



Bylaws for SDSN Members

23 October 2013

Context

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) comprises SDSN Members active in sustainable development research or its application, including universities, research organizations, international organizations, and civil society organizations. SDSN members work closely with businesses and governments.

Each SDSN Member will be a member of the global SDSN Assembly and will participate locally, nationally, and globally in meeting the challenges of sustainable development, through:

- participation in problem solving, policy, and public education;
- participation in Solutions Initiatives of the SDSN
- promotion of training and policy support to governments seeking to deepen their diagnosis of sustainable development challenges and the preparation of pathways to sustainability; and
- promotion of courses (including executive training and public education) for sustainable development challenges at the local, national, and global levels as appropriate for the institution.

This document outlines the bylaws for SDSN Members.

Qualifications of SDSN Members

- Accredited university, research center or other organization with demonstrated capacities and a strong track record in teaching, research and/or project work on sustainable development in the respective country and or region;
- A demonstrated desire and ability to play an active role in local, national, regional and global problem solving for sustainable development; and
- Stated commitment from the head of the organization to become an SDSN Member.

Responsibilities of SDSN Members

- Readiness to host and support SDSN events in the country/region;
- Participate in Solutions Initiatives under the SDSN;
- Publicize SDSN activities amongst policy makers, private sector and NGOs;
- Cooperate with SDSN management;

- Contribute content to the SDSN website and provide brief quarterly reports of activities; and
- Contribute to the SDSN in any other way.

Membership Benefits

- Recognition of membership in the SDSN;
- Participation in the Solutions Initiatives under the SDSN;
- Ability to leverage SDSN expertise, such as from the Thematic Groups, for teaching, research and sustainable development projects; and
- Opportunities to leverage SDSN affiliation for resource mobilization.

SDSN members can display the SDSN logo on their websites. The use of the SDSN name and logo in other written material will require approval by the SDSN secretariat.

Application and Nomination of SDSN Members

Formal membership in the global SDSN is open to universities, research centers, civil society organizations, and other knowledge centers engaged in sustainable development. To become a member, an interested organization fills in the membership form available on the SDSN website. The Executive Committee of the global SDSN will review applications and approve the institutions that fit the criteria of the SDSN. To formalize such a designation, an appointment letter referring to these bylaws will be sent to the organization. By consenting to this letter and the bylaws, the institution will become a Solutions Network Member. SDSN members can then automatically participate in Regional and National SDSNs as well.

Businesses are invited to contribute to the work of the network, particularly the design and implementation of Solution Initiatives. The SDSN also works with global and thematic business groups, such as the World Business Council on Sustainable Development of the Global Compact to engage companies. The SDSN focuses exclusively on non-commercial activities, so it will engage business without offering them formal membership, but this should not limit their contribution to the work of the network.

Term

Three-year, renewable

Removal for Cause

Under exceptional circumstances, a two-thirds majority of the Executive Committee of the SDSN may revoke an organization's membership as an SDSN Member for cause if one of the following conditions is met:

- Failure to abide by SDSN rules and standards;
- Failure to remain an active Solutions Network Member; or
- Activities that the Executive Committee considers harmful to the functioning of the SDSN.