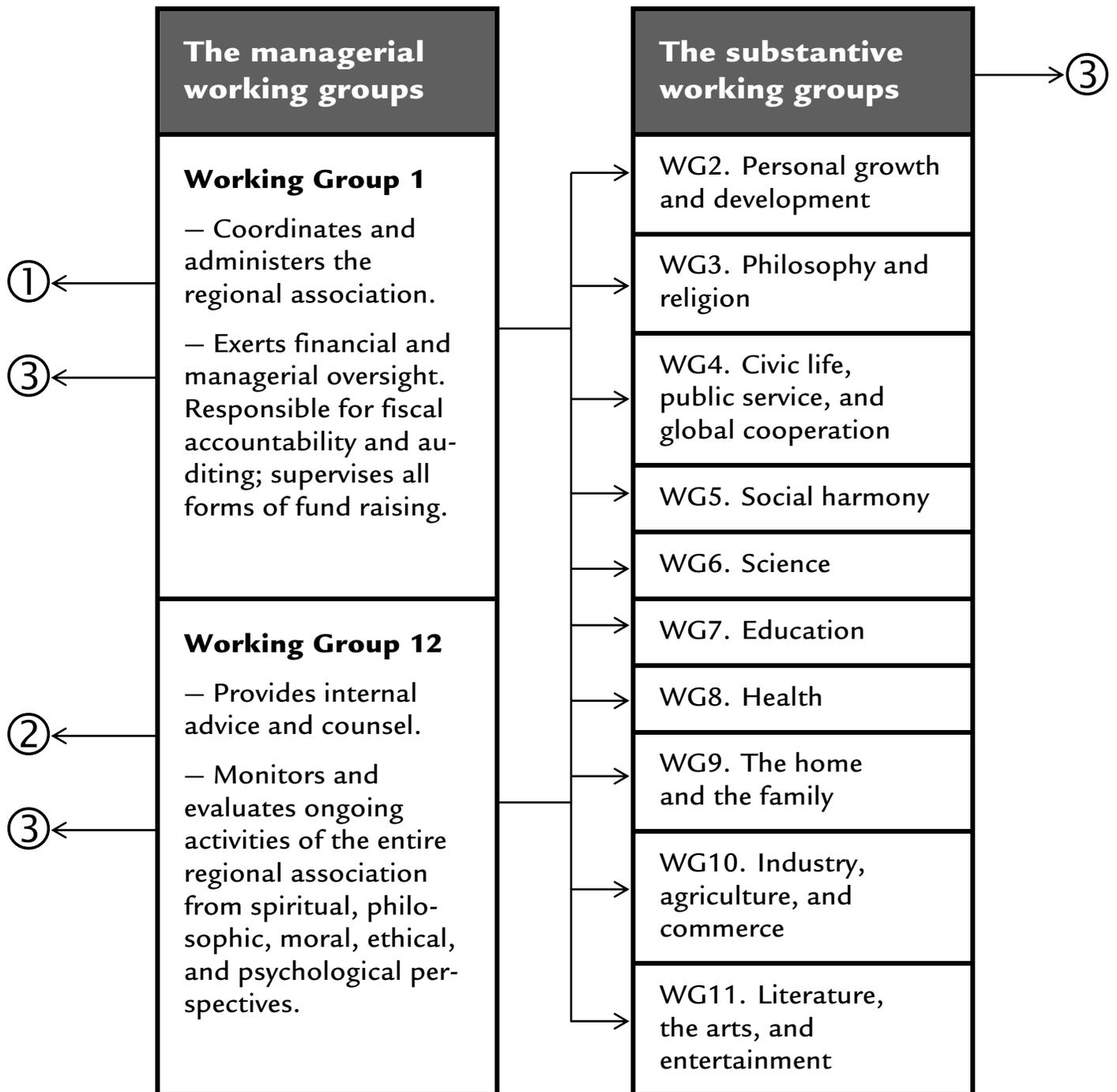


# A regional association



1. Reports to the Coordinating Commission.
2. Reports to the Consultative Forum.
3. Active cooperation with counterparts in other regions.

# Working group responsibilities

2	<b>Personal growth and development</b> – service and assistance to those who help others achieve, express, and apply their full potential as members of human society, including educational, career, and employment advisers, psychologists, psychiatrists, and other counselors and therapists.
3	<b>Philosophy and religion</b> – service and assistance to those who are active in philosophy and religion, including anyone who teaches in these fields or writes about either subject.
4	<b>Civic life, public service, and global cooperation</b> – service and assistance to those who are active in civic life or public affairs on local, regional, national, international, or global levels, including public interest groups, the legal profession and related fields, police, military personnel, civilian officials, and diplomats.
5	<b>Social harmony</b> – service and assistance to those who promote cooperation, cohesion, sympathy, and mutual understanding among human beings, including social workers, sociologists, groups that explain or interpret human achievements, and organizations that advocate equity and fairness.
6	<b>Science</b> – service and assistance to those who are active in mathematics and the natural sciences, including all aspects of the empirical or theoretical study of the physical world and its phenomena, or the study of those aspects of matter, energy, or physical life that extend beyond our planet.
7	<b>Education</b> – service and assistance to those who are active in the mental, moral, or ethical training of individuals, families, or larger groups such as communities, nations, and races, including aesthetic aspects and all efforts to collect, manage, or disseminate knowledge or wisdom.
8	<b>Health</b> – service and assistance to those who seek to promote health and prevent or treat disease, including those who conduct research or carry out public health measures such as water purification, as well as those who develop, test, or manufacture medicines or devices that relate to health.
9	<b>The home and the family</b> – service and assistance to those who are active in fields that relate to the preservation and advancement of the home, including those who seek to prepare or train individuals for the responsibilities of marriage and parenthood, as well as counselors and advisers who help resolve conflicts and maintain healthy personal relationships.
10	<b>Industry, agriculture, and commerce</b> – service and assistance to those who are active in industrial, agricultural, or commercial fields, including financial aspects, automated systems for handling information, and all branches of engineering.
11	<b>Literature, the arts, and entertainment</b> – service and assistance to those who are active in literature, the arts, or entertainment, including music, drama, games, sports, and travel, or who provide the setting and circumstances for social gatherings, relaxation, or other forms of wholesome amusement.

# Working group activities

— **INFORMATION ACTIVITIES** are a working group's most prominent connection to society and also the main entry point for casual visitors to its website. Each working group assembles and disseminates information about methods and approaches that individuals and groups are pursuing in order to promote growth and development in the corresponding fields. To a lesser degree a working group also gathers information about key events in these professions and disciplines, but innovation and new ideas are its main focus.

— **NETWORKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING** embrace a range of methods that serve individuals and groups in society by helping them pursue their own goals. For example, bulletin boards and computer forums enable individuals and groups to put forward comments, questions, and requests related to a wide range of issues.

— **PRIVATE DIALOGUE** is a working group's most difficult and most challenging activity. Those who are creative and innovative need opportunities to discuss their ideas, especially with persons they respect and may admire. In seeking to encourage and inspire individuals and groups who are interested in designing, promoting, or pursuing their own initiatives or reforms, members and associates draw on their personal experience and pay close attention to the circumstances of their time and place.

— **MEETINGS AND FORUMS** would enable individuals and groups to exchange ideas on a specific topic. A working group may wish to host or sponsor such an event from time to time, depending on its overall workload and the personal and financial resources that may be available.

— **PUBLICATIONS** could include periodicals or books on specific topics that the working group covers. A working group considers and appraises these possibilities in the context of other demands on its time and energy.

***Nurturing potential interest in the revelation** is an indirect benefit, the outcome of personal cooperation and natural curiosity. Information about the revelation is readily available to those who show an interest, and members and associates are trained to handle such inquiries with sensitivity and skill.*

# Spiritual perspectives

The Global Endeavor is predominantly Spirit-like. It centers on the altruistic and idealistic service that members and associates of the substantive working groups provide to individuals and groups in society who wish to promote progressive growth and development in their own fields of experience, knowledge, or interest. These aspirations of theirs make them resilient explorers of the inner life, the search for concepts and patterns that will contribute to a better and more enduring civilization (a Solitary Messenger, 1220:4 / 111:4.5).

Thus the Global Endeavor is closely associated with the cause of social and cultural evolution on our planet, as described by a Mighty Messenger in Paper 52, “Planetary Mortal Epochs” (pages 589-600). In all these regards, however, the members and associates of the substantive working groups will operate modestly and quietly: They will refrain from attracting attention to themselves and will stay well in the background. The work of the twelve corps of master seraphim is their spiritual inspiration and model (the Chief of Seraphim, pages 1254-1256 / 114:6). They are also attuned to:

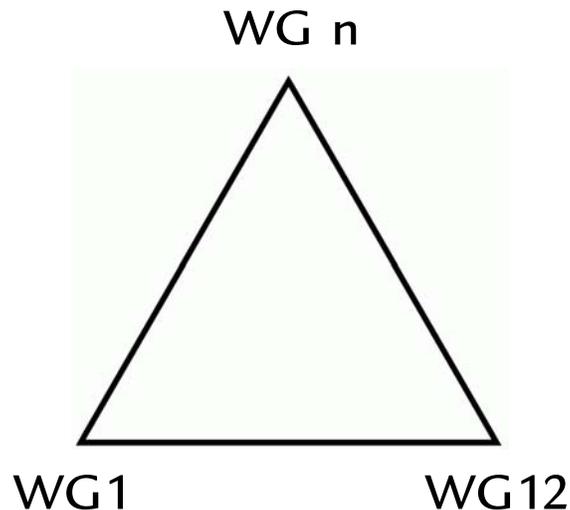
- An Archangel’s analysis of the fifteen factors that play key roles in maintaining and developing human civilization (pages 906-912 / 81:6).
- A Mighty Messenger’s recommendations in regard to five personal transformations and planetary adjustments that we need to make during Urantia’s post-bestowal age (pages 597-598 / 52:6).

In an even larger sense, participants in the Global Endeavor are doing all they can to contribute to the evolutionary growth of the Supreme Being, who sums up and synthesizes all positive meanings and values of finite reality. With God the Supreme we must do something as well as be something (a Mighty Messenger, 1260:1 / 115:0.1). In effect the Father says to each of us, “You are my beloved son” or “You are my beloved daughter,” whereas the Supreme Being inquires, “What have you done for me lately?”

*Participants in the Global Endeavor must show the utmost respect for the viewpoints and inclinations of those they serve — whether or not these brothers and sisters share their spiritual values, and whether or not they believe in God. Participants do not evangelize those they serve, nor seek to impose their own convictions or beliefs. Nonetheless, dissemination of the teachings will be an indirect benefit, the outcome of personal cooperation and natural curiosity.*

# The substantive working groups

## Relationships & activities



Because the Global Endeavor is predominantly Spirit-like, the apex of this organizational triangle portrays a substantive working group, a Spirit-like body. The practical partnership of working groups 1 and 12 mainly operates to administer and guide the altruistic service and inspirational encouragement that the ten substantive working groups provide to individuals and groups in society at large who wish to promote progressive growth and development in the fields they know and cherish.

The work of the substantive working groups falls under five general headings:

- a. Information activities
- b. Networking and problem solving
- c. Private dialogue
- d. Meetings and forums
- e. Publications

If anyone asks about *The Urantia Book* or its teachings, the members and associates of the working groups will be happy to provide information.

# Initiative & coordination

Each of the ten substantive working groups must take the initiative to assist and serve individuals and groups in society who wish to promote progressive growth and development in the corresponding fields of experience, knowledge, and interest. This requires imagination, creativity, and adaptability, for operating styles that are effective for one working group may not be suited to another. After all, people who work in different fields have different needs, and all ten substantive working groups must operate by attraction.

As a general matter, a substantive working group has considerable management authority over its own internal affairs. It must respect policy and management guidelines that pertain to the regional association as a whole, but within these broad limits it may determine its own priorities and decide on the degrees of emphasis, attention, and energy that it wishes to assign to different activities and programs. In addition a substantive working group is the sole judge of the advice and counsel that its members and associates provide to individuals and groups in society at their request, on the understanding that all participants must respect the regional association's policy principles and advisory guidelines on spiritual, philosophic, moral, ethical, and psychological aspects.

The managerial working groups monitor overall performance and seek to enhance it, attempting to ensure that each substantive working group provides service and assistance to others in effective and efficient ways that harmonize with the revelators' goals and ideals. These responsibilities relate to the practical methods and the psychological and spiritual approaches that a substantive working group is using.

- WG1 exerts financial and managerial oversight, seeking to ensure that the activities and programs of the substantive working groups are both effective and efficient.
- WG12 monitors and evaluates ongoing activities of the entire regional association from spiritual, philosophic, moral, ethical, and psychological perspectives. In part it addresses the "insideness" of the effort, including psychological and spiritual aspects that affect other participants.

Each regional association is an integral part of the Global Endeavor, a systematic and sustained campaign of idealistic service aimed at fostering higher levels of human civilization. The work of all associations must honor the spirit of the revelation, and the achievements of participants in each region must have a loving and progressive flavor that could enhance or contribute to the work of counterparts elsewhere. This need for global coordination is the main reason why the endeavor also includes the Administrator's team and two global bodies, the Coordinating Commission and the Consultative Forum.

The Administrator's team identifies with the work of the substantive working groups in all regional associations, seeking to promote their welfare and effectiveness. The two global bodies develop policy principles and advisory guidelines, doing their best to coordinate and guide in gentle and considerate ways. On the other hand the global bodies are also responsible for fostering and protecting the endeavor as a whole. This paramount duty would compel them to take effective action if a grave situation were to undermine the work of a regional association.

# The satisfaction of service

We know that mankind is on the march toward a new and unrevealed planetary destiny. Human society will not settle down for a thousand years, and along the way there will be myriad changes, adjustments, and readjustments (a Melchizedek, 1086:4 / 99:1.1). This millennium of innovation and exploration will be an era during which human beings who are active in society will unceasingly imagine, invent, and experiment in order to upgrade the fields they know and cherish.

That is the philosophic and practical context for the Global Endeavor: Participants assist explorers of the inner life who operate in society and who desire to improve it. Thus participants devote their own personal ideals, their individual true religion, to the service of human growth and development. On the other hand, their activities are far distant from institutional religion and certainly do not include formulating, promoting, or observing rote norms. To the contrary, participants provide assistance, stimulus, and inspirational support without asking anything in return, and without even inquiring into the religious views or philosophic convictions of those they serve.

The Global Endeavor is not a framework for directing or instructing others, it is a framework for assisting and serving others. Participants will foster the advance of society and civilization by seeking to stimulate and encourage an innovative and creative *process*, not by proposing or promoting specific actions. After all, no one can predict the specific steps that will be appropriate and necessary in each field of human life while society repeatedly regenerates itself over the next thousand years. Actions and measures will come and go, and a particular step that is appropriate and useful in one region may be premature or disadvantageous in another. In contrast, the process of creativity and innovation must and will persist, and that will be the case in every region of the world throughout the entire millennium.

In practice, *the spirit of the teachings* is the aspect of the fifth epochal revelation that will have the strongest influence on the work of the Global Endeavor. The fact that the substantive working groups do not advocate, propose, or promote specific initiatives or reforms in society does not in any sense deprive members and associates of their *values* or prevent them from discussing these values in private dialogue with individuals or groups who have specifically requested advice. Within each regional association, WG12 is responsible for ensuring that all working groups carry out their activities in ways that respect the essential values that the revelators proclaim in *The Urantia Book*. For example:

(1) Is the endeavor proceeding in a kind, thoughtful, tolerant, generous, respectful, and loving spirit that bespeaks the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, and that also honors other key ideals of the revelation? Is the enterprise spiritually fragrant, so that other human beings can be attracted, inspired, and encouraged to work together for common purposes?

(2) Are working group members and associates providing types of service and assistance to individuals and groups that reflect the interests and needs of those they serve?

(3) In doing this, are members and associates demonstrating unselfish devotion to the essential goal, fostering and encouraging the growth and development of all mankind? Are they acting in broadminded and altruistic ways that are not tainted with any apparent desire to dominate others or exert authority over them?

# Global coordination

## The Administrator's team

- Fosters and promotes the service and assistance that the substantive working groups provide to individuals and groups in society, but without having executive or managerial authority over those efforts.
- Performs a number of important administrative duties and represents the endeavor in public.

## The Deliberative Council

### The Coordinating Commission

Supervises the administrative side of the endeavor, in part by developing policy principles and advisory guidelines that relate to organizational, managerial, financial, and legal aspects.

### The Consultative Forum

Monitors pursuit of the underlying goals, in part by developing policy principles and advisory guidelines that relate to spiritual, philosophic, moral, ethical, and psychological aspects.

**WG1 in each regional association**

**WG12 in each regional association**