



The Shared Wood Company's Vision & Commitments for Doing Business

We are an "Impact First" and "Engaged" Company

V1. November 2021

The below twelve principals formalize our vision and commitments for doing business as an "impact first" company.

- I. The Shared Wood Company (SWC) and its Founders sets out as key corporate goals:
 - a) Contributing to end extreme poverty and promote social inclusion in all our host countries;
 - b) Contributing to the conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems and its resources of the planet and in particular our host countries;
 - c) Unrestricted respect and engaged promotion of Human Rights as expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The three goals emphasize the importance of economic growth in a context of a new green economy where economy is gets aligned with ecology, and of social inclusion and Human Rights as the necessary conditions for success.

- II. Inspired by this vision, SWC is committed to the sustainable development of mankind, including stronger collective action to support climate change mitigation and adaptation, recognizing this as essential in a world of finite natural resources, and the most important battle of our generation.

SWC recognizes that all economies, particularly developing and least developed nations, still bear a heavy burden of poverty and social exclusion, accentuated by COVID-19. Most nations in the world still need to largely grow their economies, especially in Latin America and Africa, but they need to do so sustainably and in strict respect of human rights, so that income-producing opportunities are not pursued in ways that destroy forests, degrade land, decimate biodiversity, pollute fresh water and fresh air, exploit children, women and vulnerable populations, among other atrocities, which were often committed in the search of "development".

- III. For SWC, sustainable development and social inclusion means empowering local populations to be actors of, and benefit from, the development process, including impact-driven and climate-related investments from the public and private sector that are currently being designed and/or deploy around the world.

Inclusion in our project development activity encompasses integrating investment criteria and policies to promote equality and nondiscrimination of local populations, especially for the poor and disadvantaged, and improving their access to services and benefits from our projects and operations such (but not limited to) as education, health, social protection, infrastructure, affordable energy, employment, financial services and productive assets.

We also embrace action to remove barriers in our investments against those who are consistently excluded such as women, children, persons with disabilities, native communities, youth and minorities, and to ensure that vulnerable represented groups can be heard and included in the investments we made.

- IV. Through the projects it develops and operates, SWC seeks, in addition to create positive social development impacts, to avoid adverse impacts and will continue to support the regions and countries where we work towards the unrestricted respect of human rights.

SWC and its founders are firm believer in the inalienable rights of all members of the human family as expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and as such, commit to its strict respect, in particular (but not limited to) the freedom of speech and belief, freedom from fear and want, as the foundations of a society of freedom, justice and peace.

This is of special attention in a context where every year dozens of environmental leaders, men and women, have been and are being killed, disappeared, silenced and/or violented around the world for the only act of defending their rights to their land, their resources, and a peaceful life for them and their families.

- V. SWC and its founders commit to use its convening ability and intellectual resources to embed this commitment to environmental and social sustainability and Human Rights across all its activities in all our host countries. To accomplish such aspiration, SWC and its founders commit to allocate a significant amount of its corporate, affiliates, and personal time, contacts and resources to the pursue of that goal.
- VI. At the project level, these global aspirations translate into enhancing development opportunities for all, particularly the poor and vulnerable, and promoting the sustainable management of natural and living resources. Therefore, within the parameters of a project, SWC seeks to:
- Generate positive measurable impacts for the people and the environment as primarily and ultimate goals of our corporate actions and investments;
 - Avoid or mitigate adverse impacts to people and the environment before/while they occur, and always before it's too late;
 - Conserve or rehabilitate biodiversity and natural habitats, and promote the efficient and equitable use of natural resources and ecosystem services;
 - Promote worker and community health and safety;
 - Ensure that there is no prejudice or discrimination toward project-affected individuals or communities and give particular consideration to native communities, minority groups, and those disadvantaged or vulnerable, especially where adverse impacts may arise or development benefits are to be shared; and
 - Maximize stakeholder engagement through enhanced consultation, participation and accountability.

- VII. SWC's vision goes beyond 'do no harm' to impact creation gains. Where SWC's environmental and social assessment has identified potential sustainable development and Human Rights enhancement opportunities associated with a project, SWC will discuss with its shareholders, investors and host countries' national and local authorities the feasibility of including the financing of such opportunities as part of the investment project.

- VIII. SWC will also work with its shareholders, investors and host countries authorities to identify strategic initiatives and goals to address national sustainable development priorities, where appropriate. In supporting such development priorities, SWC will seek cooperative relationships with local authorities, investors, donors and other international cooperation organizations.

SWC will maintain constant dialogue on environmental, social and Human Rights issues with civil society, organized communities, government authorities, office of the ombudsman, and international cooperation agencies, as applicable.

- IX. SWC recognizes that the achievement of sustainable development is dependent on effective collaboration with everyone who has a stake in the sustainable development outcome of a project, including the national

and local governments of our host countries, local communities, civil society organization, our investors and clients, and other local private sector actors, among others.

As such, in order to create baselines against which to benchmark our actions over time, mitigate risk, measure and report positive outcomes, SWC is committed to the use and adaptation of the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) of the World Bank to its projects and operations.

SWC strongly believe that using such a strong framework, issued after a large consultation effort that included the participation of different stakeholders including local and vulnerable communities, will increase our credibility vis-a-vis of our host countries, investors and stakeholders at large.

Adapting the ESSs from the World Bank can help to avoid unnecessary complexity of understanding and duplication of efforts in reporting requirements with our host country partners as they are familiar with such framework as per their work with the World Bank.

- X. SWC commits to adapt our aspirations and principles into practical, project-level applications of the World Bank ESSs within the context of SWC’s business model (“SWC Way of Doing Business Framework”). While this framework will not by itself guarantee sustainable development and Human rights outcomes, its proper implementation will ensure the application of standards that provide a necessary foundation for that objectives.
- XI. SWC is committed to open dialogue, public consultation, timely and full access to information, and responsive grievance mechanisms.
- XII. Needless to say that SWC believes in the power of business to change the world positively. SWC and its founders are firm believers of private initiative as a key lever of transformation and at the origin of world-changing breakthroughs. In order to be successful as a business, SWC commits to applicate the best standards of governance and compliance for its projects and overall operations, including but not limited to whistleblowing, anti-money laundering, fight against corruption and the financing of terrorism and extremist policies. Such commitments will be dully integrated in the SWC Way of Doing Business Framework.

The Founders of The Shared Wood Company

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