

WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF ACTION PLAN 2016 - 2019



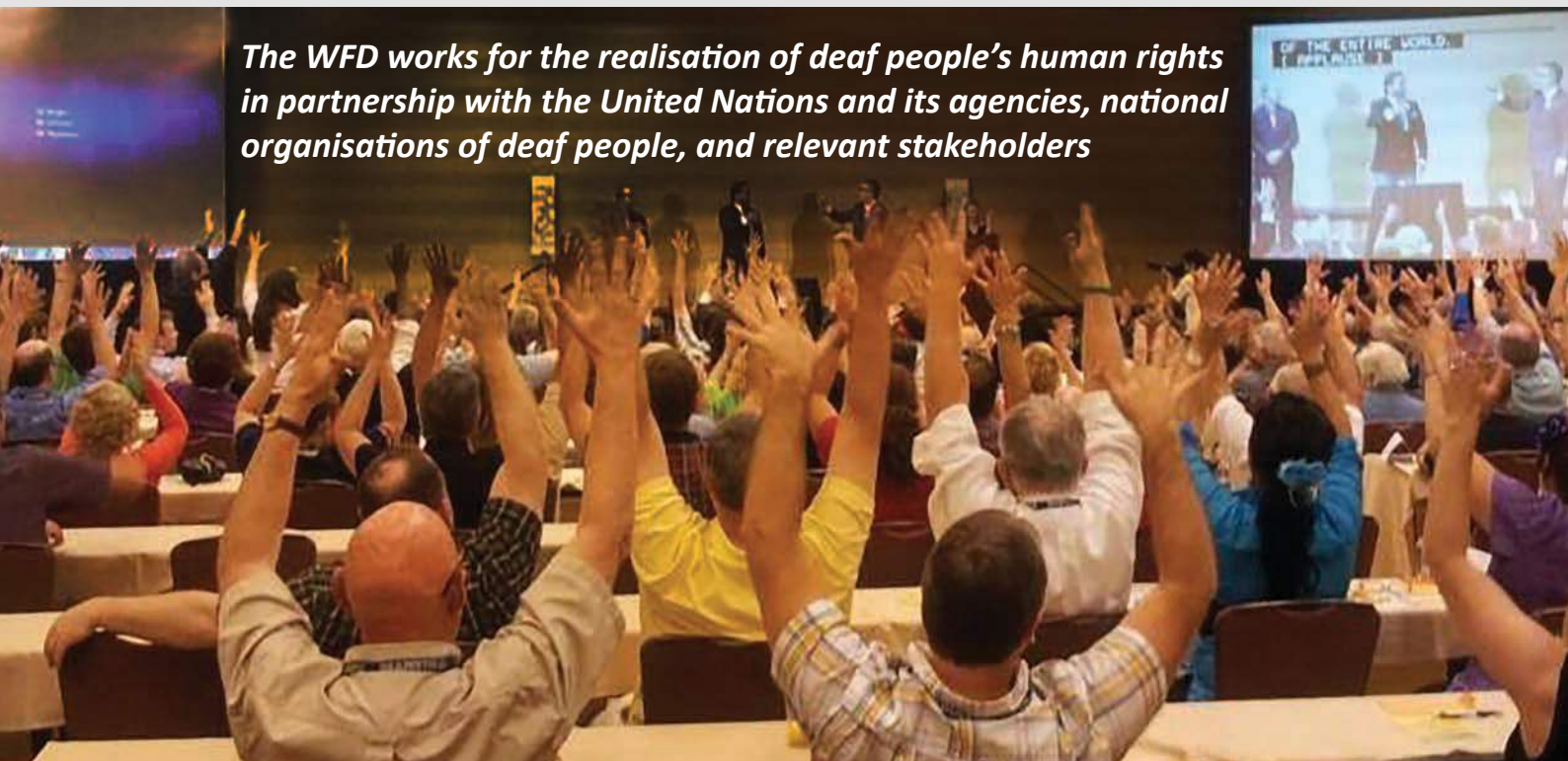
WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

VISION



Human rights for deaf people including recognition of sign language in all aspects of life

MISSION

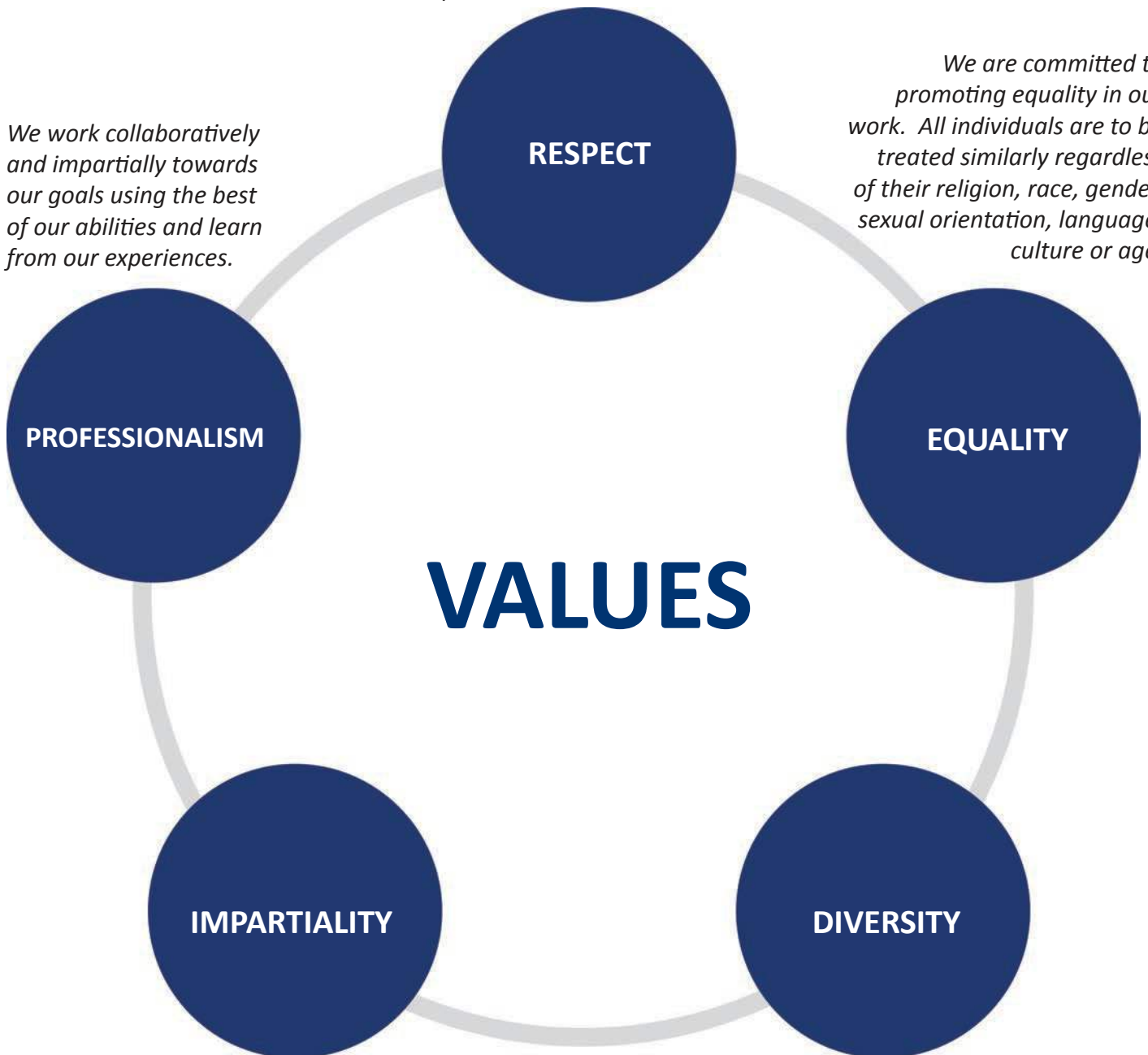


The WFD works for the realisation of deaf people's human rights in partnership with the United Nations and its agencies, national organisations of deaf people, and relevant stakeholders

We respect our members, partners and donors and encourage them to share their views and ideas with us as part of a two-way process.

We are committed to promoting equality in our work. All individuals are to be treated similarly regardless of their religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, language, culture or age.

We work collaboratively and impartially towards our goals using the best of our abilities and learn from our experiences.



We respect and value the manifold diversity of human beings and bring this into our work.

All our work and our decisions are based on careful consideration of facts and governed by the basic principles of fairness and the rule of law.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In accordance with the Principles and Objectives of the United Nations (UN) Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other general Acts and Recommendations of the UN and its specialised agencies, the WFD develops its activities towards the goal of equalisation of opportunities and full participation in society for deaf individuals in every country.

HUMAN RIGHTS BASED APPROACH

RESPECT FOR LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY

The WFD works tirelessly for the recognition of sign languages as part of human diversity and aims to improve the status of national sign languages.

The WFD considers that no deaf person should be denied quality education in sign language and that parents and providers of education should be informed of the importance of bilingual education. The WFD works for an accessible society with no communication barriers, where services and information are available in sign language.

INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE SOCIETY

LEADERSHIP OF DEAF PEOPLE

*The WFD promotes the principle: “**Nothing about us without us**”. The WFD believes that the establishment and strengthening of national deaf associations will contribute to the autonomy and determination of the deaf community as well as increase its understanding of the importance of co-operation with various stakeholders.*

The WFD needs close co-operation with its member organisations and various other stakeholders such as organisations of persons with disabilities, the United Nations and its agencies and programmes, donors and universities. With this extensive network, the WFD can better succeed in its work.

TRUST, CO-OPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – THE WFD’S WORK ON MANY FRONTS

The basic work of the WFD concentrates on the following activities with specific emphasis on the global south where possible:

1. SUPPORT FOR THE ORDINARY MEMBERS AND THE REGIONAL SECRETARIATS OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

- 1.1 Capacity Building and Training through the following platforms:
 - 1.1.1 *WFD Human Rights projects funded by project grants*
 - 1.1.2 *WFD Human Rights seminars and workshops organised in conjunction with WFD Board meetings*
 - 1.1.3 *World Congress and WFD Conference as forums for information sharing*
 - 1.1.4 *Lectures given by WFD Board members, volunteers and WFD Experts*
- 1.2 General Advocacy Work:
 - 1.2.1 *Writing support letters, responding to email enquiries and making direct contact with national authorities, in collaboration with Ordinary Members and partners*
 - 1.2.2 *Sharing information on international project grant opportunities with Ordinary Members and partners*
- 1.3 CRPD Specific Advocacy Work addressed to members:
 - 1.3.1 *Supporting and advising deaf representatives prior to, during and after the CRPD Committee sessions*
 - 1.3.2 *Encouraging national deaf associations to take part in the CRPD processes (including ratification, parallel reporting, selection of the CRPD Committee members, monitoring of the CRPD)*

2. INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY WORK IN THE UNITED NATIONS (UN), ITS SPECIAL AGENCIES AND IN THE INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY ALLIANCE (IDA)

- 2.1 Sending representatives to meetings and events to represent the WFD and/or the whole disability field
- 2.2 Developing statements, position papers, and other documents to highlight the WFD’s views on various issues
- 2.3 Providing comments on documents and presenting the deaf perspective
- 2.4 Lobbying for better accessibility at UN meetings and events
- 2.5 Advocating for the deaf and disability rights agenda to be included into the general human rights and development co-operation discourse

3. PRODUCTION AND SHARING OF ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION

- 3.1 Producing human rights material in International Sign
- 3.2 Lobbying the UN and other stakeholders to translate written material into International Sign
- 3.3 Using regular mail outs, WFD Newsletters and Social Media to disseminate information
- 3.4 Collecting and publishing information from Ordinary Members

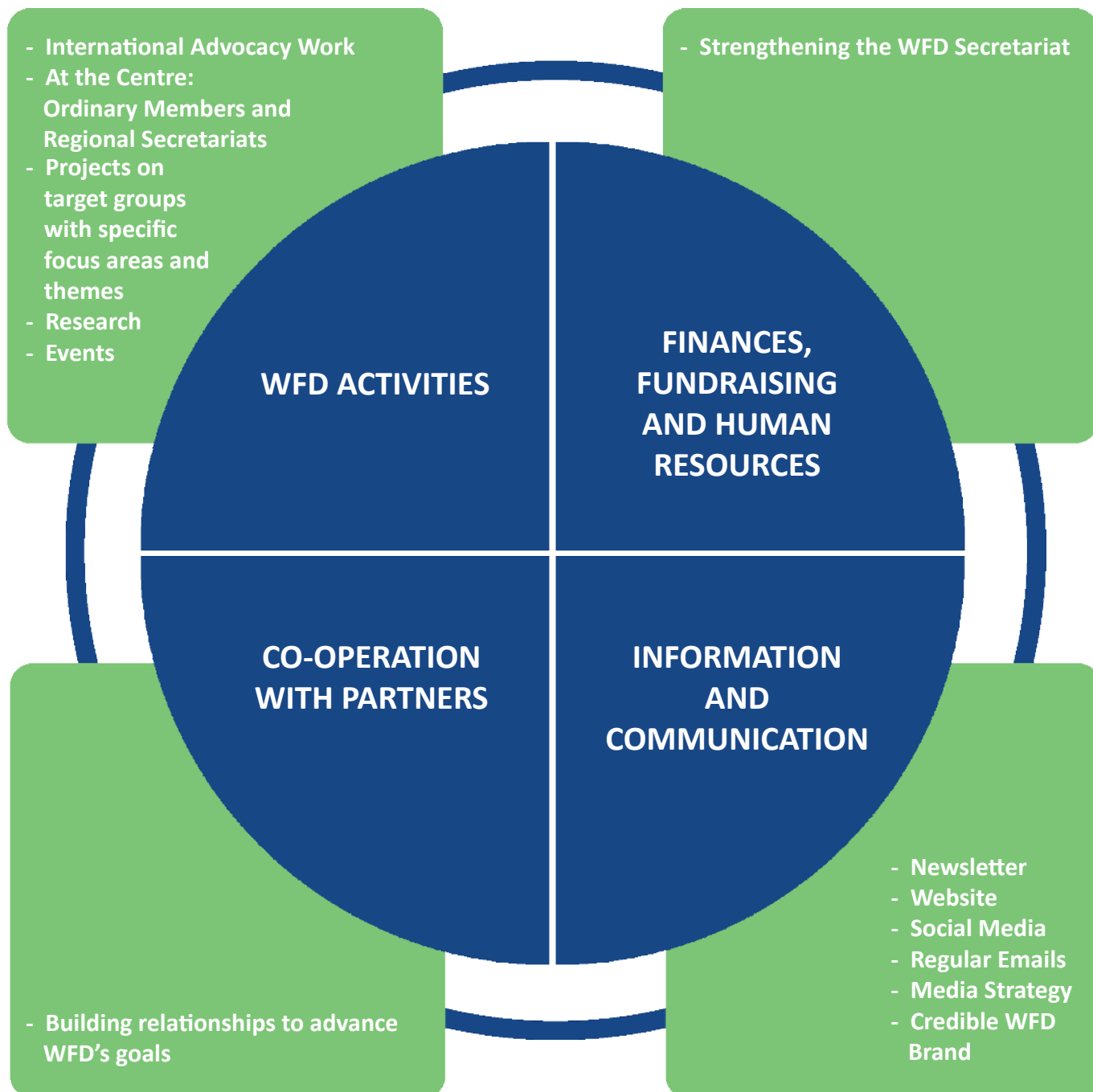
4. ADMINISTRATION, CO-ORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Organising WFD Board Meetings twice a year
- 4.2 Organising WFD General Assembly once every four years
- 4.3 Co-ordinating human resources management
- 4.4 Budgeting, financial management and follow-up
- 4.5 Co-ordinating merchandise sales and other revenue raising opportunities in accordance with the WFD’s mission

5. FUNDRAISING

- 5.1 Planning and executing WFD fundraising activities
- 5.2 Writing project applications
- 5.3 Co-ordinating the International Week of the Deaf theme and activities

FOUR FOCUS AREAS AND TEN GOALS



WFD ACTIVITIES

GOAL 1:

Advocate for and protect the human rights of deaf people within the United Nations (UN) framework and its agencies as well as other international environments.

GOAL 2:

Provide direct, systematic support and strengthen the capacity of Ordinary Members and Regional Secretariats of the WFD.

GOAL 3:

Undertake projects with focus on the CRPD, deaf education, organisational capacity building, legal capacity and deaf women's human rights.

GOAL 4:

Strengthen the advocacy work of the WFD and its members by taking advantage of the most up-to-date research in its work.

GOAL 5:

Contribute to the establishment and success of WFD events.

FINANCES, FUNDRAISING AND HUMAN RESOURCES

GOAL 6:

Improve the financial situation and intensify the fundraising efforts of the WFD leading to a stronger General Secretariat.

CO-OPERATION WITH PARTNERS

GOAL 7:

Maintain good relationships with partners and co-operate with them in realising common goals.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

GOAL 8:

Use different WFD-owned communication channels to publicise WFD's human rights work on relevant issues related to the global Deaf Community in an accessible and effective manner.

GOAL 9:

Develop a media strategy to further the WFD's advocacy and fundraising goals.

GOAL 10:

Expand the visibility of the WFD within and external to its membership, continue its work outside the Deaf Community and raise the organisation's profile.



www.wfdeaf.org

WFD was established in Rome, Italy in 1951, and is an international non-governmental organisation with membership comprising 134 Ordinary Members in addition to Individual Members, Associate Members and International Members. The WFD also has eight (8) Regional Secretariats and one (1) Regional Co-operating Member. WFD's office is located in Helsinki, Finland.



WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF



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