

Declaration on Social Justice – underpinning narrative

“We agreed (aspirations) that we wanted the Social Justice Declaration to assist IFS community to be more broadly recognised as essential to promoting human rights and social justice at both a local and global level; to strengthen and enlarge our network and improve collaboration; emphasise the strength and effectiveness of local community led development approaches to achieving social justice goals; ensure the widest possible recognition of the value of IFS members work; convince international agencies, governments and corporations to support our specialist capacity and skills; and to promote intrinsic relationship of our local work and the success of the UN SDGs:

but we face a lack of resources to promote the above both within our global network and to collaborate with other aligned networks; tension between service provision (a means to access resources) and the broader advocacy and community development activities towards social justice; a lack of recognition of our existing and ongoing effective work at a local community led level; and a need to enforce a stronger sense and understanding of IFS membership.

So, if we want to reach these broad aspirations, we need the Declaration to assist in promoting IFS leadership role in Social Justice and Human Rights; growing the IFS Network; better identifying and collaborating with other friendly and supportive networks; the improvement of IFS office resources; sharing of resources by all members; enhancing communication among members; more effectively navigating a diverse and diversifying media and communications environment including social media to better engage younger members; and highlighting/ promoting the IFS members’ existing local work in progressing the UN SDG’s.