

International Non-profit Accounting Guidance (INPAG) Exposure Draft 3

Response template

Please use this form to record your responses to the Specific Matters for Comment relating to INPAG Exposure Draft 3

Comments are most helpful if they:

- a) Address the question asked;
- b) Contain a clear explanation to support the response provided, whether this is agreeing or otherwise with any proposals made;
- c) Propose alternatives for consideration, where responses are not in agreement with the proposal made;
- d) Specify the INPAG paragraphs to which any comments relate; and
- e) Identify any wording in the proposals that might not be clear because of how they translate.

The text boxes will expand as required. There is no size limit. There are 11 question areas, according to the various sections in INPAG. You do not need to answer all questions and can choose to answer as many or as few as you wish. You may comment on any aspect of Exposure Draft, not just the specific matters identified. General comments should be added at the end of this document.

Responses must be received by **16 September 2024 and must be in English**.

Responses can be submitted to ifr4npo@cipfa.org or through the website at www.ifr4npo.org/have-your-say

Respondent information:

First name:	Satyajit	Country: (this should be the country in which you are based)	Bangladesh
Last name: Email: Position:	Saha, FCCA, ACA (ICAEW) satyajit@netz-bangladesh.de Head of Finance and Administration	Professional interest: please choose from: NPO, ie preparer of financial statements, auditor, accounting standard setter, professional accounting organisation, regulator of NPOs, donor, academic, civil society, user of NPO services, other (please state)	Donor
Organisation: (who do you work for)	NETZ Partnership for Development and Justice		
Response submitted:	On behalf of my organisation		
Please indicate the email addre	-	n about this project and consent to being contacted at	Yes, I agree

This document has been designed purely to enable feedback to Exposure Draft 3. Participation is undertaken on an entirely voluntary basis. The responses will be used to shape the development of INPAG and not for any other purpose. We ask for your name and contact information to enable us to contact you if we should have any clarifications regarding your responses. Responses will be public, but personal contact information will not be disclosed. Personal information will only be held for the purposes of developing INPAG. You may withdraw your consent for us to hold any of your personal information at any time by contacting us at ifr4npo@cipfa.org.

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Specific Matters for Comment

Question 1: Fund accounting

INPAG Section 36 sets out the characteristics of a fund for the purposes of INPAG and whether a fund is presented in the financial statements as being with or without restrictions. A fund is presented as with restrictions where the use of resources is limited to a specific purpose or activity as a consequence of externally imposed legal or equivalent arrangements or where a fund is established for a fundraising campaign with an externally communicated commitment on the specific use for the funds. The guidance requires that the income, expenses, assets and liabilities associated with a fund are recorded. New disclosures are required for fund balances and movements in the year. INPAG Section 5 has been amended to remove the requirement to disclose funds with and without restrictions on the face of the Statement of Income and Expenses.

1	Fund accounting	References	Response
a)	Do you agree that the ED1 requirement to present funds with restrictions and funds without restrictions on the face of the Statement of Income and Expenses should be removed? If not, why not?	G5.3, AG5.4	Yes, I think the ED1 requirement to present funds with restrictions and the funds without restrictions on the face of the Statement of Income and Expenses should be removed. However, income from the own source NPO should be presented in the statement of income and expenses to show income from donors and income from services of the NPO which should have legislation of local authority (especially tax authority)
b)	Do you agree that the guidance in Section 36 will ensure that material funds can be identified? If not, what changes would you propose? Is there a risk that funds are not identified?	G36.3-G36.4, Figure AG36.1	Yes, I agree that material funds should be identified, recognized, and presented; otherwise, the overall fund status would not be accounted for.
c)	Do you agree that income, expenses, assets, and liabilities are tracked for each fund? What are the costs and benefits? What, if anything, would you change and why? What are the practical considerations?	G36.5, G36.7, AG36.3	Yes, income, expenses, assets, and liabilities should be tracked for each fund to ensure a fair presentation and accountability to the back donors. Every donor organisation has concerns about how much and for which funds are spent.
d)	Do you agree with the two criteria for a fund to be a fund with restrictions? If not, what would you change and why?	G36.9	Yes

1	Fund accounting	References	Response
e)	In order to provide transparency about the finances of an individual fund, do you agree that all the expenses should be charged against a fund with restrictions even if there are currently insufficient resources to cover these, or specific costs are not eligible under a grant arrangement? If not, what alternative would you propose and why?	G36.11-G36.12	It is a fact that an NPO cannot spend restricted funds without the prior approval of the respective back donor. The uncovered costs should be covered by overhead paid by the project or income from the services of NPO run on a commercial basis.
f)	Do you agree with the NPO funds disclosures requirements? If not, what would you change and why?	G36.21-G36.23	Yes, NPO fund disclosure may increase the credibility of the back donors and stakeholders.
g)	Do the Illustrative examples demonstrate the key concepts in fund accounting? If not, what would you change and why?	Implementation Guidance – Section 36	Yes, I fully agree with the Illustrative examples demonstrate the key concepts in fund accounting

Question 2: Presentation of expenses, fundraising costs, and related disclosures

INPAG Section 24 Part II guides the presentation of expenses. It permits an expense analysis by nature, by function, or a mixture of the two. It includes a rebuttable presumption that an analysis by nature is used unless another analysis provides more relevant and reliable information. Guidance is provided on the allocation and aggregation of costs where a functional or mixed presentation is used, which will be useful for calculating support costs. INPAG Section 24 Part III defines fundraising activities and identifies three categories to be disclosed: activities to generate donations, gifts, and similar transfers; commercial and trading activities; and investment management. There is a pragmatic exception where costs need to be split between fundraising and other activities.

INPAG Section 33 on related party disclosures draws attention to the possibility that an NPO's financial position and/or its surplus or deficit have been affected by the existence of related parties. Disclosure is required of personnel compensation made to governing body members as well as key management personnel. INPAG Section 28 has been updated to include the disclosure of short-term employee-related benefits.

2	Presentation of expenses	References	Response
a)	Do you agree that there is a rebuttable presumption that a by nature classification of expenses is used unless this doesn't provide the most relevant and reliable information to the users of the financial statements? If not, why not?	G24.43-G24.47, AG24.45- AG24.47	I would say that commercial and trading activities and investment management costs should not be part of fundraising costs to be charged under any donor's fund if the income from these services is not fully dedicated to the well-being of the community work for by the NPO. My experience says so many NPOs do commercial and trading activities from a business perspective and profit goes to the founding director of the NPO, which may not be treated as development work. So, the objective of business promotional costs should be identified first, followed by the source of financing should be decided. Generally, business promotional costs of commercial and trading activities from a business perspective should be financed from the income of the respective business.
b)	Do you agree that the rationale for using a classification of expenses other than by nature should be disclosed? If not, why not?	G24.44	Yes
c)	Do you agree that where a functional or mixed presentation of expenses is used, a narrative description of the types of expenses incurred on each function line item is sufficient and that a requirement for these to be quantified is not necessary? If not, why not?	G24.46, AG24.48	I think quantification should also be in the disclosure to make it more transparent.
d)	Do you agree with the expense disclosure requirements? If not, what would you change and why?	G24.50-G24.57, G33.7-G33.11, G28.38	Yes
e)	Do you agree with the description of direct costs, shared costs and support costs and that these allow the full cost of an activity to be identified? If not, why not?	G24.48-G24.49	Yes
f)	Do you agree that commercial and trading activities that are for the purposes of fundraising and investment management costs associated with a	G24.64-G24.66	See a

2	Presentation of expenses	References	Response
	fund whose purpose is to generate future returns are included as fundraising activities? If not, why not?		
g)	Do you agree with the pragmatic exception that fundraising costs do not need to be split from other costs where the cost of doing so would exceed the information benefit to stakeholders? If not, what would you change and why?	G24.72	I think cost should be categorized and shown in the specific fundraising costs elements and charged to the respective donor/ fund
h)	Do you agree that the costs for each of the three categories of fundraising activity should be separately disclosed and presented gross? If not, what should be disclosed and why?	G24.74	Yes
i)	Do you agree that grants or donations made in arm's-length transactions with governing body members and any services they receive on the same terms as other eligible service recipients need not be disclosed as a related party transaction? If not, why not?	G33.18 a)- G33.18 b)	Yes, those should be treated as related party transactions

Question 3: Supplementary information and INPAG Practice Guide 1 – Supplementary statements

INPAG Section 37 requires additional information to be disclosed when an NPO produces one or more supplementary statements using INPAG Practice Guide 1. NPOs may choose to prepare a single note to meet the requirements or disclose only the additional information. INPAG Practice Guide 1 – Supplementary Statements enables the presentation of key financial information about a specified activity, project or grant, in a prescribed statement format, which can be included as an Annex to the financial statements. The Practice Guide provides templates for different variants of reporting that includes comparison to budget, multiple grants, multiple time periods and different currencies.

3	NPAG Practice Guide 1	References	Response
a)	Do you agree that the requirements of Section 37 do not have to be met unless Supplementary statements are prepared in accordance with INPAG Practice Guide 1– Supplementary statements? If not, why not?	G37.1-G37.2	yes
b)	Do you agree that a whole of NPO supplementary statement need not be presented if the additional information is already in the financial statements and/or notes? If not, why not?	G37.3, G37.10- G37.12	yes
c)	Do you agree with the format of the Supplementary statement? If not, what would you change and why?	SS.5	yes
d)	Do you agree with the options for the disclosure of capital and inventory-related costs? If not, what would you change and why?	SS.18-SS.21	One question: If the useful life of assets is five years and the project period is three years; how will the capital costs be charged? One option may be to charge the cost of assets in the project period equally. It means that if any asset amounting to USD 600,000 within a project period of four years; the NPO will charge costs of USD 150,000 over the project periods with an equal amount.
e)	Do you agree that the Supplementary statements are not part of the general purpose financial report but can be published as an annex? If not, why not?	SS.25-SS.26	Yes

Question 4: Illustrative financial statements

INPAG Implementation Guidance Annex A includes Illustrative financial statements. The templates have been populated with data to cover the most common NPO transactions. The illustrative financial statements focus on new INPAG requirements.

	4 Illustrative financial statements	References	Response
Ī	a) Do you agree that the illustrative	Illustrative	yes
	financial statements cover the	financial	
	transactions that are prevalent for NPOs?	statements	

If not, which prevalent transactions are	
missing and why do these need to be	
covered?	

Question 5: Equity

INPAG Section 2 provides the concepts and principles on which INPAG is based. Amendments are proposed to equity and net assets as a result of feedback. Net assets is a new element defined as the residual amount of an NPO's assets and liabilities available to achieve its objectives. The term equity claim is introduced to describe equity type instruments, which is a subset of net assets. INPAG Section 22 has the principles for classifying financial instruments as either liabilities or equity claims. As INPAG does not use the term equity, consequential amendments reflect the expected nature of NPO equity claims.

5	Equity	References	Response
a)	Do you agree with the revised description of net assets and its inclusion as an element? If not, what would you change and why?	G2.73	yes
b)	Do you agree with the use of the term equity claims in Sections 2 and 22 and that equity claims are a subset of net assets? If not, what would you change and why?	G2.74, AG2.6, AG2.7, Section 22	yes
c)	Do you agree that the paragraphs relating to the sale of options, rights and warrants, extinguishing financial liabilities with equity claim instruments and treasury shares are removed from and that the paragraphs relating to capitalisation or bonus issues of shares and share splits and convertible debt or similar compound financial instruments are retained? If not, why not?	G22.12-G22.15	yes

INPAG Section 38 describes the requirements for recognising and measuring assets and liabilities to create a Statement of Financial Position when INPAG is adopted for the first time. Accumulated funds that contain historic surpluses and deficits must be split between funds with restrictions and funds without restrictions. Compliance with just the financial statements can be asserted ahead of full compliance. The narrative reporting requirements must be completed within a two-year period to be able to continue to express compliance with INPAG.

6	Transition to INPAG	References	Response
a)	Do you agree with the pragmatic approaches proposed for the first time adoption of INPAG? If not, what are the practical challenges that are likely to be experienced?	G38.11-G38.12	Yes
b)	Do you agree that compliance with INPAG can be expressed in relation to the financial statements only for a two-year transitional period? If not, why not?	G38.5-G38.6	Yes, two years is enough

Question 7: Application of fair value

INPAG Section 12 describes how to measure assets and liabilities using fair value. The use of fair value to determine the deemed cost of donated assets is reflected in INPAG Section 16, for investments in land or buildings that are held to earn rentals or for their capital appreciation, INPAG Section 17, for property, plant and equipment, including capitalisation and depreciation and INPAG Section 18, for identifiable non-monetary assets that does not have a physical substance (eg licenses). The cost model in Section 17 applies to all tangible assets that are held for use in the activities of the NPO and are expected to be used during more than one period as well as to property held to deliver an NPO's missional objectives, eg social housing. There are no exceptions for assets that are funded by grants or donations.

7	Application of fair value	References	Responses
a)	Is the Section 12 application guidance that sets out how the fair value hierarchy applies to NPO assets and liabilities and the illustrative examples of fair valuing donations in-kind useful? If not, how could it be improved?	AG12.1- AG12.11	yes
b)	, 0		Yes
	guidance provided for donated:	G16.7	

7 Application of fair value	References	Responses
i) investment property (Section 16)?	G17.10	
ii) property, plant and equipment (Section 17)?	G18.14	
iii) intangible assets (Section 18)? If not, why not?		

Question 8: Impairments

INPAG Section 27 requires that the carrying amount of an asset is reduced to the recoverable amount, where its carrying amount is higher than its recoverable amount. The new measurement base for inventories held for distribution at no or nominal cost has been added. The Section refers to an NPO's 'operating units' to encompass assets that are held for missional purposes rather than purely cash-generation.

8 Impairments		References	Responses
a)	Do you agree that inventory held for distribution is measured for impairment using cost adjusted for any loss of service potential? If not, what would you change and why?	G27.2-G27.4	yes
b)	Do you agree that the term operating unit better reflects the nature of an NPO's operations and with its proposed definition? If not, what alternative term would you use and why?	G27.8	yes
c)	Do you agree that impairments to assets that form an operating unit can take account of other economic benefits and service potential? If not, what would you change and why?	G27.15	yes

Question 9: Combinations of entities

INPAG Section 19 applies to the combining of entities, (including NPOs) that meet the definition of a business. The term business has been broadened to include the types of activities carried out by NPOs. It provides guidance on the recognition and measurement of the assets and liabilities acquired in a combination and includes a simplification where there is a combination of two NPOs that both have positive net assets.

9 Combinations of entities		References	Responses
a)	Do you agree that the term 'business' can be applied by NPOs when taken alongside the amendments proposed, (including the expansion of examples of control)? If not, why not? What practical issues are experienced?	G19.4, G19.5, AG19.1– AG19.2	yes
b)	Do you agree with the proposed exemption for two NPOs that have net assets and that it should not apply where one NPO has net liabilities? If not, describe the practical and accounting issues that arise?	G19.24	yes

Question 10: Other topics in Exposure Draft 3

INPAG Section 14 and INPAG Section 15 provide guidance on accounting for associates and joint arrangements in consolidated and separate financial statements respectively. INPAG Section 20 covers the accounting for all leases and INPAG Section 34 provides guidance on three types of specialised activities: agriculture, extractive activities and service concessions. None of these Sections have been amended other than for terminology changes.

10 Other topics in ED3		References	Response
a)	Do you agree that no further alignment changes are needed to: i) Section 14 Investment in associates? ii) Section 15 Joint arrangements? iii) Section 20 Leases? If not, why not?	Section 14 Section 15 Section 20	yes
b)	Is any of the guidance in Section 34 needed by NPOs? If yes, which elements of the section are needed and why?	Section 34	

Question 11: IFRS for SMEs Addendum

INPAG Section 7 and INPAG Section 30 (published in ED1 and ED2 respectively) have been updated as a consequence of additional text proposed in the Addendum to the draft Third edition of the IFRS for SMEs Accounting Standard issued by the International Accounting Standards Board on 28 March 2024. There is additional text on supplier finance arrangements in Section 7 and lack of exchangeability in Section 30.

11 Addendum	References	Responses
a) Do you agree that the guidance for supplier finance arrangements is useful and relevant to NPOs? If not, what would you change and why?	G7.20A- G7.20B,	Yes
b) Do you agree that the guidance on lack of exchangeability is useful and relevant to NPOs? If not, what would you change and why?	G30.5A, G30- 31-32, AG30.26- AG30.43	yes

General Feedback

Please share any other comments that you wish to raise on Exposure Draft 3. When providing additional feedback please reference the paragraph numbers, where possible, and provide a short explanation to support your comments.

Reference	Comment
N/A	I would bring the attention of the International Finance Experts on bringing the uniformity of financial reporting systems and formats of different international donors e.g., European Union, UKAID, USAID, and German Development Cooperation (BMZ) so on. My argument is: As all donors inject and use funds for development initiatives, and the main measuring indicators are (i) efficient and eligible spending of fund, and (ii) measure unutilized fund; so why should there be different special financial reporting formats to measure the financial performance of projects? This multi-reporting format and reporting structure compelled the recipient organisation to adopt different reporting structure for different donor's funded projects and external face challenges to review performance of projects as the indicators are incompatible.
N/A	I propose to introduce a value for money reporting system in the not for profit sector as the development actions should be measured by 3 E indicators.