

Uniting

for international development



“If Bond didn't exist we would have to invent it. It pulls the sector together and ensures a stronger collective voice for all of us. VSO learns a huge amount from others in the sector and Bond ensures that we can do this.”

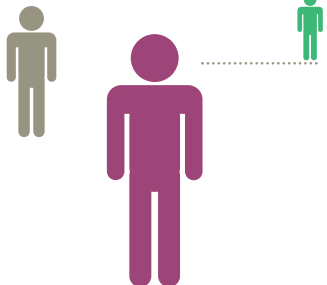
Marg Mayne
Chief Executive, VSO

Highlights from 2009-10

- We convened the Put People First platform which organised a 35,000-strong march through London to demand decent jobs for all, an end to global poverty and inequality, and a green economy, ahead of the G20 summit in April 2009. The campaign received media and public attention and helped push the issues onto the political agenda.
- We submitted comprehensive recommendations to DFID in the White Paper on International Development consultation that reflected the strong voice and positions of Bond members and groups. Many of the issues raised were subsequently addressed in the new White Paper, *Building our Common Future*.
- We produced the international development *Vote Global* manifesto, a key campaigning and lobbying tool that outlines UK civil society demands ahead of the General Election and beyond. So far, over 150 civil society organisations have put their name to it.
- We coordinated a member response to the BIG Thinking consultation and built a constructive and effective dialogue with senior figures at Big Lottery Fund to help shape their international programme.
- We launched a programme of new training courses in fundraising and NGO effectiveness that reflect the latest thinking and meet the needs of members. They complement our popular set of core training courses.
- We developed the members' area of the website to give members new opportunities to engage, learn from each other and access information not in the public domain. Over 1,000 people have registered so far.
- We launched the Bond Effectiveness Programme, an initiative that brings members together to find new ways to prove and improve NGO effectiveness.
- Over 220 delegates from more than 150 member organisations attended our Annual Conference and AGM 2009 making it a lively and vibrant event. The lead spokesperson from each of the main political parties took part in a panel discussion; the first time they had shared a platform together.

“Bond’s willingness to host an event for the international development sector as part of the BIG Thinking consultation provided a valuable opportunity for us to develop our thinking on the future shape of the BIG international programme.”

Peter Wanless
Chief Executive, Big Lottery Fund



Member benefits

- *The Networker* magazine, which aims to inspire thought, debate and action
- Regular e-bulletins covering a range of topics including jobs, training, campaigning, Europe and effectiveness
- **Member discounts** on our training courses in advocacy, fundraising, finance and effectiveness
- Access to the members' area of the **Bond website**, a space which encourages members to connect with each other, read member-only information, join Bond groups and more
- **Discounted advertising rates** in the *Adverts and Jobs Bulletin*, *The Networker* and selected e-bulletins
- Invitations to **networking events**, including the Bond Annual Conference and AGM, Bond groups events, tailored events for smaller NGOs and confidential meetings for directors to discuss current challenges
- Access to a specialist **EU funding advice line** for support when applying for, managing and reporting on EC grants
- The *Adverts and Jobs Bulletin* with the latest sector jobs, courses and events

Get involved

We believe that by taking action and working together we can influence decision makers and shape the direction of development.

+ Bond groups

The member-led groups are a vital part of the network and cover a range of interest areas including conflict, environment, disability, funding, European policy, and advocacy. They focus on sharing expertise, knowledge and experience to influence decision makers at many levels. bond.org.uk/groups

+ Bond Effectiveness Programme

Balancing the expectations of different stakeholders is challenging, while the need to demonstrate that we are effective as development actors is critical to the integrity and accountability of the sector. The Effectiveness Programme is our initiative to collectively find solutions to this issue. bond.org.uk/effectiveness

+ Advocacy and campaigning

Advocacy and campaigning are powerful ways to win the changes needed to eradicate poverty and inequality. Bond supports, coordinates and,

when appropriate, leads focussed advocacy, campaigning and lobbying to challenge and influence those in power. We unite organisations and provide a space to share information, organise effective advocacy and campaigns and form collective policy positions. We also lobby to ensure donor and public investment for international development.

bond.org.uk/campaigning
bond.org.uk/policy

+ Consultations

We strongly encourage members to get involved in the public policy making process and actively promote consultations that affect NGOs, including the funding environment, changes to charity law, and agreements between Government and the broader voluntary sector. bond.org.uk/consultations

+ Representation

Bond represents members at a national, European and international level at forums including CONCORD, the pan-European NGO confederation, the international campaign Global Call to Action Against Poverty and other NGO networks and initiatives.

About Bond

As the membership body for UK international development organisations, Bond unites the sector by creating opportunities and inspiring members to work, learn and take action together on common issues and challenges. With over 350 members, ranging from the largest household names to small community-based organisations, the Bond network represents the diversity of the sector.
bond.org.uk

“As international NGOs, we need a clear, common and credible voice speaking on current issues of strategic importance. Bond is increasingly delivering on this need and in doing so tangibly adding value to our work. It is essential that the sector works together as a united and coherent force on common external and internal issues and Bond is providing a vital lead in achieving this end.”

Andy Stockbridge
Chief Executive, Toybox

Join us

If your organisation is eligible, applying for membership is easy. You can apply online and there is a step-by-step guide to help you through the process.

To be part of this dynamic and evolving network your organisation must be:

- based in the UK
- non-governmental
- non profit distributing
- non-partisan
- normally a legal entity registered in the UK

For full details about how to apply, membership categories, fees and deadlines:

bond.org.uk/membership

Alternatively, contact the Membership and Communications team:

020 7520 0259

membership@bond.org.uk



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