



CARE INTERNATIONAL IN VIETNAM

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To our Stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that CARE International in Vietnam 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 on 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,

Le Kim Dung

Country Director

CARE International in Vietnam

Part II. Description of Actions Please use the box below to describe the actions your organization has taken in support of the Global Compact. It is strongly recommended that the actions taken are related to one or more of the specific activities suggested.

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.

CARE International in Vietnam takes human right-based approach as the core of our programming. Specifically, we work to protect the rights of marginalized groups including remote ethnic minority women (rural), and female migrants including women factory workers, and domestic workers (urban). In our partnership approach with businesses, human rights have always been the guiding principle for our collaboration.

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.

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a strategic program priority of CARE in Vietnam, targeting ethnic minority women in rural areas and marginalised women in urban areas. We implement projects to *prevent sexual harassment at the workplace* through working with private sector partners, including major garment brands. Under CARE's Mekong regional STOP Sexual Harassment initiative, we deployed sexual harassment prevention package and worked with relevant stakeholders to improve business practices in the garment supply chain. We spearheaded the BRAVE initiative to *address GBV victim-blaming* issues in which we ran an engaging public education campaign to raise public awareness on a survivor-centred approach to GBV prevention. The campaign used contemporary art as a medium to tell survivors' stories, promote respect, and influence public conversations to be more supportive of GBV survivors.

In rural areas, we implemented the Stand Up-Speak Out (SUSO) project to *break the silence on GBV among ethnic minority communities* in Northern Vietnam. Applying CARE's gender transformative approach, we were successful in challenging harmful gender norms that keep GBV survivors silent. The project increased the percentage of people who reject Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) by 17.6% (from 11% in 2019 to 28.6% in 2020), enabling 2,628 community members to exercise their right to a life free from violence. We also held in-charge provincial government agencies to account for and fulfil their responsibilities in providing GBV support services at the community level.

Furthermore, CARE in Vietnam has played a critical role in establishing the Gender-based Violence Network (GBVNet) – the first nationwide CSO network focusing on GBV prevention and response.

Environment

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.

Climate change and environmental protection is one of key programmatic priorities for CARE in Vietnam. We integrate climate change responses and environmental protection in all relevant projects targeting ethnic minority women and urban female migrants. In some projects, we have conducted comprehensive environmental assessments as part of the project designs. We also encourage sustainable consumption practices and behaviors among CARE Vietnam staff and partners, e.g. 3R, green office.





Anti-Corruption

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

CARE in Vietnam has Zero tolerance policies towards fraud and corruption. This is clearly communicated among staff, business partners and other stakeholders that CARE works with. Actions include: having a strong policy on anti-fraud and corruption; regular trainings for staff and partners on these issues; institutionalizing anti-corruption in partnership agreements, code of conduct and other documents; and maintaining an effective reporting mechanism in the event of fraud and corruption.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes Please use the box below to include the most relevant qualitative and/or quantitative indicators to measure the outcome of the activities described in Part II above.

Below are some highlights of our work from May 2021-April 2023:

	62,000	Reached 62 thousand people affected by COVID to have access to meals and recover their livelihoods, indirectly benefiting 248 thousand people
	2,357	Reached more than 2 thousand people to support women and girls' rights to a life free from violence, indirectly benefiting a further 7 thousand.
	15,246	Reached over 15 thousand people to support their food and nutrition security and resilience to climate change, indirectly benefiting a further 60 thousand
	30,454	Reached 6 thousand o women and girls to promote their access to and control of economic resources, indirectly benefiting a further 120 thousand

- CARE Vietnam has been working in partnership with over 15 businesses including both private sector donors and implementing partner companies in the following sectors: 1) Agriculture: Women's rights in potato, coffee and livestock supply chain; and 2) Garment industry: Dignified work (working conditions, women's leadership, collective bargaining, protection from sexual harassment), and 3) Financial Inclusion (Access to finance for women entrepreneur)
- Engagement of Global Compact Network in Vietnam: Mainly through online forum/information distribution system.
- On policy and advocacy front, CARE Vietnam has been focusing on implementation support of the ILO Convention on sexual harassment and pilot prevention of sexual harassment at the workplace in the garment sector.