



COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

United Nations Global Compact

RES Foundation

Reporting period: 30 September 2024 – 30 September 2026

Belgrade, Serbia | September 2026

Partnerships for Resilience

www.resfoundation.org

About RES Foundation

RES Foundation is a Belgrade-based civil society organization established in 2015. We collect, analyse and distribute knowledge for evidence-based policy making in energy and climate change, primarily in Serbia, the Western Balkans and Southeast Europe.

We understand air pollution, energy poverty and the climate emergency as interlinked symptoms of fossil-fuel dependency and inefficient production, distribution and use of energy. We work with central and local government, civil society, researchers, the media, international organizations and other partners to advance a swift and just energy transition to renewables and energy efficiency in a way that leaves no one behind.

RES Foundation has participated in the United Nations Global Compact since 28 January 2016. This stand-alone Communication on Engagement covers the period from 30 September 2024 to 30 September 2026 and builds on our previous Communication on Engagement submitted in September 2024.

Statement of continued support for the UN Global Compact

Dear Secretary-General,

I am pleased to confirm that RES Foundation remains committed to the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. Since joining the UN Global Compact in 2016, RES Foundation has integrated these principles into its organizational practice, programme priorities, partnerships and public engagement.

During the period covered by this Communication on Engagement, we continued to focus on a just and citizen-centred energy transition, the reduction of energy and transport poverty, climate resilience, environmental responsibility, biodiversity protection, public accountability and the meaningful participation of young people and under-represented groups (e.g. women) in policy processes.

We submit this Communication on Engagement for the period 30 September 2024 to 30 September 2026, describing practical actions and measurable outcomes that support the Ten Principles. We renew our commitment to the United Nations Global Compact and to transparent public reporting on our engagement every two years in line with the COE requirements.

Sincerely,

Aleksandar Macura

Co-founder and Programme Director, RES Foundation
30 September 2026



2024 - 2026 at a glance

The reporting period combined policy analysis, practical support to vulnerable households and local communities, capacity building for young people and media, local climate and energy planning, biodiversity policy support, and greater scrutiny of public investment decisions. Selected public indicators are summarized below.

10 municipalities energy-poverty outreach model with vulnerable households	100+ rural women engaged through targeted energy counselling and lectures	9 local governments covered by the revised regional SECAP process
5 local governments represented in the Agents of Good Energy applied phase	78 CSOs supporting stronger nature safeguards in the Energy Community Treaty	4 case studies + 3 follow-ups used to strengthen public-interest scrutiny of energy investments

For consistency with the UN Global Compact framework, the main actions are grouped under Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. Many RES Foundation activities are cross-cutting: for example, work on energy poverty links human rights, social inclusion, gender, health and environmental responsibility, while work on public investment links environmental outcomes with transparency, accountability and integrity.

Human Rights

UN Global Compact Principles 1–2

RES Foundation treats access to safe, reliable, affordable and efficient energy services as closely connected to adequate housing, health, dignity and social inclusion. During the reporting period, our human-rights-related work focused particularly on energy-poor households, families with children, women in rural areas, young people, and emerging work on transport poverty.

Practical actions

- In 2025, RES Foundation partnered with UNICEF within the joint UN programme “Green Futures, Brighter Beginnings”, implemented by UNICEF, UNEP and UN-Habitat with support from the UN Joint SDG Fund. RES developed practical tools and training packages for local youth energy advisors and supported community outreach and household energy assessment in 10 municipalities, with a model designed to reach around 100 energy-poor households, particularly families with children.
- RES Foundation produced practical guidance focused on household safety, health, energy and water savings, as well as a guide explaining support and protection measures available to energy-vulnerable citizens and how to access them.
- In western Serbia, RES Foundation and the Zlatibor Regional Development Agency organized targeted lectures and energy counselling for women in rural communities. Across four visits, RES conducted conversations with more than 100 women living and working in rural areas, addressing energy reliability, affordability, access to subsidies, solar energy, energy communities and energy efficiency.
- In December 2025, RES Foundation joined the European Climate Initiative project “Towards a Just and Climate-Neutral Mobility”, which addresses transport poverty as a barrier to access to work, education, healthcare and social participation, with a strong focus on vulnerable groups and inclusive climate-neutral mobility solutions.

- RES continued to create space for youth participation in international climate policy. During the reporting period, youth representatives contributed to RES coverage and public discussion around COP29 and COP30, while the Foundation's team includes a dedicated Youth Associate working on UNFCCC processes and intergenerational dimensions of climate governance.

Measurement of outcomes

- A 10-municipality outreach and household-support model focused on socially vulnerable families with children, designed to reach around 100 households.
- Two practical public brochures produced for vulnerable households, including guidance on safety, health, energy savings and available support measures.
- More than 100 women from rural communities engaged through four targeted energy-counselling visits in western Serbia.
- Transport poverty incorporated into RES Foundation's programme through a four-country project on just and climate-neutral mobility.
- Youth participation sustained through climate-diplomacy engagement and a dedicated Youth Associate role.

Selected public evidence and RES links

Evidence / activity	Link
Improving Energy Efficiency for Families in Serbia – joint UN programme	Open RES page
Tips for a healthier, safer home that saves both water and electricity	Open RES page
Energy efficiency and socially vulnerable citizens – support and protection measures	Open RES page
Lectures and energy consulting for women from rural areas of Čajetina and Arilje	Open RES page
Energy efficiency lecture for women's associations in Brodarevo / Prijepolje	Open RES page
Towards a Just and Climate-Neutral Mobility	Open RES page

Labour

UN Global Compact Principles 3–6

RES Foundation is a small, knowledge-based civil society organization. Our organisational approach is based on equal opportunity, non-discrimination, respect for freedom of association, and zero tolerance for forced or child labour. Building on the practice described in our previous COE, the Foundation continued flexible working arrangements and maintained opportunities for students, young professionals and early-career researchers to gain substantive experience in energy and climate policy work.

Programme leadership remains mixed-gender, and the current public team structure spans programme direction, research and project coordination, finance and administration, youth engagement, research support, and IT/communications. This structure is complemented by time-bound project teams, students and external experts.

Practical actions

- The “Agents of Good Energy” programme was developed for young people, primarily final-year undergraduate and master’s students. Two one-day trainings were held in June 2026 in Belgrade and Užice, followed by a practical phase in which participants independently develop local energy profiles and learn to connect energy, climate, social and financial data.
- By August 2026, the applied phase involved participants linked to Belgrade, Užice, Novi Sad, Pančevo and Kraljevo. The programme combines structured learning with practical research, data interpretation, communication and policy-analysis skills.
- The public RES team includes both a Youth Associate and a Research Associate who are graduate students, demonstrating the Foundation’s continued integration of early-career professionals into substantive programme work rather than limiting youth engagement to one-off events.

Measurement of outcomes

- Two structured trainings for Agents of Good Energy completed in June 2026, followed by an applied research phase.
- Participants in the applied phase are developing energy profiles for five local-government contexts: Belgrade, Užice, Novi Sad, Pančevo and Kraljevo.
- Current public team structure includes dedicated youth and research-associate roles alongside programme, research, finance/administration and communications functions.
- Flexible and equal-opportunity working practices from the previous COE period were maintained as part of the Foundation’s organizational approach.

Selected public evidence and RES links

Evidence / activity	Link
RES Foundation team	Open RES page
First training for Agents of Good Energy – Belgrade	Open RES page
Second training for Agents of Good Energy – Užice	Open RES page
Agents of Good Energy enter the second phase – local energy profiles	Open RES page

Environment

UN Global Compact Principles 7–9

Environmental responsibility is at the core of RES Foundation's mission. During the reporting period, the Foundation worked on climate mitigation and adaptation, local energy transition, energy efficiency, renewable energy, biodiversity policy, environmental safeguards, citizen energy and the quality of evidence used in major energy investments.

Practical actions

- RES Foundation led the revision process for the regional Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for the Zlatibor region. The process covers nine local governments and combines energy and emissions analysis with climate risk, socio-economic context and a common vision and measures to 2030.
- The Atlas of Good Energy 2026 was developed as an evidence-based decision-support tool for local energy governance. Its seven interconnected pillars cover general data, public-sector energy and emissions, institutional preparedness, households and energy poverty, socio-economic context, climate reality and the cost of inaction, and infrastructure and mobility.
- Through two successive cooperation periods with UNEP under the Global Biodiversity Framework – Early Action Support programme, RES Foundation provided policy expertise related to national biodiversity targets aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, development of the new Nature Protection Programme, monitoring systems, an action plan, and policy and institutional alignment.
- In July 2026, RES Foundation joined 77 other Western Balkans civil society organizations in supporting inclusion of key elements of the EU Habitats, Birds and Water Framework Directives in the Energy Community Treaty, highlighting the need to integrate nature safeguards into energy development.
- RES Foundation published analysis on household rooftop PV, prosumer support schemes and accessibility, contributing to policy debate on citizen participation in distributed renewable energy and the social accessibility of public support.
- RES maintained direct engagement with international climate-policy processes, including a youth delegate at COP29, public engagement around COP30, and participation in the 64th meeting of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies in Bonn in June 2026.

Measurement of outcomes

- Regional SECAP revision process covers nine local governments in the Zlatibor region.
- Atlas of Good Energy 2026 established a seven-pillar local decision-support framework integrating energy, emissions, climate, social vulnerability, public finance and institutional capacity.
- Five local-government energy profiles entered development through the Agents of Good Energy applied phase.
- Two successive UNEP/GBF-EAS cooperation periods supported biodiversity-target and nature-policy work during the reporting period.
- RES Foundation was one of 78 Western Balkans CSOs supporting stronger nature safeguards in the Energy Community Treaty.
- New public analysis on rooftop PV and prosumer support addressed both renewable-energy uptake and accessibility of public support.

Selected public evidence and RES links

Evidence / activity	Link
Regional SECAP revision for the Zlatibor region – status and next steps	Open RES page
Atlas of Good Energy 2026 – decision-support tool for local governance	Open RES page
GBF-EAS cooperation with UNEP – biodiversity targets and nature-policy support	Open RES page

Anti-Corruption and Public Integrity

UN Global Compact Principle 10

RES Foundation is committed to ethical conduct, integrity and transparency in the management of grants and partnerships. As described in the previous COE, the Foundation uses donor-specific narrative and financial reporting and annual audit procedures to support traceability and accountability in the use of funds. During 2024–2026, this internal commitment was complemented by a stronger external programme focus on public accountability in energy-transition investments.

Practical actions

- In 2024–2025, the “Who owns energy efficiency?” work analysed public and private benefits, financing arrangements and implementation of public energy-efficiency support, and used case studies and public discussions to strengthen understanding of how public funds are allocated and what evidence is available to assess results.
- From June to August 2026, RES Foundation implemented “Strengthening Public Accountability in Externally Financed Energy Projects in Serbia”, focused on transparency, evidence-based oversight and public understanding of major energy and infrastructure investments financed through public loans and international financing.
- A June 2026 workshop with media representatives used four case studies covering energy efficiency, district heating, renewable energy and household energy support. RES subsequently organized three individual follow-up sessions to deepen analysis of financing structures, life-cycle costs, ownership, risk allocation and access to documentation.
- In September 2026, RES published a public project dossier designed as a practical tool for reconstructing the public decision trail behind major energy projects and distinguishing facts, assumptions and information that cannot be verified from publicly available documentation.
- RES also published analysis calling for major assumptions, alternatives, evidence and conclusions used in international-financial-institution due diligence to be sufficiently transparent for independent scrutiny. The focus is on verifiability and public-interest oversight rather than predetermined judgements about individual projects.

Measurement of outcomes

- Continued donor-specific narrative and financial reporting and annual audit procedures as core internal accountability controls.
- Four public-investment case studies used to train media representatives in assessing costs, benefits, alternatives, financing and risk.
- Three focused follow-up sessions conducted with interested media representatives after the initial workshop.
- A Public Project Dossier published in September 2026 to help users trace project origins, decision pathways and public information gaps.
- Public analysis expanded to the verifiability of due-diligence assumptions used in internationally financed projects.

Selected public evidence and RES links

Evidence / activity	Link
Strengthening Public Accountability in Externally Financed Energy Projects in Serbia	Open RES page
Helping media representatives to assess complex energy projects – workshop and follow-up work	Open RES page
Public Project Dossier: “Mommy, Mommy, where did we get this project from?”	Open RES page
Can We Check the Check? Why IFI Due Diligence Should Not Be Taken on Trust	Open RES page

Engagement with the UN Global Compact and the wider UN system

RES Foundation’s engagement during this reporting period has centred on implementing the values of the UN Global Compact through public-interest policy work, transparent reporting, capacity building and multi-stakeholder cooperation. The Foundation also remained engaged with the wider United Nations system through cooperation with UNEP, UNICEF and UN-Habitat and through participation in UNFCCC processes.

We will continue to use our public website, reports, events, policy products and partnerships to disseminate evidence and encourage principles-based approaches to energy, climate and environmental policy. We will also continue to publish our Communication on Engagement through our main communication channels and submit it through the UN Global Compact participant platform.

Priorities for the next reporting period

- Deepen work on socially just energy and mobility transitions, with particular attention to energy poverty, transport poverty, rural communities, women.
- Continue local energy and climate planning and improve access to comparable, transparent local energy data through the Atlas of Good Energy.
- Strengthen the capacity of students, young professionals, local actors and media to use evidence in energy and climate policy processes.
- Promote biodiversity safeguards and nature-positive approaches alongside renewable-energy and infrastructure development.
- Continue independent scrutiny of public and internationally financed energy investments and advocate for verifiable, accessible information on costs, benefits, assumptions and risks.
- Maintain internal financial-accountability, non-discrimination and flexible-work practices, and report publicly on progress through the UN Global Compact COE cycle.

Reference links

[RES Foundation website](#)

[RES Foundation UN Global Compact participant profile](#)

Annex: mapping to the Ten Principles

The table below provides a concise cross-reference between the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the main areas of RES Foundation action during the reporting period. The official wording of the Ten Principles is available on the UN Global Compact website.

[UN Global Compact – The Ten Principles](#)

No.	Area	RES Foundation actions / relevance
1	Human rights	Energy poverty, safe and affordable energy access, vulnerable households with children, rural women, transport poverty, youth participation.
2	Human rights	Rights-sensitive policy analysis and project design; emphasis on inclusion, public interest, access to information and safeguards.
3	Labour	Respect for freedom of association and collective bargaining in organisational practice.

No.	Area	RES Foundation actions / relevance
4	Labour	No forced or compulsory labour; professional, voluntary employment and engagement arrangements.
5	Labour	No child labour; youth engagement is educational/professional and directed to students and young adults.
6	Labour	Equal-opportunity and non-discrimination approach; mixed-gender leadership and pathways for students and early-career researchers.
7	Environment	Climate-risk planning, SECAP revision, environmental safeguards, biodiversity policy support and precaution in energy investment analysis.
8	Environment	Energy transition, energy efficiency, energy poverty, climate policy, biodiversity and public environmental responsibility.
9	Environment	Citizen energy, rooftop PV/prosumer policy, energy efficiency, local energy data and tools that support cleaner technologies.
10	Anti-corruption	Financial accountability, donor reporting/audit controls, transparency of public investment decisions, independent scrutiny and media capacity.

RES Foundation | Partnerships for Resilience | Belgrade, Serbia
www.resfoundation.org