Managing Conflicts of Interest

Wikimedia Legal & Community Advocacy Department

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Guidelines on Disclosure of Potential and Actual Conflicts of Interest

- Six-week interactive community consultation on the draft proposal, which included five guidelines with examples.
- Applies to community and WMF (e.g., in allocation of resources like grants)
Five Guidelines

Guidelines

Guideline one
Disclose actively if you are receiving payment or anything of value from a person or organization that may benefit from your request, use, or allocation of movement resources.

Guideline two
Disclose actively if you are requesting, using, or allocating movement resources that may benefit your family member, spouse, partner, business associate, significant other, close friend, or their organizations or employers.

Guideline three
Answer fully and honestly any relevant and appropriate questions when requesting, using, or allocating movement resources.

Guideline four
Disclose actively if your request, use, or allocation of movement resources could be perceived by others or the public as improper. Even the perception of a conflict or unauthorized personal gain needs to be disclosed.

Guideline five
Do not request, use, or allocate movement resources for unauthorized personal gain.

http://wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/Guidelines_on_potential_conflicts_of_interest
Six examples in the policy help WMF and the community to identify actual and potential conflicts.

*Example*: In a request for a grant from the FDC, a chapter trustee has a potential financial conflict of interest. Though her conflict of interest is stated on the local chapter’s blog and she believes the FDC may be aware of it, she nevertheless should actively disclose the potential conflict to the FDC to ensure that the FDC is aware of the conflict.