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# INTERFUND

*INTERNATIONAL FUNDRAISING  
CONSORTIUM*

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IN SUPPORT OF  
EDUCATION, TRAINING AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA



## ***Special funds***

**I**n addition to regular cycle funding, INTERFUND also supports projects through two special funds.

The Emergency Programme Fund (EPF) is intended to support start-up costs for urgent education and training needs as well as one-off media initiatives.

Particular consideration is given to initiatives seeking to improve national coordination between organisations working on similar issues in different parts of the country.

The Staff Development Fund (SDF) was set up to enable staff members or voluntary workers in INTERFUND-supported projects to undertake short-term training and skills upgrading which is of direct relevance to the work of their organisations.

The fund is also open to other organisations for funding of in-service staff development programmes and training workshops run for client community projects.

## ***INTERFUND partners***

**O**rganisations in South Africa wishing to become INTERFUND project partners should contact the Johannesburg field office.

INTERFUND membership is open to other agencies sharing similar goals and able to make a substantive contribution to INTERFUND programmes and project partners.

For information on membership or association, contact the London head office.



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## ***Organisational profile***

**I**NTERFUND is an international fundraising consortium which supports education, training and development projects in South Africa.

It was founded in 1986 by European and Canadian non-governmental organisations who wished to pool their resources to make a more significant contribution to development in Southern Africa through education and training.

The member organisations which make up INTERFUND are the Norwegian Students and Academics International Assistance Fund (SAIH), WUS Solidarity and Development (Denmark) and World University Service of Canada (WUSC). INTERFUND also has a formal association agreement with Radda Barnen (Swedish Save the Children).

INTERFUND's principal donors are the governments of Norway, Denmark and Canada, who channel funds through INTERFUND's members. The agency also receives contributions from Radda Barnen, Operasjon Dagsverk in Norway and a number of other education-related groups. In 1990 INTERFUND administered a budget of approximately £2.1 million.

## ***The INTERFUND programme***

**I**NTERFUND seeks specifically to assist communities which have been disadvantaged by the social and political injustices of apartheid.

Support is extended to projects working in the realms of education, training and community development.

The range of programmes is broad, including community development services, general education work, skills training, legal services, cultural programmes, community health and media services.



Special emphasis is put on outreach to women and deprived rural communities.

While the scope is wide, INTERFUND does insist on a valid and clearly defined training component. In this way, it hopes to make a lasting contribution to human resources development.

To guide it in its decisions on funding policy, INTERFUND consults with leading community, church and labour organisations. It also subscribes to broad funding guidelines which have been established by these representative groups.

A special consultative relationship has been developed with the National Education Coordinating Committee (NECC), an umbrella body which brings together all the key community organisations directly involved in education.

The NECC articulates popular demands and aims to promote the establishment of a mass-based post-apartheid education system. It is thus well placed to brief INTERFUND on developments and priorities.

## ***Monitoring & field contact***

Once the decision has been taken to support a project, INTERFUND places high priority on maintaining regular contact.

In addition to regular correspondence, members of the INTERFUND Secretariat visit each project at least once a year, and often more than once.

Central to this process is the agency's liaison office in Johannesburg. With a solid presence in the field, INTERFUND can be more efficient in its communication, evaluation, monitoring and reporting functions.

The field office also plays a role as a resource and advisory service to projects. Help given ranges from technical advice on budget presentation to suggestions about other possible sources of funding.



Such assistance is especially valuable for new community groups in isolated rural areas and often this work has been just as useful as actual financial support.

## *Criteria & reporting*

**P**rojects supported by INTERFUND must be non-governmental, non-racial and must not collaborate with apartheid institutions or policies. They must also be democratic, both in structure and in spirit.

Other factors taken into account in funding decisions include: whether the project is well planned and practically viable; the degree to which it responds to demonstrable needs; its educational and developmental impact; the level of grassroots support for the initiative; and the means by which it will be accountable to the community.

INTERFUND also considers the numbers of people likely to benefit from any project support as well as the project's ability to account for its activities and use of funds.

Decisions on project support, and on funding targets, are made by INTERFUND's Management Committee, which is made up of representatives of INTERFUND's member agencies.

Project partners apply or re-apply annually for support. Applications submitted to donors by INTERFUND include detailed individual project summaries and budgets to allow for decisions on particular items.

Project partners sign legally binding contracts with INTERFUND which stipulate the purpose and conditions of support.

Partners are required to submit regular reports on their activities and expenditure. Annual financial statements, audited by chartered accountants, are also required.