

Dear reader,

It is my pleasure to present the fourth Communication on Engagement (CoE) from CSR Greenland to the UN Global Compact covering the period of January 2022 to December 2023.

CSR Greenland has included a brief background describing the organisation and our main activities and results. A more detailed account of specific activities can be found in our annual reports, which can be downloaded from our website www.csr.gl.

CSR Greenland was established in 2010 and remain one of the most successful business initiatives in Greenland on CSR and sustainability with around 60 members and several partnerships including many more partners. Our close collaboration with the Greenland Business Association ensures a significant reach of our activities.

From the outset, we have embedded the UN Global Compact principles in our work. They have been part of our communication and training of member companies and other stakeholders, and the foundation for our activities.

Since 2012, we have been the Greenlandic contact point for the UNGC Nordic Network, a responsibility that we share with the Greenland Business Association. We will continue to support the UN Global Compact principles going forward and engage with and support the UNGC in our work.

Since the launch of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in 2015, CSR Greenland has actively worked to promote the goals among members and partners in Greenland. Agenda 2030 is highly relevant for Greenland, and we are striving to ensure that this becomes a common agenda and collaboration platform across business, government, and civil society. This work will continue and intensify over the coming years.

Christian Keldsen

Chair, CSR Greenland



# 1. Background and introduction

CSR Greenland was launched in October 2010. The organization was initiated by leading Greenlandic companies, along with the Greenland Business Association, first and foremost to further a positive social and economic development in Greenland, and secondly to help companies manage risks, and not least to seize growth opportunities inherent in a strategic approach to CSR. At the time, Greenland was facing significant challenges in respect to social and economic development, making it relevant and timely that all stakeholders work together to improve conditions and work together towards a shared goal of sustainable development. In this respect, the core foundation of CSR Greenland rests on the idea of creating shared value for society and business.

Based on our Articles of Association, CSR Greenland works with the UN Global Compact Principles at its core and focuses on the following themes:

- Environment and climate change
- Education and competence development
- Training programme member companies

The organization's vision is to play a role in creating a social, economic, and environmentally sustainable development in Greenland through a focus on the social responsibilities of companies and through innovative partnerships between the public and private sectors and civil society.

#### **Members**

CSR Greenland has around 60 members across sectors, representing a broad section of Greenlandic business life. An updated membership list can be found on our website www.csr.gl. The organization is a business-led initiative but has increasingly engaged non-business members on a continuous basis both generally and on specific issues through partnerships and collaboration. We have expanded our collaboration and partnerships with the public sector in the reporting period.

Eight Greenlandic companies and organizations have signed the UN Global Compact principles, namely the Bank of Greenland, Air Greenland, TUSASS, Kalaallit Nunaanni Brugseni, Nukissiorfiit, Stark Group, Illuut and CSR Greenland. Most are also members of the UN Global Compact Nordic Network, and going forward, all signatories from Greenland can join the UN Global Compact Network Denmark.

#### Organization and governance

Our Annual General Meeting takes place every year in March. Here, members elect a board consisting of up to ten CEOs of the member companies. The board then appoints a chairperson and a deputy chairperson. The board members are elected



for a period of two years. The board meets four times a year in Nuuk. The work of this board is unpaid.

#### Current board members:

Christian Keldsen (Chairman) CEO of the Greenland Business Association

Martin Kviesgaard (Vice Chairman) CEO of the Bank of Greenland

Dora Drechsel

Miki Brøns

Julia Pars,

CEO of Kalaallit Forsikring

CEO of Polar Seafood

CEO of Relate People

Cicilie Senderovitz CEO of Nukissiorfiit

Jens K. Lyberth, Director for Corporate Relations of Royal Greenland

Jacob Nitter Sørensen, CEO of Air Greenland

Inooraq Brandt Managing Director of Rambøll Greenland

Cuno Jensen CEO of Qalut Vónin

The day-to-day operations are managed by a small secretariat. The task of the secretariat is to implement the strategy set out by the Board and carry out daily activities.

Hence, the secretariat manages and facilitates networks, seminars, and courses for member companies as well as other stakeholders, supports and manages partnerships and projects between companies, public authorities, and civil society, supports the member companies' reporting and communication regarding CSR and communicates and shares knowledge about CSR and sustainability.



## 2. Core activities 2022 - 2023

In the following section, we have highlighted our activities related to the UNGC. We also introduce our work within the prioritised three strategic focus areas:

- Education
- Environment
- Training programme

It is not a comprehensive overview of all of CSR Greenland's work and activities. A more complete overview of CSR Greenland activities during the period can be read in our annual reports available on <a href="https://www.csr.gl">www.csr.gl</a>.

#### 2.1. Activities related to the UNCG

#### **Engaging in UNGC networks**

CSR Greenland and other signatories has attended the UNGC Nordic Network meeting in Sweden in 2022 and in Copenhagen in 2023.

Signatories has the option to join webinar sessions and have access to a variety of online materials provided by UNGC Denmark.

#### **Engaging companies in UNGC related issues**

A core activity for CSR Greenland is to host and facilitate networks to allow members to learn about CSR, SDG and share experiences, challenges, and best practices. Our network of companies meets several times a year in connection with the CSR Greenland activity programme. In the reporting period, CSR Greenland have hosted several sessions for members focusing on the SDGs, responsible procurement, strategic health management, education, environment and much more.

In addition to network and membership meetings, CSR Greenland regularly engages companies in seminars, courses, and events for member as well as non-member companies.

A few examples from the reporting period include:

- Environment, annual clean-up day (annual)
- SDG education programme for businesses (2022-2023)
- IPUK-class business development with focus on sustainability (2021 and final report in 2022)
- Morning meetings, courses, and seminars on the SDG for various stakeholders (yearly)
- QAQISA education programme (2022-2023)
- Sustainability Academy, online-session (2022-2023)
- Climate course (2023)



CSR Greenland also offers companies one-on-one meetings and management workshops to facilitate the companies' work with CSR related themes. By helping companies identify material issues and streamline their sustainability work, CSR Greenland helps to ensure relevance and integration into the business.

#### Engaging other stakeholders in UNGC related issues

One of the key goals of CSR Greenland has been to promote the idea of shared value and shape the agenda of strategic CSR and sustainability. In doing this, we have engaged with a broad range of stakeholders, including public institutions, local civil society organizations, media, international companies, etc.

To engage decision makers in government and municipalities, CSR Greenland invite and meet key politicians in government and municipalities level as well as member companies to discuss how to work together to facilitate a positive social and environmental development in Greenland.

#### Partnerships around corporate sustainability

Partnerships across sectors focusing on sustainability is one of the core focus areas of CSR Greenland, which align with the idea that all stakeholders need to work together to facilitate the social and economic development of Greenland. Since 2015, our focus has increasingly been on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a main agenda. CSR Greenland enters into partnership agreement on specific tasks with municipalities, government authorities as well as with businesses.

#### 2.2. CSR Greenland's strategic focus areas in the reporting period

In the reporting period, CSR Greenland have initiated and managed several projects related to our strategic focus areas that all supports corporate sustainability and the SDGs. Kindly see below for a short description of these.



#### **EDUCATION**

#### Project: 'QAQISA - More educated youth'

CSR Greenland concluded the project 'Companies visiting schools – schools visiting companies' in 2017. CSR Greenland published an all-round guidance in 2018 and prolonged the project for the period 2019-2021. CSR Greenland coordinates the implementation of QAQISA for students in ninth and tenth grade at the primary schools. CSR Greenland introduce the QAQISA concept to school counsellors and



attend at the annual national meeting for school counsellors. Attendees in nineth and tenth grade conducts evaluation of the QAQISA project. CSR Greenland has developed QAQISA for a digital universe, where the local participants easily can find, use, and exchange knowledge, experiences etc. among each other, but do also share knowledge and material with upcoming users.

In 2022 CSR Greenland conducted a survey regarding young people's media habit and invited young people in training to participate with video sequence regarding their daily life as students / apprentices. The year 2023 was organized with a support function for local QAQISA groups to keep the project ongoing.

**Focus**: Inspire and motivate primary school students to pursue an education directly after graduation from primary school.

**Partners**: Local partners are the school department at the municipality, local businesses, IMAK (Teachers Association), AQQUT (National Educational Counsellors) and the primary school.

**Description and key results**: The target group is around 2,000 students during the project period. The goal is to motivate these students to stay in the educational system after primary school, through an intensified co-operation between the school and the surrounding business community. You find material about QAQISA on <a href="https://www.csr.gl">www.csr.gl</a>.



## Project: Saligaatsoq (2011 - ongoing).

The initiative covers an annual clean-up day. The clean-up day started out in the spring of 2011 as a joint clean-up day in Nuuk, where employees from several companies collected large amounts of waste from the city's recreational areas, ditches, roads, and sites after the snow melted. After a massive effort to make it a national clean-up day, the project has spread to all cities in Greenland and many of the settlements with various environmentally focused campaigns aimed at behavioural change both in workplaces and in the public sphere.

**Focus**: Partnership-based environmental projects and knowledge sharing.

Partners: More than 50 companies, the Government and the 5 municipalities.

**Description and key results:** The project have grown since start and achieved 17 participating towns and more than 45 settlements. CSR Greenland formed a guidance for Saligaatsoq. Cross sector knowledge sharing group with the purpose of building bridge between the sectors by sharing their knowledge as well as discussing various environmental issues, challenges, possibilities, and new ideas for collaboration



across sectors. Participant can easily follow the progress and updates on the Saligaatsoq Facebook page.

CSR Greenland is engaged in and part of a unique network, Nordic Coastal Cleanup group/NCC together with seven Nordic and West Nordic countries.

# 3. Plans for 2024

The Board of CSR Greenland has defined a new strategy for CSR Greenland for the coming four years beginning in 2024. This includes prioritized focus on education, environment, and training. Several projects will extend either into the next reporting period, as part of the current project period or as next phases. CSR Greenland is anticipating an increased focus on the SDGs, including training, seminars and events relating to the Global Goals.

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The SDGs have been translated into Greenlandic and recognised by the UN as the 7th official language.

### Final remarks

CSR Greenland regularly communicate and report on our activities to stakeholders and members through our website <a href="www.csr.gl">www.csr.gl</a>, various social media (LinkedIn and Facebook) and through monthly newsletters. Kindly feel free to follow us on any of these channels.

If you have any questions or comments, kindly contact us at <u>csr@csr.gl</u>.