

## **The Iram Charter**

### **Independent Expertise for a Fairer World**

#### **OUR SOCIAL COMMITMENT**

This is one of the founding principles of our organization, which was established in the 1950s in response to decolonization and the emergence of developing countries on the international scene.

##### **Our objectives are:**

- To contribute to the creation and redistribution of wealth and more equitable access to resources in order to improve wellbeing in accordance with the aspirations of the social groups concerned.
- To help establish more democratic modes of governance at the local, national and international levels.
- To contribute to public policies that better serve the interests of the populations concerned.

##### **We aim to achieve these objectives by:**

- taking account of the nature of global social and economic relations, and using this understanding to help make them more equitable and less inegalitarian;
- working to ensure that marginalised and disempowered social groups can participate in decision-making and be a force for change;
- ensuring that we do not contribute to the creation of new forms of inequality or marginalisation.

#### **OUR PROFESSIONAL COMMITMENT**

- We work through a global approach that takes account of context, history and the connections between every level of intervention.
- Where we feel that it is appropriate, we seek to broaden reflection beyond our initial technical or thematic brief.
- Our interventions are informed by our regard for the social, political, economic and environmental dynamics at play and our respect for diversity.
- We develop tailored solutions to concrete situations through a combination of situational analysis and theoretical input, and by building on established practices.
- Our aim is to assist actors through every stage of their projects, working with them on their analyses and proposals and broadening their system of reference, while remaining true to our core convictions.
- We ensure that mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation are put in place so that errors can be corrected and new proposals formulated.
- We seek to build long-term partnerships.

#### **OUR COMMITMENT TO QUALITY SERVICES**

- Our permanent multi-disciplinary team of experts is committed to providing a high standard of service, and to fostering long-term links with a network of local experts who supplement our in-house skills and expertise.
- We build on and share our field practices, drawing on the lessons learned from development experiences in various regions around the world.
- Care is taken to ensure that our proposals are practicable.
- Our practices are peer-reviewed at study days attended by external experts and representatives from the South.
- We strenuously avoid any involvement in corrupt practices.
- We believe that it is important to retain our financial autonomy as a pre-requisite for independent thought.

The internal structure of our organisation is a key factor in ensuring that the Iram charter is more than a simple declaration of intent.