

FONDATION SAINT DOMINIQUE SAVIO (FSDS)



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Kigali, November 6th,2024.

H.E. António Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, NY 10017 USA

SUBJECT: FSDS's Communication on Engagement.

Your Excellency UN Secretary General,

I am writing to formally confirm that **FONDATION SAINT DOMINIQUE SAVIO (FSDS)** reaffirms its support and commitment to the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact. Since FSDS 's engagement with UNGC in 2016 to 2024, we have been proud to align our business practices with the ten principles encompassing human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption.

Despite efforts in integrating these principles into FSDS's operations, our organization has been delisted from the platform after 2018 for failing to submit its CoE that year. This failure resulted from resources constraints within organization, which were further exacerbated by circumstances surrounding the pandemic COVID-19. As part of our engagement to reassert our commitment to ten principles of UN Global Compact and to prevent a reoccurrence, several measures were taken in response to the situation, including leadership commitment, strengthening internal process, capacity building, regular reviews and audits, as it has been mentioned in our recommitment letter.

With this communication, we describe practical actions and outcomes to support and integrate UNGC principles into regular FSDS operational activities.

Yours sincerely,

Patrice NSENGIYUMVA
FSDS Founder & Executive Director)

FSDS'S COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT 2024.

a) Human rights

Fondation Saint Dominique Savio actively advocates for the protection of human rights within our communities. Our efforts to promoting human rights are also related to the implementation of SDG 16: access to justice, and building effective, accountable institutions.

Fondation Saint Dominique Savio is dedicated to advancing and creating a more just and peaceful society. We believe that respect for human rights, inclusive governance, and community engagement are essential for sustainable development. As we continue to implement our programs, we remain committed to fostering an environment where everyone's right is respected.

Key initiatives and efforts:

1. *Advocacy for Human Rights:* Fondation Saint Dominique Savio actively advocates for the protection of human rights within our communities. We partner with local and national organizations to address human rights violations and promote policies that safeguard individual freedoms.
2. *Promoting Peace and Tolerance:* We conduct programs that promote dialogue and understanding among diverse community groups. Through workshops, community events, and cultural exchanges, we aim to foster a culture of peace and tolerance.
3. *Access to Justice:* We work to raise awareness about legal rights and access to justice for marginalized populations. Our initiatives include providing legal education and resources, as well as connecting individuals with legal aid services.
4. *Empowerment through Education:* We incorporate lessons on human rights, civic responsibility, and governance into our educational programs. By educating students about their rights and responsibilities, we empower them to become active and informed citizens.
5. *Community Policing and Safety Initiatives:* In collaboration with local law enforcement, we promote community policing initiatives that build trust between law enforcement and communities.

b) Labor

Fondation Saint Dominique Savio's mission is to Work for a Peaceful and a Just World for Human Dignity. We ensure freedom of association to all our employees, support their ability to negotiate working conditions and express their concerns without fear of retaliation. We ensure equal job opportunities without discrimination, and we promote diversity and inclusion in our workplace. We do not hire children, and we are strongly against any form of forced and compulsory labor.

In our daily activities we also promote these values and empower our stakeholders through advocacy for human rights activities, advocacy for policy change activities and empowerment through education initiatives.

c) Environment

In the sector of environmental management, Fondation Saint Dominique Savio responded partially to the needs of refugees by improving waste management and briquettes production capacity, providing a renewable alternative energy source to supply electricity in public places, latrines and main streets. The former activity has been piloted in Mahama and Kiziba refugee camps.

In addition, forest protection and trees planting have been extended in all camps. Today, there are reforestation activities on-going in all camps including establishment of tree nurseries in each camp.

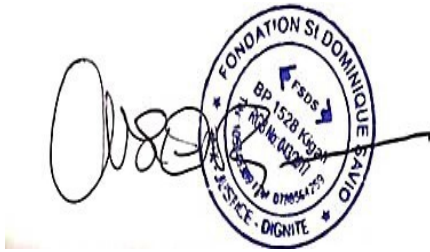
Fondation Saint Dominique Savio in close collaboration with UNHCR, MIDIMAR, DDC and other local partners and authorities identified together locations and types of trees to be planted, and these would normally be around agriculture areas.

Agro-forestry trees and a variety of vegetables have been also introduced into the refugee camps and schools to reduce malnutrition issues and for a balanced diet for refugees. All residents of Mahama, Nyabiheke, Gihembe, Kiziba, Kigeme and Mugombwa refugee camps except those in urban areas have directly benefited from the Fondation Saint Dominique Savio' environmental management and protection programs implemented.

d) Anti-corruption

Fondation Saint Dominique Savio implements a zero-tolerance policy against unethical practices. Our organization has also established an anti-corruption policy, conducted capacity building sessions and annual awareness raising campaigns to all our staffs. Recently, Fondation Saint Dominique Savio strictly enforced its monitoring and audit systems. We also promoted anti-corruption principles to our stakeholders through community engagement, advocacy and empowerment activities through education.

Dated at Kigali on: November 6th 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink is written over a circular blue stamp. The stamp contains the text 'FONDATION ST DOMINIQUE SAVIO' around the top edge, 'BP 1528 KIGALI' in the center, and 'JUSTICE - DIGNITE' around the bottom edge. There is also a small logo inside the stamp.

Patrice NSENGIYUMVA
FSDS Founder & Executive Director.