

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Fair Trade Lebanon



Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: April 2021

To: July 2023

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

Please use the box below to include the statement of continued support signed by your organization's Chief Executive or equivalent.

31-7-2023

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Fair Trade Lebanon 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 any 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,

Samir Abdelmalak

President

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. *Please refer to the complete list of suggested activities for your type of organization found [here](#).*

Throughout the years, Fair Trade Lebanon has strived to improve the living of the disadvantaged people in different areas in Lebanon, especially in rural area by building their capacities and improving their productions. Here are a couple of examples on the action taken the last 2 years that meet the SDGs.

SDG1: No Poverty

FTL has worked to create new job opportunities and to sustain jobs in the agriculture, tourism and food processing sectors through the cash for work and livelihoods programs.

SDG2: Zero hunger

During the terrible financial and economic crisis that Lebanon has been going through, FTL has distributed food baskets in partnership with other NGOs to families in need as well as provision of produce to vulnerable communities. By doing this, we fed more than 450 beneficiaries while supporting coops that supplied us with the food products.

SDG 5: Gender Equality

70% of the beneficiaries that Fair Trade Lebanon is supporting are women, individuals or cooperatives and SMEs led by women covering a total of 5924 women empowered. This gender equality also applies in the internal organization of FTL as the top positions are occupied 60% by women and 50% by men. FTL also conducted trainings on gender equality and supported women led entities to grow.

SDG 8: Economic growth

FTL is building clusters to support more than 450 entities such as MSMEs, cooperatives and companies in accessing new international markets, giving them access to finance and building market linkages. On another hand, we strengthen the food value chains, fruits & vegetables, olive oil, zaatar, small ruminants by building the capacities of more than 8,000 beneficiaries from different entities around Lebanon through more than 800 training sessions (Access to market and Marketing, Safety and Quality Control, Management and Teamwork, Ethics and Child Labor..)

SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

FTL has been working to include women and people with disabilities within its projects. FTL has given trainings, job opportunities and financial support to help reduce inequalities among people. Around 2,213 women have benefited from all FTL projects along with 3% of all beneficiaries being people with disabilities

SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

FTL has been working to increase localization as well as to create job opportunities by supporting cooperatives and businesses to become more resilient and more sustainable. This was achieved through supporting both refugees and host communities and through helping farmers, MSMEs, producers and cooperatives to increase their resilience against climate change and economic hazards that been facing Lebanon.

SDG 12- Responsible consumption

Throughout the years, FTL has always thrived to raise on Fair Trade principles and responsible consumptions. During the last two years, FTL has been conducting trainings to raise awareness on responsible consumption and to provide techniques for responsible consumption.

SDG 13- Climate action

One of Fairtrade principles is protecting the environment. Thus, FTL sorts the waste in its premises. We have partnered with a recycling company that collects all waste and recycles them. We have rehabilitated the offices and switched to energy- saving light bulbs. FTL also started to implement projects that mitigate climate change risks such as eco-transition projects, trainings on sustainable agriculture and production as well as eco-tourism.

SDG 17 – Partnership Forums

FTL participated to several UN Global Compact meetings. FTL is an active Steering Committee member at LHDF (Lebanon Humanitarian and Development NGO Forum). FTL is also part of the WFTO (World Fair Trade Organization), Food and farming working group, FTAO (Fair Trade Advocacy Office), IFTTC (International Fair Trade Towns Campaigns), International Fair Trade Charter, FTIS (Fair Trade International Symposium), Journal of Fair Trade, C4C (Charter for Change), Agroecology Coalition, WFTO AME (WFTO Africa & Middle East), Africa & Middle East Fair Trade Towns Campaigns, Arab Fair Trade Network, Anna Lindh Foundation Network, Urgenci Mediterranean network, Partnerships Task Force, NGOs governance working group (IFG-ESA), Lebanon Inter-Agency Coordination, Food Security and Agriculture Working group (+ Regional working groups), Livelihood Working group, Global Compact Network, LSEA (Lebanese Social Entreprises Association), and the Lebanese Agroecology Coalition.

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.

SDG1: No Poverty

Number of individuals that have access to monthly income

SDG2: Zero hunger

Number of households/individuals that received produce

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Number of women participants in our projects

SDG 8: Economic growth

Number of established market linkages

SDG10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

Number of women, refugees' people with disabilities that are empowered and supported. Around 2,213 women have benefited from all FTL projects along with 3% of all beneficiaries being people with disabilities. In addition, 849 Syrian refugees have participated in FTL projects.

SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Established program to support and create sustainable development within communities. Around 37,000 beneficiaries have benefited from the inclusivity and resilient based projects.

SDG 12- Responsible consumption

Percentage of new established practices to reduce consumption

SDG 13- Climate action

Number of projects including climate change mitigation and approach

SDG 17 – Partnership Forums

Number of established and maintained partnerships