

## **Rules and Regulations for WhatsApp Groups**

WhatsApp Focus Groups bring together the volunteers in the titular development focus area, around common development interests in Health, Enterprise, Governance and Education. Volunteers are welcome to join any focus group no matter their location. The focus groups are led by 2 or 3 volunteers and are a great way to learn, broaden their network, socialize, develop deeper business relationships, and simply recharge their batteries. Each currently has between 50 – 80 members each.

WhatsApp Location Groups provide a platform for closer connection among members resident in the same geographical or local area. These groups will organize and drive local action and campaigns, as well as in-person meetings and training activities.

Volunteers will be exposed to opportunities to collaborate on improvement work with a wide range of committed, inspiring and influential experts and professionals. Identified volunteers who are subject-matter experts and practitioners can provide detailed information on development issues and trends, help fellows and interns generate new ideas and share best practices.

Staff will provide support on a daily or weekly basis and challenge individuals or groups in ways that will maximize their strengths and develop competencies in making effective decisions, partnering and collaboration, time management, leading and communicating. There will be Leadership & Management development activities, including: coaching and mentoring, e-learning courses, knowledge and behavioral development, speaker events, peer learning, in person meetings or training and development sessions and opportunities to visit global institutions.

### Focus Groups rules in summary

1. Only pertinent content is permitted. No advertising except on Saturdays. Members who post content not relevant to the focus area will be deleted from our community without notice.
2. Be courteous and respectful of other group members and expect your opinions to be respected too. We can disagree with others and challenge opinions, but please do so with fairness and courtesy.
3. Join the conversation! Share your thoughts, ideas and questions, you'll learn a lot and you never know who you might help. From the team, you will also get valuable nuggets on how to access opportunities and resources as well as leadership skills and personal development.

### Daily Schedule – Focus Groups

- A. Monday Motivation – Personal Development, Productivity, article links
- B. Ask Me Anything Tuesday – Q&A with a Member
- C. Wednesday Brainstorm – Members can brainstorm ideas to plan, start or expand their work
- D. Training Thursday – Curriculum focus, online courses, live training, certificates of completion.
- E. Friday Opportunities – Links to jobs, scholarships, grants
- F. Selling Saturday – Advertisement of products and services by members
- G. Sunday Meditation – Words on Marble, thoughts and prayers, quotes

#### Guidelines for location group membership

1. Partners should be in one focus group and one location group, and not be in more than 4 SI4DEV groups - 2 focus groups and 2 location groups.
2. Do not share news, content or information that is valid in only one location or for one focus group across several or all groups.
3. Only selected SI4DEV Partners should be part of focus groups. If a non-partner is identified, they will be removed without warning.
4. Non-partners can be added to location groups but only if resident in the local area. Some admins add their contacts in Liberia, Kenya and Cameroon to their groups. Please remove those people.
5. As an Admin of location group, limit your membership to not more than 30. People you know personally can help you achieve your improvement plans and goals, or whose profile you can see them becoming SI4DEV partners in the next class.
6. Location groups can get volunteers by working with Corps Members in their local area. There are NYSC CDS groups that focus on Health, Education, Enterprise and Governance. If interested, the location group admins can visit NYSC/LG Secretariat's, introduce SI4DEV and indicate our interest to speak with the corps members, especially on their CDS days. SI4DEV will make provision for letterhead letters.
7. Location groups should try to meet at least once a week and not more than 3 times a week on WhatsApp. They will try to meet once a month in person, using phone calls and Facebook in addition to WhatsApp to coordinate their members.