



Canadian NGOs Network in Ethiopia (CANGO) ***Code of Partnership (CoP)***

Background

The Canadian Network of NGOs in Ethiopia, CANGO, is a network voluntarily accessed by, and created, in early 2006. The following are member organisations:

- ❑ AMREF (Canada)
- ❑ Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)
- ❑ Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief (CPAR)
- ❑ Christian Children's Fund of Canada (CCFC)
- ❑ Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere, Inc. (CARE - Canada)
- ❑ CHF - Partners in Rural Development (CHF)
- ❑ HOPE International Development Agency
- ❑ Food for the Hungry International – Ethiopia (FHI)
- ❑ LWF Ethiopia (Canadian Lutheran World Relief)
- ❑ Oxfam - Canada
- ❑ Right to Play
- ❑ Save the Children - Canada
- ❑ Partnership Africa Canada (PAC)
- ❑ Plan International - Ethiopia
- ❑ World Vision – Ethiopia

Each of these agencies is referred to collectively herein as the “Network Partners” of CANGO. Details of contact persons and addresses can be found in Appendix 1. They will be updated from time to time.

Membership requires both a presence in Ethiopia, and a headquarters, national office or secretariat located in Canada.

Purpose

The overall purpose of CANGO is to share information, promote cooperation and enhance collective action in areas of common interest, in an effort to address the challenges of poverty in Ethiopia, including food and livelihood security, HIV/AIDS, disaster preparedness and response, capacity building of civil society and governance.

Specifically, the member organisations work to:

- ❑ share information, promote coordination and avoid duplication of efforts among members;
- ❑ engage with CIDA, regarding CIDA and broader Canadian policy in Ethiopia;
- ❑ gather and share experiences and lessons useful to educate the Canadian public;
- ❑ identify opportunities to secure funding from Canadian sources in consortia, as appropriate, to further their aims.

Network Structure

Each of the members has equal *rights* and *responsibilities* in the deliberation of the objective of the network. Members will delegate members' agencies to form specific working group as deemed necessary and appropriate to carry out assigned tasks or work on a thematic topic. There will be a focal organisation appointed on a rotational basis by the members to serve as a spoke–organisation and facilitate liaising with external bodies. The focal organisation will serve for a 12 month period and the responsibility will rotate similarly for the same terms of period among the members.

Vision

To see that Ethiopian people have secured their full potential in a context that respects dignity and human rights, based on international conventions.

Mission

We see CANGO as a voluntary network that collectively builds an enabling environment at all levels in which Ethiopian people are empowered to reach their full potential and have control and voice in their own development.

We further see CANGO as a network that serves as an instrument in ensuring that international assistances, including our own, are effectively utilised.

Values

We see CANGO as a network that is guided by “Equality within diversity”.

Specifically the partnership cooperation will be governed by the following values/principles:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Participation

Strategic areas

CANGO is primarily a network focusing on the following areas

- Capacity building
- Advocacy – being a critical mass
- Development education
- Knowledge building and sharing

The network also opens up for joint initiatives among all or some of the member organisations.

Thematic areas

CANGO will concentrate on the following thematic areas¹:

- Canadian foreign aid policy
- Safety Nets and Livelihood
- Creating a strong civil society space

¹ Subject to review by Network Partners

Conditions for membership

Organisations that fulfill the following criteria, and that accept this ToR can be members of CANGO².

- Have a national office involved in development activities, with a Board of Directors in Canada;
- Be a registered NGO operational within the area of development work, in Ethiopia;
- Be an international NGO;
- Receive a substantial part of the funding from Canada;
- Represent a Canadian constituency.

What are the participating organisations expecting from CANGO?

The member organisations are expecting that:

- the membership will give a return on investment;
- CANGO as a membership organisation will help the members to be more effective in use of resources and competence;
- it will be more influential, through its actions in cooperation with other CANGO members;
- the membership will enable the members to reduce redundancy;
- the network will build a two-way bridge between CANGO and CIDA;
- the network will do more as a group than the individual members can do individually.

It is expected that the network will be self-sustaining in the long run.

What are the participating organisations willing to invest in/give to CANGO?

- time
- in-kind resources and money
- information
- commitment to consensus decision-making & agreements

It is understood that, as a membership organisation, members will subscribe to and abide by the policies and procedures of CANGO

CANGO Constituency

The CANGO constituency are the member organisations (with their individual constituencies) represented in the network. CANGO is accountable to its collective membership, which are guided by CANGO policies.

Organisational Integrity

In a network like CANGO, it is very important that the participating organisations respect the “organisational line”. The following functional principles apply:

- Common decisions or positions are communicated to the outside world through the lead agency or the coordinator;
- Discussions with CIDA and other partners are led by the lead agency, or a person that is delegated this authority from this organisation;
- The CANGO in Canada should not take initiative, nor present any CANGO decisions/stands/viewpoints directly. CANGO Canada shall work in support of and through CANGO Ethiopia. It is CANGO Ethiopia which has ultimate responsibility for decision-making and actions.

As currently constituted, CANGO will have only one staff-person with the title of “CANGO Coordinator”².

Role of the Coordinator

- Together with the lead agency representative, facilitate and organise CANGO meetings;

² Subject to review by Network Partners

- ❑ Be the focal point/facilitator for joint venture plans and reports;
- ❑ Identify and develop good relations with key stakeholders, particularly those actors identified by CANGO members as key partners or collaborators in lobbying for or achieving changes that will address issues identified by the network;
- ❑ Participate in discussions with CIDA and other potential donors;
- ❑ To provide progress reports as required to the CANGO against the milestones, activities or outputs agreed up on by the member agencies.

Venue for CANGO

The meetings of CANGO will be conveyed and hosted on a rotational basis at the ECCO or at the venue of the respective member organisations.

Frequency of CANGO Meetings

The CANGO will meet every three months unless and otherwise the situation dictates to meet more frequently.

Legal Implication of the CANGO Code of Partnership

The CANGO Code of Partnership is a statement of intent only, outlining processes for the cooperation of network members. In no way can this document be interpreted as having a legally binding nature. CANGO members will not be legally responsible for failure to fulfill their obligations outlined under this Code of Partnership.

Member organisations are free to withdraw their membership at any time, following a minimum of 5 days notice to all other members of the Network.

Membership Dues

In support of activities related to the coordination of CANGO, member organisations agree to contribute 4000 Ethiopian Birr to CANGO, annually³. This payment shall be made to the CANGO Network's Bank account⁴ in one instalment in the month of January of each year. It is non refundable.

For operational viability in Ethiopia, an account will be opened in the names of the CANGO focal person and the CANGO Coordinator⁵. This account will be separately tracked by the financial officer of the Network Partner hosting the CANGO Coordinator, until a separate arrangement is deemed necessary by the Network Partners. A report detailing the use of membership dues will be provided to all Network Partners in December of each year.

New Network Partners will pay their dues starting at the first scheduled payment date following their formal acceptance into CANGO.

Members withdrawing from CANGO will forfeit their membership contribution.

Income/Assets of CANGO

The income and property of CANGO, however derived, shall be applied towards the promotion of the objectives set forth in this Code of Partnership. No portion of the income and property of the Network shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus or otherwise by way of profit, to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Network or to any persons claiming through them or any of them, provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith or remuneration to any member thereof or other persons in return for any service rendered to the Network.

³ Subject to review by the Network Partners

⁴ A bank account will be opened with the support of CANGO Network Partners, according to legal modalities acceptable to a majority of the membership at the time of initial implementation

⁵ Subject to review by the Network Partners

Participation/Non-Participation in CANGO

Participation in CANGO will be open to other Canadian Organisations. A Member may also withdraw from CANGO at any time and for any reason by providing a 5 days prior written notice to the network members.

Dissolution of the Network

If, on the winding up or dissolution of the Network, there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall be distributed among the members of the Network.

Review of the Code of Partnership

The members will amend the CoP from time to time. This CoP may be immediately terminated upon agreement of all members.

Amendment

The following NGOs have agreed to this code and hereby are included as network partners of CANGO.

- Samaritan's Purse
- International Development Enterprise (IDE)
- Imagine 1 Day