

Culture and Ethos

IFA's FWB commit to the following principles in relation to our work and interaction:

Integrity

FWB committee members, staff and volunteers are committed to a culture of integrity beyond question, co-operation and trust. FWB members, staff and volunteers recognise that their individual actions reflect on the reputation of the organisation as a whole, and will demonstrate their commitment to integrity through the way they interact and work with others.

How we contribute knowledge – we invest in people.

IFA's FWB volunteers provide professional knowledge and operational competency to assist with developing the capacity those individuals and groups seeking support, so that they may, in turn, enhance the implementation of sustainable forestry in their country and strengthen local stakeholders and community capacity for sustainable forestry in an on-going manner.

Cross-cultural awareness of our volunteers – we respect others.

IFA's FWB volunteers understand that they are guests in another country and need to appreciate and respect the local people and culture. They will operate in a non-judgemental way with political neutrality and will endeavour to ensure that their personal and professional activities are sensitive to, and appropriate for, the variety of cultures exhibited by different societies.

Aptitude and adaptability of our volunteers – we work with host organisations and the whole community.

IFA's FWB volunteers, working within organisations and with communities, will spend much time listening actively and sensitively to local people, males and females, who occupy different levels of position or status within their society. They will encourage everyone to participate and encourage alternate views to be expressed when developing what their hosts and/or local communities believe is the most appropriate way forward.

Shared vision of what we aim to achieve, and tenacity to make it happen – we facilitate their vision.

IFA's FWB volunteers aim to help build the community's vision for sustainable forestry and to enhance knowledge and capacity so that the community can be empowered to implement its vision. As facilitators of community change and empowerment, they will endeavour to operate through open, inclusive consultation, listening and learning about the community's experiences.