

January 18, 2022



Communication On Engagement (COP)
YKCenter

This Communication on Progress (COP) covers a period from January 2021 to January 2022

To our stakeholders, the UNGC and all our partners, it is our privilege to continue to be a part of the UNGC. YKCenter was founded in April 2012 by three visionaries. Professor Yehuda Kahane, Tal Ronen and Yoram Lavie. Since its inception we've been guided by three main principles:

Creating global impact, form global links of collaboration (SDG #17) and work through global labs.

We made a pledge in Rio "To act to the best of our ability to help make the Earth a secure and hospitable home for present and future generations". This is the "Why?" behind YKCenter, and it has been the focus of our work through and for the UNGC.

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We are proud to reaffirm our support of the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. In this Communication on Progress we will lay out our focus of the past two years. YKCenter has made a commitment to accelerating the SDGs in two main ways:

- 1) Creating financial avenues of investment in SDGs
- 2) Transforming the country of Israel into an SDG Impact Nation.

We hope to continue to serve our stakeholders and indeed the planet through our innovation and game changing ideas.

Onward and forward,
Tal Ronen
CEO
YKCenter

2. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS

YKCenter have no physical facilities, our team is small, and we work with service providers on a needs-basis. Our work progresses through the launching of initiatives.

At YKCenter, our engagement with the Ten Principles comes to light through our actions around SDGs. The following is a description of our actions around the 2 main projects we have been focusing on:

SDGIsrael

The SDG Israel community was established in early 2019 as an impact initiative by [YKCenter](#). The stated goal was to promote and implement the SDGs in the State of Israel. The community aims to bring together the various stakeholders of the SDGs in Israel.

The community makes accessible information, tools and content in Hebrew, creates spaces for networking and collaboration, raises awareness through activities, maps the implementation of the goals in Israel, and holds events and workshops for learning and practical implementation.

The community is an opportunity to use the wealth of knowledge and abilities Israel has around innovation and to create and support solutions for the world's most pressing problems.

SDG Israel manages a [website](#) that serves as a central portal for the SDGs in Israel. Organizations, companies and initiatives can, for example, open profiles at no cost. On the site, anyone can create or view profiles of other organizations. The initiatives on the site are sorted according to their goals for easier matching, cooperation building and sharing of ideas.

Throughout the year we run seminars, conferences, meetings and events that spark, deepen and increase awareness and activity in Israel around the SDGs. Representatives of government, academia, business and social organizations participate in these events.

The community has many different faces. We see everyone who comes into contact with the community through our different medias and events, as part of it. However, we will outline the various points of contact with the community below.

Today, our **Facebook community** has about 1,200 active members - the Facebook community is a lively community where there are conversations, surveys, activity posting, mutual help, connections and links. We try to filter out people who join in unwillingly, so not everyone is accepted into the Facebook community.

The **Facebook page**, which is different from the community, has about 1,600 followers. On this page, we mainly post events and updates from the community to the Facebook audience.

The community **mailing list** appeals to those who want to be in contact in a less intensive manner and want to be updated periodically.

On the **SDGI website** we make accessible information, tools and content, and most importantly, we map the active organizations working in alignment with the SDGs. Today, we have close to 100 organizations that declare and report on their activity, the impact they make and how they measure said impact.

Our activity:

In order to stimulate change in Israel, we create activities that are open to everyone. Our activities come in to play on social media, on our site and on the field in the following areas:

- **Relevant knowledge in Hebrew** - writing articles, creating and presenting tools, proposing programs, listing government bids, advertising grants in Israel and abroad, and more.
- **Community Connections** - Meetings at events, promoting content that creates connections between different goals and worlds of content, and multi-sectorial collaboration.
- **Mapping** – Mapping of the “players” in Israel, networking between those players, posting of measurement and independent assessments of impact.

Sustainable Funding Ecosystem

In the past year we have put extensive emphasis on the Sustainable Funding Ecosystem or the SFE. Our goal is to answer challenges in sustainable funding and funding for sustainability.

Companies and organizations in the Israeli sustainability ecosystem lack a coherent vision and strategy to work together. There are too many companies, NGOs, and non-profits focused on climate and sustainability competing for a small pool of funding and professional support.

With no clear leadership there is no synchronized action, and the ecosystem does not facilitate partnerships or cooperation except for few organizations, and even then, not often. Moreover, the little funding that exists comes mainly from philanthropy and is used inefficiently. This perpetuates long-term dependence on philanthropic capital. **A systemic lack of resources makes for a competitive environment where points of contact become points of friction.**

We are creating with partners around the world and in Israel **A Sustainable Funding Ecosystem (SFE) administration that will transform and leverages existing infrastructure by empowering strategic relationships.** The SFE will empower experts, consulting firms, NGOs and specialized communities that are full of knowledge and capacity to support the burgeoning impact ecosystem.

Using proven methods, the SFE will manage resources and expertise more efficiently to incentivize relationships across the ecosystem. By creating an administrator for the ecosystem, we will reposition flows of expertise and funding. By doing so we will facilitate strategic cooperation and stronger relationships. This in turn will create more income into the ecosystem and ultimately sustain it.

The SFE is a complex adaptive coalition of different groups of ecosystem stakeholders (experts, professionals, and funders) focused on exporting innovation.

The SFE:

- Connects professional infrastructure and funding with entrepreneurs and companies
- Aligns them with the SDGs, new metrics, investor demands, and more.
- Cultivates pathways for companies and organizations focused on impact to acquire tools, knowledge, and support they need to thrive.

3. MEASUREMENT OF OUTCOMES

SDGIsrael

SDGIsrael is focused on creating as much impact and action in Israel as possible – effectively bringing Israel to the SDGs and the SDGs to Israel. We currently measure our impact by quantifying our actions and people involved. In the future we will begin measuring the implementation of SDGs within organizations.

Currently we have **over 2000 people engaged** in our online communities across Facebook, Instagram, and mailing lists. On our website, launched merely 2 months ago we **have over 90 organizations** that declared SDG alignment and impact measurement.

Other measurements:

Due to use of public transport and bikes, minimizing car use, not having an office and minimizing meat consumption, our carbon footprint this year is estimated at 5.9 metric tons per person on average.

This year we hired our second female employee – she is the 4th employee of the company not including management.