



Association of International NGOs in Nepal

<http://www.ain.org.np>

AIN Coordination Commitment

Preamble

As members of AIN we recognize that despite our diversity, effective coordination with other stakeholders is essential to our individual and corporate effectiveness in bringing about positive change for the people of Nepal. We recognize that although coordinating with others takes time, effort and resources the cost of not coordinating with others is greater than the cost of the resources expended on effective coordination.

As members of AIN we recognize that we often have to compete with each other for funds, and are constrained by systems and processes imposed upon us that sometimes make it difficult to coordinate. However, recognising these constraints, we commit to the following principles and code of conduct with regards to the implementation of our activities and programmes, and to making every effort to ensure that our local partners adhere to these also:

Key principles:

- **Transparency & Accountability:** Be open and transparent about our activities and build accountability with all stakeholders
- Demonstrate **mutual respect** by making every effort to ensure that our programmes complement and build on work being undertaken by others.
- **Cooperation:** Seek to work with others to contribute to the wider development objectives of the target communities we serve and the Government of Nepal, and work in accordance with agreed guidelines and codes of conduct developed by AIN.
- **Humility and learning:** Seek to learn from others, share our own learnings with others, and be willing to change ourselves.

Code of Conduct

To achieve this we, as AIN members, will make every effort to:

- Participate in relevant coordination mechanisms at central level organized by GoN, AIN, International Development Partners (IDP) and others
- Participate in, and / or ensure our partners participate in coordination mechanisms and activities at Regional and District level
- Adhere to AIN principles, guidelines and standards to ensure consistency between our members and to avoid unhealthy competition

In addition AIN will:

- work with other development actors e.g. GoN, donors, UN etc to encourage systems and processes and a culture in the development community that encourages cooperation and coordination
- strive to improve coordination mechanisms facilitated by AIN

In addition we agree to embed the following activities and practices into our project planning and operational management:

Project identification

- Seek to understand and learn from the experiences and best practices of other relevant actors
- Make every effort to find out who is already working in potential new working areas and what they are doing, prior to developing our own plans
- Prioritize neglected and underserved areas and select, as far as possible, geographical areas where other INGOs are not present (particularly when working in a similar technical area)
- Collaborate with others where appropriate.

Project Design

- Ensure technical approaches do not conflict with approaches taken by others in the same geographical and technical area.
- Adhere to Government policies and regulations
- In the selection of partners adhere to the AIN partnership guidelines and consider the implications of existing partnerships already in place
- Ensure that when working with local partners who are already partnering with other INGOs that mechanisms are put in place to ensure synergy rather than competition of project activities
- Communicate clearly about our work with other development actors, particularly when there is potential for overlap of activities and / or partnerships

Project Implementation & Monitoring

- Communicate and meet regularly with others during the implementation of our work. This will include inviting relevant groups to participate in our own monitoring, planning and review activities and participating in these activities organized by others, particularly when working in the same geographical area and / or within the same technical area.
- Work with local Government bodies in the monitoring and coordination of development activities, particularly at the District level
- Coordinate with other INGOs in relation to monitoring and evaluation activities by Government officials where possible
- Work with others to engage positively with the media to increase understanding, following the AIN Code of Conduct for working with Press.

Project Evaluation

- Involve others in the evaluation of our activities where appropriate
- Share and disseminate as widely as possible the lessons learned from our work