employees, customers or partners are put at risk while involved in AIESEC activities.

Three major organizational decisions mark AIESEC's first year of response to the COVID-19 pandemic:

In an effort to mitigate any risks and contain the spread of the virus, AIESEC released safety notices to all potential customers or partners to cancel or re-schedule any volunteering or internship abroad programs. AIESEC's Global Office worked to ensure that all national offices were informed and ready to assist any potential or current customers and partners in regards to the status of all current and upcoming volunteering projects, internships and events. Additionally, the capacity of global customer support teams was increased to ensure a speedy response and appropriate support to any exchange participants, partners or members alike who might be faced with inconveniences caused by the COVID-19 pandemic spread and its consequences.

All global and regional conferences involving AIESEC members, employees, and partners were adapted to be held online rather than in a physical setting to avoid risks associated with not maintaining the recommended social distance. This included the notable decision to host virtually AIESEC's 72nd International Congress, after close monitoring of the COVID-19 pandemic and extensive risk assessment being carried out in consultation with appropriate stakeholders and in line with advice from authorities. All of the global events were shifted to virtual to make it safer and accessible for everyone.



These events were the touchpoints where AIESEC, along with its partner organizations facilitated spaces for young people to still have dialogues about SDGs and positive contribution to the society.

Together with our partners, we hosted the first-ever 24-hour long leadership marathon event called **Global Leadership Day** which centered around keynotes, workshops and networking spaces for young people virtually and connect with inspiring leaders, changemakers and influencers from around the world. This event saw more than ten thousand participants joining us from across the globe in this fully virtual event.

For our SDGs focused program **Global Volunteer**, the external context of the COVID-19 pandemic affected it and other exchange programs. Safety and health of our stakeholders became a huge concern. Mobility restrictions affected our attraction strategies. This affected the strategies we focused on each program.

Considering health, safety, and financial risks, a decision was made to deprioritize the Global Volunteer program for the foreseeable future of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While we decided to focus on other programs, we advised the global network to start implementation of “Global Volunteer conditions” which were created to reduce financial, legal, safety, and health risks of the program when operations could resume.

Today, our network is gradually resuming the Global Volunteer program under our refreshed safety regulations for exchange participants and standards for the SDG projects.

In 2021, we rose to that challenge and conquered every battle; we took forward the legacy of past generations, building an AIESEC that is clear on its role in providing value-based leaders for a world and a generation that demands better leadership. An AIESEC that is not afraid of taking a stand for fundamental human rights because it matters. An AIESEC believes that leadership can be developed in anyone and is heading build a more diverse, equitable and inclusive environment.

We also refreshed our essence as an organization in 2021 with the latest revision of the AIESEC Way. The refreshment included the meaning of Peace in today’s context, ‘Peace’ does not only mean avoiding war. Peace can refer to a world where no conflict arises from cultural, religious, or other differences in humanity. Peace can also refer to being in harmony with yourself. AIESEC’s aspiration is for every young person to work towards their understanding of peace and take collaborative action towards fostering a better world.

1. PRACTICAL ACTIONS TAKEN TO SUPPORT THE GLOBAL COMPACT

AIESEC’s Global Volunteer Program and our initiative called World’s Largest Lesson together with Project Everyone, UNICEF and Electrolux Food Foundation seek to engage young people with the Global Goals by creating awareness amongst youth, kids and mobilizing our exchange participants as well as the 30,000+ members into on-ground impact. The main initiatives realized by AIESEC are the following:

1. **Youth Speak Forum.** YouthSpeak Forum powered by AIESEC is an event run by youth for youth. It is a forum where inspiration and collaboration convert into action. This event brings together both young and senior leaders to form a diverse cross-sector and multigenerational space for inspiring conversations around pressing global, national, and local issues. It is an attractive and engaging approach to making AIESEC relevant for any young person and a way to get involved with no

barriers and low commitment. It's also an opportunity to create commitments and projects that organizations and stakeholders can support.

2. **World's Largest Lesson:** World's Largest Lesson is an initiative created by Project Everyone and UNICEF to teach young people and children about Global Goals and encourage them to become the generation that changed the world. As AIESEC, we are committed to mobilizing young people to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. To make this happen, we create awareness & understanding about the importance of each individual contribution.

In 2019-2020, through this initiative, together with Electrolux Food Foundation and Worldchefs Association, we educated more than 30,000 kids, consumers and young people around the world about SDG 12: Responsible Consumption & Production.

In 2021, we continued this initiative and managed to educate more than 13,000 young people. This initiative has already been continued as one of our key engagements for 2022.

3. **AIESEC Global Projects.** In 2021, we started to resume our Global Volunteer Program with the refreshed standards and regulations and created global projects that focused on 10 of the Sustainable Development Goals namely:
 - SDG #3: Good Health and Well-being
 - SDG #4: Quality Education
 - SDG #5: Gender Equality
 - SDG #8: Decent Work & Economic Growth
 - SDG #10: Reducing Inequalities
 - SDG #12: Responsible Consumption & Production
 - SDG #13: Climate Action
 - SDG #14: Life below Water
 - SDG #15: Life on Land
 - SDG #17: Partnership for the Goals

In 2020 and 2021, under safety regulations and protocols, more than 3,500 young people from across the globe have participated in these SDG-focused Global Volunteer Projects.

All of the above-mentioned projects are being continued in 2022 with the new leadership team of AIESEC International.

2. PARTNERSHIPS TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS

AIESEC partners with like-minded organizations to achieve impact. We co-create projects focusing on AIESEC and its stakeholders' missions,. We define the projects' outcomes, outputs, key activities, deadlines, indicators, targets, alignment and execution of the projects and consequently we report on the co-created projects, and create campaigns and promotion. Listed below you can find examples of partnerships AIESEC has developed to contribute to the Global Goals:

1. **Asian Development Bank.** Asian Development Bank has been working to improve people's lives since it was founded in 1966 by targeting its investments wisely in partnership with its stakeholders, ADB's mission is to help its developing member countries reduce poverty and

improve the quality of life of their people through inclusive economic growth, environmentally sustainable growth, and regional integration. Since 2016, ADB has worked with AIESEC and established the first youth department in the bank through the Youth for Asia office.

2. **Electrolux Food Foundation.** In 2019-2020, through this initiative, together with Electrolux Food Foundation and Worldchefs Association, we educated more than 30,000 kids, consumers and young people around the world about SDG 12: Responsible Consumption & Production. In 2021, we continued this initiative and managed to educate more than 13,000 young people. This initiative has already been continued as one of our key engagements for 2022. Under this partnership, we continued to take forward the Global Volunteer Projects in select countries under our COVID-19 safety regulations.
3. **Tech for All:** The motto of our collaboration is to enable more young people to make an impact through AIESEC and Teach4all. We cooperated on Peacebuilders profiles gathering to contribute to the SDG #16 & 17.
4. **International Labour Organization:** AIESEC collaborated with ILO under their Decent Jobs For Youth initiative renewed for 2020 under which both parties give young people the platform to represent youth voices and engage in the research by ILO for young people. Most of the work was connected to SDG Decent Work & Economic Growth.
5. **OECD:** We represented young people at their Strategy Group Meeting at the OECD in November 2021 as youth representatives. AIESEC has also been one of the key contributors to the OECD's policy papers concerning young people and their aspirations for a more equitable, inclusive future.
6. **Plan International.** Founded in 1937, Plan International is a development and humanitarian organization that advances children's rights and equality for girls. We strive for a just world, working together with children, young people, our supporters and partners. We strive for a just world that advances children's rights and equality for girls. Plan International and AIESEC partner to promote youth participation in the Sustainable Development Agenda by delivering projects around Gender Equality. Together with Plan International, we have also launched the SDG Course for our Global Volunteer Participants.
7. **Internet Society.** Focusing on SDG #4: Quality Education, we aim to deliver our global project with 30 volunteers from around the world.

3. **Top 3 SDGs our Volunteers contribute to:**

1. SDG 4: Quality Education
2. SDG 12: Responsible Consumption & Production
3. SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

4. **Top entities that receive volunteers from abroad:**

Within the +100 entities composing AIESEC, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Italy, Argentina, Peru, Turkey, Indonesia, Malaysia, Ukraine and Egypt (from Jan 2020-Dec 2021) are the entities that receive the higher number of volunteers from other entities.

5. Top entities that send volunteers abroad:

Within the +100 entities composing AIESEC, Brazil, Indonesia, Peru, Turkey, Argentina, Colombia, India, Ukraine, Germany, Mexico and Egypt (from Jan 2020-Dec 2021) are the entities that have a higher number of volunteers sent abroad.