

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the West Africa Consultants' Network (WACN)?

The WACN is an informal network of consultants and a clearinghouse of information to connect qualified consultants with employers. Based in Accra, Ghana, the network serves primarily West Africa, but also extends worldwide. The network was created in September 2006 by two recently-arrived professionals. After an initial mailing to potential employers in September 2006, several members found employment and word spread about WACN to consultants and potential employers. It became evident that there was a great need for such a network and the group grew from six members at the initial meeting to over thirty presently. WACN is managed by a steering committee of five consultants.

How do I join WACN?

To join the network you must be introduced by a current member or attend a WACN meeting to request membership.

Are there fees associated with membership? How often do I need to renew my membership?

We request a one-time 100,000 cedis donation to join WACN. As the need arises members may be asked to contribute funds for specific activities. You remain a member as long as you wish and no membership renewal is required.

Are there responsibilities as an official member?

As a member, we post your qualifications summary and contact information on our blog site and mail out the list of qualifications quarterly to 70-100 agencies. Members are asked to respond quarterly to verify that they wish to continue to be listed. Members must comply with the "Consultant Policy" and must notify us by email each time you are contacted and/or are hired/contracted as a result of your participation in the network. We track this information for the network's benefit. Members have the responsibility to abide by WACN policies and will be excluded for policy violations or if employers send credible negative feedback to the network.

Where can I view the "Consultant Policy"?

Both the consultant and employer policies are available on the blog site at <http://westafricaconsultantsnetwork.blogspot.com>

Where is the blog site?

Visit <http://westafricaconsultantsnetwork.blogspot.com/>. The blog site is updated quarterly.

How often does the WACN hold meetings? Where are the meetings held?

Meetings are typically held monthly in a public locale in Accra, Ghana. As a member, you will be informed via email of meeting dates and locations.

How do I get on the next mailing list? Do you have to be a member to get on the mailing list? How is the mailing list used? Is it only internal or is it sold/given to others?

There are two mailing lists. We have a list of consultants, past and present, to whom we send internal emails regarding meetings, job opportunities, social events, etc. Only members can be listed. There is also an agency mailing list composed of potential employers to which we send our qualifications summaries and a link to our blog site on a quarterly basis. Consultants are not permitted to use the agency mailing list to search for jobs. We do not give either mailing list to other parties under any circumstances, and members are prohibited from doing so. However, please note that consultants' email addresses are in the public domain since they are listed on the blog site.

To add yourself to the mailing list, become a WACN member (see ***How do I join the WACN?***). Once you become a member you will be automatically added to the consultants email list. You will begin to receive job postings, notices on upcoming meetings, minutes of meetings, etc. As the next quarterly mailing nears, we will ask you to provide an updated qualifications summary (note there is a strict 50 word limit).

Should I remove myself from the mailing list and/or site if I find a job?

If you are no longer available for employment or wish to discontinue your listing for any reason, please inform WACN and your information will be removed.

Can I refer a potential employer to the WACN? How do employers get on the list?

WACN adds potential employers to the list upon request. If you have someone to add, please send an email to WACN with the employer's name, position, firm and email address. Please also inform the employer that you have added him/her to WACN's list.