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**About Us page**

1. What is INGO Forum?

The INGO Forum is a platform for International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) working in Bangladesh. Established in response to the evolving needs of the development sector, the forum's mission is to:

* Facilitate information exchange and collaboration among INGOs to improve their practices and jointly influence development efforts.
* Work towards maximizing impact through collaborative approaches and establishing common ground on best practices.
* Engage with the Government of Bangladesh on issues concerning INGOs.
* Promote transparency, accountability, and adherence to the SDGs in the work of INGOs within Bangladesh.

2. Organisational History

The INGO Forum emerged in the late 2000s as a need for a separate platform for INGOs became evident. This arose from a shift in the national coordination mechanism for development agencies and the government's revision of the Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act.

Initially, the forum focused on providing input on the act's revision and establishing its own structure and membership criteria. A significant event in 2011 solidified the forum's presence - a collaborative celebration of Bangladesh's independence with partner national NGOs.

3. Why INGO Forum? What We Do

The INGO Forum provides a unique space for INGOs in Bangladesh to:

* Share best practices and expertise for improved program delivery.
* Advocate for collective interests and influence policy decisions.
* Coordinate efforts to maximize impact and avoid duplication.
* Promote transparency and accountability within the INGO sector.

**Governance and Structure**

The INGO Forum operates on a voluntary basis with no formal leadership positions. Responsibilities for chairing, co-chairing, and hosting meetings rotate among member organizations. A membership list is maintained, and attendance is expected from senior representatives (Country Director, Deputy CD, etc.).

**Values and Principles**

The INGO Forum adheres to a set of core principles guiding the work of its members in Bangladesh. These principles emphasize:

* Commitment to improving the lives of Bangladeshi people.
* Respect for the nation's constitution, laws, and cultural values.
* Neutrality in political matters.
* Transparency, inclusivity, and community participation in program development.
* Non-discrimination and focus on objective needs assessments.
* Accountability to beneficiaries and resource providers.
* A focus on both long-term development and emergency response.
* Adherence to international humanitarian principles and human rights law.
* Ethical practices in recruitment, procurement, and other transactions.
* Commitment to performance excellence and openness to evaluation.

**INGO Forum Bangladesh: Membership criteria**

The INGO Forum welcomes membership from all International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) operating in Bangladesh.

Eligibility

An INGO's eligibility is determined by a two-pronged approach:

* Self-Identification: The organization must identify itself as an INGO.
* Confirmation Factors: Additionally, the forum considers the following factors to confirm an organization's status as an INGO:
* Registration: Being registered with the NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB) as an INGO.
* International Affiliation: Possessing international governance structures.

Process

The INGO Forum does not have a formal application process. Organizations interested in joining can express their interest to a current member or attending a meeting.

Expectations

* Consistent Attendance: Member organizations are expected to send senior representatives (Country Director, Deputy CD, etc.) to meetings regularly.
* Active Participation: Members are encouraged to participate actively in discussions, information sharing, and collaborative efforts.

Benefits of Membership

* Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing: Connect with other INGOs, share best practices, and learn from each other's experiences.
* Advocacy and Influence: Collectively advocate for the interests of INGOs and influence policy decisions.
* Coordination and Efficiency: Coordinate efforts to avoid duplication and maximize impact.
* Transparency and Accountability: Promote transparency and accountability within the INGO sector in Bangladesh.

Please note: While membership is ongoing once accepted, organizations can choose to leave the forum at any time.  
  
FAQs  
  
1. What is the INGO Forum?

The INGO Forum is a platform for International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) working in Bangladesh. It facilitates information exchange, collaboration, and advocacy to improve the effectiveness of INGOs in the country.

2. How can my organization join the INGO Forum?

The INGO Forum welcomes all INGOs operating in Bangladesh. While there's no formal application process, you can express your interest by reaching out to a current member or attending a meeting.

3. What are the benefits of joining the INGO Forum?

Membership offers opportunities for collaboration, knowledge sharing, advocacy, and promoting transparency within the INGO sector.

4. How often does the INGO Forum meet?

The forum generally meets quarterly, with additional meetings possible based on need.

5. How can I find out about upcoming meetings?

Meeting dates and details are typically circulated among members via email. Once you express interest in joining, you'll be included in these communications.

6. Who can I contact for more information?

Unfortunately, the INGO Forum doesn't maintain a public phone number or physical address due to its reliance on rotating leadership and volunteer efforts. However, you can express your interest by contacting a current member or reaching out through the email address listed below (assuming they establish one).

**Become a member.**

Express Your Interest:

Please fill out the following form to express your interest in joining the INGO Forum.

Organization Information

* Organization Name:
* Website:
* Country Director Name:
* Country Director Email:
* Confirmation Factor (choose one):

1. Registered with NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB) as an INGO.
2. Possess international governance structures.

Once you submit this form, a representative from the INGO Forum will be in touch to discuss your eligibility and answer any questions you may have.

Please Note:

* The INGO Forum operates on a voluntary basis.
* There is no formal application process.
* Membership is ongoing, but organizations can choose to leave at any time.