PARTICIPATION SYSTEM

OVERVIEW

The Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) is a cross-sectoral alliance of organizations dedicated to solving the problem abandoned, lost or discarded fishing gear (ALDFG or “ghost gear”) on a global scale.

The GGGI aims to:

1) Improve the health of marine ecosystems;
2) Safeguard human health and livelihoods;
3) Protect marine life from harm.

The GGGI participation system is designed to facilitate collaborative action by members, to increase members’ individual effectiveness to solve the problem of ghost gear worldwide, and to allow flexibility for what actions each member takes as part of the greater collective.

This document outlines the numerous benefits of joining the GGGI as well as the expectations from members.

BENEFITS OF JOINING THE GGGI

The GGGI is the first initiative of its kind aimed at solving the problem of lost and abandoned fishing gear worldwide. The scale of the problem is massive. At least 640,000 tonnes of ghost gear enters our ocean every year, yet scientists do not yet know the full magnitude of the problem at a global scale. Ghost gear is the most harmful form of marine debris to marine life, damages ocean habitats, and puts the health of coastal economies and global food security at risk.

Ghost gear is routinely on the agenda at high-level international policy fora including the G7, Our Ocean, APEC and others. Joining the GGGI provides your organization direct access to the best available science, global policy debates and education and outreach to create significant impact reducing ghost gear on the global stage.

Benefits of GGGI membership include:

- Contributing to a cleaner, safer and more resilient ocean;
- Being recognized as a member of the world’s premier organization dedicated to preventing the most harmful form of marine debris;
- Leveraging the GGGI website and social media presence to promote your work and your brand on a global stage;
- Access to solutions projects with wide-ranging conservation, corporate social responsibility and public relations benefits;
- Increasing your institutional capacity and reach via opportunities to collaborate / partner with other organizations and experts on specific projects;
- Having your project reviewed / recommended by a cross-sectoral team of experts that can be leveraged when applying for external project support;
- Participating in a set of global, cross-sectoral working groups;
- Access to the latest ghost gear research and policy developments;
- Access to the latest technologies and best practices associated with gear loss prevention / mitigation;
- Potential participation in GGGI panel discussions with other experts at various events / conferences around the world;
- Access to potential outlets / markets for recycling end of life and recovered gear;
- Developing innovative projects through collective thinking and impact;
- Securing opportunities to promote products made of recycled or repurposed fishing gear on a global stage;
- Invitation to the GGGI Annual Meeting.
MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENTS

As a collective impact initiative, the GGGI can only reach its maximum effectiveness through the active participation of its members. In broad terms, the GGGI and its affiliated members expect member organizations to do the following wherever and however appropriate:

- Support the GGGI’s mission;
- Participate in and support GGGI activities and events;
- Promote the GGGI to external stakeholders and encourage participation to prospective members that would advance the GGGI’s mission;
- Highlight GGGI membership on your website where appropriate;
- Complete the GGGI Annual Survey, information from which will be incorporated into the GGGI Annual Report.

DUES STRUCTURE

The following membership dues structure is in place to ensure financial stability of the organization and to ensure members are committed to the collective and its objectives. Dues are listed in USD and are payable annually. Membership dues will be requested by Ocean Conservancy upon receipt of a signed Statement of Support to join the GGGI. Participation in the GGGI will be renewed and invoiced in January annually thereafter unless written notice of intent to withdraw from GGGI is provided to Ocean Conservancy.

As a collective impact organization, the GGGI has numerous different stakeholder participants, including:

- Private sector / corporations
- NGOs
- IGOs
- Governments
- Academia

The membership dues for NGOs are fixed at $1,000 USD / year. All other sectors are subject to the chart above.

Upon request only, in-kind activity may be recognized towards financial contribution. In-kind activity must be directly and demonstrably beneficial to the GGGI and the greater collective and must be outside the scope of responsibilities listed under the Membership Commitments section above. In order to qualify for in-kind consideration, a written request must be sent to the GGGI Secretariat (joelbaziuk@ghostgear.org) which outlines why the organization is unable to contribute financially, and what specific skills / items / activity they are prepared to offer in-kind to the GGGI to offset this cost. If in-kind activity is approved to offset financial contribution, a short report (not to exceed 2 pages) must be sent to the Secretariat detailing how this in-kind activity has benefited the collective by the end of the calendar year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINIMUM MEMBERSHIP DUES</th>
<th>ANNUAL INCOME (USD)</th>
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<tr>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Over $1,000,000,000</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Up to $2,000,000</td>
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Governments, National & International Institutions**

It is acknowledged that in many cases paying a membership fee is not legally possible, so alternative funding (i.e. grants) may be available.

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1 "Income" is taken to be equivalent to "turnover" for corporates and other private sector organizations.

2 **"Governments, National & International Institutions"**: It is acknowledged that in many cases paying a membership fee is not legally possible, so alternative funding (i.e. grants) may be available.