



Advisory Board Revised ToR & Selection Process September 2020

As a follow-up to reflections made earlier in the year by the current Advisory Board members, we are on the look-out for new members!

The extension phase aspires to have a stronger commitment to *NOthing about us Without Us* (NOW-US!), based on which Voice is sharing the following revised Terms of Reference (ToR) and selection process.

Revised Terms of Reference

The original Terms of Reference of the Advisory Board are as follows:

- Provide Oxfam Novib (ON)/Hivos with objective and independent advice on the key components of Voice, being: (a) the grant scheme, (b) management of the subsidy facility and (c) the linking and learning process.
- Act as a sounding board for ON/Hivos and provide guidance for upholding the main principles of Voice, amongst which:
 - Vision on capacity strengthening for influencing for and by the rightsholder groups
 - Inclusion of the Voice rightsholder groups
 - Maintaining a gender-transformative approach
 - Empowerment of civil society, locally driven agendas for the inclusion of the Voice rightsholder groups
 - Providing a forum for mutual learning and empowerment
 - Flexibility to adapt to changing contexts
- Review the annual plan and budget submitted by ON/Hivos and provide strategic level advice.
- Provide advice on the Terms of Reference and methodology for the external final evaluation.
- Serve as Voice ambassadors to further Voice's objectives regarding dissemination, awareness raising and credibility.



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- Review and contribute to the long-term financial sustainability of Voice.

The current Advisory Board members agreed to add two additional ones:

- Provide advice on global (donor) trends for Voice rightsholder groups and how the Voice Calls for Proposals can help respond to them.
- Provide advice on the future set-up and structure of Voice.

Time commitment

The minimal time commitment to be an Advisory Board member is two half-day meetings a year – ideally face-to-face- and of which one has thus far been linked to a Voice learning event and/or trip of maximum a week. This is combined with limited individual conversations seeking advice and inputs into specific developments and trends. Membership should not take more than 10 days a year and the position is non-remunerated with traveling expenses paid.

Future Composition

The current composition of the Advisory Board is as follows:

- Representatives of the three consortium members of Oxfam Novib, Hivos and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - Edwin Huizing, Director, Hivos
 - Ton Meijers, Director Programs and Campaigns, Oxfam Novib
 - Anke van Dam, retired civil servant, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Representative from Partos, the Dutch umbrella organisation for Dutch NGOs working in development cooperation
 - Bart Romijn, Director Partos and current Chair Advisory Board
- Representatives from the rightsholders groups Voice serves



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- Nidhi Goyal, feminist and activist for women and girls with disabilities, founder of Rising Flame, India
- Josephine Kulea, founder and President, Samburu Girls Foundation, Kenya

For the Voice extension phase (2021-2024) we want to see stronger representation of the rightsholder groups of Voice in the Advisory Board, based on a stronger commitment to *Nothing about us without us* or NOW-US!. It has therefore been agreed that the Advisory Board will be made up by four or five representatives from the rightsholder groups Voice serves. As the Dutch INGO umbrella organisation, Partos will stay represented in the Advisory Board to keep the connection to the trends and strategies in the Dutch development cooperation sector - but not necessarily as chair.

This means we are on the look-out for five new Advisory Board members!

We have adopted the following selection process.

What are we looking for?

For the profile, we have combined the language from the original Voice project document with the Mid-Term Review and our aspirations for the Advisory Board.

A future Voice Advisory Board member:

- Originates from a low or low-middle-income country (and/or from a Voice focus country¹).
- Represents and is part of a CSO network, preferably at a regional level, and/or is a rightsholder from one of the five groups Voice serves and is familiar with the intersectional approach Voice promotes.
- Has vast knowledge based on a variety of regional influencing experiences;

¹ The Voice focus countries are Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Laos, Cambodia, Philippines and Indonesia.



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- Has affinity and engagement with empowerment and linking and learning processes of the Voice rightsholders.
- Keeps abreast of strategic trends impacting Voice rightsholders and how donors are responding/should respond to them.
- Has knowledge of English (and/or French) as a working language.

We are also open to have one representative from a grant-making facility, provided they are committed to diversity and inclusion and that the majority of the members on the Advisory Board come from the rightsholder groups. *Representatives from ex- Voice grantees are welcome to apply provided they meet the above criteria and are not interested in applying again for a Voice grant.*

How to apply?

Please send your CV and a short cover letter explaining why you are a great Advisory Board member to hello@voice.global. Cover letters in the form of audio or video are also welcomed.

The deadline for applications is **25th of October, midnight CET**.

If you like to have an informal conversation with the Voice Programme Manager please contact Marinke van Riet via marinke.van.riet@voice.global

What happens after the deadline?

The Voice Coordination Team will do the initial screening and then a small Selection Committee made up of Partos, a current member of the Advisory Board not going for re-election and the Voice programme manager will do interviews during the month of November.

November will be used to check references based on which we will have a final conversation with the selection committee to agree on final composition.



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Ideally we would like to have a face-to-face hand-over meeting in early 2021, aligned with the next learning Indaba. If this is not possible due to COVID-19, it may have to be a virtual meeting.