

ASF-International Activity Plan 2014-2016

Drafted by the Conseil d'Administration

Revised by the General Assembly

MISSION STATEMENT

ASF MISSION

Architecture Sans Frontières International is an independent network of design not for profit organisations concerned with social justice, the cultural and environmental aspects of architecture and the conservation of the human and physical heritage aspects of the built environment.

ASF PURPOSE

The purpose of Architecture Sans Frontières International (ASF) is to enable marginalised communities access to architectural services, research and educational resources in order to increase their resilience and reduce vulnerability.

ASF AIMS

- I. Assist in the establishment of new like-minded, design not for profit organizations globally
- II. Support ASF member organizations through the international network
- III. Provide design education and training with a specific focus on new forms of architectural practice relevant to international development and post disaster reconstruction.
- IV. Interface with other global organizations and events on behalf of the ASF-International community.

PRIORITIES

In order to fulfil our mission, we have identified four priorities for action on which we will focus over the next two years:

1. STRENGTHEN NETWORK STRUCTURE AND CAPACITY

To increase our local/global presence and improve collaboration

2. DEVELOP CORE FOCUS OF ASF

So that we can build shared principles and platforms for collaboration

3. DEVELOP A SUSTAINABLE FUNDRAISING STRATEGY

In order to improve stability and reduce reliance on member organisations

4. IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS

To better position the network in the design and international development contexts

Priority 1

STRENGTHEN NETWORK STRUCTURE AND CAPACITY

To increase our local/global presence and improve collaboration

Our aim:

To consolidate ASF-International as a collaborative design and development entity that enables dialogue among member organisations, in order to allow the sharing of knowledge, experience, and resources and establish innovative ways of collaborating locally to empower marginalised communities.

To do so we want to ...

Increase the number and spread of ASF member organisations, with particular attention to supporting regional Not Profits that operate locally alongside marginalised communities.

Continue developing the ASF-Int Secretariat as the interface between ASF-Int member organisations and between ASF-Int and external stakeholders. Formalise responsibilities and communication protocols among member organisations and between the Board and members.

Increase and intensify contact among member organisations by promoting mobility and exchange, as well as conferences, seminars and workshops to be organised in conjunction with the annual General Assembly meeting.

Convert ASF-Int information bank and projects portfolio into crowd-sourced archives, opening the way baseline information is collected, managed and accessed by member organisations directly. Increase direct links between ASF-Int website and members web pages.

Initiate an interactive knowledge-sharing platform, by using a member-only intranet on our website or a member-only forum on an existing platform (e.g. LinkedIn) as tools for peer-to-peer exchange among member organisations and their staff/volunteers.

Initiate a database of ASF trained volunteers and professionals who have undertaken ASF-Int independent-learning programme "Challenging Practice" and can join local teams when necessary.

Priority 2**DEVELOP CORE FOCUS OF ASF**

So that we can build shared principles and platforms for collaboration

Our aim:

To better identify and communicate the thematic areas of work of member organisations as a means to continuously reflect on the network's underlying principles, develop shared frameworks and methodologies linking those principles to practice, and facilitate horizontal collaboration on specific themes.

To do so we want to ...

Build on the existing information bank and project portfolio to identify and make evident core principles and thematic areas across the network (e.g. disaster resilience and response, community development, heritage conservation, etc.).

Promote the formation of theme-based working groups within the network.

Promote knowledge sharing and critical reflection about core principles and thematic areas through the website and annual conferences, seminars and workshops held during the annual General Assembly meeting.

Align focus of advocacy, practice, communication, and fund raising along lines of core principles and thematic areas.

Cultivate common approaches to practice through the circulation of ASF-Int independent-learning programme "Challenging Practice" within the network. Open the way in which the existing course is run and train ASF trainers who can deliver the "Challenging Practice" course locally.

Priority 3**DEVELOP A SUSTAINABLE FUNDRAISING STRATEGY**

In order to improve stability and reduce reliance on member organisations

Our aim:

To obtain financial resources from both private and public sources as a means to sustain and expand ASF-Int Secretariat and support organizational costs, while reducing dependency on member organisations' fees.

To do so we want to ...

Develop a funding strategy that is simultaneously beneficial to member organisations and ASF-Int, and inspires participation in fundraising from everyone who is involved in ASF-Int.

Move from a funding strategy to fund core costs, to the funding of particular events and projects promoted by either member organisations or ASF-International directly. Use a proportion of that fundraising to support ASF-Int Secretariat.

Develop methods for sponsorship from public and corporate donors as well as for individual sponsorship and crowd funding. Establish ASF-Int presence on dedicated platforms and "justgiving" type pages.

Expand our fundraising capacity by attracting experienced individuals from a range of different backgrounds to join our Board and the Secretariat.

Leverage on dedicated members of the Board and the Secretariat to create of a fundraising task force within the network.

Actively involve member organisations in the setting up of our financial strategy, fundraising methods, and fundraising tools to share experience and expertise within the network.

Priority 4**IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS**

To better position the network in the design and international development contexts

Our aim:

To better communicate the core values, mission, methodologies and practices of ASF-International member organisations as a means to attract professionals, partnerships, and funds.

To do so we want to ...

Continue improving our website to better reflect our values, mission, core practice areas and partnerships. Improve the website and rethink our presence on social networking platforms to highlight the activities of the network and individual member organisations.

Maintain commitment to develop the Newsletter as a forum of exchange with the wider community of ASF-Int sympathisers.

Consolidate annual conferences and seminars held in conjunction with the GA meeting as a way of collectively reflecting on our underlying principles, and of introducing strategic partners and donors to our work.

Develop and publish a book reflecting the network's underlying principles and thematic areas and showcasing the work of member organisations and its impact.

Promote the multiplication and dissemination of publications reflecting on the work of ASF member organisations in different contexts (academic journals and wider press) – both ASF authored publications and ASF linked articles.

Plan and organize presence at online events such as TEDx conferences and at key events in the context of international development (for instance, UN-Habitat World Urban Forum) and architecture (for instance, UIA Durban 2014, Venice Biennale 2014) to promote the values and work of ASF-Int and its members, and generate partnership opportunities.