

## Chair's 2022 Report

# "Revving up our Sustainability Mandate"

#### **Dear Members, Partners and Supporters,**

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Global Compact Network Philippines, I am pleased to report to you the following accomplishments, activities and programs of your GCNP during the Year 2022.

In keeping with its mandate to implement the UN Global Compact's (UNGC) Ten Principles and to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), GCNP has been "firing all cylinders" this year in pursuit of this sustainability mission.

Despite the pandemic but boosted by an active and supportive Board and a new team at the Secretariat, GCNP has made significant strides in growing its membership, expanding its relationships with other organizations, both locally and internationally, increasing programming activities, enhancing visibility and brand awareness, and cautiously organizing in-person events.

### **Organizing a New Secretariat Team**

The year started with building a decent-sized Secretariat team. For the first time in six years since GCNP's relaunch on July 29, 2016, the Secretariat has a new complement of four staff which is based on the minimum personnel requirement of the UNGC. The two female-two male staff consists of an Executive Director, a Programme Officer, a Participant Engagement and Communication Officer, and a Finance and Administrative Officer, with specific duties and responsibilities.

### **Uniting Members to Assist MSMEs**

Formed during the early part of the pandemic and in collaboration with UNIDO, the Private Sector Champions (PSC) initiative, purveyor of GCNP's "10-in-10 Agenda" for the recovery and resilience of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), also started in earnest at the beginning of the year. The National Steering Committee (NSC), which governs the PSC, met virtually in January to organize over 20 GCNP participating-companies into three work streams or pillars: people, planet and prosperity.

The main goal of the three pillars is to pilot projects on ten focus areas and scale these up for MSMEs to replicate them in order to sustain their businesses. The PSC is to be undertaken in 10 years (2021-2030) and is co-terminus with the SDGs.



# **Building and Strengthening Relationships**

January also marked the furthering of GCNP's relationships with the UN agencies here in the country through the UN Resident Coordinator's Office. Throughout the year, there have also been continuing communication exchange and collaboration UNIDO as well as with UNDP, FAO, UNDP, UN Women, and UN ESCAP.

Early in the first quarter of the year, GCNP also opened relationships with non-UN development organizations such as the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), among others.

GCNP has also reached out to professional societies and trade associations/chambers of commerce like the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), the Philippine Retailers Association (PRA), the Philippine Franchise Association (PFA), Management Association of the Philippines (MAP), Bankers Association of the Philippines (BAP), European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP), Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD) and Nordic Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (NordCham) which eventually became a GCNP member.

Internationally, GCNP also engaged with the UNGC Headquarters in New York and its Regional Office in India as well as its counterpart local networks in Australia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia & Brunei, Morocco, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

# **Enhancing Visibility and Branding**

These relationship-building initiatives resulted in GCNP being invited and becoming more visible in other networks year round via speaking opportunities and write-ups, such as, to name a few, the CIPE and the De la Salle University Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance's ESG and SDG Forum, NordCham Sustainability Committee Meeting, the PCCI/PRA/PFA webinar on Charting your Sustainability Journey with Global Compact, the UNGC Leaders Summit / ASEAN Uniting Business Forum, the UNESCAP Southeast Asia SDG Forum, and ICD's Pilipinas Aspire Rise Sustain Series 2022.

Additional visibility and brand awareness also came from GCNP's new website, monthly e-newsletter, and social media channels YouTube, LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter.

Another first in 2022 is the launch of the GCNP SDG Awards which recognizes and celebrates the members' outstanding achievements in four categories, namely, people, planet, prosperity and SME. The 1st SDG Awards was presented during the anniversary of GCNP on July 29, 2022 and the 2nd SDG Awards was held during the 4th annual Sustainability Summit on November 22, 2022.



# **Improving Value Proposition**

GCNP has positioned itself as a principle-based platform for thought leadership, action, and collaboration and this has been exemplified by its programs and activities abovementioned.

It has also aligned with the UNGC's New Strategy for 2021-2023 which includes five shifts: (1) keeping participant-companies accountable on the progress of their corporate sustainability and responsible business practices (2) a balanced growth of local and regional networks to build more dynamic national ecosystems for business sustainability (3) measuring impact in priority areas such as gender equality (SDG 5), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), climate action (SDG 13), peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16) and partnerships (SDG 17).

Programming-wise, GCNP conducted its General Assembly Meeting and Election of the Board of Trustees virtually in March, the 1st and 2nd SDG Awards in July and November, and the in-person 4th annual Sustainability Summit in November. This is apart from other webinars, accelerator programs, fora and meetings held during the year.

# **Ensuring Organizational Stability**

GCNP's viability as an organization is anchored on its three key resources: people (members, volunteers, the Board and Secretariat), partnership (with like-minded organizations), and funding.

In terms of membership, GCNP welcomed six new members, four others are in the process of approval, and twenty more are in the pipeline, actively considering participation.

As mentioned earlier, GCNP has built relationships and partnerships with UN agencies, international development organizations, professional societies and trade associations, and within the UNGC's world-wide regional and local networks.

In addition to the financial contribution of members, GCNP has offered an omnibus oneyear sponsorship package that brought good results.



"As we usher in 2023 with optimism and hope of continuity as an organization, GCNP relies on the passion, sense of purpose, and action that members, volunteers, the Board and the Secretariat, working together, have willed to bring to bear. I am thankful and blessed that this is the case for GCNP!"

Ma. Victoria (Vickie) A. Tan Chairperson Global Compact Network Philippines

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