

Communication of Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact

Period Covered - January 2022 to December 2023

Part I: Statement of Support to the United Nations Global Compact

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that the Public-Private Alliance Foundation 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 of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for a charitable non-profit organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

David Stillman
Executive Director
26 April 2024

Part II: Description of Actions

The Public-Private Alliance Foundation (PPAF) is a New York-based 501(c)3 non-profit organization, recognized by the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the Department of Global Communications, and a member of the Clean Cooking Alliance (hosted by the UN Foundation), as well as a participant in the United Nations Global Compact. PPAF relies on low-cost options and voluntary contributions of funds and talent. It was established in 2007 with support from ambassadors to the United Nations from Madagascar, the Dominican Republic and Haiti. For the past several years Haiti has been the focus country.

PPAF seeks to advance renewable energy, health, education, and gender equity in keeping with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Its work in 2022-2023 emphasized promotion of solar cooking, and also biogas from agricultural waste, to reduce families' daily dependence on wood and charcoal in Hinche, Jacmel, and Cotes de Fer Haiti. These places are some distance from the murderous gangs currently controlling most of the capital city Port au Prince.

In its communications, advocacy and outreach, PPAF emphasizes environmental and issues in Haiti and internationally, as well as human rights concerns and policies. It does this through seminars and events, notably as conducted at the UN High Level Political Forum annual sessions, in collaboration with Solar Cookers International (SCI). The crushing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic during the previous reporting period, 2020-2021, curtailed many activities and events. It also led to a blossoming of reliance on the internet for work, notably through WhatsApp, Zoom and webinars.

PPAF incorporates and promotes the 10 Principles of the United Nations Global Compact and the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and uses a business approach for poverty alleviation. PPAF conducts its project and seminar work through multi-stakeholder cooperation with both Haitian and USA- based organizations. PPAF's fundraising efforts are mainly through the crowdfunding platform GlobalGiving, which stresses the SDGs as its framework for action.

Most families in Haiti depend on charcoal for daily cooking, which leads to respiratory disease and massive deforestation. PPAF and collaborating organizations conduct research and introduce development activities on how people cook, to improve the lives and livelihoods of all, and especially women and girls.

Regarding PPAF's work during 2022-2023, it continued to support the University Notre Dame d'Haiti in Hinche with an innovative solar and biogas course, solar cooking tests of how various foods could be prepared, solar cooking and sewing classes at the Art Creation Foundation for Children in Jacmel, and solar and biodigester activities at the KDCK community center in Cotes de Fer.

New work included devising recipes for a Haitian solar cooking cookbook, conducting surveys of people who had obtained solar cookers, and organizing lunchtime demonstrations. The testing and results were at the level of low-income families who typically don't realize how sunshine can cook a good meal and save money otherwise spent on charcoal. PPAF took the SCI materials for user surveys and needs assessment surveys, modified them for use in Haiti, and applied them in the three towns.

PPAF also sponsored videos by two Haitian colleagues. They illustrated serious problems in the country from deforestation to produce charcoal - the daily fuel of most families - and the budding possibilities of cooking with the power of the sun.

During 2023 a new effort began in and around Hinche. A collaborator donated dozens of solar cookers to several orphanages. PPAF took the opportunity and collaborated by supporting demonstrations, training, and encouragement of regular use of these.

By the end of 2023 PPAF was able to initiate its first sales of solar cooker kits in Haiti. Collaborating organizations agreed to piggyback arrangements for small shipments from the USA. PPAF representatives in Hinche and Jacmel got busy with demonstrations and promotions, and this aspect of PPAF's work began to move ahead. The sales are greatly subsidized. The intent is to encourage an entrepreneurial spirit among PPAF representatives, and attractive prices for the target market of low-income customers.

Looking to the future, PPAF wants to bring more solar cookers into Haiti and stimulate their assembly and distribution. Security conditions are currently a serious problem, but PPAF is planning and fundraising to achieve the goal.

Regarding advocacy, PPAF has convened seminars at the United Nations Headquarters and elsewhere for well over a decade. The UN Global Compact principles and the Sustainable Development Goals are embodied and promoted in the events. In 2022 and 2023 PPAF was again a joint sponsor, with Solar Cookers International (SCI), of webinars and exhibits linked to the UN High Level Political Forum.

PPAF created a PowerPoint presentation and an illustrated booklet "Solar Cooking – Progress in Haiti" for use in these exhibits. They introduced and summarized PPAF's work, engaged UN delegates and others, and helped attendees become aware of solar cooking possibilities in Haiti. SCI was the main partner in the exhibit. Its representative was able to introduce visitors to the worldwide range of SCI advocacy, capacity-building, and research.

Part III: Measurement of Outcomes

PPAF is a non-governmental organization with a history of linkages among academic institutions, business and industry associations, and public sector organizations. Partnerships are a central concern, for local engagement, events and resource development. In the collaborations described above, PPAF is often the general coordinator and a main funder.

PPAF encourages businesses and associations to be aware of and seek to implement the SDGs and to be aware of and join the UN Global Compact. It advocates for awareness of and association with SCI, which is a recognized entity in its field. Then too, PPAF has encouraged SCI to become an active member of the Clean Cooking Alliance. At the webinars with SCI at the UN High Level Political Forum, speakers from PPAF and other organizations have highlighted the importance of innovative actions, technical standardization and environment-friendly public policy.

PPAF is glad to be able to engage with others in projects and seminars, and on public policy issue platforms in relation to issues of international concern. Participation in the UN Global Compact since 2007 provides an excellent opportunity for this.