





Become a member of CCIC's Regional Working Groups and be part of a national network of civil society organizations committed to development, social justice and human rights in Africa, the Americas, or Asia-Pacific. Join one of CCIC's regional working groups today!

### What are CCIC's Regional Working Groups?

- CCIC has three regional working groups: the Africa-Canada Forum (AFC), the Americas Policy Group (APG) and the Asia-Pacific Working Group (APWG).
- The geographic working groups provide a space for collaborative learning, analysis, policy work and advocacy on development and human rights issues in the region.

# What are the benefits of being a regional working group member?

- Help set the working group's agenda and policy positions, and engage in collective dialogue and advocacy with the government and other decision-making bodies.
- Meet with government officials and policy-makers through events organized by the working group.
- Participate in learning events, member meetings, and policy-relevant research.
- Improve the quality and impact of your work through the sharing of experiences and lessons-learned on policy and programming issues.
- Be part of a network connected to the larger development community: Canadian CSOs, academics, government officials, consultants, researchers and the public. Share the perspectives of your Southern partners with Canadian CSOs, academics, government officials and the public, and learn from others' partners' views on development policies and programming.
- Ensure dialogue and action around working group priorities in CCIC's broader work plan.
- Get the support of a coordinator to implement member-led work plans.

#### How do members participate in the working groups?

- By joining a mailing list that provides information and analysis on development and human rights issues in your region of focus. It helps members stay abreast of current events and the trends that will shape the future of development in these regions.
- By designing and participating in learning events and member meetings.
- By participating in sub-committees to help shape working group research, policy briefs and advocacy strategies.

• For those who are interested in taking on a leadership role in a working group, by joining the coordination committee and working closely with the coordinator to elaborate and implement the activities outlined in the annual work plan.

Please note: Each working group has its own style of working and sets its own agenda. There are also different levels of participation, and different ways to contribute to each of the working groups. Participation in any activity of the working group is purely voluntary.

#### How can my organization become a member of the working groups?

- Members of the working groups include non-governmental organizations, labour unions, faith-based organizations, diaspora groups, solidarity groups, think tanks, and research centers. Working groups include CCIC member organizations and non-member organizations.
- Members of CCIC and other organizations with a policy and/or program interest in Africa, the Americas or the Asia-Pacific region can request to join the working groups.
- The organizational mandate of members should be coherent with the specific objectives and policy agendas of the working group(s) they want to join.
- Non-CCIC Members should also be familiar with <u>CCIC's Code of Ethics</u> and <u>CCIC's 10</u>
   Point Agenda.
- Membership requests should be addressed to the working group coordinator and will be assessed by the working group's coordination committee.

# How are these regional working groups financed?

- The working groups are mainly funded through voluntary member contributions. They
  also benefit from funds from the International Development Research Centre and
  CCIC.
- Funds raised annually determine staff time, as well as the scope of activities that can be undertaken.
- We expect all members to make annual financial contributions towards the budget of the working groups, according to their means. This is particularly important for non-CCIC members, since they do not support the working groups through a CCIC membership. Those facing financial constraints are encouraged to discuss their situation with the coordinator.