
UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT: COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)



Society for Family Health
...Creating Change, Enhancing Lives

September
6th, 2020 -
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6th, 2022



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MD STATEMENT

Founded in 1983 by three Nigerians driven by the quest to improve the health outcomes of Nigerians; Society for Family Health (SFH) for 39 years has built on the founding vision of empowering the poor and vulnerable populations to lead healthier lives, and strengthening our health systems to provide better care for all.

Over the years, SFH a leading non-governmental organisations (NGO) in Nigeria, has expanded its reach into Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Cote d'Ivoire, working in partnership with communities, governments, donors, and the private sector to achieve universal health coverage and social justice for all.

Our mission to improve health outcomes by providing communities with affordable, high-quality, and gender-responsive health services and commodities remains the driving force for us at SFH.

SFH deploys health systems strengthening and total market approaches to unify the private and public health sectors to scale an Essential Package of Health Services (EPHS) to all Nigerians, drawing on over thirty-five years of thought leadership and grassroot expertise.



The United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) encourages businesses to adopt sustainable and socially responsible policies. SFH is committed to implementing programmes that address the UN sustainable development goals while embedding the 10 UN global compact principles.

I am pleased to re-affirm that Society for Family Health Nigeria will continue to adhere to the principles of the United Nations Global Compact, particularly in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment, and Anti-Corruption.

Please see below our Communication on Global Engagement with the United Nations describing actions taken by SFH to ensure sustainability in our day to day operations and long term goals.

Yours Sincerely

Omokhudu Idogho
Managing Director



About SFH

Society for Family Health (SFH) is a pan-African NGO working with communities, government, donors and the private sector for Universal Health Coverage and social justice for all Africans.

Our mission is to improve health outcomes by ensuring communities have access to affordable, quality and gender sensitive health services and commodities

Our culture is defined as a Customer Centred Culture, and our vision is healthy lives for all.

We never lose sight of the communities for whom we exist. They are the reason we strive everyday with others of like minds to facilitate a people-centred integrated health system that provides universal coverage to all we serve without financial hardship.

The United Nations Global Compact

The United Nations Global Compact is a non-binding UN agreement to encourage the adoption of sustainable and socially responsible business policies by businesses and firms worldwide and to report on their progress.

The UNGC is the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative with the aim of supporting companies to do business responsibly by aligning their strategies and operations with Ten Principles on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption; and taking strategic actions to advance broader societal goals, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals, with an emphasis on collaboration and innovation.



Description of Actions and Measurement of Outcomes

The Society for Family Health (SFH), over the course of 39 years, has grown to become one of Nigeria's largest and most esteemed non-governmental organisations (NGOs). With our recent expansion into 4 additional countries, SFH continues to implement diverse lifesaving interventions in the pursuit of improving health outcomes by ensuring access to affordable, quality, and gender sensitive health services and commodities for the people for whom we exist.

SFH is committed to continuously learning, improving, and delivering the highest impact possible as an organization. We strive to drive innovation while collaborating with communities, donors, governments, and strategic partners to achieve results in varied disease areas and interventions.

Our values and working principles promote an inclusive and diverse workforce regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation. Our policy ensures the protection of human rights, total intolerance for forced or compulsive labour, particularly for minors. SFH remains committed to working with the global community to contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. Especially targeting goal 2- Zero hunger, goal 3 - Good health and wellbeing, goal 5 - Gender equality, goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation and goal 10 – Reduced inequalities.

To achieve these goals, we work with corporate partners and stakeholders to maximise impact, expand our reach, and catalyse change.



In 2021, SFH began the implementation of the Accelerating Nutrition Results in Nigeria (ANRiN) Project, a community focused project with multiple interventions aimed at supporting and enhancing quality nutrition and family planning services at community and Primary Health Care levels in low-income communities.

Through the ANRiN project, SFH is delivering Basic Package of Nutrition Services (BPNS) and Adolescent Health Services (AHS) thereby contributing to the reduction of chronic malnutrition (stunting and micronutrient deficiencies) in Nigeria. And increasing the utilisation of quality, cost-effective nutrition services for pregnant and lactating women, adolescent girls, and children under five years of age in 11 high malnutrition burden communities in Nigeria.



In 2022, SFH in partnership with Procter & Gamble began the implementation of the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) for Healthy Lives (W4HL) Project in selected rural communities in Nigeria. The W4HL is targeted at promoting WASH related behaviours in rural communities and increasing demand for Point of Use (PoU) water treatment products in the target communities. As well as strengthening community structures to promote zero tolerance for ODF (open Defecation) and setting up WASH School programs in selected communities. Through the W4HL project, SFH is actively engaged in the distribution of P&G purifier of water to rural communities to reduce water contamination thereby reducing vulnerability to waterborne illnesses such as diarrheal diseases



Furthermore, SFH in partnership with Novartis Social Business (NSB) is implementing an innovative approach to expanding access to quality treatment and management of Non-Communicable Diseases (Cardiovascular disease, Diabetics type 2, respiratory diseases, and Breast cancer) as well as malaria. The partnership with NSB provides for drug distribution, disease awareness programmes, and capacity building for healthcare workers. The SFH/NSB activities involve the provision of high-quality generic medicines at affordable rates to patients. The goal is to reach the vast majority of lower- and middle-income earning populations. In 2021, over 1,000 Patent medicine vendors were trained on common community health interventions and 100 community pharmacists were trained on contraceptive care

In 2021 SFH distributed over 3.7million insecticide treated nets and reached over 2 million Nigerians with malaria control messages through her Global Fund Malaria project. SFH continues to strengthen its policies and programmes in order to maintain strong organisational values while promoting the principles of the United Nations Global Compact. This Communication on Engagement contains some of our programs and processes that support the UN Global Compact and its principles from September 2020 to August 2022



Human Rights

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

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



Safeguarding

As a people-centered organisation, we strive to keep our communities, staff, and clients safe. We make certain that our processes do not endanger or expose children, young people, vulnerable adults, the elderly, our employees, and others who represent us to harm or exploitation. To accomplish this, we designed a course to train our employees about SFH's approach to safeguarding and to emphasize our commitment to ensuring that our programmes and operations reduce the likelihood of harm and increase the likelihood of detection of harm, allowing for quick and effective response.

As part of our commitment, we ensure that our vendors and downstream partners abide by a strict safeguarding policy, and support partner organisations with training on safeguarding . In 2021 SFH launched a formal and thorough due diligence process to ensure we do not engage with organisations or individuals complicit in human rights abuses.

SFH also operates a zero-tolerance policy for any form of sexual harassment in the workplace, treats all incidents seriously and promptly investigates all allegations of sexual harassment. SFH is committed to providing a safe environment for all its employees free from discrimination on any ground and from harassment at work including sexual harassment. All sexual harassment is prohibited whether it takes place within SFH premises or outside, including at social events, business trips, training sessions or conferences sponsored by SFH. Anyone, including employees of SFH, clients, customers, casual workers, contractors, or visitors who sexually harasses another is reprimanded in accordance with SFH's internal policy.



Gender and Human Rights/Key Population Programming

SFH is committed to supporting human rights through non-biased, confidential and quality HIV/STI care for key populations (KPs) through its USAID KPCARE 2 and Global Fund supported key population projects. These project aims to reduce the incidence and mitigate the impact of HIV on KPs in Nigeria to achieve epidemic control. Through the KP CARE 2 and GF NAHI projects SFH works to maintain continuous treatment even in extreme, unexpected crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic through a state-specific contingency plan. As well as ensures KPs know their rights, avoid conflict, and know what to do in risky situations; increase demand for and access to comprehensive HIV prevention/treatment services.

SFH also provides legal support services when infringements occur while maintaining continuous treatment for KP's even in extreme, unexpected crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic through a state-specific contingency plan. As well as creating an enabling environment established for KP community-based programming through advocacy, data management systems and other interventions promoting KP supportive health policies and human rights.

Through the KPCARE 2 and GF NAHI projects as well as diverse projects and initiatives SFH remains committed to SDG 3, ensuring healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

In 2021, SFH received the Association of General and Private Medical Practitioners of Nigeria (AGPMPN) 2021 Award for its enormous contribution to the development of the Nigerian Health Sector.

Paediatric/Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Programming

The Society for Family Health is providing complete HIV cascade of care for paediatrics, adolescents, and pregnant women in rural communities through its AIDfonds Lafiyan Yara Project. The Lafiyan Yara project aims to ensure that 100% of children between one to nine years of positive mothers' access HIV services through strengthening of community systems to support testing and linkage to HIV services among children, adolescents, and pregnant women.

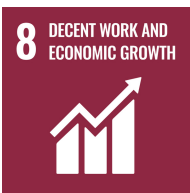


Furthermore, SFH works to reduce the impact of HIV and AIDS on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) through the USAID ICHSSA 3 project. SFH adopts the socioecological model that leverages OVC/Social Services to strengthen the HIV continuum of care through the interface between the family-community- facility service delivery. SFH places emphasis on preventing sexual violence and HIV among adolescent girls/boys ages 9-14 years old using the OVC preventive strategies, while ensuring that comprehensive services are provided to all eligible OVC aged 0-17 years. In 2021, through the ICHSSA 3 project, SFH provided comprehensive, child centred and household centred care to 120,717 beneficiaries across rural communities in Nigeria.

Labour

Principle 4: The elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour.

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



Society for Family Health promotes an inclusive and diverse workforce that frowns against discrimination of all kinds. Through our responsive whistle blower component SFH continues to foster an environment free of harassment and bullying for staff and members of the community she serves.

Our values necessitates that all staff members, vendors, and beneficiaries, are treated with dignity and respect and we have adopted policies to uphold these values. Our equal opportunity policy ensures that we remain an equal opportunity employer and do not discriminate against any employee or applicant based on gender, race, colour, religion, creed, sex, tribe, disability or health status.



Environment

Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility.

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

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GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING

6

CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION

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RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION

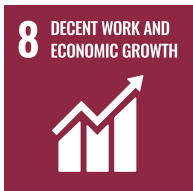
SFH's efforts do not directly centre on the environmental issues. However, we recognise the impact that environmental sustainability plays on health and equality. We therefore ensure our programs incorporate actions that have a positive impact on the environment, such as waste management, recycling and the introduction of laptops for each staff to minimise electricity consumption, further reduce paper waste, and increase overall efficiency.

Access to safe drinking water is a human right, through our partnership with Procter & Gamble and Waterguard Plus is working towards Goal 6: increasing access to clean water and sanitation across Nigeria

Health and safety training

Anti-Corruption

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



Every year, Society for Family Health ensures all staff members receive anticorruption training. We also ensure that anti-bribery and corruption training is embedded in the programs carried out by SFH-engaged organisations. We have also put in place financial procedures and policies that include antibribery and anti-corruption measures. As well as anti-Money Laundering Policy that ensures due diligence is conducted on all business relationships. In partnership with an industry leading independent service provider, Deloitte, we have established a Speak Up / whistle blowing facility for all employees and stakeholders to report any unethical behaviour anonymously and confidentially.



Local Network Activities

SFH participates in local network activities by promoting the SDGs among our partners and encouraging all our partners to join the UNGC. SFH shall also take all necessary actions to facilitate SFH Ghana to join the UNGC in 2023, with the rest of our international offices joining subsequently.

In 2021, SFH won the Curve Award aimed at celebrating the very best use of learning and continuous improvement in the development sector. The award provides an opportunity for organisations to showcase their use of responsive feedback in Nigeria, and to share learnings and case studies with others working in the development sector.

We will continue to use results from our research, monitoring, evaluation and learning activities to search for more effective solutions, and also participate in knowledge sharing workshops with partners to create a more coordinated approach towards the achievement of our collective goals.



TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES
BY ENSURING COMMUNITIES HAVE ACCESS
TO AFFORDABLE, QUALITY AND GENDER
SENSITIVE HEALTH SERVICES AND
COMMODITIES

Website
www.sfhigeria.org
www.sfhglobal.org

