

# WORLD VISION UK

## 2020-21

### Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact



*The United Nations Global Compact is a voluntary initiative, which World Vision UK has signed-up to, committing to implement sustainable practices and support UN goals. This Communication on Engagement describes the actions that we've taken to support and promote the UN Global Compact and its principles over the last two years.*

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## Part i. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive:

Period covered by this COE: From January 2020 to December 2021



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4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

I am pleased to confirm that World Vision UK 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 document is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact.

This Communication of Engagement document describes succinctly the activities and programmes that World Vision UK has taken to fully support the UN Global Compact and its Principles. Furthermore, not only do we embody the principles of the UNGC in our work, but we also have the pleasure of working closely with UNGCUK with our PACE programme. We have included a case study of this work with UNGC in this document.

As ever we commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders through our Annual Report and Accounts and our Impact Report. These documents have been the source material for the data and information provided in this Communication and are available on our World Vision UK website.

World Vision UK is fully committed to the principles as detailed in this report and our Annual Report. We are immensely proud to have PACE as a flagship programme from which we are learning and delivering great impact. World Vision UK has engaged with ongoing UNGC activities as capacity has allowed; and in recognition of the need for greater intentionality in terms of how we both engage with the UNGC and relate to corporate/business partners, we have created a new Corporate Engagement team within the Strategic Partnerships Directorate enabling us to make more progress and greater impact across the board.

We welcome feedback on the contents of this document, as we aim to continually improve and grow our engagement with the UNGC.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Sheard".

Mark Sheard

CEO, World Vision UK

## Part ii: Commitment to the 10 principles of UNGC

### Human Rights Principles; 1 & 2

*Principle 1: World Vision UK supports and respects the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and*

*Principle 2: World Vision UK ensures we are not complicit in human rights abuses.*

World Vision runs programmes in contexts around the world where people could be considered highly vulnerable due to poverty, conflict, displacement, and difficulties accessing their basic human rights. Such situations increase the possibility of human rights abuses and therefore we have clear policies and procedures in place to ensure people's human rights are protected and we do no harm wherever we work. An important part of this commitment is our ongoing engagement with Civil Society, ensuring our awareness and involvement in local networks, special initiatives, and opportunities to involve partners, stakeholders, and other organisations in Global Compact related issues.

### Activities in 2020-2021

- We have detailed policies and behavioural protocols reflecting our zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse, bullying and harassment.
- We have created a new division focusing on Strategic Partnerships for World Vision UK to enable us to deepen further our engagement with Civil Society and Corporate organisations. This engagement will enable us to be closely networked locally and globally and participate in Global Compact events.
- Our Board of Trustees monitors World Vision UK's remuneration, reward, and people management policies. Further information about the implementation of these policies and how leaders engage with staff can be found on in our Annual Report 2021.
- World Vision UK actively participates in several critical committees on Human Rights, including chairing the Bond Child Rights Group.
- World Vision UK also participates in the Gender and Development Network, contributing to the:
  - PSVI Working Group (a joint working group of the Gender and Development Network and Gender Action for Peace and Security)
  - The Humanitarian Working Group
  - Violence Against Women and Girls Working Group
- Furthermore, World Vision UK is an active contributor to the following committees and working groups centred on promoting Human Rights and protection of those rights:
  - Send My Friend to School Working Group
  - Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, especially active in the Advocacy Working Group

### Next Steps

- Following the creation of our new Strategic Partnerships Division in World Vision UK, we will deepen our engagement with Civil Society, local and global networks, and corporate organisations.
- To increase involvement in local and worldwide Global Compact events and initiatives via our Strategic Partnerships Division and across World Vision.

## Labour Principles; 3, 4, 5 & 6

*Principle 3: World Vision UK upholds the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.*

*Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour.*

*Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and*

*Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation*

World Vision UK and the wider World Vision Partnership share a zero-tolerance stance on modern slavery and human trafficking. Together, we are pro-active in preventing such acts within our own supply chain and ensuring that we only partner with organisations that also observe appropriate ethical standards.

## Activities in 2020-2021

- We actively engage in international research into child labour, gathering evidence of what works and what doesn't in fragile contexts. Our research includes best practice in supply chains focussed on removing the worst forms of child labour.
- We publish, annually, a Modern Slavery Statement to confirm our stance on preventing modern slavery, including human trafficking and labour violations.
- We provide training on modern slavery for staff and partners, and we have a Whistleblowing Policy in place through which any misconduct, as well as illegal acts in general, can be reported.
- We follow a robust Ethical Policy supporting due diligence procedures which are carried out into the track record of significant donors, partners, or suppliers and on their sub-contractors, to ensure that neither the donors, partner or their sub-contractors have any association with child labour, human trafficking, or bonded/slave labour.
- We operate a Code of Conduct Policy emphasising our commitment to conduct that is both ethical and legal and confirming that we oppose illegal acts in any of our activities. World Vision UK requires adherence by personnel to all applicable laws and organisational policies.
- The World Vision Partnership Guide to Humanitarian Standards reminds programme staff of the risk of trafficking and directs them to use socially responsible businesses and local labour and ensure that procedures are in place to provide a safe working environment and appropriate remuneration.
- We have a Serious Incidents Policy in place, supported by rigorous procedures, to investigate any adverse practices or incidents reported to us and to implement preventative actions, both here in the UK and in relation to our partners and their sub-contractors.
- World Vision UK signed up for the child labour webinar series with the UK Network.

## Next steps

- We remain committed to keeping our policies, procedures and training under review and updating these as needed to maximise the contribution they make to efforts to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking internationally.
- To provide 2022 training on modern slavery, including anti-corruption, for staff and partners.
- World Vision UK attending and incorporating guidance from UNGC's child labour webinar series.

## CASE STUDY: PACE

The Partnership Against Child Exploitation (PACE) is a ground-breaking partnership of private sector, academic, media development and civil society organisations working together to combat the exploitation of children in the worst forms of child labour.

World Vision UK leads the consortium; with over £8.5 million in funding over 4 years from the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). UN Global Compact UK are one of our six partners in PACE which adopts a holistic multifaceted programme designed to identify the most effective strategies for combating the worst forms of child labour across four main areas of work:

- 1) empowering children,
- 2) alternatives to child labour,
- 3) strengthening the justice sector and
- 4) collaborating with the private sector – working closely in collaboration with UNGC.

*It is this last priority area that World Vision UK works most closely with UNGC.*

Below is a photograph of a business roundtable presenting the PACE project in DRC.



***Business Roundtable aimed at presenting the PACE Consortium project to eleven Congolese companies and gaining insight on their best practices/challenges when addressing child labour in the DRC. February 2020.***

Through convening targeted companies, mapping identified supply chains, and examining best practice, PACE aims to develop new models for supply chain mapping and due diligence which can be used by companies around the world to eradicate child labour from their operations.

## Environment Principles: 7, 8 & 9

*Principle 7: World Vision UK supports a precautionary approach to environmental challenges.*

*Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and*

*Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.*

World Vision UK takes the environmental impact of our work extremely seriously; many of the communities we serve are directly affected by climate change and environmental degradation. We have issued an Environmental Policy Statement, which is on our website, and have agreed a climate change action plan for the year ahead. This includes an Environmental Stewardship Policy and agreeing a baseline of emissions and carbon emission reduction targets towards the goal of reducing our environmental footprint and achieving net-zero emissions.

### Activities in 2020-2021

- We have systematically raised awareness with our employees on sustainability and environmental issues in a manner that is creating greater environmental responsibility.
- World Vision UK is a signatory to the Glasgow Action Plan, an initiative of the Bond Development & Environment Group.
- World Vision UK is a signatory to The Climate Coalition to influence international Climate Change Policy and particularly CoP26 held in Glasgow in November 2021.
- We have also intentionally encouraged the use and diffusion of environmentally friendly technology and models in our field work, such as climate-smart agriculture, fuel-efficient cookstoves, and carbon removal through reforestation using World Vision's farmer-managed natural regeneration approach.
- You can read more about our commitment to the Environment and the actions we've taken in our Impact Report and Annual Report 2021.

### Next Steps

- To raise further awareness with our employees on sustainability and environmental issues in a manner that creates greater environmental responsibility within the organisation and our partners.

## Anti-Corruption Principle: 10

*Principle 10: World Vision UK works against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.*

World Vision UK will not accept corruption or corrupt acts within any aspect of our work. We act in compliance with all anti bribery legislation and ensure that our partners, sub-contractors, and anyone acting on our behalf, or affiliated with us does too.

### Activities in 2020-2021

- We have comprehensive policies and guidelines, including (but not limited to) an Anti-Fraud Policy, Bribery Policy, Conflict of Interest Policy and Money Laundering Policy.
- All staff are also made aware of our Whistleblowing Policy, with access to a dedicated reporting hotline.
- As a global Partnership, all World Vision offices and entities align and comply with Partnership-wide Anti-Corruption Policies.
- We have robust systems guiding due diligence on all potential partners, with particular attention to their own internal anti-corruption and bribery policies. This process is currently under review to further strengthen it, particularly regarding international partners.
- We also ensure that written agreements with partners (including their agents, consultants, and sub-contractors), in all programmes, include requirements for compliance with anti-bribery procedures and policies.
- We recognise our responsibilities to respect human rights, and we're committed to supporting and respecting the protection of human rights in all our implementation activities and programmes.

### Next Steps

- To provide 2022 training on anti-corruption, including modern slavery, for staff and partners.
- World Vision UK's Anti-Money Laundering Policy will be reviewed in 2022-3.
- Supplier Due Diligence business processes and associated training will be reviewed and refreshed in 2022-3.

## Part III. Measurement of Outcomes:

Over the period covered by this COE, In World Vision UK supported over 2 million children in 181 projects across 34 countries, benefiting more than 4 million people in total.

Most of our work took place in some of the world's toughest countries as we follow our calling to serve the world's most vulnerable children. This year, 47% of the children we directly supported were in the most fragile contexts – including Syria, Afghanistan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). This is the largest proportion ever, partly due to the scale of our COVID-19 response in DRC. A further 28% of the children we supported were in countries with very low levels of development, such as Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, and Mozambique. We have delivered impact through our programmes, from emergency and humanitarian interventions, through to training events, advocacy and engaging UK Government ministers and MPs.

We have reached hundreds of staff members globally in our Anti-Corruption and anti-money laundering training internally in addition to strengthening our due diligence, safeguarding and labour policies.

Furthermore, our advocacy and campaigning activities and events involved strategic partnerships and collaborations with several civil society organisations, where we have worked together to advocate and influence on policies and interventions.

- World Vision UK had a significant presence at COP26 where we advocated for ambitious action on climate change for the world's most vulnerable children and their communities.
- We called for the UK Government to do everything in their power to limit global warming; to invest in nature-based solutions to environmental damage and climate change; and to include children and young people meaningfully in the discussions which involved them.
- World Vision took part in several events including an inter-faith moment, building relationships with other FBOs and key faith leaders, involving a petition hand-in to No. 10 Downing Street & a projection stunt onto the Houses of Parliament.
- At COP26 itself, World Vision hosted a private dinner with journalists and major donors in Glasgow to launch a new report focused on food insecurity & climate change and to a screen a pre-recorded conversation with WV young people alongside WVI CEO Andrew Morley, Lilian Dodzo (WV Kenya) and Nick Dyer (UK's first Special Envoy for Famine Prevention and Humanitarian Affairs).

With our church engagement and social media campaigns we have deepened and broaden our reach to influence, inform and encourage support for our causes, including Human Rights, Anti-Poverty, Environment and Climate. We have engaged our partners in policy and influencing of government and state actors, with the support of our child sponsors, World Vision UK supporters and youth often working in collaboration to influence, inform and shape practices, attitudes, and policies in climate, environment, and human rights.

Through our Citizen Voice in Action work we seek to empower communities to hold governments, policy makers and stakeholders to account as we seek to end poverty, sexual violence, slavery, trafficking and harmful and exploitative practices of forced and child labour and child soldiers.

## Achieved outcomes

World Vision UK has achieved the following progress against these indicators:

### Environment

- World Vision UK between October 2020-September 2021 Remitted \$4,125,389 to Field Offices, to support resilience building, reaching 911,280 people, of which 48% were children.
- Our interventions help reduce deforestation and improve rural livelihoods and included:
  - a. natural resource management,
  - b. alternative fuel sources,
  - c. water conservation,
  - d. rehabilitation of degraded land and
  - e. pasture for livestock.
- A World Vision UK Green Team was established - a concept taken up by the wider World Vision International partnership.
- A new more extensive Environment Policy has been approved and we switched to a 100% renewable electricity supplier with full installation of LED bulbs.

### Human Rights and Labour

- Staff receiving **Safeguarding** training: 262
- Staff attending **customised workshops on Safeguarding**: 144
- Government **policy influence to prevent sexual violence**: 2
  - 1. World Vision UK helped draft the UK government's **Call to Action** initiative launched to ensure the rights and wellbeing of children born of sexual violence in conflict. The **Call to Action** was endorsed by 3 UN Special Representatives, 4 donor governments and 4 affected governments.
  - 2. World Vision UK continues to work with these endorsers and other key stakeholders, including children born of sexual violence, to develop the **Programme of Action** for the Call to Action.

### Anti-Corruption

- Staff receiving **Anti-Corruption** training: 76
- Staff receiving **Anti-bribery** training: 77
- Staff receiving **Modern Slavery** training: 63

## Concluding remarks

World Vision UK is truly committed to the UNGC principles, as outlined in this report. The UNGC Principles are tightly integrated into our work as a leading international development organisation and our commitment to the principles is organic and robust. World Vision UK is very proud to have PACE as a flagship programme from which we are learning, developing, and delivering significant impact and outcomes.

World Vision UK has engaged in some of the ongoing UNGC activities as capacity has allowed. We acknowledge there are further opportunities to engage more. In recognition of the need for greater intentionality in terms of how we both engage with the UNGC and relate to corporate/business partners, we have created a new Strategic Partnerships Division to enable us to make more progress in the years to come and we look forward to sharing those developments in the next UNGC Communication of Engagement Report.