

**UN GLOBAL COMPACT COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)**

**Period Covered by this Communication on Engagement:**

November 1, 2021 - January 19, 2024

**Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the President of GiveDirectly**

His Excellency António Guterres  
Secretary-General, United Nations  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Secretary-General,

I am pleased to confirm that GiveDirectly reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment, and Anti-Corruption. Enclosed, please find our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact, detailing the actions that GiveDirectly has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles. Our commitment includes internalizing the Global Compact, joining and proposing partnership projects, and transparently sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Thank you for the opportunity to reaffirm our participation and support of the UN Global Compact. We look forward to jointly pursuing our shared goals to advance broader societal goals, with an emphasis on collaboration and innovation. Your ongoing guidance and partnership are invaluable as we collectively strive for positive global impact. Thank you for your genuinely thoughtful support for our collaboration.

Sincerely yours,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Samuel Mwamburi Mwale  
President, GiveDirectly

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**Part II. Description of Actions**

GiveDirectly is a nonprofit that lets donors send money directly to the world's poorest, no strings attached. In the last decade, GiveDirectly has delivered \$700M+ to over 1.5 million people across fifteen countries. We currently have operations in Bangladesh, DRC, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Uganda, and the USA. (11 countries)

GiveDirectly formally initiated adherence to the UN Global Compact in 2019 and has been fully committed to promoting and implementing its Principles ever since. Specifically, GiveDirectly has:

**(I) Internalized the UN Global Compact Human and Labour rights principles:**

- Embedded our core organizational value of "recipients first" in all decision making and program development. GiveDirectly does not impose our preferences or judgments on recipients; instead we respect and empower them to make their own choices, elevating their voices in the global aid debate. This value is core to GiveDirectly's identity as an organization exclusively devoted to putting those living in poverty in control of how aid money is spent.

Our leadership team's commitment to "recipients first" is demonstrated through the position of Director of Recipient Advocacy as part of the global support for our country programs. This role is focused on ensuring that all field teams are trained on the "recipients first" approach including commitment to upholding our code of conduct and whistleblower policy.

- We have an organization-wide safeguarding policy and incident reporting protocol. GiveDirectly has a zero tolerance policy towards any kind of preventable harm being perpetrated by our representatives within the communities and populations where we work. GiveDirectly ensures that all who represent us meet their responsibilities to safeguard children and vulnerable adults from all forms of harm including but not limited to violence, exploitation, discrimination, harassment, neglect, and human right abuses. GiveDirectly is committed to observing all local, national and international laws that protect children, vulnerable adults, and basic human rights. GiveDirectly endorses the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Children without discrimination. Specifically, we endorse article 19, which accords equal rights to protection for children from abuse. Additionally, GiveDirectly is currently enhancing the capacity of our country programs enabling them to provide additional support to peers on understanding and adherence to safeguarding policy requirements and reporting expectations.
- Our comprehensive approach to advance Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) in all aspects of our work, includes:
  - The ongoing development of an organization-wide Diversity, Equity and Inclusion policy
  - The ongoing development and improvement of staff recruitment and hiring plans to ensure our team reflects the communities we work in
  - Annual peer-led focus groups
  - Regular internal demographic surveys
  - Regular internal "Global Barometer" to solicit and incorporate staff feedback on their work experience at GiveDirectly

**(II) Joined and proposed partnership projects in support of the UN Global Compact Environmental Rights Principles:**

- Launched the Climate Accountability in Development (CAD) initiative in partnership with a collective of organizations including BRAC USA, the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), Integrate Health, Malaria No More, Partners In Health, and PIVOT. CAD was launched to measure and reduce the collective's climate impact and to chart a new path forward for climate accountability in the development sector.

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Each organization will measure their carbon footprint every year and commit to reducing their emissions in a transparent and accountable manner. The collective will invest in a portfolio of high quality carbon mitigation and removal activities to address the emissions that cannot be eliminated. Measurement efforts are already underway.

The group will work together to identify best practices and facilitate learning around measuring greenhouse gas emissions and reducing travel and other carbon-heavy activities. Member organizations will commit to being transparent about their measurement, reduction, and mitigation efforts and will work to align with global climate efforts, like The Paris Agreement, while maintaining a steadfast commitment to delivering on their missions.

- Participated in the 2021 “17 Rooms Room 1: No Poverty”, where we facilitated a discussion on digital cash infrastructure for crisis response and social protection. 17 Rooms is a partnership between the Center for Sustainable Development at Brookings and The Rockefeller Foundation, and is an experimental method for advancing the economic, social, and environmental priorities embedded in the world’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 17 Rooms aims to promote pragmatic action within each SDG, while also stimulating productive connections across all goals.
- Since 2022, GiveDirectly has been designing and piloting new cash transfer programs to reverse the impacts of climate change for the world’s extreme poor

Cash for Climate Resilience:

- Target natural resource dependent households (e.g. subsistence farmers)
- Support resilience through investment in sturdier household materials, livelihood diversification, assets, etc.

Cash for Natural Resource Conservation:

- Target local stewards of natural resources (e.g. indigenous forest communities)
- Guaranteed income-style cash as compensation for stewardship & to help offset income losses of choosing not to convert land

Anticipatory Cash for Climate Disasters:

- Target communities who live in natural hazard “hotspots” (e.g. droughts, floods)
- Use weather and other data to predict before a disaster happens and deliver cash in advance of / immediately after a disaster hits

**(III) Internalized the UN Global Compact Anti-Corruption Principles:**

- GiveDirectly has developed and implemented comprehensive organization-wide Counter Aid Diversion, Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption policies and a clear Complaint and Violation reporting protocol. Wherever GiveDirectly operates in the world, laws prohibiting bribery, fraud, and other corrupt practices apply to the organization’s activities and representatives. GiveDirectly is committed to honesty, integrity and the highest possible ethical standards as well as preventing, deterring, and detecting bribery, fraud, and other corrupt practices in all of our operations. Our staff are trained on these policies and reporting protocols at hire and with ongoing refreshers.
- We have developed and implemented an organization-wide Whistleblower policy and reporting protocol. In furtherance to our commitment to honesty, integrity and the highest possible ethical standards, GiveDirectly requires its representatives to report misconduct without fear of retaliation. All staff are trained on this policy and reporting protocol on hire with ongoing refreshers.

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**Part III. Measurement of Outcomes**

GiveDirectly is a nonprofit that lets donors send money directly to the world's poorest, no strings attached. In the last decade, GiveDirectly has delivered \$700M+ to over 1.5 million people across fifteen countries. We currently have operations in Bangladesh, DRC, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Uganda, & USA. (11 countries). We deliver about 90 cents of every dollar donated directly to recipients. GiveDirectly collaborates with a wide range of leading independent researchers to measure the impacts of cash transfers and answer complex design questions through more than a dozen randomized controlled trials.

GiveDirectly is the fastest growing international charity founded this century. We've partnered with USAID, The World Bank, UN Agencies (UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF), Governments in Africa, NBACares, FCDO, The EU, Google.org, the Ikea Foundation, and many others. More information on our work, research, and values is available in detail on our website: [www.GiveDirectly.org](http://www.GiveDirectly.org)

As described above, we have made measurable progress in the outcomes associated with the UN Global Compact during this reporting period. Specifically, GiveDirectly:

- Incorporated our core organizational value of “Recipients First” in all aspects of our decision making and program development to ensure recipient autonomy and empowerment
- Created and implemented 3 organization-wide policies (Safeguarding, Whistleblower and Anti-Bribery Anti-Corruption) to internalize the UN Compact’s Human, Labour and Anti-Corruption principles in our work
- Launched a comprehensive approach to advance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion throughout our organization
- Launched the Climate Accountability in Development (CAD) initiative in partnership with a collective of organizations in order to measure and reduce the collective's climate impact and to chart a new path forward for climate accountability in the development sector
- Participated in the 2021 “17 Rooms Room 1: No Poverty” discussions with diverse organizations and stakeholders to collaboratively plan for innovations in the digital cash programming landscape
- Designed and piloted new cash transfer programs to reverse the impacts of climate change for the world’s extreme poor
  - In 2022, GiveDirectly piloted our first ‘cash for climate’ project, delivering large cash transfers & in-kind support to climate-vulnerable farmers in Malawi. We Targeted 6,000 natural-resource-dependent farmers, providing cash plus climate smart agriculture support. We delivered large unconditional cash transfers of \$800 in 2x installments, timed to support land preparation, purchase of inputs, and planting.
  - In November 2022, GiveDirectly sent 5,670 individuals in Kogi state, Nigeria \$240 USD to provide emergency flood relief.
  - In 2022, GiveDirectly worked closely with local govt authorities in Malawi to deliver cash relief to 2,700+ households affected by Cyclone Freddy, which hit in Feb 2023.