

International Coalition for the Sustainable Development Goals

Corporate Profile 2018

An overview of the
International SDG Coalition

Voices of global civil society

www.globalngocouncil.org/sdg-coalition



INTERNATIONAL COALITION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

CORPORATE PROFILE

Corporate Identity

The International Coalition for the Sustainable Development Goals (the “SDG Coalition” or the “the Coalition”) is a global networking, advocacy, solidarity and capacity building initiative uniting practitioners and key stakeholders for realising sustainable development in local communities around the world. Pioneered and administered by the Global Council of Non-Governmental Organisations (GLONGO), the Coalition is becoming an influential international network advocating and seeking practical solutions to end abject poverty and address human suffering worldwide. It is comprised of civil society and non-governmental organisations, public institutions and corporations, academia, individual development practitioners and researchers committed to realising sustainable development in local communities across the world.

With a growing list of over 1,200 active members operating at national, regional and international levels, the Coalition speaks with a unique voice of global solidarity to end poverty, address social injustices and environmental ills, and promote the standard of living for all.

The Coalition enables civil society and community actors to achieve sustainable community development through providing a dynamic, open discussion platform to participate in decision making processes that affect their daily social and economic livelihoods, interactions, and the communities in which they inhabit. The Coalition’s works include strategic alliance building and the exchange of communication between members and those concerned with global, regional and local development, and sharing information, best practices, analysis and experiences on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among its members and other stakeholders at community, national, regional and international level.

The Coalition’s aim are to enhance public awareness of the SDGs around the world and to improve the performance of member organisations, activists, donors, policy makers and institutional learning through strategic alliance building, networking, training, advocacy and capacity building. The Coalition, in all its operations, is guided by the principles established in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development’s Political Declaration, the International Bill of Human Rights, and other significant regional and internationally recognised legal instruments.

Mission Statement

The Coalition’s principal mission is “to build a strategic alliance of development actors for achieving the sustainable development goals, principles and actions, and promoting ideas that alleviate human poverty and social injustices in local communities around the world.”

In pursue of this mission however, the Coalition institutes in-depth policy analysis, international exchange and advocacy, public-policy debates, and promote civic activism to create and strengthen a stronger linkage between sustainable development, human rights, participatory partnerships, corporate responsibility, peace and security, good governance, the rule of law, and civil society.

Our Corporate Vision

The Coalition's corporate vision is "to become an independent global network of concerned individuals and institutions working together for the attainment of the sustainable development goals by 2030 in line with universally accepted principles and best practices."

Our Fundamental Objectives

The Coalition's fundamental objectives are to:

- Promote global civil society voices on global development and the SDGs;
- Strengthen the capacity of practitioners and organisations and key stakeholders worldwide;
- Raise public awareness on the sustainable development goals;
- Raise public awareness on the challenges facing sustainable development in local societies;
- Advocate for strong global political, business and community leadership and commitment to sustainable development in local societies;
- Advocate for resources for the realisation of sustainable development in local communities.

Our Core Values and Principles

The Coalition's overall operations are guided by the following core values and operational principles of:

- Commitment, Justice and Equity
- Accountability and Transparency
- Mutual Respect and Solidarity
- Strategic Leadership
- Professional Ethics and Standards
- Participatory-Partnerships
- Understanding and Better Positioning
- Innovation and Sustainability

SDG Coalition Activities

The International SDG Coalition's activities include:

- A series of specialist publications (such as newsletters, directories, position papers, etc.);
- A resource website at www.globalngocouncil.org/sdg-coalition;
- Production of advocacy, campaign, networking, training, and fundraising resource materials to benefit members and other development actors;
- Organising occasional seminars, conferences and workshops bringing together members, development practitioners and organisations, policymakers, corporate bodies, donors, and analysts and activists;
- Organising capacity building and training sessions, and consultations for members and those concerned with sustainable development in local societies around the world;
- Organising advocacy and national, regional and international campaigns on the SDGs;

- Collaborating with other key actors and strategic partners on advocacy programmes for realising the SDGs;
- Facilitating a clearing house for mobilising and distributing resource materials among members and the public;
- Collecting and disseminating vital information among members, stakeholders, and the general public;
- Coordinating the commemoration of important days and events in communities worldwide;
- Convening national, regional and global annual membership meetings (Annual Assembly);
- Building strategic alliances and partnerships with other networks and organisations and donors at the national, regional and global levels;
- Participating and representing the Coalition in national, regional and international meetings, forums, and other important events for realising the SDGs.

Membership Profile

The Coalition's members and audience comprise individuals and organisations engaged in poverty alleviation, policy formulation, funding, advocacy, implementation, and education. Members are from across the world, working in local communities or affiliates that support the Coalition through advocacy, solidarity and funding. The Coalition's membership and partnership is open to community based, national and regional and international organisations, networks and associations, corporate bodies, corporations, UN agencies, northern and international NGOs, and other multilateral agencies, governments and donors, academic institutions and consultancies. The Coalition's publications are written by a similarly wide range of contributors and participants.

Institutional Location

The Coalition applies a bottom-up approach in its overall operation. As a global south-based initiative, the Coalition's institutional location is in Freetown, Sierra Leone, where it maintains an international scope and mandate. It is hosted by the Global NGO Council. The Coalition has national and regional chapters in selected cities and regions across the world.

Strategic Alliances

The Coalition is associated with the Global Fund for Sustainable Development (GFSD) also based in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The Fund works through grant making and capacity building of community groups, national and regional civil society organisations and institutions to realise sustainable development in local communities. It also collaborates with the Global NGO Council in advocacy and stakeholder sensitisation. In addition, the Coalition is involved worldwide with other sustainable development advocacy, capacity building, funding, and service delivery organisations. It partners through the exchange of information, communication and collaboration on key issues and important events such as the Global Sustainable Development Summit, and the Global Sustainable Development Awards.

Funding Sources

The Coalition receives funding through voluntary contributions from members, individuals, private foundations and other institutional donors. Part of the Coalition's funding comes from the regular budget of the Global NGO Council.

In addition, however, the Coalition mobilises resources from national, regional and international sources, such as:

- ✓ The Corporate Sector/Businesses
- ✓ Private Foundations and Trusts
- ✓ Embassies and Foreign Missions
- ✓ Government agencies and Bilateral organisations
- ✓ Philanthropists/individual donors
- ✓ Sponsorship and in-kind-support
- ✓ Sales of the Coalition's merchandise and publications
- ✓ Any other legal means.

Decision Making Model

The Coalition does not require consensus from all member organisations on every issue; we take action on core common principles in which there is widespread agreement among civil society membership. In our decision making, therefore, we utilise the power of global civil society to maximum effect, ensuring that the voices of both small and large organisations from every region have an impact on the larger landscape. However, empowered by the Constitution, Code of Professional Conduct, and other internal organisational policies and procedures of the Coalition, the Board of Directors has the decision making power on behalf of the Coalition, and seeks the interest of the Coalition overall, above all else.

Membership Category

Membership is divided into two categories, namely:

- **Organisational Membership:**
A recognised local, national, or a regional organisation in any part of the world with institutional capacity and active in sustainable development work could become an organisational member. Also international NGOs, private foundations and donor institutions committed to achieving the SDGs and promoting poverty alleviation in local communities could be admitted as members.
- **Individual Membership:**
Individual researchers, practitioners, students, and development consultants could apply for individual membership.

*Kindly note: Though membership admission in the Coalition is free, however it is subject to membership agreements.

Each organisation that affiliates with the Coalition should do so under a Memorandum Agreement that accounts for the circumstances under which they become Members.

Why Join the Coalition

Our membership is the foundation upon which we act as an independent, global alliance of community, national and global practitioners and institutions committed to realising sustainable development in local communities. A large, diverse and actively engaged membership of development practitioners and organisations gives the Coalition the credibility required to achieve our purpose, vision and mission. It also provides members the opportunity to share the strategic direction of the Coalition.

Criteria for Membership

A member of the Network...

- Must be an active development practitioner or institution either at the community, national, regional or international level;
- Must not practice, and must not promote discriminatory messages;
- Must be willing to contribute skills or material or financial resources to the work of the Coalition;
- Must believe in and demonstrate commitment to the core values of development and social justice;
- Must practice transparency and accountability in dealing with the public;
- Must be willing to build strategic alliance(s) and share information and best practices with other members of the Coalition; and
- Must be willing to promote the principles and activities of the Coalition.

Membership Scope

To diversify its membership based, however, Coalition membership and affiliation is open to all community, national, regional and international NGOs, academia and donor institutions, private foundations, and individual development researchers and practitioners working to achieve sustainable development in local communities worldwide.

Who Should Become a Member

The Coalition identifies and invites key organisations working in one or more of the following areas to join effort, realise sustainable development, and promote human dignity and create a better future for all. The membership is free and open to organisations and individuals that work in one or more of the following areas:

- Education and skills training
- Environmental protection and climate change
- Child protection and development
- Human rights and rule of law
- Democratisation and governance
- Peacebuilding and human security
- Training and capacity building and research
- Non-profit grant making and financial support
- Youth empowerment/development
- Media development and ICT
- Gender & women's empowerment
- Relief & humanitarian services
- Water, hygiene and sanitation
- TB and malaria AIDS/HIV support services
- Agriculture, food security and nutrition
- Micro-finance & enterprise development/economic empowerment
- Advocacy, policy analysis, monitoring and reporting
- Population, reproductive health and rights
- Social protection and justice

Membership Benefits

Both individual and organisation members of the Coalition benefit the following:

- Opportunity to share contacts of donors, strategic partners, activists, and members, etc.;
- Written profile (including mission statement and logo) in the membership directory;
- Free-one page organisational profile or description of their work on the Coalition's website;
- Opportunity to present articles to the SDG Coalition Magazine published by the International Coalition for the SDGs (yet to commence);
- Receive free weekly e-newsletters and monthly bulletins;
- Opportunities for invitation to give talks or make presentations in events organised by the Coalition, or to participate in advocacy activities organised by the Coalition's partners;
- Access to latest or up-to-date Fact Sheets and Data, including figures on sustainable development issues around the world;
- Receive free publications and other resource materials produced by and/or distributed through the Coalition Library and Resource Documentation Centre, such as newsletters, information and training manuals and annual reports;
- Updates and alerts on events and publications, vacancies, volunteer opportunity, partner news and projects from around the world;
- Priority to attend events (seminars, consultations, conferences, etc.) organised by the Coalition, such as the annual membership meetings, global, national and regional training seminars;
- Opportunity to initiate partnership and share information with other members of the Coalition and become informed of funding and partnership opportunities;
- Training and capacity building opportunities within the Coalition;
- Opportunity to market/publicise your organisation, project or events and activities to members of the Coalition and the public;
- Links with or to other important sites and resources from the Coalition's website;
- Enjoy the benefit of being part of a global team responding to the 'global call to fight poverty and realise sustainable development in local communities around the world.'

Structure of the Coalition

The Coalition has three levels of governance structure. This include the Board, which is the supreme decision making body of the Coalition; the intentional advisory committee, which supports the Board is decision making; the Secretariat, which is responsible for implementing the decisions, policies and plans and strategies of the Coalition. Details of their functions are described blow:

The Executive Advisory Board

The Executive Board is the highest governing body of the Coalition. It provides strategic direction for the Coalition and coordinates the overall operations of the Coalition. As a-12 person member Board appointed by the Board Recruitment Committee, it reports to the Global Fund for Sustainable Development's Board of Directors and advises the Secretariat staff. The Board handles the welfare of its members; mobilises resources and promotes the advocacy efforts of the Coalition and its regional and national affiliates.

International Advisory Committee

The Committee meets twice yearly to assist the Board in policy formulation and implementation. The Committee is made up of six representatives. It draws on its practical field work to assist the

Board with information concerning the mission of the Coalition and the welfare of its members. It is also involved in preparing quarterly and annual reports and other events of the Coalition, including the Global Sustainable Development Summit and the Global Sustainable Development Awards.

The Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Coalition exists within the existing structures of the GFSD headquarters in Freetown, Sierra Leone. A small management team comprising the Executive Director and membership coordinators and other liaison officers manage the Secretariat of the Coalition. The Secretariat staff, under the strategic leadership of the Executive Director of the Coalition report directly to the President and Group CEO of the Global Fund for Sustainable Development.

How to Join the Coalition

To see how you could be invited to join the Coalition, send us a brief letter expressing your interest or with any questions or suggestions you might have about the Coalition or its membership. Our contact details are below. We look forward to hearing from you.

Address all correspondences to:

Executive Director
International Coalition for the SDGs
C/o Global Council of Non-Governmental Organisations
78 Wilkinson Road, Freetown
Sierra Leone, West Africa
Tel: +232-7649-7906 / 7724-7284
Fax: +1-212-867-0002
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Website: www.globalngocouncil.org/sdg-coalition

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