

Swashodhan Trust

NGO Inclusion Policy

Effective Date: January 10th, 2025

Approved by: *Board of Trustees*, Swashodhan Trust

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the principles, procedures, and criteria for including partner NGOs in Swashodhan Trust initiatives. This ensures equitable participation, strategic collaboration, and sustained community impact through collective efforts.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all partnerships, collaborations, and project-based engagements involving external NGOs working with Swashodhan Trust across thematic areas such as digital education, health, skilling, livelihood, women empowerment, and rural development.

3. Guiding Principles

- **Transparency:** Clear communication and fair evaluation in all partnerships.
- **Inclusivity:** Embracing diversity of NGOs regardless of size, background, or geography.
- **Accountability:** Joint responsibility in implementation, monitoring, and reporting.
- **Impact-Oriented:** Preference for NGOs with measurable outcomes and community participation.

4. Eligibility Criteria for NGO Inclusion

- Registered under the appropriate legal framework (e.g., Societies Registration Act, Trust Act, or Section 8 of Companies Act).
- Minimum of 1 year of community-level operations.
- Proven record in at least one thematic area aligned with Swashodhan Trust goals.
- Transparent financial practices and audited accounts.
- I am willing to sign MoU and adhere to reporting and evaluation norms.

5. Application and Selection Process

- **Expression of Interest (EOI):** NGOs may submit an EOI via the official portal/email.
- **Document Review:** Due diligence on legal status, past work, financials, and impact.
- **Interaction/Interview:** Discussion on vision, field capabilities, and expected outcomes.

- Approval: Selection by internal committee and approval by Trustees.
- Onboarding: Signed MoU, orientation, and integration into program framework.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

- Swashodhan Trust: Capacity-building support, technical input, funding (where applicable), and monitoring.
- Partner NGO: Ground-level execution, community mobilization, regular reporting, and participation in reviews.

7. Monitoring & Evaluation

- Monthly/quarterly reporting as per agreed indicators.
- Joint field visits and audits.
- Feedback from beneficiaries to assess effectiveness.

8. Conflict Resolution & Exit Clause

In the case of disputes, efforts will be made for amicable resolution. Swashodhan Trust reserves the right to terminate partnerships in cases of non-compliance, financial irregularities, or unethical practices with 30 days' notice.

9. Review & Update

This policy will be reviewed annually or as needed based on feedback, legal requirements, and operational insights.