

# WIKWIHEBA

## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

United Nations Global Compact

*Period covered by this Communication on Engagement: 2 years from: April 29th 2022 - April 28th 2024*

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

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Wikwiheba 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,

*Deborah Bedford-Strohm*

Chairwoman, Wikwiheba e.V.

### **PART II Description of Actions**

Examples of actions include:

Wikwiheba enacted Principle 1 by cofunding healthcare premiums for underprivileged families in the Kaduha region, and funding livestock grants to these families to generate income to cover their health insurance co-pay going forward.

Wikwiheba enacted Principle 3 on freedom of association and collective bargaining by continuing the organization's commitment to the sewing cooperatives for girls who went through Wikwiheba-funded vocational training and further aiding other youth with their vocational training.

Wikwiheba enacted Principle 5 on the abolition of child labour by investing in education, not just with the continued provision of education materials to underprivileged students, but also with a meal program for the vacation periods, so kids stay healthy when school meals are not available.

Wikwiheba enacted Principle 6 on the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment by funding vocational training and business starter kits to boys and girls from socio-economically underprivileged backgrounds.

Wikwiheba enacted Principle 8 on the promotion of environmental responsibility by investing in agroforestry initiatives raising and distributing thousands of tree seedlings to families.

Wikwiheba enacted Principle 9 on the encouragement of environmentally friendly technologies by investing in mobile solar units powering homes and installing rain-water harvesting systems.

Wikwiheba advertised the Global Compact on its website.

### **PART III Measurement of Outcomes**

Examples of measurement of outcomes include:

- Raising awareness for the Global Compact with a steady stream of several hundred visitors to our website on which the logo is prominently placed in the partner section.
- Linking abstract principles to concrete actions like the formation of a sewing cooperative for girls and creating small business opportunities to pay for health care.
- Investing in education with dozens of vocational training stipends in Mugano and Byumba, and school materials for dozens of kids.

- Installing rain-water harvesting systems with 10,000 l tank capacity in dozens of parishes across Rwanda, as well as 100+ mobile solar units.
- Applying transparency and anti-corruption measures like publishing a report on the use of funds on the website.