# Second Webinar Approaching the Private sector

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# Synopsis & Outline

- This webinar is part of the Vital Voices Global Partnerships Webinar series on CSR- PPP.
- The first webinar covered:
- The concept of CSR
- Common debates surrounding CSR
- What motivates the private sector
- Advantages and Disadvantages to engaging with the Private sector.
- Case Studies

- Today we will cover:
- Before approaching Privates
   Sector
- How to approach privates Sector?
- Things to do and things to avoid
- Examples, stories, flashes, ideas





## Before Approaching the Private Sector

- Who
- First you have to decide who to approach. The best starting point is local business in your communities.
- Why?
- These companies are more likely to support local communities because they want to improve their image and attract customers locally.





# How to decide who to approcah

- Tap into your network to determine who you know (you would be surprised at how many people you do)
- Use your personal connections
- Find people you know personally (neighbor relation, friend) within these companies and make them allies.
- Survey the company board members ask friends and family who they know.
- Group brainstorming session to put together a list of who people in your organization know.
- Tap into local chambers of commerce in your area.
- International Chambers of commerce and business coalitions are also a potential.





# Find out who gives

- Once you have a list of potential companies find out who amongst them gives.
- Look into company annual reports
- Do a web search "googling" the company name, CSR (to find out whether they have a CSR department and the contact name)
- Talk to contacts you know within companies to find out if they have a CSR program, who runs.
- You can also scan the media (TV, newspaper, radio) to find out who sponsors.
- You can also keep an eye at events and sponsored campaigns in supermarkets and so on.



### Who will be interested in your projects?

- You have to decide what company would be interested in your type of projects.
- Example: an insurance company would be interested in preventative health programs (Good nutrition) or a safe driving campaign.
- A pharmaceutical company would be more likely to support a sexual health program.





### Dos and Don'ts

#### Do:

- Thoroughly research your target company.
- Learn about the company, their employees their personal interests through research and personal contacts
- Concentrate on a small number of companies
- Concentrate on companies which are likely to support your cause.

#### Don't

- Don't just send a letter to the comapny in question.
- Don't send a low quality proposal





## Researching the comapny

- Call the company and ask them for their guidelines for a giving program.
- Look on their web site
- Try to find out who is responsible for their sponsorship program.
- Email or call the person in charge to set an appointment.
- Ask other NGOs who were provided with funding and what approaches did they use with the company.
- Ask the company of a list of NGOs and projects they have supported in the past.





- Find out what sectors the company likes to fund
- What is the average grant size
- Find out if they give other than money (inkind), donation of time of their employees or expertise.





- After your research is over you now can begin approaching the company.
- Before requesting support you have to compile enough information about your NGO
- Do you have brochures, annual report, audited financial statement, types of activities you do, evaluations of these activities, other donors who have funded you earlier.
- Put together all these materials in neat package (make sure that they are concise: your annual report will do).





# A company looking at a proposal wants to know the following:

- What is your organization trying to do
- How is your organizations structured, i.e. who
  is on the board or acting as an advisor
- What is the specific request





- You need to know your mission and summarize it in two sentences.
- A mission statement is the purpose of
- To formulate this you have to answer the following question: what does my organization do?





Include an introductory letter with your proposal

The letter should be clear and concise (not more than two pages), it should include:

Purpose

Need

Projects expected results

What are you requesting

How you will follow up





- Try to arrange a meeting with the person responsible for CSR to present your proposal
- If possible bring a board member with you
- Bring an information package with you
- Be on time
- Dress well (don't go in jeans and sandals)





- Sell your specific request, not the concept of giving money
- Listen (Don't talk all the time)
- Discuss the project
- Ask the CSR officer for his or her feedback
- Make a plan to follow up your visit
- Don't say we hope we hear from you... say:
   we'll call you next week (give a specific date)





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