



**Public-Private Alliance Foundation**

## **Communication of Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact**

Period Covered - January 2018 to December 2019

### **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 an 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*

*29 January 2020*

### **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. On the project side, PPAF currently works with collaborators to support university teaching and fieldwork in Haiti on sustainable energy. PPAF also supports young entrepreneur classes at a Haitian training institution for children of low- income families, and provides support to a Haitian organization that promotes brighter futures for adolescent girls. As regards communication, advocacy and outreach, PPAF emphasizes environmental and related issues in

Haiti and international human rights concerns and policies. It does this through seminars and events conducted in New York with the United Nations Association of the USA/ Southern New York State Division (UNA/SNY) and other collaborators.

PPAF 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 with emphasis on renewable energy, public health, climate change, gender and entrepreneurship. All the work is achieved through projects and seminars involving multi-stakeholder cooperation with both USA- and Haiti-based organizations. Established in 2007 with support from ambassadors to the United Nations from Madagascar, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, PPAF has conducted various development activities in 2018-2019.

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 to improve the lives and livelihoods of all, and especially women and girls. The aim is to help families escape the poverty-respiratory disease-deforestation trap, by reducing the heavy dependence on charcoal.

In 2018, PPAF began collaborations with the Université Notre Dame d' Haiti at Hinche, KDCK-CDF, Solar CITIES Global Biogas Education, Solar Cookers International, Solar Education Project/GDF, Solar Household Energy, Persons Helping People, Haines Solar Cookers and other organizations, for funding and support of a "first ever in Haiti" course on sustainable energy through solar cooking and biodigesters for biogas and garden fertilizer. The first two semesters were fall 2018 and spring 2019. A second iteration of the course began in fall 2019. The Global Compact principles and the Sustainable Development Goals are embedded in the teaching and fieldwork of the course. The classes emphasize how solar and biogas are related to each of the SDGs. In addition to the work with the university, PPAF in 2019 began support to young entrepreneurs' classes in baking and sewing at the Art Creation Foundation for Children, a Haitian training institution for children from low-income families, and provided support to entrepreneurial development and outreach to advance work of the Haiti Adolescent Girls Network. Again, the Global Compact principles and especially the SDGs on poverty, education, gender equality, decent work, climate and partnerships have been very much in mind.

PPAF has convened seminars at the United Nations Headquarters and elsewhere for more than a decade. The UN Global Compact, the Millennium Development Goals and now the Sustainable

Development Goals are always featured in the events. In 2018-2019 these included sessions on Haiti with the UNA/SNY during the annual meetings of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. These were: “Clean Cooking for Sustainable Development” in 2018 and “Innovative Programs in Haiti: Education, Agriculture, Clean Cooking and Women’s Solidarity” in 2019. At the UN in 2018 PPAF and the Haiti Adolescent Girls Network made a joint presentation on education for girls in the context of human rights as part of the UN Department of Public Information annual NGO conference. At a fundraising event for PPAF in 2018, held at the showroom of corporate sponsor Resource Furniture and with additional support from Crillon Importers Ltd., statements made by representatives of several collaborating organizations emphasized the principles for which the UN Global Compact is known. In 2018 and 2019 PPAF was an invited exhibitor at the UN High Level Political Forum, together with Solar Cookers International, Solar Education Project/GDS and Solar CITIES Global Biogas Education. Hundreds of country delegates, representatives of other organizations and UN staff stopped each day for two weeks to see and learn about solar cookers and bio-digesters and their relation to international concerns. In addition, PPAF assisted Purchase College of the State University of New York in organizing and implementing a session with a dozen NGOs, entitled “Envisioning Haiti’s Future: Conversations with Frontline Organizations.” This was part of the college’s annual (T)HERE Global Festival, which in 2019 focused on Haiti.

Beyond the seminars and events related to Haiti, PPAF worked with the UNA/SNY in 2019 in seminars and reporting as concerns race, gender and criminal justice, climate change, immigrant children, and election integrity. This was undertaken as part of the reporting possibilities by civil society to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights and the US State Department as part of the forthcoming 2020 consideration of performance by the USA under the Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights of UN Member States. PPAF members participated in the seminars with a range of experts in the relevant fields and wrote or edited several of the reports, each of which had a strong relation to the Global Compact concerns for human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption.

The seminars on race, criminal justice and gender dealt with issues of policing, pre-trial, parole and post-prison situations and mass incarceration overall and women and family issues, including sex trafficking and child vulnerability. The seminar on immigrant children dealt with family separation, legal representation, and the treatment of children in custody. The seminar on climate change focused on fossil fuels, the need for science-based policies, community empowerment, and agriculture. The seminar on election integrity dealt with problems of flawed election administration, disenfranchisement of

vulnerable populations, and security of voting methods. Because of such participation, PPAF members were able to advance various public policy options and engage with other civil society organizations on topics of major importance.

### **Part III: Measurement of Outcomes**

As stated in the Communication of Engagement guidelines, an organization doesn't have to be a for-profit to participate in the UN Global Compact. Non-business entities can help shape effective ideas, develop tools and research, and further partnership projects.

PPAF is an NGO with linkages among academic institutions, business and industry associations, and public sector organizations. In relation to all of these, it is not easy or necessarily productive to be quantitative, but the qualitative implications are important.

As described in Part II above, and in the name of the organization itself, partnerships are a central concern for PPAF and are undertaken with other bodies with the purpose of advancing the principles of the UN Global Compact and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Such partnership includes resource development, events and networking opportunities, and local engagement. In the case of the collaboration among PPAF and others and the Haitian University, PPAF is the general coordinator of the team, and along with the university, funds the project. PPAF was specifically responsible for the class materials pertaining to the SDGs.

Regarding business and industry associations, PPAF encourages businesses and others it interacts with to be aware of and seek to implement the SDGs and to be aware of and join the Global Compact. Within the specific areas of its work PPAF advocates for awareness of and membership in Solar Cookers International and Solar CITIES Global Biogas Education. These are recognized entities in their fields with broad membership. With stimulus from PPAF, both of those organizations have become active members of the Clean Cooking Alliance. Solar Cookers International has developed performance evaluation procedures for solar cookers which are an advancement in the development of relevant technical standards. At the above participation in the UN High Level Political Forum, PPAF, Solar Cookers International, Solar Education Project/GDS, KDCK-CDF and Solar CITIES Biogas discussed with visitors the importance of innovative actions, technical standardization and environment-friendly public policy.

PPAF is glad to be able to engage with others in projects, 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.