



COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 01/01/2021

To: 31/12/2022

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

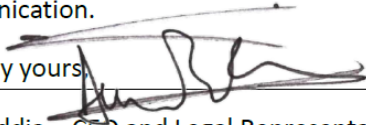
2nd of February, 2023

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that WeWorld Onlus reaffirms its support to 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. 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 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,


Dina Taddia – CEO and Legal Representative



Part II. Description of Actions

During the last two years our organization GVC has merged with another Italian ONG called WeWorld; from this process we resulted in the new WeWorld-GVC Foundation, a natural transformation of the previous entities. GVC, non-governmental organization founded in Bologna in 1971, operating in Italy and in over 20 countries worldwide in the field of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid; WeWorld, founded in Milan in 1999, active in Italy and 7 other countries worldwide to support and protect women and children. Together, WeWorld-GVC Foundation (“WeWorld”) works in 29 Countries, with 128 projects, reaching over 2.4 million direct beneficiaries and 12.3 million indirect beneficiaries. This merger has increased our ability to strengthen development cooperation and humanitarian aid work with local communities.

In the biennial 2021-2022 WeWorld-GVC Foundation worked in 25 to promote sustainable human development paths, and respecting the environment contributing to achieve an improvement in the living conditions of 8,190,666 direct beneficiaries and an increase in knowledge for over 15 million people, also taking into account the people reached in Italy and Europe by awareness-raising activities on the sustainable development goals. These results have been reached with the cooperation of 1.151 employed people, 386 partners and 466 additional stakeholders

Our commitment to the promotion of the ten principles of Global Compact initiative has been carried out with good results as explained in the following parts.

1- Engage with Global Compact Local Networks

- During the last two years we have been keeping in contact with the Italian Global Compact Network, in particular, we strengthened our collaboration by also inviting a representative of the Global Compact network, Emma Baldi, to the event held in Naples on 15 June 2022 in collaboration with CNR-ISSR and HRIC. The title of the event was *“Corporate Due Diligence to protect human rights and the environment in the agri-food chain. What challenges for an effective European regulation?”* Furthermore, we have participated to several online event organized by Global Compact Network Italy

2- Join and/or propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability

- In the last two years, WeWorld continued to work in South-East Asia, dealing with the human and labour rights of Cambodian migrant workers in Thailand, and funded by the European Union.
 - The project, **Right-To-Work**, to promote and protect the labour rights of low skilled Cambodian migrant workers to Thailand, including a safe and secure working environment. In particular, the project focuses on increasing culture of labour right protection for the most vulnerable migrants, such as young and women, irregular, unskilled, at risk of working abuses, forced labour and new form of slavery. At the same time, the activities contribute in improving the efficiency of existing system of working migration to make the regular channel more convenient for migrants in terms of respecting their human and labour rights.
In the frame of the project, we implemented a number of community self-help initiatives to promote rights of migrant workers, and increase the awareness against labour exploitation and abuses.



We implemented the platform www.migra-info.org, in collaboration with a high number of donors and partners, including ILO, IOM and UN-ACT, in order to promote migrant issues in South-East Asia. The website is a tool, addressed to different targets to provide information, from news to studies and laws, sources, migrants' stories and tools for action. In particular, a section is addressed to migrants to promote their regular migration, providing them with information about migration documents, services' contacts, tips and recruitment agencies.

- We published a research on Labour Migration and Human Trafficking, conducted in cooperation with the ATI (Asian Technologic Institute of Bangkok). It is a second version of the analysis carried out in 2020 on laws, regulation, policies and practices in Thailand and Cambodia, highlighting challenging problems that contributes in labour migrant exploitation practices, such as continued preference for irregular channels, non-standardised costs, capacity building for front line officers, lack of coordination, exploitation practices of recruitment and employment from private sector. It makes recommendations to governments, civil society and private sector of both countries, to tackle these issues.
- For what concerns Latin America, in 2021 and 2022 , 2 projects in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador financed by the European Union has been carried out:
 - **“Alianza de Oro: Experiencia Andina de Defensa de los Derechos Humanos frente a la Actividad Minera”**. The goal of the project is to contribute to the reduction of the adverse effects of the activities of mining companies on individual and collective human rights of rural communities in these countries, and to promote the application by mining companies of good mining practices, respecting the UN Guiding Principles and the rights of the affected populations. As results, the representatives and defenders of the rights of the communities will act throughout the chain of mining activity demanding respect for the rights and the generation of benefits for them; sub-national governments will be active protagonists of the governance of the mining sector in their territory, within the framework of their competence; national and international public opinion will exert vigilance and pressure on companies and States in relation to the application of due diligence mechanisms and respect for human rights Furthermore, it works to increase the protection of human and environmental defenders. Moreover, we are producing 3 regional studies on the mining sector:*La minería en Perú, Bolivia, Ecuador. Una mirada panorámica. Situación de las propuestas de gobernanza territorial y transiciones al post-extractivismo (finished but not published); Sistematización de impactos de la explotación minera aurífera en el medioambiente y su arelación con los móviles económicos del rubro en Ecuador, Perú y Bolivia (on-going); Confinamiento, minería y reactivación económica en la región andina (on-going);*
 - WeWorld takes part to:
 - *the* Campaign on the effects of the use of mercury in the gold mining industry in Bolivia. The campaign will also be extended to Ecuador and Peru.
 - Dialogue with Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the UN Special Rapporteur on toxics and human rights regarding the use of mercury in gold mining.



- “Derechos Humanos Ambientales YA!” in Peru. The project focuses on promoting the protection and fulfilment of the Environment and Human Rights in the high Andean provinces of Cotabambas and Grau (Apurímac), Chumbivilcas and Espinar (Cusco), strengthening capacities on the exercise of the right of indigenous communities to influence local authorities (LA), as well as to carry out an effective monitoring for the sustainable management of their natural resources, within the framework of territorial development and the strengthening of civil society. This issue is particularly relevant in consideration of deforestation, pollution and other exploitative practices against nature and health and livelihood of the local communities carried out by private companies, especially those of mining sector. Hence the importance of having Human Right Due Diligence (HRDD), (individuals and CSOs), right-holders, who relate to local municipalities in a collaborative manner, with the capacity to influence the latter's decision-making in order to implement good planning and management practices, environmental monitoring and control, within the framework of Territorial Development Plans (officially called Concerted Development Plans in Peru), made possible thanks to a better knowledge of their rights, of opportunities/proposals for the construction of sustainable development plans.
- WeWorld takes part to:
 - o the campaign “Campaña Nacional Defensoras y Defensores” (<https://www.facebook.com/defensorasydefensoresdelperu>) having the aim to protect human rights defender systematically under attack for their watchdogging activities against violations of human and environmental rights in Peru.
 - o Coordination with Nacional DDHH - Plataforma nacional Empresas y derechos humanos, Peru (<https://derechoshumanos.pe/empresas-y-ddhh/>), coordinated by Ministerio de Justicia and UNDP-ILO.
- Within the #OurFoodOurFuture projects, in the framework of Terra di Tutti Film Festival in Bologna in 2022, WeWorld invited two Peru activists as speakers in a number of events to raise awareness on exploitation of natural resources and local workers by the private sector in Peru.
 - o **Matinée:** the Matinée was an opportunity for young people in the area to meet and discuss the issues of the social and environmental crisis, with a focus on the dynamics of exploitation and the defence of human rights along the production chains of companies both in Italy and in the so-called Global South;
 - o **Training and exchange meeting with WeWorld Onlus staff based in Italy :**The main focus of this internal training for the WeWorld employees was the forms of extractivism in the Latin America area and Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence;
 - o **Interviews in Vita No Profit newspaper:** Vita no profit is an Italian monthly magazine dedicated to social issues, volunteering, economic and

- environmental sustainability and, in general, to the non-profit world, that interviewed the Perù activists;
- **Intervention at the Terra di Tutti Film Festival Evening Screening Session:** At the opening of the evening session of screening there has been a short intervention (10 minutes) to raise awareness among the audience of the Terra di Tutti Film Festival;
 - **Event organised with the NGO ISCOS, Trade Union Institute for Development Cooperation, in Rome, in collaboration with CISV and ILO. (At ILO headquarters):** Presentation meeting of the Peruvian delegation in the framework of the project “Derechos Humanos Ambientales YA!”- Where environmental human rights defenders-, indigenous peasant communities, local governments together for a better environmental governance and a diversified and sustainable territorial development in the Southern Andean mining corridor financed by the European Union within the human rights line.
 - **Interviews in the Lo Spiegone newspaper:** Lo Spiegone is a journalistic magazine formed by university students and young professionals from all over Italy and spread all over the world with the aim of explaining the dynamics that the mass media omits when reporting news related to international relations, global politics and economics;
 - **Speaker Event:** The theme of the event was the corporate extractivism, the exploitation of workers and the conditions of abused people along global production chains, with a focus on possible economic alternatives and political actions, in particular the sustainability due diligence regulation currently being debated at European level. The event was attended by speakers from WeWorld Onlus, the Impresa 2030 Campaign on European Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence, as well as thematic experts, journalists and policy makers.
- For what concerns Africa and the Middle-East, we promote eco-sustainable agriculture activities and techniques in favour of small farmers, and the improvement of their capability, with a special focus on women’s rights.
 - At the European level, two projects carried out in 2021 and 2022, focused on climate change, migration and labour exploitation issues as results of the unsustainable economic system exploiting nature and people. The projects are funded by the European Commission under the DEAR programme (Development Education and Awareness Raising):
 - **#ClimateOfChange (<https://climateofchange.info/>)**. It is an initiative lead by WeWorld-GVC taken by 16 European organizations – among which civil society organisations, universities and NGOs – led by WeWorld. The goal is to create a European network of young people who work together to call for collective change, at local, national and European level.

The project is structured in four main steps. 1- A research on the concept of Human Economy, to highlight the problems of a non-sustainable production system, the interconnections between production and consumption patterns in Europe and what happens in the countries most affected by the effects of climate change, where people



are forced to migrate. 2- Increased awareness, through a competition for young people, based on debates about climate change and migration. 3- A pan-European communication campaign, to involve citizens on many levels, online and live, to be aware on the issues of exploitation system provoking climate change and in turn climate migration and unfair labour and life conditions for migrants and vulnerable groups. 4- Advocacy activities, involving youth and all the partners at local, national and European level, in order to make their voice heard and participate in the debate on the effects of climate change. In particular, we carry out an advocacy activity to promote the approval of mandatory Human Rights and Environment Due Diligence for business, companies and financial institutions, operating or offering a product/service, within the EU. Such legislation should establish a corporate duty to respect human rights and the environment, and requires companies and financial institutions to identify, prevent, mitigate and account for abuses and harm in their domestic and global operations, activities, products, services, supply chains and exports. The legislation should hold such companies legally accountable and provide access to justice for victims. Within the project has been conducted an analysis on *“Perceptions of Young Europeans on the link between climate change and migration”* mad by IPSOS. From the survey has emerged the attitude of young people towards the duty of care of companies and governments to mitigate climate change and protect climate migrants as a consequence of climate change. Indeed, *“young Europeans find that business and industry carry most responsibility – 52% answered that the latter are mainly responsible for tackling climate change. This is followed by ‘national governments’, with 49% of young Europeans thinking that national governments are mainly responsible”*. It is possible to see the report on the webpage of the project [#ClimateofChange](#). Moreover, a petition at European level to was launched with the aim of achieving four goals:

- Keep global warming under 1.5°C by achieving EU climate neutrality by 2040, accelerating the transition process towards the use of clean and renewable energies and stop financing fossil fuels;
- Shift towards a socially and ecologically just well-being economy beyond GDP indicators, putting the interests of society and nature above those of corporations;
- Protect climate change-induced migrants through a human rights-based migration policy and provide most vulnerable communities with financial and technical support;
- Enable youth participation to integrate bottom-up views and vision into political decision-making by creating Youth Councils in the EU and Member States.

Over 100,000 signatures were collected and brought by a delegation of [young people](#) to Cop27. The petition and the achieved results are at the following link (<https://statics.teams.cdn.office.net/evergreen-assets/safelinks/1/atp-safelinks.html>).

- **GoEthics– #Our Food Our Future** (<https://ourfood-ourfuture.eu/>) . This project involves 16 organizations, with the objective of creating and mobilizing a movement of young European citizens asking for a new production and consumption model, characterized by sustainable food supply chains that respect the rights of migrant



- workers and mitigate the effects of climate change, as well as reducing key drivers of migration, as hunger and poverty, by modifying those production-consumption models that perpetuate inequalities and land/water grabbing. Among other activities, also in this project WeWorld participates to the advocacy campaign related to the promotion of the mandatory Human Rights and Environment Due Diligence, Corporate social conditionality linked to Common Agriculture Policy, and other important initiatives in the frame of the main European campaigns, such as “Farm2Fork”.
- WeWorld takes part to other advocacy actions addressed to European Members of Parliament, related to the two projects mentioned above, regarding climate change, ethical production systems and the fight against the exploitation of women and migrant workers on global value chain, such as, for instance:
 - o a RoundTable co-organized by WeWorld in Brussels the 2nd of June on ‘Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence’ and food supply chains participated by INGOs, youths, MEPs and human defenders from the global south
 - o an event organized by WeWorld in collaboration with CNR-IRISS on the topic of the due diligence. During the event there were several guests such as representatives of European Parliament, Secretariat World Banana Forum, FAO, civil society organizations (Human Rights International Corner (HRIC) and WeWorld), researchers from academia, CNR-IRISS of Naples, representative of UN Global Compact Network Italia and UK
 - Furthermore, WeWorld has organized a school for Influencers named “Be A Change Maker – training path on policy and activism on climate and social justice” to strengthen knowledge and capacity-of young people to advocate for climate change, sustainability and human and environmental rights.
 - WeWorld have published three research:
 - o **The role of the future EU legislation on mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence in the agriculture and food supply chain** with the scope to analyse the role and potential impact that the future EU legislation on corporate sustainability due diligence could have on the Italian agriculture and food sector, particularly in terms of fighting human rights violations of a systemic nature that take place in this specific sector: labour exploitation, marginalisation and violence that both female and male workers are subjected to in the agriculture and food supply chain, particularly in the case of migrants (<https://www.weworld.it/en/what-we-do/publications/the-role-of-the-future-eu-legislation-on-mandatory-human-rights-and-environmental-due-diligence-in-the-agriculture-and-food-supply-chain>)
 - o **Work and exploitation of women in the Piana del Sele area**, with the aim to contribute to spotlighting the dark side of Piana del Sele: the one producing labour exploitation and precarious living conditions for an ever-growing number of labourers, and which co-exists alongside fair practices. An axis of powerful gender-based oppression runs through this entire group, along with labour exploitation – factors that shape female agricultural labourers’ lives (<https://www.weworld.it/en/what-we-do/publications/piana-del-sele-research>)

- **Labour Exploitation of Women Migrants in the Agro Pontino Area** to investigates labour exploitation of migrant women in the agri-food supply chain in Italy, in particular in the Agro Pontino area, in the Lazio region, interweaving elements of analysis concerning management of migratory flows, organisation of labour market, agro-industrial production, processing system and large-scale distribution, illicit labour brokering, the so-called “caporalato” (a form of illegal intermediation and exploitation of agricultural workers) and organised crime (<https://www.weworld.it/en/what-we-do/publications/agropontino-research>).
- Three further studies are ongoing :
 - a 2nd research about the exploitation system in the Piana del Sele area, Campania region
 - a research about women exploitation in agro-food supply chain in Tuscany region
 - a research on the labour conditions, in particular of women/girls migrant workers, in the Thai food supply chain, relevant for European market.
- WeWorld gives great importance to the fight against corruption and the promotion of the culture of transparency within our organization. We have signed the Charter of Principles, Values and Commitments towards Accountability promoted by LINK2007 Network Cooperation. We enforce an Organizational Model of management and control, in accordance with Italian Legislative Decree 231/01. We have committed to the Code of Ethics and Conduct, identifying shared ethical values, rights, duties and responsibilities; the Anti-fraud and Anticorruption Policy, to prevent and manage phenomena linked to fraud and corruption; the Safety & Prevention Policy, essential guidelines to ensure operator safety and protection; the Child Protection Policy, to promote the well-being and development of children; the Safety & Prevention Policy against Exploitation, Sexual Abuse and Harassment, to strengthen and promote measures in the work environment against all forms of exploitation and sexual abuse; the Environmental Protection Policy, to safeguard the environment, principles, good practices and standards of conduct; the Counter-Terrorism Policy, to counter all improper use or misappropriation of funds and avoid any direct or indirect support to terrorist activities.
- After the merger, our organization has seen the development of a trade union representation, who with a specific contract agreement will be signed, and on the other side, is part of a working table on security protocols, especially during the COVID crisis.

3- Engage companies in Global Compact-related issues

- As part of our project activities mentioned above, we engage many private actors and companies, in line with the intended goals. Private recruitment agencies in Cambodia, employing migrant labour, have been involved in our activities in South-East Asia; mining companies are addressed in our project in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador.
- The private sector has been addressed in many campaigns, aiming at corporate social responsibility. For example:
 - TEDEX event called: “[TedxBolognaSalon](#)” on the 30th June 2022 co-organized by WeWorld on the topic on Climate Justice and Migration several entrepreneurs has been engaged as: Susanna Finardi Head of Business Partnership for Treedom and Julia



- Hoffman, senior fundraiser consultant and trainer in Non Profit Factory (<https://statics.teams.cdn.office.net/evergreen-assets/safelinks/1/atp-safelinks.html>)
- WeWorld promotes corporate volunteering actions engaging companies' staff in the activities of our women's anti-violence centres, and we involved the Italian professional football industry (Lega Serie A) in a viral campaign against gender violence ("Un Rosso alla Violenza": www.weworld.it/unrossoallaviolenza).
 - In the framework of the Shaping Fair Cities project, funded by the European Commission under the DEAR programme, and led by Emilia-Romagna Region – whose goal is to localize the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development – WeWorld involved workers and trade-unionists on training and workshops to fight climate change and gender violence issues.
 - We participate in various networks and work streams on the Global Compact issues such as:
 - the World Banana Forum (WBF) – FAO, working-group on the promotion of ethical production of tropical fruit, aiming at respecting workers' rights, and in particular women workers' rights
 - other national networks in Italy, such as the working group of Business& Human Rights, the Inter-ministerial Committee of Human Rights (CIDU), that itself deals with the topic of Business and Human Rights
 - Alleanza delle Cooperative and FairTrade in Italy and in the countries in which we operate (see above).

4- Join and/or support special initiatives and work streams

- WeWorld takes part to important advocacy campaigns to promote an effective Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence European Directive such as:
 - Justice is Everybody Business campaign at European level (<https://justice-business.org/about/>) ;
 - Impresa2030 - Let's get our act together campaign at Italian level (<https://impresa2030.org/>);

5- Provide commentary to companies on Communications on Progress

- We have an ongoing partnership with Lines, a company that produces sanitary pads, in order to promote the abolition of the tampon tax in Italy: we built together the advocacy and communication campaign, which led to the spread of TV commercials nationwide.

6- Participate in Global Compact global, and local events

- We participated as auditors to several local events of Global Compact Network Italy

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

NUMBER OF AUTHORITIES, COMPANIES, CSOs, TRADE UNIONS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN ADVOCACY INITIATIVE AND EXCHANGE DIALOGUE ON THE HUMAN AND LABOUR RIGHTS FOR WORKERS and ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION*:



- 148 Advocacy initiatives and capacity building training in Cambodia on labour rights for worker migrants, 3615 people involved (Local Authorities, CSOs, Academia, Private companies, migrant workers, left behind people).
- 5 Advocacy initiatives at European level on sustainable production, and protection against impact of Climate Change on most vulnerable countries, 162 people (MEPs, EU officials and experts, CSOs).
- 15 advocacy initiatives on sustainability of food system and due diligence, 270 people reached (MEPs, policy makers, experts, CSOs, researchers/students, private sector)
- 56 multi-stakeholders Workshops on climate justice and wellbeing economy, 2,397 people reached.

NUMBER OF CITIZENS AND GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE INCREASE AWARENESS IN THE LABOUR AND HUMAN RIGHTS and ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS according to the UN Global Compact Principles*:

- 1 awareness and communication campaigns in Cambodia: 328,629 people reached
- 654 school debates on topic of climate justice, due diligence, 10,452 students reached
- 6 research policy paper, survey on climate justice, corporate responsibility: 50,000 people reached
- 4 researches produced on migrant workers rights in supply chain, mHREDD, food supply chain, 12,500 people reached
- 1 awareness and communication campaigns in Europe on climate justice: 23 Eu countries, 14,210,610 people reached
- 1 awareness and communication campaigns in Europe on food system sustainability: 117,655 people reached, 1 campaign to promote public consultation on European Directive on CSDD 3,000 people reached.
- 1 campaign “Campaña Nacional Defensoras y Defensores” having the aim to protect human rights defender systematically under attack for their watchdogging activities against violations of human and environmental rights in Peru, over 140 communication products disseminated. The Perú’s president mentioned Defensoras y Defensores rights in last speech to the Nation, also mentioning the Escazú agreement; PCM social networks relaunch post-campaign;

NUMBER OF NEW PROJECTS STARTED TO PROMOTE HUMAN AND LABOUR RIGHTS OF WORKERS, MIGRANTS WORKERS, AND ACTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIONS) according to the UN Global Compact Principles and NUMBER OF NEW PARTNERSHIP*:

- 7 new projects.
- 31 new partnerships.

*Data on 2022 are not yet consolidated, therefore some underestimation could have been occurred.