

The following proposal is drawn from governance paper by Thierry Weishaupt, discussions with the group who met in Paris: Isis de Palma, Sudha Reddy, Neetu Sharma, Patrick Hébert, Thierry Weishaupt, Yolanda Ziaka, Betsan Martin, Pierre Calame and a governance advisor.

Special appreciation to Thierry for preparing proposals for governance of Alliance-Respons

Executive Summary

A Resource Centre

We were all inspired by a proposal for the Alliance to become a Resource Centre. The idea of resourcing responsibility in interdependent and sustainable societies brings a focus to producing resources and brings the opportunity to enhance contributions of all partners and fields of activity in each of our locations.

A Resource Centre is intended to engage us in a dynamic, interactive process of exchange – not a static ‘centre’.

A Resource Centre will bring an emphasis to producing resources, while also enabling an active dissemination function. Communication will be a feature, including a regular newsletter with updates of information and resources circulated to a data-base of members, supporters, colleagues.

A matrix with themes for resources on responsibility and our experience, skills and capabilities will give us very valuable information on fields of work and contributions to the Resource centre. See below for details.

We will continue to work with strategic opportunities to give visibility to responsibility – both in local contexts and as Alliance partners working together where possible. For example opportunities to advance education for global citizenship, law, oeconomy and so on.

All this means that the website is an priority!

Governance

Simplicity is important, to take account of our small, visionary and ambitious enterprise and limited funds. To address the issue of ensuring that those benefiting from funds are separated from the decisions about project funds it is proposed to establish a small executive secretariat with defined funding for these roles, and exclusion from project funds. An Executive Secretary, an Executive Communications, and Assistant for each position, is recommended.

The Steering Committee will become an Advisory Council. The Executive positions will be part of the Advisory Council – in recognition of the working reality of the Alliance.

Guidelines for projects on ‘resourcing responsibility’ will be prepared by the Advisory Council in consultation with the Assembly. Decisions about projects will be made by a committee of 3/5, people, comprised of one representative of the Assembly, one representative of the Advisory Council, one external reviewer, and the Executive Secretary or Exec Communications. A majority will have no financial interest.

Membership

The introduction of financial membership is proposed. A membership fee would be based on the cost of living index, and could include a range between €50 – €1000 (?).

Governance of the Alliance

The Steering Committee becomes an Advisory Council.

An Advisory Council:

- 5 members made up of current SC + 1 or 2 co-opted member (s). A system for rotation to be clarified
- An Executive Secretary
- An Executive Communications
- Provision for Assistants to Executive Secretary and Executive Communications

Betsan and Yolanda have both proposed resigning from Advisory Council to create independence from financial interests. However Pierre Calame, Thierry Weishaupt, an independent governance consultant and Steering Committee members (to clarify with all of SC) advise against this and recommend that they continue for the duration of the current contract with the FPH. This proposal for executive roles includes set funding for these positions and exclusion from project funds, thus achieving independence from project funding decisions. We have asked Thierry to convene a process with the Assembly with regard to Betsan and Yolanda in the roles of Executive Secretary and Executive Communications respectively.

The Advisory Council will prepare budget with input and approval from General Assembly

Decisions about projects and funds:

- To be made by a Project Committee of 3 or 5 with a majority not having a financial interest in project funds.
- Committee members could include: 1 representative from Assembly, 1 representative of Advisory Council, + 1 independent person + Executive reps.

Legal Entities:

Contract with FPH is with Response Trust – on behalf of Alliance. This is an adequate legal entity for the management of funds. There is no need for a specific Alliance legal entity.

Funds raised by partners for projects would be located within the partner projects. Eg if Nina and Ben and Sudha collaborate on a project and raise funds, they will decide which of their organizations will manage funds for the project. Management and fund distribution will be decided during preparation of the proposal.

Re Funds and paid positions

- Employ a fundraiser for 2016 – 2017
- Executive Secretary – with no entitlement to project funds
 - Administrative assistant
- Executive Communications – no additional project funds
 - Communication support
- Communications officer
- Advisory Committee - with small payment in recognition of costs of advisory role, to be 'deducted' or taken into account re allocation of project funds in recognition that this work is complementary to projects. (This is not paid to Exec Secretary, Exec Communications)
- A budget for travel – affirming the importance of face-to-face meetings

Membership

There is a recommendation to become a 'Member Based' Alliance, with a fee for membership calibrated to cost of living for each country; membership fee between €50 – 1000 equivalent. Other suggestions for membership are welcome. It could be simply an agreement to receive newsletters.

Resourcing Responsible, Interdependent and Sustainable Societies: Strategic Direction

The following recommendations come through very fruitful discussions with: Pierre Calame, Isis de Palma, Sudha Reddy, Neetu Sharma, Patrick Hébert, Thierry Weishaupt, Yolanda Ziaka, Betsan Martin + Karine Goasmat and Assane Mbaye , of AGAR. The following recommendations are developed from a synthesis of Thierry's paper, discussions and organizational advisors.

Alliance as Resource Centre

Proposal: the Alliance to become a Resource Centre for responsible, interdependent sustainable societies, created through an interactive learning platform. This moves away from a proposal to define a *focus* on education and regulation.

- Creating a learning platform will be a priority for 2016, and the basis for projects and the distribution of funds.
- Producing materials and content on achievements and initiatives will give visibility to responsibility and public good as organizing principles for transitions to sustainable societies, through the Alliance Resource Centre
- To give visibility to our initiatives, we can show what we are achieving and how we are succeeding in articulating responsibility in our social – professional fields
- Content on responsibility can be thematic, and inclusive of all the contextual initiatives of Alliance-Respons partners
- We encourage projects that are networked across the Alliance partners – we might ask who can help me on this?
- In addition to contributing to the Learning Platform from our projects, we work with opportunities to advance responsibility in transitions to sustainable societies. These may function like a consultancy. Productivity from these engagements will also contribute to the Learning Platform.
- A calendar on the website will show events of significance for Alliance-Respons. Examples in 2016: World Assembly of Inhabitants; Education as a driver for SDGs, Ahmedabad, India; IUCN World Congress, Hawaii; ILO meeting.
- Becoming a membership organization, with a fee from membership, gives clarity of engagement and starts to have a membership-based financial income. This financial base would contribute to a long term funding base of the Alliance and provide a stronger case for attracting funds.

Declaration of Interdependence and Responsibility

Pierre gave a briefing on the Declaration of Interdependence and Responsibility. This was a response to an opportune moment created in the situation of COP21 with Pierre, Mireille Delmas-Marty and Michel Rocard. The draft Declaration of Interdependence and Responsibility is a synthesis of the 2005 Declaration of Interdependence (Delmas-Marty and Rocard) and the Declaration of Responsibility.

We propose that the Declaration of Interdependence and Responsibility become the reference text for Alliance-Respons going forward from 2016. This will become the basis of a revised Manifest, for example in preparation for COP22, in Morocco.

The Declaration may need adapting for Alliance / Manifest purposes. Currently it is designed in 'Head of State' style.

We discussed with Isis making a data-base of all signatories to the COP21 Manifest plus adding other friends, allies, colleagues, and take the opportunity to communicate with everyone for a post

COP21 follow up – we can write a message to everyone to advise about Declaration of Interdependence and Responsibility and Alliance plans for 2016.

AGAR - Alliance for Refounding Governance in Africa

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<http://www.afrique-gouvernance.net/rubrique3.html>>

Assane Mbaye, Co-ordinator of AGAR. Law Professor, University Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD) and Karine Goasmat gave a very fruitful introduction to this organization, which works on governance, including local government. We considered the opportunity of a reciprocal working relationship with AGAR – to benefit from their initiative on governance, to learn from their organizational and networking systems. While recognizing it is a programme specifically on governance in Africa, it works with allies beyond Africa.

The opportunity for Alliance-Respons is to bring our contributions on the framework / themes of responsibility in governance and local government to AGAR.

Preliminary Plans for 2016

Meetings of Alliance members could be in conjunction with strategic events. Events can be identified to correspond with opportunities and priority interests and benefit to Assembly partners. This offers more diverse opportunities for meeting, and replaces Betsan’s suggested meeting in mid 2016.

There are several global events in 2016, as noted. These could present significant opportunities for Alliance members to articulate responsibility in transitions pathways.

Climate responsibility is one significant field but may not be a direct focus for everyone. COP22 offers the opportunity of education and local government initiatives, since these are given impetus in the Paris Agreement, and also, prospects of working with AGAR.

For COP22, preparations include planning a side event, networking with other contributors, preparing resource materials, and working with AGAR – since the COP is in Africa.

A Matrix for Alliance-Respons Activity

A matrix for Allies capacities and contributions and socio-professional areas

Thematic Areas - Contributions	Resource Development	Networks and Partners	Research	Curricula	Policy	Regulation
Education						
Economy						
Governance						
Regional governm						
Cities						
Law & Regulation						
Science						

We look forward to your considerations and comments of these proposals and recommendations.

Betsan prepared this paper as a synthesis of discussions and several meetings in Paris, December 2015.