

First Draft

**Code of Governance
for Small Island
Working Group**

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Mission and Values

- The Small Island Working Group (SIWG) aims to advocate for the unique needs and challenges of small island communities on a global platform.
- We work collaboratively and respectfully with all stakeholders, promoting transparency, accountability, and inclusivity.
- Sustainability, environmental protection, and cultural preservation are at the core of our work.

Key Focus

- Corporate Sustainability Reporting / Climate Adaptation and Mitigation
- Agricultural Technologies & Digital Tools / Sources of Finance
- Capacity Building / Education and Training / Farm Adaptation & Mitigation

Governance Principles

(Based on the UN Global Compact Ten Principles)

Human Rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Labour

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Environment

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

Membership and Participation

- Membership is open to individuals and organizations with a genuine interest in supporting small island communities.
- Diverse representation from different sectors (government, NGOs, academia, private sector) is encouraged.
- Active participation, commitment to the mission, and respect for fellow members are expected.

Openness and Transparency

- All meetings, discussions, and negotiations will be open to all members or their designated representatives.

- Meeting agendas, minutes, and key documents will be promptly shared with all members and kept on file for reference.
- Any financial records will be transparent and available to all members.
- Decisions and discussions will be documented and presented in a clear and accessible manner.

Internal Consultancy

- Any potential need for internal consultancy within the SIWG will be openly discussed and agreed upon by all members.
- Selection of internal consultants will be based on clearly defined criteria (e.g., expertise, experience, potential conflicts of interest) and through a transparent process.
- The scope of work, fees, and expected deliverables for internal consultants will be documented in a written agreement and shared with all members.
- Internal consultants will report their progress and findings to the group regularly and openly.

Decision-Making

- The SIWG operates on a consensus-based model, striving for decisions that represent the collective will of the members.
- Working groups and task forces can be established to focus on specific projects or issues.

- Regular meetings and communication mechanisms ensure all members are informed and engaged.

Potential Fee Structure

- Membership fees (annual or project-based) can be considered to support the SIWG's operational costs.
- Funding proposals can be submitted to relevant international organizations or private donors.
- Fee exemptions or sliding scales can be implemented to ensure inclusivity and participation from individuals and organizations with limited resources.

Consultancy within the Group

- External consultants may be hired for specific projects or expertise not readily available within the group.
- A transparent selection process based on qualifications and competitive rates will be followed.
- Clear contracts outlining roles, responsibilities, and financial terms will be established.
- Members will be informed and have the opportunity to provide feedback on any consultancy arrangements and decide and agree on any consultant selected.