



GLOBAL PLANNERS NETWORK
Sharing new ideas about communities across the world

GLOBAL PLANNERS NETWORK: WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO, HOW WE WORK

Our Vision

Through a collaboration of the international planning profession, contribute to the creation and maintenance of inclusive, safe, healthy and sustainable human settlements.

Our Objectives

- To mobilise and share knowledge, and learn from each other's experiences;
- To build the capacity of the planning community; *and*
- To promote and provide international advocacy for planning.

Our Goals

- Develop and share a global planning knowledge base;
- Further develop the World's capacity for and understanding of planning;
- Define the concepts of sustainability and sustainable human settlements;
- Promote human equity and empowerment in planning; *and*
- Engage new partners committed to the work of the values of the Vancouver Declaration and the work of the GPN.

Our Principles

The principles underlying this document are that GPN should be characterised by ***inclusivity, pragmatic leadership and action orientation.***

Inclusivity

Any planning organisation (broadly defined) should be encouraged to sign the Vancouver Declaration and join the Global Planners Network. By doing so they express their moral support for its aims and objectives, and thus add to the political capital of the organisation.

Pragmatic Leadership

The current arrangements are provisional, based not on rights but on having accepted a commitment which founder members want and need to see through. The arrangements will be reviewed when circumstances change, through new operational plans, external links, sources of possible funding and other unforeseeable factors.

Action Orientation

All partners will pursue actions they deem appropriate to fulfilling GPN's aims and objectives. Those actions will keep up the momentum, raise the profile and consolidate the GPN record so that its programme of action truly defines it.

All new signatories to the Vancouver Declaration should be asked to specify what resources they might be able to offer to support the operation of GPN in its current start-up phase. This would serve to emphasise the provisional, informal nature of GPN at present, and offer opportunities for engagement, whilst not intimidating any organisation which may not be able to offer much at first.

The GPN website is a vehicle to convey its current programme of action, key documents such as Declarations and Communiqués and forthcoming events. Between conference calls and face-to-face meetings preparatory documents (e.g. proposals for action) will be widely circulated and if possible uploaded to the website for anyone to read and review.

The full list of signatories may not be on the GPN website at any given time. It will always be possible for anyone to request that a new organisation be added to the list at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Planners_Network.

Our Members

Are those who have signed up to the Vancouver Declaration for the furtherance of inclusionary and sustainable planning practice worldwide, as well as other interested organisations who share the above vision, objectives and goals. The GPN comprises two types of membership:

The first type is recognised professional planning associations of nations that have signed up to the Vancouver Declaration of 2006 and are committed to contributing time and effort to implementing the actions of the GPN. These are known as *signatories* and are *limited to one association per nation*.

The second type is those organisations who have an interest in planning and do not represent the planning profession at a national level, but contribute to achieving planning outcomes that are consistent with the objectives, goals and actions of the GPN. These are known as *supporters*.

Our Programme

The Global Planners Network seeks to find ways through which planning organisations and associations and their members can work together on a bilateral and multilateral basis to develop and communicate knowledge and expertise and thereby build capacity for effective planning throughout the world.

Our Record

The Vancouver Declaration of 2006 represents what the Global Planners Network and its signatories and supporters stand for. This was further elaborated at the GPN Congress of 2008 held in Zhenjiang, where a communiqué was prepared stating the aspirations of the Network and planning in general. Both of these documents and other information can be located on the GPN website at: www.globalplannersnetwork.org

Our Operation

- Whilst the GPN is not an international or incorporated body, it has an overarching governance structure in order to conduct any necessary business of the GPN, such as reviewing action plans, organising events, operating websites and the like. The Provisional Steering Group is comprised of four non-rotating founder signatories and six other organisations drawn from either membership type who rotate biennially through elections held at the biennial GPN Congress. Signatories and supporters leading key

activities and initiatives of the GPN are given preference for membership of the Steering Group, taking account of regional balance. The majority of the members of the Provisional Steering Group shall be signatories of the Vancouver Declaration.

- The GPN Governance structure is reviewed regularly and reflects the capacity of different organisations to participate in the Network, which is still in its infancy.
- The GPN is a voluntary collaboration, with no charge for membership, and manages without a dedicated budget .
- All members will be engaged in the business of the GPN through web-based and other means of communication, as well as through any events that are conducted.
- The GPN conducts its activities in accordance with an Action Plan that is reviewed annually by the Provisional Steering Group and biennially by those attending the GPN Congress.