2023

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

WORLD ENVIRONMENT CENTER



Period Covered: June 23, 2021 - June 22, 2023



STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS,

I am pleased to confirm that the World Environment Center supports the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, 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 our organization's actions to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to renewing our support for the Global Compact and its principles and to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.



Sincerely,

Glenn Prickett President & CEO World Environment Center

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS

The World Environment Center (WEC) engages companies in Global Compactrelated events in North America, Europe, Latin America Africa and Asia Our events provide executive leaders with a platform to share strategic insights, learnings, and practices in a confidential setting under the Chatham House Rule. Specifically, WEC's Thought Leadership events partner with corporations, NGOs, academia, and the governments to find solutions to environmental and societal challenges, promote environmental responsibility, and develop green technology. One of the events involved the UN Global Compact Network USA's Interim Executive Director.

Significant events during the period can be found <u>here</u>. They included:



- **06/2021** "Practical Experiences of Companies Implementing the SDGs: WEC Workshop Series, #4-Collaboration for Impact" in collaboration with Merck and ERM
- 07/2021 "Accelerating the transition to a sustainable food system and regenerative agriculture per the EU Farm-to-Fork Strategy" in collaboration with Syngenta
- **09/2021** "Decarbonizing Value Chains: The Build Environment. 1st of four events focusing on decarbonizing scope 3 emissions in major industry sectors" in collaboration with Trane Technologies
- **11/2021** "Decarbonizing Value Chains: Transportation. 2nd of four events focusing on decarbonizing scope 3 emissions in major industry sectors" in collaboration with Chemours and Toyota
- 03/2022 "Financing the Transition to Regenerative Agriculture: Sharing Risk with Producers"
- **05/2022** "Greening the Grid in Europe: Accelerating Access to Green Electricity for the Industrial Centers" in collaboration with Jacobs
- 05/2022 "Leadership for a Sustainable Future: Building a Next Generation Business Today"
- 06/2022 "Advancing Climate Justice" in collaboration with Dow
- 10/2022 "U.S. Inflation Reduction Act and Implications for Sustainable Business"

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS CONTINUED

- 11/2022 "Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Value Chains" in collaboration with AB InBev
- 12/2022 "COP 27 What does it mean for business?"
- **03/2023** "ESG Disclosure: Navigating the Complexity of New Financial Requirements in the U.S. and Europe" in collaboration with Beveridge & Diamond and ERM
- 04/2023 "Electrifying Corporate Fleets"
- 04/2023 "Decarbonizing Value Chains: Hard-to-Abate Industries. 3rd of four events focusing on decarbonizing scope 3 emissions in major industry sectors" in collaboration with Boehringer Ingelheim and ERM
- 05/2023 "Aligning Business Strategy with the SDGs"

Furthermore, during the spring and summer 2021, WEC, with support of UNEP, assessed nature-based solutions in the food & beverage sector, the leading sector in embracing nature-based solutions. Through in-depth interviews with over 20 executives regarding their operations and value chains in Canada and the U.S., WEC assessed the opportunities and constraints for companies in adopting nature-positive business solutions.



WEC also leads a *Capacity-Building Program* on Global Compact principles for businesses, governments, academia, and NGOs. We provide technical, educational, and project management to these corporations and governments worldwide. One of the programs, the Empower Innovation Challenge (EIC) assists women-owned micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in scaling their businesses through a series of small grants focused on local solutions in Latin America. With a focus on green and blue economies, the EIC partnership provides training, access to capital, networking, and partnership opportunities with local and international businesses.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS CONTINUED

Additionally, a second program Building & Scaling Supply Chains in Central America, aims to strengthen and improve livelihoods of micro and small farmers, focused on women and youth in Central America using biotechnologies and bio-supplies that have a reduced environmental impact and help to improve the sustainability of farm production practices. The program also works towards providing financial freedom, contributing to reduction of social economic issues and addressing gender equity in the targeted farming communities. Finally, WEC promotes environmental governance through the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies. These technologies address air pollution and water and waste management challenges in Northern Africa and Middle East.





MEASUREMENTS OF OUTCOMES

Our Thought Leadership Program supported the UN Global Compact's Environmental and Human Rights principles. Since Mid-2021, 507 senior business experts in 20 countries from more than 70 global companies discussed practical solutions to (1) Decarbonize Companies, (2) Advance Climate Justice, (3) Help transition the European and North American Food System towards more sustainable production, (4) Implement the UN Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on how to best collaborate for more significant impact, (5) Deliver meaningful and transparent Corporate Sustainability information to financial markets.

Through our **Thought Leadership Program**, WEC presents a Gold Medal to a company that successfully integrates UN Global Compact principles. Annually, one company that demonstrates commitment to innovation, provides ground-breaking solutions to environmental and social challenges, and transforms market conditions will be awarded the Gold Medal. During the reporting period WEC has awarded AB InBev & Jacobs the Gold Medal on Corporate Sustainability Our **Capacity Building Program** provides small and medium-sized companies with environmental and sustainable solutions on the ground. WEC has notably expanded partnerships in corporate sustainability through two different projects:

- First, the Empower Innovation Challenge (EIC) holds three Challenges to impact 10 countries in Latin America and aims to create 11 partnerships that adds 24 new members to La Red de Innovación e Impacto, a network that accelerates business development and sustainable economic growth in Latin America.
- Second, WEC continues to work with the Walmart Foundation to develop an innovative program for small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) from the agricultural sectors to facilitate workstreams in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador that promote greater environmental responsibility, helping farmers to increase incomes and access to markets.
- Lastly, WEC has partnered with EDI Consulting in Morocco and Water & Environment Centre/Cleaner Production Unit at the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan (RSS) to provide onthe-ground support to achieve systematic sustainability management.

We respect the United Nations Global Compact principles in Human Rights, Labor, Environment, and Anti-Corruption in our own organization and are honored to support business to implement them.