1,130 VETTED ORGANIZATIONS

91 COUNTRIES ACROSS THE GLOBE
Vetting International Charities

Equivalency Determination – To ensure regulatory compliance under U.S. tax law, grants to international organizations without a 501(c)(3) determination letter from the United States Internal Revenue Service require further due diligence through a process called equivalency determination.

During this vetting process, SVCF works directly with an organization’s staff to obtain documents that will determine whether the organization is the equivalent of a U.S. 501(c)(3) public charity. If the organization is a public university or government agency, there is a separate process for foreign governmental affiliates.

Requested documents include, but are not limited to, governing documents, by-laws, establishing documents and a list of board members and key employees. All documents must be submitted in English, and the length of the due diligence process depends on an organization’s responsiveness and ability to provide the necessary paperwork.

Expenditure Responsibility – To determine if grants can be made to an organization that is not considered a public charity but operates charitable projects, SVCF also completes an “expenditure responsibility” process. SVCF works with the organization’s staff to verify the charitable nature of the project for which funding is being recommended and to evaluate the organization’s ability to carry out the purpose of the grant. Requested documents vary, but are often very similar to the documents required for equivalency determination.

Why Equivalency Determination is Better

Equivalency determination is SVCF’s preferred vetting mechanism, because if the organization is found to be equivalent to a U.S. 501(c)(3), it will be eligible to receive a wider variety of grants over a longer period of time. After an organization is vetted, it is added to SVCF’s NGO Master List of international non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

NGO Master List – Our global charity database (www.siliconvalleycf.org/ngo) provides a list of vetted international nonprofit organizations that are eligible to receive grants from any individual, private foundation and corporation, including SVCF fund holders and non-fund holders. The list is searchable by country, category and organization name.
The database contains more than **1,130 vetted organizations** from **91 countries around the world**

**India CSR Affinity Group** – As one of SVCF’s global initiatives, this group provides members with regular updates and guidance about issues related to the India Companies Act. Members include companies and organizations with a stated interest in corporate responsibility in India.

For more information, contact us at donate@siliconvalleycf.org or 650.450.5444.
About Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Silicon Valley Community Foundation makes all forms of philanthropy more powerful. We serve as a catalyst and leader for innovative solutions to our region’s most challenging problems, and through our donors we award more money to charities than any other community foundation in the United States. SVCF has $6.5 billion in assets under management. As Silicon Valley’s center of philanthropy, we provide thousands of individuals, families and corporations with simple and effective ways to give locally and around the world. Find out more at siliconvalleycf.org.

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