

Association of International NGOs in Nepal

Code of Conduct

Introduced January 2019
Replacing the retired CoC of 2008

Kathmandu, Nepal

AIN, as per its Articles of Association, aims to be a strong, proactive, and accountable network of INGOs in Nepal which works towards equitable development, poverty reduction, sustainable peace, human rights, social inclusion and good governance among its members and their partners.

We, the members of this Association, have a common interest in equitable development in Nepal. AIN is guided by shared principles and values of equitable development, which are in line with international standards of human rights.

These principles and values include:

- AIN members are international non-governmental, non-profit, non party-affiliated civil society organisations working in Nepal to advance the public good, including human rights, sustainable and equitable development, environmental protection, and humanitarian response.
- AIN member organisations implement their programmes without discrimination regarding age, gender, race, caste, ethnic origin, geographical location, disability, political affiliation, or religion, whilst acknowledging that adhering to these principles may involve affirmative action.
- AIN and its members are committed to contributing to an improved quality of life for Nepal's people, especially the poor and excluded, and focus assistance on reducing poverty, meeting the immediate needs and conditions of the poorest people, and enabling communities to be self-sufficient and empowered.
- AIN members ensure their work tackles discrimination, social exclusion and injustice.
- AIN members work with and through local partners – including communities, community based organisations, and government bodies – as partners in planning and implementation

of development programmes, as well as with national NGOs, donors and the government on policy advocacy.

- In order to ensure broad ownership of members' work, AIN seeks to be transparent and accountable and to communicate intentions – and widen and deepen dialogue – with partners at all levels.
- As a network of INGOs, AIN recognises that all aid can influence conflict situations and create incentives and disincentives for peace. All AIN member programmes contribute to the strengthening of democratic norms and systems that allow for the nonviolent resolution of conflict.
- AIN and its members mutually respect each other's independence and creativity, while recognising the necessity of discussion and dialogue, and the benefits to be gained from close interaction and coordination.

As a full member organisation of AIN we commit to adhering to all of the following membership criteria:

- Being a non-profit making international organisation
- Remaining registered with the government of Nepal as an INGO, by entering into agreement with the government
- Actively supporting the implementation of projects in Nepal
- Not to engage in proselytization activities
- Not to represent or support a political party
- To subscribe fully to the principles, mission, and objectives of the Association
- To adhere to all obligations of members as described in the Articles of Association
- To organisationally adopt and fully adhere to the Basic Operating Guidelines (BOGs)
- To adhere to other unanimously agreed commitments made by the Association
- To commit to developing (in case not yet in place), implementing and enforcing an organisational safeguarding policy, guidelines and enforcement mechanisms in line with global civil society standards
- To implement self-regulation mechanisms approved by the association.

[END]

[BOGs as annex]