

## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)



**arcenciel**

### **Period covered by this Communication on Engagement**

From: 01/01/2022 To: 31/12/2023

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

10<sup>th</sup> of June 2024

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that arcenciel 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 and 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 an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

**Robin Richa**  
CEO

## Part II. Description of Actions

Arcenciel is an NGO officially registered in Lebanon according to the applicable laws and regulations with the ministry of Interior and is recognized of public utility. arcenciel is an apolitical, non-confessional, and independent organization working with and for all people in difficulty without discrimination of age, gender, religion, culture or nationality.

We are proud to be rewarded the “Champions of the Earth” title in November 2022 for our collective efforts in environmental sustainability.

Our actions in the past 2 years under the respective SDGs included:

- Goal 2 End Hunger: Food security remains our objective in our support for farmers and food producers through our Beit el Mouzareh network. We have provided counselling, equipment, training and support to wheat farmers in the Bekaa and to food producers in the Chouf area through our innovation center in Damour.

- Goal 3 Healthy lives: Pursuing the waste management of potentially infectious healthcare waste of hospitals and healthcare facilities with the Ministry of Public Health. Arcenciel treats 80% of this waste with an average of 10 tons daily thus preventing the potential spread of diseases at a national level. A new microwave machine was recently acquired to modernise our activities with reduced emissions. Numerous therapy sessions were given to people with disabilities to improve their health.

- Goal 4 Inclusive education: Our school in Taanayel ensures a comprehensive approach to the education of children with disabilities by providing them with the specialised therapy needed (physiotherapy, speech therapy, psychomotor therapy, psychology, occupational therapy) to ensure they are in the best conditions of learning. In 2023 two new recreational room under the Snoezelen technique were introduced.

- Goal 5 Gender equality: Reducing the social and economic vulnerabilities of women by strengthening their capacities through microfinancing, promoting the sustainable development of their small businesses. An activity maintained since 2018 with high rates of cases of retention of businesses created close to 50%.

- Goal 6 Water management: Our farm in Taanayel introduced the waste water management strategy through the filtering of the water used in our offices and touristic places. In addition a biogas facility to treat the cow manure is under construction and will be launched in 2024 to collect from neighbouring farms and limit the contamination of water sources in the Litani river.

- Goal 7 Renewable energy: Our centers in Karantina, Damour, Saida, Zahle, Wati and Tanayel are now running fully or partially using renewable energy sources through PV panels that were installed and are fully operational.

- Goal 8 Economic Growth: Promoting the Disability Inclusion Scale for in raising awareness among companies and HR Professionals to become inclusive recruiters. Our employment bureau participated in the preparation and recruitment of many jobseekers.

- Goal 11 Safe cities: Supporting municipalities by promoting urban gardens (Chiyah) and combating pollution, and increasing access to healthy food (communal gardening), among vulnerable groups (refugees, women, and people with disabilities). This action is complemented by the continued operation of household recyclable waste collection (cardboard, paper, glass, plastic, metal) secondary sorting, shredding, compacting and provision to industries as raw material.

- Goal 12 Sustainable consumption: Raising awareness around the circular economy to influence attitudes towards reducing waste generation and promoting circular economy paradigms on multiple levels. Our Farm in the Bekaa is a living example of circular economy in agriculture practices (livestock feed production, dairy farm, organic waste management...)

- Goal 15 Terrestrial ecosystems: Promote sustainable agricultural practices through the development in our Tanayel farm of compost production to valorise the organic waste from the farm and plantations. The products retrieved are soil compost and wood briquettes to reduce the consumption of chemicals and fossil fuels. Furthermore, the biopesticides production limits further chemical insecticide usage. Biodiversity is ensured and can be seen in the migratory birds increased adoption of our premises in their travels.

- Goal 16 Peaceful societies: Peace building through circus arts continues in our social circus school cirquenciel and in our newly established Skate park in Horsh Beirut. These facilities invite people free of charge, to build their skills, increase trust in one another and learn to respect the other without being guided by stereotypes and misinformation.

### **Part III. Measurement of Outcomes in 2022 and 2023**

50 General Disability Inclusion Training sessions were conducted including companies, NMSMEs owners, municipalities, youth committees, and NGOs. Of which, 600 participants acquired knowledge about inclusion and disability. Career coaching sessions were given to 900 individuals.

Infectious Healthcare Waste (IHCW treats more than 80% of the health care waste generated in Lebanon. For 2 years 6 tons of infectious waste were processed of which 1.5 tons were COVID 19 waste.

1200 tons of household recyclables were collected and sorted in our facilities.

450 tons of compost and 100 tons of briquettes were produced in our Taanayel farm.

2000 youth benefited from circus and skating sessions.

20,000 health and therapy sessions were administered to people with disabilities and injured individuals.

200 farmers were supported in the Bekaa and in the Chouf regions, with equipment, counseling and service provision.

Our school in Taanayel welcomed 50 children with disabilities and ensured their education and health was improved.

150 women accessed grants for their business support in addition to mentoring and follow up.

#### **2022 Impact report:**

[https://youtu.be/OgDB1GxtjP4?si=AbXm6Q3m-SB3n2U\\_](https://youtu.be/OgDB1GxtjP4?si=AbXm6Q3m-SB3n2U_)

#### **Champion of the Earth in 2022 by United Nations Environment Program:**

<https://youtu.be/BG5uiU5tMp4?si=bj-LfOyo8u1YRJJm>