

Policy Decision Filter— Taking Action on Issues

JANUARY 2019



THE ISSUE:

1. ALIGNMENT

Vision Alignment

We envision a courageous philanthropic sector that catalyzes a just and equitable society where all can participate and prosper.

1 2 3 4 5
Low High

Mission Alignment

We lead, strengthen and inform a national network of organizations that advance philanthropy's impact for the common good.

1 2 3 4 5
Low High

Racial Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Alignment

The Forum values racial equity, diversity and inclusion and works to advance racial equity in philanthropy.

1 2 3 4 5
Low High

2. MEMBER SUPPORT

What is the potential level of support among members for the Forum to work in some way on this issue?

1 2 3 4 5
Low High

3. SECTOR RELEVANCE

What, if any, connection is there between this issue and the interests, work, and impact of philanthropy?

4. TIMELINESS

What is the urgency and/or ripeness around this issue?

5. IMPACT ON PSOs

If the Forum takes action, what are the potential consequences to PSOs, positive or negative?

6. PLAYERS

Who else is engaged on this issue among our network and/or our national partners (if any)?

7. RISKS AND BENEFITS

What are the risks and benefits associated with taking action on this issue?

8. COSTS

What are the costs (financial, staff time, etc.) of engaging?

9. CRITICAL ISSUES

What are the issues, dilemmas, or questions, if any, that we would need to resolve before taking action on this issue?

10. EQUITY IMPLICATIONS

What are the equity implications, if any, to racial/ethnic groups or other populations if the Forum takes action or does not take action on this issue?

11. FORUM ROLE

Can the Forum play a valuable role on this issue?

1 2 3 4 5
No Role Moderate Role Critical Role

12. ACTIONS

What actions should the Forum take on this issue?



Educate Forum Members



- Convene
- Host a call, webinar or program
- Send a Policy Update
- Lift up work and voices of other members
- Share resources and tools



Activate Forum Members



- Convene members and partners around a specific issue
- Host a call or webinar as a call to action
- Send a Policy Alert
- Lift up work and voices of other members as calls to action
- Promote sign on to letters, actions or submissions of comments
- Encourage participation in an issue campaign



Take a Formal Position



- Draft official public policy position and receive approval from board
- Post official position on Forum website
- Share official position with Forum members, policymakers and field



Make an External Statement



- Sign on to a public letter
- Post on social media
- Speak to a journalist or other media outreach
- Write a blog post



Influence Policymakers and Public Officials



- Lobby Congress
- Submit public comments
- Testify with oral comments
- Join amicus brief
- Personal visits with public officials



Coordinate with Forum Partners



- Jointly agree on a policy position with partners
- Share policy position of partner organization
- Share partner resources
- Co-host events or programming



Seek or Accept Funding



Partner On or Develop Original Research



Other Ideas?



No Action