



Guidelines on involvement of WINGS in new projects

From time to time, WINGS will be presented with requests or opportunities for collaboration on projects and services by external agencies or from within the network. In looking at whether to become involved in a new initiative or project, WINGS will look at a series of questions to determine the appropriateness of new activity.

The Secretariat will initially review all requests and turn down those that are inappropriate. Before taking any steps to embark on new projects or programmes which have resource implications, the Secretariat will refer to the Coordinating Committee, or in case of urgency the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee.

Detailed guidelines and, where appropriate, more formal agreements will be developed for any new work. Reporting and evaluation will be undertaken by the Coordinating Committee or delegated to a sub-committee or working group.

Questions to be addressed in deciding whether to take on new work:

- Does the initiative support and enhance WINGS' mission and values?
- Does the initiative support current priorities as embodied in WINGS' strategic objectives?
- Is the initiative of special value to the whole of the network or a broad part of it (eg WINGS-CF (the community foundation constituency), WINGS-CI (corporate initiative) or a geographic region or group of regions)?
- Is there a compelling need or opportunity?
- Is there potential for regional or global impact?
- Is the involvement of WINGS or WINGS' network participants vital to the success of the particular effort? If so, is a sufficient number willing to take part?
- Has WINGS the capacity to provide the necessary staff time to support the initiative?
- Is the timing appropriate to introduce the initiative?
- Are network participants involved in the planning, management and review of the initiative?
- Does the initiative present an opportunity to collaborate with external agencies and create new partnerships?
- Is WINGS' level of involvement sufficient to ensure the quality and appropriateness of the work undertaken?
- Will the project contribute to WINGS' operating costs (or represent an appropriate use of existing resources)?
- Is there potential for additional fund development opportunities for WINGS and its network participants?
- Could there be adverse effects for WINGS' donors or other partners?
- Is the initiative viewed as political or partisan?

At the discretion of the Coordinating Committee new work may be undertaken where not all the questions can be answered satisfactorily. In such a case a clear record will be kept of the reasons for taking on this additional work and why a decision has overridden certain criteria. *WINGS' reputation, relationships and resources should not be put at risk by any such decision.*

MISSION STATEMENT

WINGS seeks to strengthen the institutional infrastructure of philanthropy worldwide by building a strong, interconnected and collaborative global network of grantmaker associations and support organisations, which, in turn, help grantmaking institutions that support civil society to build a more equitable and just global community.

OUR VALUES AND METHODS

WINGS seeks to be:

- participant focused - continually aware of the issues of greatest importance to network participants and to maintain active lines of communication between the secretariat and each participant organisation.
- supportive of interdependency - encouraging interaction between participants so that **WINGS** genuinely functions as a network and achieves effectiveness through the dissemination of ideas, sharing of experience and written material and collegial support between people in these organisations. Participation levels and preferred modes for communication and involvement will be monitored and analysed so that **WINGS** can continuously improve the amount and quality of interaction throughout the network.
- transnational - in order to be truly a global network, **WINGS** will relocate its secretariat every few years, avoiding being institutionalised in any one country or system. A careful process for selection of host institutions will be followed.
- collaborative - wherever possible and appropriate, **WINGS** will work with other external organisations and foster opportunities for network participants to collaborate in addressing their needs and goals.
- truly global and representative - in all its work, **WINGS** will try to be attentive to the specific needs and interests of different regions.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- 1 to increase **knowledge** of the sector, primarily through collating and disseminating information on national, regional and global issues and trends in philanthropy;
- 2 to ensure **continuing development and delivery of services** to support learning within the network;
- 3 to strengthen and increase **communication** among network participants;
- 4 to strengthen and increase **collaboration** among network participants;
- 5 to build the **institutional capacity** of **WINGS** to manage its work effectively and to develop relationships and alliances that contribute to the work of network participants.

(From **WINGS** Strategic Plan 2003-06)