



## Press Release

### **Monitoring and accountability of NGOs increases worldwide** **Confío (Mexico) and CCIC (China) joined ICFO**

Monitoring NGOs is becoming more important around the globe, not only because donors have an increasing need for transparency and accountability, but also because of the growing civil society in the South of Europe, Asia and Latin America.

The International Committee on Fundraising Organizations (ICFO), the association of national monitoring organizations, welcomed two new (supporting) members at its Annual General Meeting held last week in Madrid. The new member is Construyende Organizaciones Civiles Transparentes (Confío) from Mexico and the supporting members is China Charity Information Centre (CCIC) from China. ICFO members now monitor more than 4.000 NGOs, which annually raise approx. 35 billion Euros for charitable purposes. ICFO members enable around 2 billion citizens to make informed decisions about which charities to support.

Martina Ziegerer, CEO of the Swiss monitoring organization, Zewo, was elected as new president of ICFO. She values the work of ICFO members as leading experts in monitoring fundraising organizations, as the main providers of transparency towards donors, as promoters of accountability of NGOs around the world and as reliable standard setters for charitable work. «It is our aim to strengthen this unique network. We will promote independent monitoring, wherever we can» she said.

At the invitation of the Spanish monitoring agency, Fundación Lealtad, representatives of international charities, institutional donors and guests met to discuss the challenges to enhancing donors' trust on a global basis. It was noted, that due to the financial crisis NGOs will receive less support from governments and institutional donors and that there will be a stronger focus on the impact of the projects to be supported. At the same time, there is a further need of donors for information about NGOs. It also was noted that the large number and huge variety of charities in different parts of the world requires a focus on national monitoring. ICFO members agreed to exchange information within the ICFO network on fundraising practices to enhance donor trust on a global basis.

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