



GLOBAL ACTION PLAN INTERNATIONAL

MEMBERSHIP CHARTER

Version June 2024

This document sets out what it means to be a member of this passionate and committed group of collaborating organisations and individuals.

Global Action Plan International

Global Action Plan international (GAP-I) is an international network of like-minded member organisations and individual associates who in their own countries lead and support educational and learning programmes and actions that empower people across the world to actively choose and adopt lifestyles that contribute to sustainable human societies.

GAP-I is an association registered in Sweden (*Föreningen Global Action Plan, organisation number 802403-8815*). It has members in over 15 countries.

Vision & Mission

GAP-I's vision is of a thriving planet with caring people and resilient societies.

Through action-based education and learning, individuals, organizations and communities can engage with unsustainable environmental, social and economic trends and can turn them around and transform them. By doing so, they can actively shape the conditions for sustainable life and livelihoods, in the present and in the future.

GAP-I's mission is to empower people – individuals, communities and other collectives – across the world to actively choose and adopt lifestyles that contribute to sustainable human societies within and part of a thriving nature and healthy soils. Such societies are characterised by social justice, economic equity and enhanced human capabilities. They allow individuals and groups to make considered choices for advancing current and future common welfare, while maintaining the Earth's environmental integrity.

Purpose

GAP-I's primary purpose is to support its member organisations to design and implement attractive and effective action-based educational, instructional and learning programmes for households, communities, schools, youth, workplaces or a combination thereof, empowering their participants to engage in behaviour change in line with GAP-I's vision, mission and core values.

The secondary purpose is to coordinate and reinforce initiatives, projects and programmes (including financing) that are jointly prepared and executed by two or more of its member organisations and other like-minded organisations. GAP-I can also lead and support joint international initiatives with like-minded governmental, non-governmental and private sector organisations in line with its vision, mission, and core values.

Who are GAP-I Members?

GAP-I members are organisations and individuals with a social and environmental purpose who lead local, national and international action in support of the common mission: to empower people across the world to actively choose and adopt lifestyles that contribute to sustainable human societies within and part of a thriving nature and healthy soils.



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Members share the network's core values – being people-focused and purposeful. They have a deep respect for humans and nature. In their work, they privilege critical reflection, openness to new experiences and insights, the sharing of ideas, active participation and democratic decision making. They place a premium on collaboration among like-minded people and organisations. They aim for impact of their own programs and those of its members, while catalysing change at scale needed for achieving the common vision and mission.

GAP-I network members undertake three principal responsibilities to further the network's mission:

1. **Implement behaviour change programmes in accordance with GAP-I's vision, mission and values.** Specifically, members are encouraged to:
 - a. Share, adapt and incorporate their proven programme designs, methods, tools and techniques, and
 - b. Co-create programmes, approaches, tools and techniques in collaboration with other members.
2. **To build the network's capacity by sharing methods, tools, data and experience of their activities.** Specifically, members are encouraged to:
 - a. Lead at least one member knowledge exchange activity each year, through in-person and online webinars and workshops (either stand alone or associated with the AGM), and
 - b. Monitor and evaluate the effects and impact of their activities and share the evidence thereof with other members and the network according to a common evaluative framework.
3. **To contribute to the professionalisation and expansion of the network, its thought leadership and influence.** Specifically, members are encouraged:
 - a. To be represented at the Annual General Meeting, whether virtually or in person.
 - b. To signpost relevant news items as well as funding and networking opportunities to the network.
 - c. To represent the wider network at (inter)national events held in their country.

Membership

Membership is open to all organisations and individuals that subscribe to the vision, mission and values of the network and that wish to contribute to its purpose and activities.

Membership categories

Category A – Members: Country-based organisations that develop and implement GAP-I-like/related approaches and programmes on their own and with partners in other countries

Category B – Associate members: Individuals and organisations that support Gap-I's philosophy, purpose, approaches and methods.

How to join?

Organisations or individuals who wish to join the network are invited to apply to the GAP-I Board, with details of their organisation's or personal mission and activities, confirming their ability and determination to fulfil the above member responsibilities and in accordance with the criteria specified below.



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Membership criteria

Category A. 'Members'

An organisation can become a member if it uses or commits to learning GAP-I approaches and methods and introducing at least one 'GAP style' program for its constituency.

We aim to reduce the likelihood of organisational members within the network competing for project funding and opportunities. Therefore, in case of multiple organisations in any one country applying for membership in the networks, the current member(s) in that country must be satisfied that the applicant conducts or intends to conduct GAP-like/related activities in:

- distinct regions within the country and/or
- with distinct audiences (e.g., one with young people only, one with businesses etc.).

In case of a disagreement about multiple membership within one country the case is put to the GAP-I Board for ultimate decision.

Organisational members are:

- entitled to use most of the GAP-I material free of charge or at a preferential rate.
- entitled to be part of international projects or programmes launched by multiple members.
- invited to international meetings and workshops.
- eligible for preferential rates for training and other membership benefits decided by the Board and AGM.
- eligible to vote at the AGM.
- listed on the GAP-I web site.
- entitled to use the GAP-I logo.
- eligible to host GAP-I meetings and workshops.

In return they are expected to:

- adhere to the Articles of Association.
- make their additions and improvements to GAP-I material available to other network members.
- coordinate development and delivery of 'GAP-I style' programs in their region or country, including the collection of relevant data about effects and impact.
- be an active contributor to international projects and programmes when choosing to be a part thereof.
- ensure that 'GAP-I style' programs delivered in their region or country meet GAP-I criteria for content and effectiveness.
- abide by the decisions of the AGM.

Eligibility criteria

A. The primary objectives and activities of the organisation must be related to behaviour change associated with the main social, environmental, economic, cultural and political dimensions of sustainability.



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- B. The organisation must be a registered company, or have charitable status, or be a registered friendly society with a registered constitution. The organisation must have been incorporated, registered or have enjoyed charitable status for a period of at least 12 months prior to an application for membership.
- C. The organisation must be an independent and legally discrete body, not a subgroup or activity of another organisation.
- D. The organisation must have annual accounts.
- E. The organisation must be able to demonstrate a substantial level of activity in promoting its aims and objectives.

Application process

1. Application for membership of the Network must be made in writing to the Board.
2. The application will be considered by the Board. If deemed useful, the organisation will be invited to join a board meeting to introduce themselves.
3. The Board will communicate its decision in writing to the applicant organisation within 8 weeks.

Documents to accompany membership application

- Duly filled in Application for Membership with Annexes (see “Application for organisational membership” and Annex I to the Application for Membership “Legal entity form”), signed by a legal representative
- Official documents proving the existence of the organisation and mentioning the names of the legal representatives as well as the official registration number
- Memorandum and Articles of Association or Constitution
- Strategic plan or other similar document if available

Continuing fulfilment of membership criteria

GAP-I, through its Board, reserves the right to continuously monitor compliance with the Membership Criteria. Once organisations have made a successful application for membership, they are expected to continue to comply with the membership criteria in the future.

The Board, after proper examination, reserves the right to either suspend or end the membership of the organization that does not comply with membership criteria.

Category B: ‘Associate Members’

An individual or organisation can become an associated member because they share GAP-I’s philosophy and purpose, are supportive of the effort of the network and its individual members and wish to make a contribution to make the network thrive. They are not required to implement GAP-I-like programs or use GAP-I’s approaches and methods.

Associate members are:

- invited to international meetings and workshops.
- eligible for preferential rates for training and other membership benefits decided by the Board and AGM.
- not eligible to vote at the AGM.
- eligible for Board membership (under certain limiting conditions).



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In return they are expected to:

- adhere to the Articles of Association.
- make an effort to support the network and/or individual organisational members to thrive.
- abide by the decisions of the AGM.

Eligibility criteria for associate members

If the associate member is an organisation, it must show an official document to proof its status, which can be the registration document (copy to be sent).

Application process

- All applications for membership of the Network must be made in writing to the Board.
- The application will be considered by the Board.
- The Board will communicate its decision in writing to the applicant within 8 weeks.

Documents to accompany membership application

Copy of passport or registration document

Continuing fulfilment of membership criteria

GAP-I, through its Board, reserves the right to continuously monitor compliance with the Membership Criteria. Once organisations or individuals have made a successful application for associate membership, they are expected to continue to comply with the membership criteria in the future.

The Board, after proper examination, reserves the right to either suspend or end the associate membership of the organization or individual that does not comply the with membership criteria.

Membership fees

The membership fees are annually set by the AGM. Current fees are available at the Secretariat.

Members are asked to pay for their annual membership by transferring the fee amount via bank transfer preferably before 31st of January, but ultimately before 31st May of the current membership year.

The membership year is equal to a calendar year, from 1st of January to the 31st of December. In case a member enters the membership after the 1st of January, then the membership fee will be calculated according to the actual period of that first year. After this first period a full year membership will be applicable.

Failure to pay membership fees will be seen as intention to leave the network and relinquish membership voting rights

Annual membership fees can be paid via a Bank transfer to:

Name of bank: NORDEA BANK AB (PUBL)

Address of bank: SMÅLANDSGATAN 17, SE-105 71 STOCKHOLM

Name on the account: FÖRENINGEN GLOBAL ACTION PLAN

Address: c/o Frans Lenglet, Hågavägen 196 B, 75263 Uppsala, Sweden



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IBAN: SE9395000099604248633937

BIC (SWIFT) CODE: NDEASESS

If members have difficulties with this payment method or with the membership fee amount, they should contact the Secretariat.

Honorary associates

Honorary associates are individuals only who have made an exceptional contribution to the network and/or its individual members. An honorary associate is not required to pay a membership fee, and therefore does not have membership voting rights. Honorary membership is by invitation only, decided upon by the Board.

Member voting rights

All organisational members of the GAP International network have equal voting rights at the AGM. One vote is allowed per member. If required, members may appoint a proxy.

Moving on

Members may choose to leave the network at any time, although annual membership fees are non-refundable. Equally, during the annual membership renewal process the network has the right to not offer continued membership to any member if they are deemed by the Board not to have acted in the spirit of the network or upheld their member responsibilities as mentioned above.

If no longer part of the network, the organisation - and individuals within it - or individuals should discontinue all use of the network's branding, approaches and materials.

Questions?

If you have any questions about GAP International membership or would like to join the network, please email the Secretariat: team@globalactionplan.com