



Governance Series

WQI-GOV-000

Standard Governance Principles

The WiFi Quality Institute: Standard Governance Principles

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Applies to: WQI governance, publications, working methods, technical independence, and institutional conduct

1. Purpose

This document sets out the core governance principles of the WiFi Quality Institute (WQI). Its purpose is to establish a clear, stable, and credible institutional framework for how the Institute operates, develops technical work, manages public documents, and safeguards independence, consistency, and seriousness in its activities.

The principles in this document are intended to support the long-term legitimacy of WQI as a technical and research-oriented institute focused on Wi-Fi quality, real-world performance evaluation, and associated methodologies, frameworks, and independent technical guidance on Wi-Fi performance and quality.

2. Scope

These principles apply to:

- the governance of the Institute as an organisation;
- the preparation, review, publication, correction, and withdrawal of WQI documents;
- the conduct of persons acting on behalf of WQI;
- the management of technical frameworks, methods, and public statements;
- the Institute's relationship with commercial entities, vendors, operators, consultants, and other stakeholders.

These principles are general in nature and are intended to complement, not replace, any Charter, Founding document, publication policy, participation policy, ethics policy, or certification-related document issued by WQI.

3. Foundational Position

WQI exists to advance serious, structured, and technically grounded work relating to Wi-Fi quality.

The Institute was established in response to a persistent gap between theoretical wireless network performance and the real-world quality experienced by users in environments such as hospitality venues, shared workspaces, and public access networks.

While wireless engineering knowledge is well developed, practical deployment quality, measurement practices, and evaluation methods remain inconsistent and often poorly understood outside specialised technical communities.

WQI therefore seeks to promote clearer methodologies, measurable frameworks, and disciplined technical discussion concerning real-world Wi-Fi performance.

The Institute shall operate as an independent technical body with a public-facing mission. Its role is not merely promotional, commercial, or symbolic. Its value depends on the quality of its methods, the clarity of its documentation, the seriousness of its governance, and the consistency with which it applies its stated principles.

WQI shall therefore seek to build credibility through documented process, public technical work, methodological clarity, transparent versioning, and disciplined institutional behaviour.

4. Core Governance Principles

4.1 Institutional seriousness

WQI shall conduct itself as a serious technical institute. Its publications, governance materials, and public statements shall be drafted and maintained in a manner consistent with professional and research-oriented institutional standards.

4.2 Technical independence

Technical conclusions, methodological positions, and research outputs shall not be determined by marketing pressure, vendor preference, installer convenience, or commercial expediency.

WQI may engage with industry, service providers, manufacturers, consultants, and operators, but its technical work must remain independent in substance.

4.3 Public-interest orientation

WQI shall favour approaches that improve clarity, measurability, comparability, and honest understanding of Wi-Fi performance in real-world environments. Where market claims are vague, inflated, or misleading, WQI should prefer technical precision over commercial language.

4.4 Methodological transparency

Where WQI publishes a framework, technical report, note, principle, or evaluation method, it should describe the logic, assumptions, boundaries, and intended use of that work with sufficient clarity to permit informed reading and responsible application.

4.5 Proportionality

WQI shall avoid unnecessary complexity where simpler governance or technical structures can achieve the same legitimate purpose without reducing seriousness or clarity.

4.6 Traceability

Important institutional decisions, publication versions, and governance changes shall be documented in a way that preserves continuity and allows future readers to understand what changed, when, and why.

4.7 Consistency

WQI shall aim to apply its governance and publication practices consistently across documents and over time, while preserving the ability to improve when necessary.

4.8 Integrity of terminology

WQI shall use terminology carefully. Terms that imply assurance, certification, verification, trust, compliance, or quality levels should be used only where defined, supportable, and institutionally justified.

5. Governance Objectives

The governance of WQI should be structured to support the following objectives:

- preservation of institutional credibility;
- orderly development of technical publications and frameworks;
- transparent authorship and version control;
- appropriate separation between technical judgment and commercial interests;
- defensible public communication;
- continuity of mission over time;
- responsible stewardship of the Institute's name, documents, and public standing.

6. Governance Structure Principles

6.1 Defined authority

WQI should maintain a clearly identifiable authority structure for approving foundational documents,

governance texts, and official publications.

6.2 Documented roles

Roles relevant to governance should be defined in writing, even where the Institute is small in size or early in institutional development.

6.3 Controlled delegation

Authority may be delegated for drafting, reviewing, or administering documents, but ultimate responsibility for official WQI positions should remain clearly allocated.

6.4 Separation of functions where practical

Where proportionate and feasible, drafting, review, approval, and publication functions should not be treated as indistinguishable. Even in a small institute, procedural separation strengthens credibility.

6.5 Scalability

The governance structure should remain usable both in an early-stage institute and in a more mature future form with broader participation, advisory input, or working groups.

7. Principles for Publications and Technical Documents

7.1 Formal identification

Official WQI documents should carry a document identifier, title, version, date, and status (e.g., Draft, Review Draft, Final, or Superseded).

7.2 Version discipline

When a document changes materially, a new version should be issued. Superseded versions should remain historically traceable where practical.

7.3 Clear status labelling

A document's status should be stated clearly, for example as draft, approved, superseded, withdrawn, or archived.

7.4 Controlled correction

Errors may be corrected, but substantive revisions should not be disguised as minor editorial updates.

7.5 Stable publication practice

Publicly released documents should be published in a stable and citable form wherever reasonably possible.

7.6 Respect for scope

A technical report should not silently function as a policy document, and a governance document should not silently create technical requirements unless it clearly states that purpose.

8. Independence and Conflicts of Interest

8.1 General principle

Persons acting on behalf of WQI should avoid situations in which commercial, personal, or organisational interests improperly distort technical judgment or governance decisions.

8.2 Disclosure principle

Where a material conflict of interest exists, or may reasonably be perceived to exist, it should be disclosed internally and, where relevant to public credibility, appropriately disclosed publicly.

8.3 No automatic disqualification

The mere existence of industry experience or commercial involvement does not automatically disqualify a contributor. The key question is whether the Institute's processes remain independent, documented, and credible.

8.4 Protection of technical judgment

No sponsor, vendor, operator, installer, consultant, or related commercial actor should control WQI technical conclusions merely by reason of funding, proximity, influence, or strategic convenience.

9. Principles for External Relations

9.1 Openness to engagement

WQI may engage with academics, engineers, consultants, operators, vendors, standards-interested parties, and the public.

9.2 No implied endorsement without basis

Engagement, discussion, membership, citation, or correspondence shall not by itself imply endorsement, approval, certification, or formal institutional alignment.

9.3 Careful representation

WQI should represent its own role accurately and avoid overstating its size, authority, adoption, or consensus position.

9.4 Respectful technical discourse

Disagreement on methods, assumptions, or interpretations should be handled in a professional and technically focused manner.

9.5 Principle of dispute resolution

Where technical disagreement arises in the development or interpretation of WQI documents or frameworks, the Institute shall maintain a documented dispute resolution process defined in the relevant procedural documents.

The objective of such process is to ensure that disagreements are resolved through reasoned technical evaluation rather than authority, commercial pressure, or informal influence.

10. Principles for Framework and Standard Development

Where WQI develops frameworks, criteria, or structured methodologies, it should:

- define the intended problem clearly;
- state the practical scope and limitations of the framework;
- distinguish measurement from marketing language;
- separate aspirational claims from measurable criteria;
- avoid creating false impressions of universality where the framework is domain-specific;
- support future revision when justified by evidence, technical progress, or practical experience.

WQI should prefer frameworks that can be explained, applied, and critiqued in a disciplined way over frameworks that merely appear impressive.

11. Recordkeeping and Institutional Memory

WQI should preserve, in an orderly manner, its foundational governance texts, publication records,

version history, and other core institutional materials necessary to demonstrate continuity and seriousness over time.

Institutional memory is part of institutional credibility. The Institute should therefore maintain records in a way that allows future readers to reconstruct its governance and publication development.

12. Review and Amendment

This document may be amended where necessary to improve governance clarity, institutional robustness, or long-term suitability.

Governance documents of the Institute should normally be reviewed at periodic intervals, typically every two to three years, or earlier where technological, institutional, or operational developments justify revision.

Amendments should be made in a controlled and documented manner. Major revisions should ordinarily result in a new version number and an updated publication date.

Where possible, the Institute should preserve a record that prior versions existed.

13. Integrity and Reporting of Concerns

WQI recognises that the credibility of a technical institute depends on the integrity of its processes.

Individuals who believe that the Institute's principles of independence, transparency, or technical integrity may have been compromised should be able to report such concerns through appropriate internal channels defined in the Institute's ethics and conduct policies.

Reports should be handled in a professional, confidential, and proportionate manner, with the objective of protecting both institutional integrity and fair treatment of individuals involved.

14. Interpretation

This document shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the Institute's stated mission, its technical seriousness, and the preservation of public credibility.

Where ambiguity exists, the interpretation that better supports independence, clarity, traceability, and methodological integrity should generally be preferred.

15. Non-promotional character

This document is a governance text. It is not intended as advertising, a marketing claim, or a commercial guarantee. Its purpose is to define institutional principles, not to create promotional messaging.

16. Effective status

This document takes effect upon approval and publication by the WiFi Quality Institute as an official governance document.

Suggested related documents

- WQI-CH-001 — Founding Charter
- WQI-PUB-001 — Publication and Document Control Policy
- WQI-PROC-001 — Technical Dispute Resolution Procedure
- WQI-PAR-001 — Participation and External Contribution Principles
- WQI-ETH-001 — Ethics and Institutional Conduct Principles