



# **Global Compact Network Sri Lanka**

## **UN GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK SRI LANKA ACTIVITIES REPORT 2020**



The UN Global Compact Network Sri Lanka was incorporated in 2011 and has been carrying forward the work of Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact since its inception, completing 14 years in 2020.

UN Global Compact presents its report of activities for the year 2020. This report will begin with outlining Network Sri Lanka's strategy for 2020 and the Global Compact's Global Impact Initiative, Target Gender Equality hosted by Network Sri Lanka in 2020. Furthermore, the report elaborates on Network Sri Lanka's social media engagement. In 2020, Network Sri Lanka welcomed five (5) new members, expanding its membership. The profiles of these companies are included below.

Network Sri Lanka hosted an SDG Case Study series, which was an opportunity for the private sector to communicate activities promoting the SDGs, this report will elaborate on the SDG Case Study Series.

## **Network Sri Lanka's Strategy for 2020**

UN Global Compact Network Sri Lanka commenced 2020 with an ambitious plan to expand its membership and offer more inspirational and knowledge building sessions to participants of Network Sri Lanka. The outbreak of the 1<sup>st</sup> wave of Covid-19 in Sri Lanka in March 2020 curtailed the planned activities and alerted Network Sri Lanka on to the need to re-think the strategic approach for 2020. The Board of Network Sri Lanka convened a special Board Meeting in March 2020, which resulted in deploying a survey to Network Sri Lanka participants to identify the support required from Network Sri Lanka for business activities during Covid-19. The main outcome of the survey was the interest by Network Sri Lanka participants to support the national effort to mitigate the spread of Covid-19. To support the national Covid-19 mitigation effort, Network Sri Lanka along with UNDP formulated the creation of a Collaboration Platform. This Platform will be a space for company, non-business entities and public sector bodies to collaborate on projects and programs of similar interest, providing goods and services for identified project/program needs and requirements which are posted on the Platform. The Platform is to be launched in 2021.

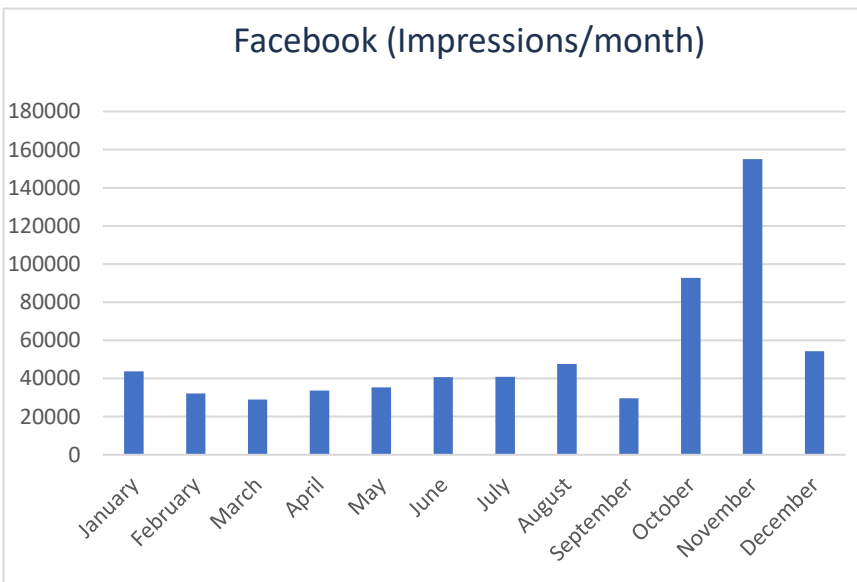
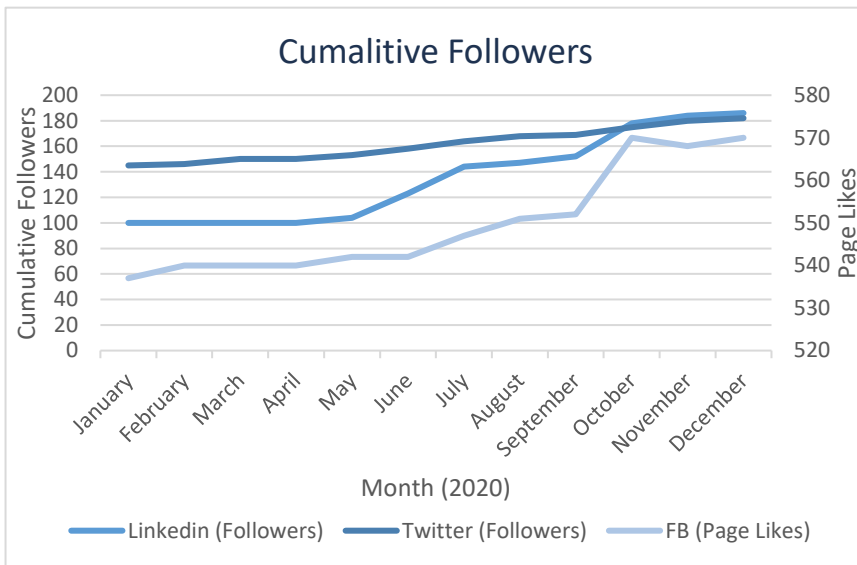
Network Sri Lanka re-ignited its Gender & Diversity Working Group and Business and Human Rights Working Groups, and inaugurated a Climate Emergency Task Force, Sustainable Finance Working Group and Sustainable Supply Chain Working Group. The purpose of these Working Groups is to guide Network Sri Lanka participants in their sustainability journey focusing on the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the SDGs towards Agenda 2030. The Working Groups will formulate annual agendas based on the interest of the Working Group participants and the national interests and focus areas.

## **Target Gender Equality 2020**

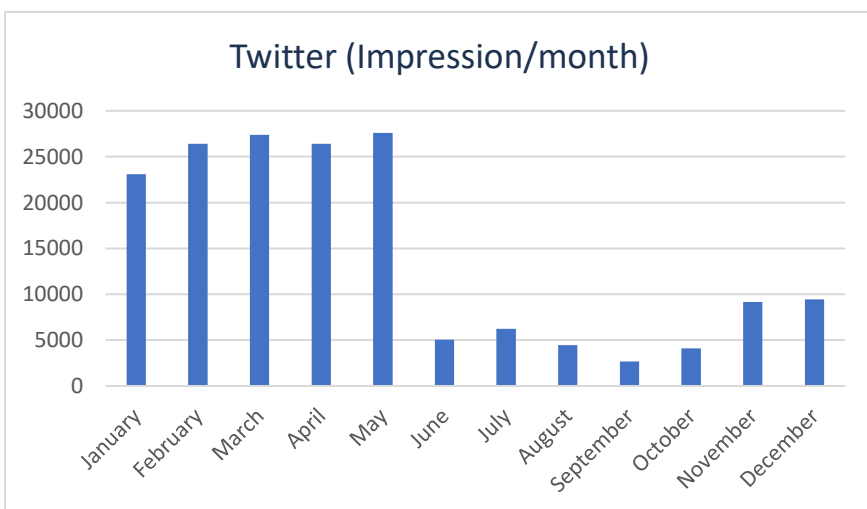
The Target Gender Equality (TGE) accelerator programme calls for bold action to set and meet ambitious corporate targets for women's representation and leadership in business. Participating companies can learn and demonstrate their commitment to measurable progress on gender equality to their employees, investors, and other stakeholders and profile women in their organization who are driving business success, sustainability, and contributions towards the SDGs.

Network Sri Lanka hosted the TGE Accelerator from September 2020 to February 2021 comprising of an onboarding session and three capacity building workshops developed by Catalyst, with the participation of nine (9) participants of Network Sri Lanka.

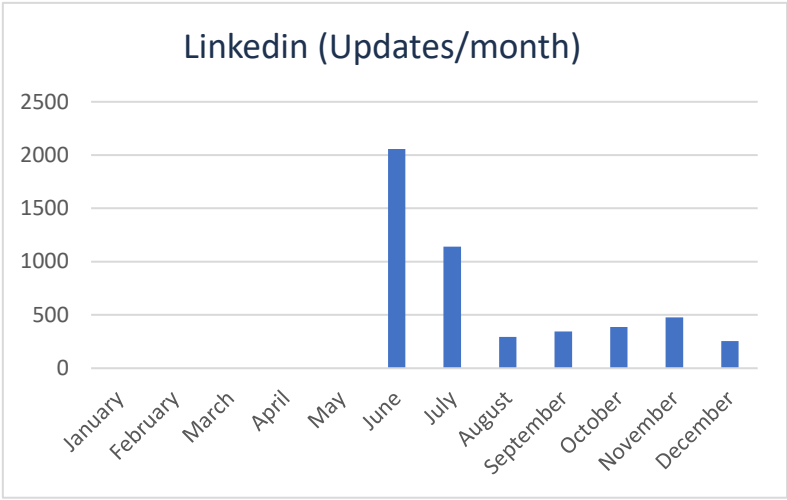
## Social media engagement for 2020



**Definition**  
**Facebook Impressions:** This refers to the number of times any content from the Network Sri Lanka page entered a person's screen; this includes posts, stories, ads as well as other content or information on the page



**Definition**  
**Twitter Impressions:** This refers to a total tally of all the times the Tweet has been seen. This includes the times it appears in one of Network Sri Lanka's followers and the times it has appeared in search or as a result of someone liking the tweet.



**Definition**  
**LinkedIn Updates:** This refers to the aggregated engagement metrics for Network Sri Lanka's posts on LinkedIn over time.

## Company Profiles of new members that joined in 2020

### **ABOUT CITIZENS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE**

#### **PLC**

Financial Institution



CDB is an award-winning financial institution with a history of over twenty-five years, ranked within the top five largest licensed financial institutions among 46 Non-Banking Financial Institutions (NBFI) in Sri Lanka. The main financial services offered by CDB are fixed deposits, savings accounts, leasing, personal loans, home loans, hire purchase financing, pawning, corporate and retail credit, credit card and debit card facilities backed by an island wide ATM network, foreign currency exchange, corporate financial services.

### **ABOUT EURO SUBSTRATES**

Growing Solutions



Established in 2000, Euro Substrates was affiliated with the Van der Knaap Group in the Netherlands. The company is acclaimed for its high-quality coir substrates, resulting from constant product development and innovation.

### **ABOUT HEALTH RECONCONNECT**

Medical Billing and Collection Services



HealthRecon offers end to end medical billing and collections services to Healthcare Providers supported by over 3 decades of deep domain expertise, cutting-edge analytics, automated workflows and compliant and benchmark defining processes. HealthRecon helps Healthcare Providers increase patient focus, accelerate & increase cashflow and manage their revenue cycle with more ease and peace of mind.

### **ABOUT LOGICARE PRIVATE LIMITED**

Supply Chain Solutions Provider



Logicare (Pvt) Limited is a newly formed supply chain solutions provider in Sri Lanka, providing specialized logistics, transport and other supply chain related services to the company's clients based on their requirements. The diverse team of experts have an in-depth knowledge and are experienced in every part of supply chain management.

### **ABOUT THE OXFORD COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

Business School



Oxford College of Business (OCB) is a Business School in Sri Lanka that provides post-graduate, undergraduate and professional education. Oxford College of Business is the 1st education provider in Sri Lanka to hold the triple international certifications of ISO 9001:2008, ISO 14001:2004 and British Standard OSHAS 18001 certifications, offering its students quality education and maintaining international quality, environmental, health and safety standards.

### **Sustainable Development Goals Case Study Series**

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Case Studies Series 2020/2021 is an initiative by UN Global Compact Network Sri Lanka aimed at highlighting projects which are targeted towards the 17 SDGs. The case studies cover several thematic areas including the Climate Emergency, Business & Human Rights, Sustainable Supply Chains and Gender & Diversity. Each case study lists key actions taken, describes the positive impact of the project on the company's stakeholders, and outlines significant learnings.

The Case Study Series was launched on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020, and Network Sri Lanka has thus far collected 36 case studies from 15 member companies. The participating companies are: Noritake, Hayleys Fabrics, Bogawantalawa Tea, ATG Lanka, Kelani Valley Plantations PLC., Expolanka Freight, Talawakelle Tea Estates PLC, Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC., Hayleys PLC., Virtusa (Pvt) Ltd., MAS Holdings (Pvt) Ltd., Dilmah Ceylon Tea Co. PLC., Aitken Spence PLC., Dialog Axiata PLC and Elpitiya Plantations PLC. The submitted case studies underwent an initial screening process in October 2020 and will undergo a rigorous internal and external verification process. Upon verification, the case studies will be showcased on Network Sri Lanka's website and at events such as the Make Global Goals Local Business (MGGLB) Conference in 2021.

# UN Global Compact Network Sri Lanka - Event Timeline - 2020

## Q1 Board Meeting of Network Sri Lanka

Network Sri Lanka had its board meeting for the first quarter. Ceylon Asset Management (CAM) presented on the Sustainable Index and Fund and MAS Holdings presented on their Women Go Beyond (WGB) Program

23 January

## Climate Reality Sustainable Lifestyle Series

Dilmah Conservation and Network Sri Lanka held its first discussion in this series titled "How to Make your Garden Edible" in conversation with Channa Ekanayake and Miller Rajendran. The series was moderated by Sunela Jayewardene

29 January

## Climate Reality Sustainable Lifestyle Series

Dilmah Conservation and Network Sri Lanka held its second discussion in the series was a chat on responsible consumerism titled "How to Smart your Cart" in conversation with Savera Weerasinghe. The series was moderated by Sunela Jayewardene

26 February

08 March

## Ring the Bell for Gender Equality

The International Finance Corporation (IFC), together with the Colombo Stock Exchange rang the opening bell for trading to celebrate International Women's Day 2020, and to encourage the private sector to expand opportunities for women and promote sustainable development.

24 March

## Virtual Board Meeting

Board Meetings of Network Sri Lanka were held virtually to discuss the prevalent situation caused by the Pandemic.

31 March - 12 May

## Circulation of Survey to Signatories & Participants

The survey was aimed at gathering data on projects/ activities/ programmes done by companies that assisted in mitigating the COVID - 19 Pandemic and its stakeholder impact. The survey was disseminated on the 31st of March. Data collection was done throughout April. The completion of the survey was on the 12th of May with 75.6% of the Network Sri Lanka signatories and participants having completed the survey.





**Regional LN Webinar:  
Covid-19 Gives Sustainability  
a Dress Rehearsal**

Network Sri Lanka together with Network Malaysia hosted webinar on the forces redrawing the new normal for businesses and recommendations for sustainability actions.

19 May

**Webinar Series on "Supporting  
SME's to Protect Livelihoods"**

Network Sri Lanka collaborated with UN Sri Lanka and UNDP Sri Lanka to co-hosted the first episode in this series titled "Pivoting in Pivotal Moments – Using Data to Understand Dynamic Global Situations and Re/Positioning Businesses".

12 June

**Virtual Leaders Summit  
2020**

Network Sri Lanka hosted a breakout session at the Leaders Summit titled "Best Foot Forward: Global Solutions for Two Major Roadblocks: Climate and Gender". The featured panelists were from Dilmah Ceylon Tea, JKH, MAS Holdings and Unilever Sri Lanka.

15 - 16 June

26 June

**Webinar Series on "Supporting  
SME's to Protect Livelihoods"**

Network Sri Lanka collaborated with UN Sri Lanka and UNDP Sri Lanka to co-host the second episode in this series titled "Re-imagining Business Operations in the Customer Centric New Normal".

07 July

**SDG Case Study Series**

Network Sri Lanka launched the SDG Case Study Series with responses from 36 companies

10 July

**Webinar Series on "Supporting  
SME's to Protect Livelihoods"**

Network Sri Lanka collaborated with UN Sri Lanka and UNDP Sri Lanka to co-hosted the third episode in this series titled "How can SME's thrive in the age of digital transformation while protecting against cyber threats",



### Webinar Series on "Supporting SME's to Protect Livelihoods"

Network Sri Lanka collaborated with UN Sri Lanka and UNDP Sri Lanka to co-hosted the fourth episode in this series titled "Family Owned Businesses: Building a Sustainable Future".

16 July

### Steering Committee Meeting of Network Sri Lanka

Network Sri Lanka had its Steering Committee Meeting

23 July

### Q3 Board Meeting of Network Sri Lanka

Network Sri Lanka had its board meeting for the third quarter

15 July

30 July

### Webinar Series on "Supporting SME's to Protect Livelihoods"

Network Sri Lanka collaborated with UN Sri Lanka and UNDP Sri Lanka to co-host the fifth episode in this series titled "Financing and Banking for SME's"

11 August

### 1st Meeting of the Climate Action Working Group

Network Sri Lanka launched its Climate Action Working Group

25 August

### 2020 AGM of Network Sri Lanka

Network Sri Lanka hosted its Annual General Meeting



### Webinar Series on "Supporting SME's to Protect Livelihoods"

Network Sri Lanka collaborated with UN Sri Lanka and UNDP Sri Lanka to co-host the sixth episode in this series titled "Tax Compliance and Guidance for SME's".

27 August

### UN 75th Anniversary Survey

Network Sri Lanka collaborated with PR Wire to circulate a survey to help people everywhere to share their thoughts around current and emerging global trends, and to have a conversation with as many people as possible to spark ideas for building the future we want.

01 September

### 2nd Meeting of the Climate Action Working Group

Network Sri Lanka had the 2nd meeting of the Climate Action Working Group. Highlights include presentations from LOLC Holdings and Elpitiya Plantations on their renewable energy journey

16 September

22 September

### "Principles-Based Emissions Reductions: Global Compact Local Networks Share Best Practices"

Network Sri Lanka alongside Networks Bolivia, Turkey and Spain held this Breakout Session at the Global Impact Forum. Panelists included Dr. Ravi Fernando and was moderated by Network Sri Lanka's Executive Director, Mr. Rathika de Silva.

29 September

### Target Gender Equality

Network Sri Lanka and GCO Gender team conducted an onboarding webinar for the participating companies of Target Gender Equality 2020-2021.

01 October

### Virtual Singapore Apex Corporate Sustainability Awards

Network Sri Lanka partnered with Network Singapore as an Outreach Partner



### Q4 Board Meeting of Network Sri Lanka

Network Sri Lanka had its Board Meeting for the fourth quarter

22 October

### 1st Meeting of the Gender & Diversity Working Group

Network Sri Lanka launched its Gender & Diversity Working Group

13 November

### Target Gender Equality

1st Capacity Building Workshop: "Diversity Targets – Defining Ambition" held with the participation of the 9 TGE companies in Sri Lanka

23 November

24 November

### MoU between Network Sri Lanka and UNDP Sri Lanka

Network Sri Lanka signed a 4-year partnership with UNDP to ensure the urgency for public-private partnerships in achieving the SDGs in Sri Lanka.

01 December

### "Business in Times of Disruption"

Network Sri Lanka co-hosted a webinar titled "Business in Times of Disruption" with UNDP and ECCSL, where Ms. Darshi Talpahewa (Hayleys PLC.) and Ms. Amanthi Perera (MAS Holdings) were featured as speakers.

08 December

### "Affirmative Actions towards Gender Equality in the Workplace"

Network Sri Lanka co-hosted this webinar with UNDP. The webinar featured speakers from; UNDP Asia Pacific, Champions of Change – Australia, Elpitiya Plantations PLC, Unilever Sri Lanka, MAS Holdings



### **3rd Meeting of the Climate Action Working Group**

At this meeting, the name of the Working Group was changed to the Climate Emergency Task Force (CETF). The agenda included: Setting Goals for the Task Force for 2030, Setting Renewable Energy Targets for 2022, 2025 & 2030. Presentations by Brandix Lanka Ltd., Growrite Substrates Pvt. Ltd., Tropicair Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. and Jetwing Hotels Ltd on their renewable energy journey

**11** December



## LN-Network Sri Lanka Collaboration



## Collaboration platform

Several surveys were circulated throughout 2020 to Participants of Network Sri Lanka. The purpose of these surveys was to gather information which would be used to launch Network Sri Lanka's collaboration platform. In March and April 2020, Signatories and Participants of Network Sri Lanka participated in a survey, to gather information and data on activities/projects/programs carried out by the members to mitigate the impact of Covid-19. The survey was completed in May, with 31 responses received, which amounted to 75.6%.

A second survey was launched in September to mark the UN's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, by Network Sri Lanka in collaboration with PR Wire. The survey aimed to understand public opinion on current and emerging global trends, and to obtain ideas for building a sustainable future.

