



SovereignGlobal
Solutions Middle East

COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS

Prepared for the United Nations Global Compact

1 November 2022 – 1 November 2023

Communication on Progress

11 August 2022

To our Stakeholders,


I am pleased to confirm that the Sovereign Global Group (SGG), including Sovereign Global Solutions Middle East LLC, Sovereign Global Solutions UK and RC Dock, continues to affirm its support to the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption for 2022/23, and have integrated the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the company's business model, thus adding value to our business, the environment, and society.

In this, our seventh annual 'Communication on Progress', we describe our existing policies and our actions to continue to improve the integration of the UNGC, its principles, and the SDGs into our business strategy, culture and daily operations, which includes seeking adherence from our business partners, suppliers and even clients.

We are an expanding company in the SME bracket (small and medium-sized enterprises) and keen to 'do our bit' to help the UNGC work towards the vision of a sustainable and inclusive global economy and help companies meet their commitment to corporate sustainability.

We commit to share this information with our stakeholders through our website and the Global Compact. As an ISO 9001:2015 certified company, we are committed to analysis and continuous improvement of our performance and look forward to any feedback on this report.

Yours sincerely,



Jérôme Paolini
Chairman



Bruno Pardigon
Chairman

Human Rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Our support of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and observer status of the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers' Association (ICoCA) demonstrates our commitment to Human Rights and these first 2 principles. The latter endorses the principles of the Montreux Document (*Montreux Document on Pertinent International Legal Obligations and Good Practices for States Related to Operations of Private Military and Security Companies During Armed Conflict*) and the "Respect, Protect, Remedy" framework it adopts.

Policy & Assessment

Our Code of Conduct explains how we will conform to the rule of law and acknowledges our corporate responsibility to protect and respect human rights, as well as seeking to ensure our business partners and suppliers do the same. Further to this, as a large part of our work is providing Capability Building Programmes to States, we are also bound to do our best to ensure these sovereign state end-clients also conform to these principles. Part of this process is achieved by assessing Human Rights related risks and their impact in our business sector and countries of operation prior to beginning any work there.

We require our personnel to treat all people humanely and with respect for their dignity and privacy and will report any breach of compliance. We will not engage in torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Contractual obligations, superior orders or exceptional circumstances such as an armed conflict or an imminent armed conflict, a threat to national or international security, internal political instability, or any other public emergency, can never be a justification for engaging in torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

We require our personnel to report any acts of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment known to them, or of which they have reasonable suspicion. Such reports will be made to our senior management who will coordinate with the client, and/or the competent authorities in the country where the act took place, the country of nationality of the victim, and the country of nationality of the perpetrator. We have made the means of any such reporting easy by designing a 'Don't Walk By' initiative, where all cases of Human Rights abuse can be freely reported by anyone.

In addition to inhumane treatment of individuals, we pay particular attention to acts which are considered particularly heinous and at no point will they ever be sanctioned by us, including but not limited to:

- Sexual exploitation and abuse or gender-based violence. SGG will not benefit from, nor allow their personnel to engage in or benefit from, sexual exploitation (including, for these purposes, prostitution) and abuse or gender-based violence or crimes, either within the Group or externally, including rape, sexual harassment, or any other form of sexual abuse or violence.

SGG requires its personnel to remain vigilant for all instances of sexual or gender-based violence and, where discovered, report such instances to senior management and competent authorities.

- Human trafficking. SGG will not engage in trafficking in persons and requires its personnel to remain vigilant for all instances of trafficking in persons or illegal trafficking of human organs and, where discovered, report such instances to senior management and competent authorities. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - A commercial sex act induced by force, fraud, or coercion.
 - Labour or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, debt bondage, or slavery.
 - Illegal trafficking of human organs.

As before, all such suspicions and/or actual cases can also be reported by of our personnel using our 'Don't Walk By' initiative.

To every reasonable extent, we also monitor the use of equipment provided by the Company and will investigate situations in which such equipment is used in an inappropriate manner. Every effort will be made to ensure that information used as the basis for allegations of human rights abuses is credible and based on reliable evidence. The security and safety of sources will be protected. Additional or more accurate information that may alter previous allegations will be made available as appropriate to concerned parties.

The Group Directors have overall responsibility for the protection of Human Rights within SGG, advised by the Human Resources Department, but all personnel have a responsibility to report any abuse or violation up to senior management.

Achievements

- In partnership with the IMO (International Organisation for Migration) we have helped to transport several hundred refugees and migrants from war-torn Yemen to safety in Somaliland and Djibouti and remain available to do the same in the future, if requested.
- In partnership with the UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism for Yemen (UNVIM) we have provided maritime support in order to help humanitarian aid reach people suffering in war-torn Yemen.
- We have worked with international partners 'Combating Violent Extremism' in Djibouti.
- We have designed and implemented a 'Don't Walk By' initiative, where all cases of Human Rights abuse can be freely reported by any of our staff.
- Awareness raising of Human Rights continues to be conducted for all personnel upon joining, as laid down in our New Joiner Induction and Code of Conduct.
- Consultation with interested parties to ensure harmonious principles are followed, including business partners, suppliers and clients.
- We have a 'Community Investment Policy' whereby worthy community projects are identified and established in order to bring the local community together and help eradicate human rights and forced labour issues. Our ongoing community projects include establishing an eco-farm in Djibouti, where the

local community have been taught to harvest fresh fruit and vegetables from a solar-powered drip-feed irrigation system, and supporting the building and opening of a new school, also in Djibouti, where local children receive free education to help give them a better start in life.

Goals for 2023

- Having an office in Djibouti, across the Bab-el-Mandeb straight from Yemen, we will continue to monitor the situation carefully in order to be ready to provide reconstruction and other services to Yemen once peace returns.
- Continue to participate in programmes that support Human Rights across the world.
- Continue to raise awareness of Human Rights issues by keeping people informed, consulted and interested, as written in our Code of Conduct.
- Continue to consult with interested parties to ensure harmonious principles are followed, including business partners, suppliers and clients.
- Continue to invest in our Community Investment Programmes to help improve Human Rights in areas of greatest need.

Measurement of outcomes

We intend to continue monitoring and evaluating our performance by:

- Recording specific progress made in the area of Human Rights in the past reporting period.
- Recording any Human Rights violations and explaining how we dealt with them (nil to date).
- Recording any Human Rights related investigations, legal cases, rulings, fines and other relevant events (nil to date).
- Conducting periodic reviews of results by senior management.

Labour

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Policy & Assessment

Our Human Resources, Compliance and Health & Safety integrated management systems are based on National and International Labour Organisation (ILO) Core Conventions, and daily consultation with our employees is an important part of our business. As an ISO 9001:2015 certified company, we encourage

our employees to feedback their thoughts (good and bad) and engage in dialogue with their supervisors and managers in order to continuously improve the company's performance. This includes collective bargaining or open negotiation between management and employees to reach agreements on topics such as working conditions, wage scales, working hours, training, health and safety, overtime, grievance mechanisms, and rights to participate in workplace or company affairs.

At part of our ISO 9001:2015 processes we include assessments of labour-related risks in our business areas and countries of operations.

It is our policy that neither us nor our partners, suppliers or clients will use slavery, forced or compulsory labour, or be complicit in any other entity's use of such labour. We respect the rights of children to be protected from the worst forms of child labour, including:

- All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in provision of armed services.
- The use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances.
- The use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs.
- Work, which by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

We undertake all necessary steps to provide a safe and secure workplace for all personnel. All Group workplaces operate without any threat of violence, harassment or discrimination and operate in a respectful, safe, healthy and responsible way, in line with our policies and procedures.

Discrimination, or behaviour or comments that may be understood to be based in discrimination, will not be tolerated from or to personnel of the Group. All personnel are treated equally irrespective of race, ethnicity, religion, colour, national origin, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, veteran status, marital status, ancestry, genetic information or disability, or any status protected by national or international law.

Harassment will not be tolerated from or to personnel of the Group. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, racist, sexist, ethnic, or other inappropriate comments, jokes, gestures, or any action or statement that demeans individuals or creates a hostile, intimidating, or offensive work environment.

The Group Directors have overall responsibility for the protection of Labour Rights within SGG, advised by the Human Resources Department, but all personnel have a responsibility to report any abuse or violation up to senior management, which can be done easily using our 'Don't Walk By' initiative.

Achievements

- We continue to be equal opportunity employers to local communities across 3 continents in our offices in the UK, the Netherlands, Dubai and Djibouti, and also on our vessels.

- Designed and implemented a 'Don't Walk By' initiative, where any Labour related issues can be freely reported by anyone.
- Awareness raising of the Labour Principles is conducted for all personnel upon joining, as laid down in our New Joiner Induction and Code of Conduct.
- Consultation with interested parties to ensure harmonious principles are followed, including business partners, suppliers and clients.
- Continued investment in our Community Investment Projects, including the Aseyla Community Eco-Farm in Djibouti where the local community benefits from their own cooperative management of an organic farm to become self-sufficient in harmony with the environment.

Goals for 2023

- Continue to be equal opportunity employers to local communities across 3 continents in our offices in the UK, the Netherlands, Dubai and Djibouti, and also on our vessels.
- Continue to raise awareness of the Labour Principles for all personnel upon joining, as laid down in our Code of Conduct.
- Continue to consult with interested parties to ensure harmonious principles are followed, including business partners, suppliers and clients.
- Continue to invest in our Community Investment Programmes to support local use of labour, including the eco-farm at Aseyla, Djibouti.

Measurement of outcomes

We intend to continue monitoring and evaluating our performance by:

- Recording specific progress made in the area of Labour in the past reporting period.
- Recording any Labour related violations and explaining how we dealt with them (nil to date).
- Recording any Labour related investigations, legal cases, rulings, fines and other relevant events (nil to date).
- Conducting periodic reviews of results by senior management.
- Study of the demographics of management and employees by diversity factors (e.g. gender, ethnicity, age, etc.) to ensure we remain an equal-opportunities employer.

Environmental

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Policy & Assessment

All our decision-making processes consider the potential impact on the environment. We do this by following our strict Environmental Policy, analysing our performance by completing Environmental Checklists, and conducting Environment Risk Assessments prior to beginning any project.

With most of our business consisting of service supply, opportunities to develop and diffuse environmentally friendly technologies is limited, but one example is how we researched, purchased and installed 2 solar-powered water pumps for our community Eco-Farm in Aseyla, Djibouti, which feed water reservoirs and drip-feed irrigation systems to successfully farm the surrounding arid area. To date, the Eco-Farm has been a resounding success, with local communities successfully farming crops including corn, peppers, chillies, bananas, watermelon, tomatoes, herbs and other fruit & vegetables.

Vessels

We have designed and built our first Unmanned Surface Vessel (USV) called MARIP – a 12 meter catamaran made from HDPE with the following environmental benefits:

- HDPE carbon footprint 10 times lower than aluminium and 3 times lower than steel
- HDPE 100% recyclable
- HDPE hull means no (harmful) anti-fouling paint required
- Propulsion from 100% Biofuel from certified feedstock labelled as waste or residue. Almost carbon-neutral (20% NOx and 35% pm emission reduction)
- Fuel efficient with extreme low fuel burn/emissions, approx. 80% less than standard vessels used in ROV IMR
- Each MARIP-12 can be shipped worldwide in 3 standard ISO containers

USVs are the future of shipping – both kinder to the environment and marine life, and also much safer in terms of human health & safety. We intend to build more USVs in the coming months and fully develop a USV fleet for worldwide operations, slowly but surely replacing the use of larger, inefficient and relatively more dangerous manned vessels.

While establishing our USV fleet, which will take time, we continue to own and operate manned vessels, which still remains one of the most environmentally friendly forms of transport. The implementation of our Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP) is an operational measure that establishes a

mechanism to improve the energy efficiency of our vessels in a cost-effective manner in accordance with IMO regulations. This works hand-in-hand with our Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (SOPEP) and our comprehensive vessel Garbage Management Plans to maintain high levels of environmental protection awareness throughout our fleet and ensure tight and effective emergency procedures.

The introduction of our Environmental Policy Checklist has further helped to reduce our footprint upon the environment by raising awareness throughout our offices and on board our vessels, with such things as:

- The banning of all single-use plastics in all offices and vessels
- Turning lights, heating/cooling and electric items off when leaving a room
- Installing thermostats and motion-sensitive lighting
- Use of energy efficient electrical items and light bulbs
- 'Think before you print' initiative, printing on both sides and reusing scrap paper
- Using mugs and reusable cups instead of disposable cups
- Recycling garbage where possible, and purchasing recycled products
- Ordering environmentally friendly chemicals/cleaning solutions where possible
- Tightening up stock control systems

The Group Directors have overall responsibility for the protection of the environment within SGG, advised by the HSSEQ Director, but all personnel have a responsibility to report any abuse or violation up to senior management, which again can be done freely with our 'Don't Walk By' initiative.

Achievements

- Designing and building our first Unmanned Surface Vessel (USV) with very significant benefits for environmental protection.
- We always look to purchase the latest hybrid vessels available, as we did for our Nigeria 'Deep Blue' Project, when we purchased two vessels with highly efficient electrical drive systems which save large amounts of fuel by:
 - Diesel-Electric (DE) and Diesel-Electric Slow (DES) modes for lower speeds;
 - 9% consumption saving due a bulbous bow;
 - 10-12% consumption saving due the hull vane;
 - Low-resistance hull design.
- Our quest to reduce the amount of paper and ink we use has continued and we have replaced our previously printed & signed 'Delivery Notes' with electronic versions where electronic signatures are used for delivery confirmation. The same policy has been applied to all other previously printed paperwork, such as Purchase Orders.

- Logistical support to the protection of whale sharks in Djibouti with the Whale Shark Conservation Society.
- Logistical and financial support to the Decan Association and the protection of cheetahs and other endangered and/or mistreated animals in Djibouti.
- Founding of our Aseyla Community Eco-Farm in Djibouti, where a previously unreliable water source at a desert oasis has been turned into a fertile area producing food and water for local communities, including the encouragement of the local community to manage its environmentally friendly solar-powered water pumps and drip-feed irrigation system.
- Reduction of plastic waste in our offices and on our vessels by banning all single-use plastics such as cups and spoons, and educating personnel on the importance of keeping our environment and oceans free of plastic (see more listed on SDG Goal 14 below).
- Creation of our 'Don't Walk By' initiative, creating a quick and easy way any worker can feed back environmental non-conformities, and ideas for reducing our environmental footprint.
- Awareness raising of our Environmental Policy and the 17 SDGs for all personnel upon joining, as laid down in our New Joiner Induction and Code of Conduct.

Goals for 2023

- Build more USVs and a more environmentally sustainable operational fleet of ships.
- Continue to educate and consult with interested parties to ensure our Environmental Policy is followed, including our staff, business partners and suppliers.
- Continue to invest in our Community Investment Programmes, such as the Aseyla Community Eco-Farm in Djibouti.
- Continued commitment at reducing our environmental footprint.

Measurement of outcomes

We intend to continue monitoring and evaluating our performance by:

- Recording specific progress made in the area of environmental progress in the past reporting period.
- Recording any environmental policy/legal violations and explaining how we dealt with them (nil to date).
- Recording any environmental related investigations, legal cases, rulings, fines and other relevant events (nil to date).
- Conducting periodic reviews of results by senior management.

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

Policy & Assessment

SGG has a zero-tolerance policy for corruption, bribery and extortion.

The Group expects all personnel to not engage in any activity which conflicts or competes with the interests of the Group or in any way damages the Group's reputation or integrity. Personnel must not exploit their position or influence, or misuse any Group asset including confidential information, for their own personal gain or benefit or that of an unauthorised third party. This also precludes any unfair bias or favouritism during the recruitment of personnel or any other business activity. Any potential conflict of interest must be reported to senior management.

All Group, business partner and supplier activities shall be exercised in strict compliance with the laws and regulations against corruption in force in the United Kingdom and Europe, as well as other international legislation including the UN Convention Against Corruption, US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act 1977, the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions of 1997, the Convention of the European Union of 1997, as well as their transcription in national law. Personnel must not promise, offer or give to any person or public official, directly or indirectly, anything of value for the public official or another person or entity, in order for that person to act or refrain from acting in the exercise of their official duties if such inducement is illegal. This includes the prohibition of facilitation or "grease" payments.

Our ISO 9001:2015 processes include assessments of corruption-related risks in each of our business areas and countries of operations. We also allow all personnel to report any suspicions or non-conformities via our 'Don't Walk By' initiative.

The Group Directors have overall responsibility for anti-corruption within SGG, advised by the Legal and Human Resources Departments, but all personnel have a responsibility to report any abuse or violation up to senior management.

Achievements

- 'Don't Walk By' initiative, creating a quick and easy way any worker can feed back suspicions or non-conformities.
- Awareness raising of corruption and corrupt practices continues for all personnel upon joining, as laid down in our New Joiner Induction and Code of Conduct.
- Consultation with interested parties to ensure harmonious principles are followed, including business partners, suppliers and clients.

Goals for 2023

- Continue to raise awareness of corruption for all personnel upon joining, as laid down in our Code of Conduct.

- Continue to consult with interested parties to ensure harmonious principles are followed, including business partners, suppliers and clients.

Measurement of outcomes

We intend to continue monitoring and evaluating our performance by:

- Recording specific progress made in the area of anti-corruption in the past reporting period.
- Recording any corruption related violations and explaining how we dealt with them (nil to date).
- Recording any corruption related investigations, legal cases, rulings, fines and other relevant events (nil to date).
- Conducting periodic reviews of results by senior management.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, UN signatory countries adopted the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and its [17 Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) to transform our World. We support this agenda, and this is our progress to date:

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

- We have offices across 3 continents – in the UK, the Netherlands, UAE and Djibouti – and employ local staff in each of these places, supporting local families and communities and helping them escape and remain free from poverty.

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

- We support people in areas of malnutrition through our Community Investment Programmes. For example, in Aseyla, Djibouti, a semi-arid desert affected by frequent droughts and cases of malnutrition, we have used local manpower to help us establish a sustainable eco-farm, using solar-powered water pumps to access ground water and create productive farmland using drip-feed irrigation systems.

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

- At our eco-farm in Asyela, Djibouti, we supply clean, fresh water and fresh fruit and vegetables for the local community.
- On our vessels, we encourage sports during ‘free time’ and have purchased sports & fitness equipment to be used by the ship’s company. We have also established vessel basketball and football teams (with company-branded sportswear).
- To protect all our staff, we have strict IT Policies to ensure they can work safely and securely online.
- Our published ‘Safety and Security Guidance’ for every country we operate in ensures our staff and visitors remain safe and healthy throughout their work.
- We publish Health Alerts and information bulletins for health threats such as COVID-19, Malaria and Chikungunya.

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning

- In 2019 we achieved our goal of starting a new charity called ‘Frontline Children’, where we focus on helping children access education in some of the most remote and challenging areas of the planet; often in conflict and war zones. Our first major project was completed in 2021 where we constructed a new school for the local community in Aseyla, Djibouti, giving children

there the right to basic education regardless of their social status, gender, background or place of birth.

- In our other offices, we provide free First Aid, Fire Safety and Health & Safety training for all our staff, as well as giving them to opportunity to promote their professional and personal education with a variety of courses for lifelong learning.

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

- Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. At SGG, this is written into our Code of Conduct and governs all our business activity.

Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all

- We produce solutions that tackle water scarcity, such as ensuring access to safe drinking water to the villagers of Aseyla, Djibouti, using our solar-powered water pumps to supply the local community with a year-round, reliable fresh water source.
- In November 2019, our Commercial Diving branch conducted offshore work for the new renewable energy and water desalination plant in Djibouti's capital city. This desalination unit with a treatment capacity of 22,500 m³ / day will contribute to the country's water independence and will ensure the production of locally treated water.

Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

- We have provided solar-powered water pumps free-of-charge to access underground water in the Djiboutian desert to supply the local community with fresh water for drinking and farming. We also provide power to the Eco-farm we have established there using solar panels and a wind turbine.
- We have built a very fuel efficient Unmanned Surface vessel (USV) which runs on sustainable biofuel, and intend to build more in the coming months/years.
- Our previous vessels have been powered by highly efficient electrical drive systems which save huge amounts of fuel and help promote the use of more environmentally friendly means of transportation to our clients and other interested parties.

Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all

- It is our aim to provide as many job opportunities as we can by sustainable economic growth, creating the conditions that allow people to have quality jobs that stimulate the economy while not harming the environment. The more we grow, the more we invest in the workforce & education of local communities.

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

- It has long been recognized that growth in productivity and income, and improvements in health and education outcomes require investment in infrastructure. A part of our business involves helping States support and promote their infrastructure, such as with our past Maritime Support Programmes in Angola and Nigeria, and numerous Peacebuilding Missions across Africa.
- Having an office in Djibouti, across the Bab-el-Mandeb straight from Yemen, we will continue to monitor the situation carefully in order to be ready to provide reconstruction and other services in Yemen once peace has returned.

Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

- With an office in Djibouti, we are committed to helping this small country grow and improve. With one of the fastest growing economies in Africa, the investments we make here are helping this relatively poor and vulnerable country improve its economic, social and environmentally sustainable development in order to reduce inequality and improve its national standing.

Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- Having offices in several major cities worldwide, we are committed to doing 'our bit' to make cities opportunities for all, including improved access to basic services, energy, housing, transportation and more. While limited in our ability to do this directly, we can help by doing so within our business, which will then leach out into the surrounding cityscape. To some extent, our Maritime Support Programmes, once they have stabilised the blue economy, in turn help to improve the sustainability and safety of the city scape.

Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

- In all our offices and onboard all our vessels, we have been proactive in reducing waste by adopting better recycling processes (where possible), reducing our consumption of plastic (e.g. banning single-use cups & spoons) and using biodegradable substances where possible, including non-ablative paints on our ship hulls. This can be seen from our Environmental Policy (and its Environmental Checklists), and onboard Garbage Management Plans.
- Our quest to reduce the amount of paper and ink we use has continued and we have replaced our previously printed & signed Delivery Notes with electronic versions where electronic signatures are used for delivery confirmation. The same policy has been applied to all other previously printed paperwork, such as Purchase Orders.

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

- Climate change is affecting every country on every continent. It is disrupting national economies and affecting lives, costing people, communities and countries dearly today and even more

tomorrow. Wherever possible, our Environmental Policy allows us to help combat climate change by using non-polluting and energy efficient technologies, such as:

- We promote the use of travel alternatives such as video/phone conferencing;
 - We favour 'green' transport methods, such as our latest electrical power-drive vessels, and maintain our own vehicles to keep them as efficient as possible;
 - We endeavour to book more direct flight options and favour fuel efficient aircraft where possible;
 - We monitor our vessel CO₂, SO_x and NO_x emissions and reduce them as much as possible in line with our Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP);
 - Each office and vessel undertake Environmental Checklists to ensure they are operating as environmentally sustainably as possible.
- We have built a very fuel efficient Unmanned Surface vessel (USV) which runs on sustainable biofuel with a carbon footprint 10 times lower than aluminium and 3 times lower than steel. She runs almost carbon-neutral (20% NO_x and 35% pm emission reduction) burning approx. 80% less than equivalent manned vessels.
 - We purchased two of the latest hybrid vessels available for our Nigeria 'Deep Blue' Project, powered by highly efficient electrical drive systems which save large amounts of fuel by:
 - Diesel-Electric (DE) and Diesel-Electric Slow (DES) modes for lower speeds;
 - 9% consumption saving due a bulbous bow;
 - 10-12% consumption saving due the hull vane;
 - Low-resistance hull design.

Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources

- The world's oceans – their temperature, chemistry, currents and life – drive global systems that make the Earth habitable for humankind. Among the negative effects of mankind, the use of plastics is slowly killing life in the Ocean. We are committed to looking after the Oceans by:
 - Building and operating HDPE hulled Unmanned Surface Vessels, which:
 - do not require any anti-fouling paint that is very harmful to marine life;
 - use waterjets instead of harmful propellers which often cut, maim, and kill marine life;
 - do not have any human crew who are largely responsible for ship-borne garbage and pollution (food, packaging, sewage, oil) that pollutes our oceans and coastlines, and kills marine and coastal flora and fauna.
 - Following international MARPOL guidelines;
 - Following a Bunkering Procedure Checklist according to our company Safety Management Manual in accordance with the ISM Code;

- Bilge water and sludge discharge only to shore facilities;
 - MSDS (Maritime Safety Data Sheets) available and followed for all harmful chemicals;
 - Garbage Management Policy enforced (e.g. garbage correctly lashed down and not disposed of overboard);
 - Educating staff, crew and passengers on the importance of our oceans, helping to prevent them from littering the sea with plastic bottles etc.;
 - Developing a good environmental protection culture in our offices and onboard our vessels so everyone understands the damage garbage and plastics can have on life & the environment;
 - Strict ballast water management according to local and international regulations;
 - Reduced plastic consumption (e.g. we have banned all single-use plastics);
 - Using biodegradable substances where possible, including non-ablative paints on our ship hulls;
 - Reduced garbage creation (e.g. we have installed electric hand dryers onboard our vessels so no more paper towel waste);
 - Reducing paper use by storing all files online (soft copy) and only printing/using paper when essential;
 - Aiding and promoting the understanding of marine life with our PADI 'Aware' recreational diving programmes and our work with the Whale Shark Conservation Society, including frequent beach and water clean-ups.
- The maritime issues that need to be addressed for a sovereign state are identified by the 'Stable Seas' program, part of the 'One Earth Future', a non-profit organisation focused on advancing sustainable fishing, economies and collaboration. With our various Maritime Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) Programmes, we enable our African State clients to protect their own Economic Exclusion Zones (EEZ) and, in doing so, gain access to World Bank funding, such as the PROFISH programme. By assisting with the protection of Nation's Blue Economies, we together help influence the advancement of Coastal Welfare, Fisheries and Maritime Enforcement, and the safe control of Maritime Mixed Migration.
 - Our Commercial Diving Department completed a coral transplantation project in Djibouti after an environmental impact study revealed a substantial amount of coral was under threat from the building of Djibouti's new renewable energy and water desalination plant at Doraleh. Djibouti is home to one of the biggest unspoilt fringing coral reefs in Africa, and it is an important contributor to the ocean ecosystem, the local artisanal fishing industry and the source of pleasure for a growing tourist industry. After an initial feasibility study was conducted in July 2019, coral colonies were carefully excavated & removed from the path of the planned seawater intake and brine discharge pipes, safely transported to a protected new donor site, and finally expertly transplanted to ensure their future survival.

Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss

- Deforestation and desertification – caused by human activities and climate change – pose major challenges to sustainable development and have affected the lives and livelihoods of millions of people in the fight against poverty. At SGG, our Eco-Farm in Djibouti has created a sustainable community farm growing a variety of fruit and vegetables in an area previously under-inhabited due to chronic water shortage.

Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies

- SGG provide capability & capacity building, training and mentoring to African States (and elsewhere) to help them progress along the road of good governance and stability in terms of national and regional security. This has included the training of UN Peacekeeping & Security Forces in many African countries and the maritime surveillance and protection of economic exclusion zones in Angola and Nigeria.
- Part of our work in Djibouti has been providing resources to ‘Combat Violent Extremism’ together with our partners, aiding the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development.

Goal 17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

- A successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. As ‘Active Participants’ in the UN Global Compact, we are actively involved in developing these partnerships and working towards a sustainable future for generations to come.