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IHF contributions to schools and initiatives are viewed as investments in the development of children, in people who want to engage in an education or extra training, as well as in material things such as housing or furniture, or urgently needed materials.

Applications for support must fit within the IHF objective:

*The promotion of Waldorf education anywhere in the world**

IHF supports educational projects and initiatives by giving donations for:

- Classrooms and their equipment/furniture
- Teachers' Training courses and mentoring
- School fees for pupils and students in financially difficult circumstances (through our 'children sponsorship programme')
- (Educational) equipment for playing, teaching and studying as well as books for a library
- Acquisition of transport facilities
- Mitigating extremely difficult circumstances of schools, training colleges and other educational projects

Criteria for applications to IHF:

- The school works with the principles of Waldorf education
- Schools/initiatives are embedded in their own culture and are firmly rooted in their own surrounding society
- Schools/initiatives can support themselves to some extent after 5 to 7 years
- Schools/initiatives intend to stimulate renewal of education and teaching in their own country
- Schools/initiatives remain in close contact with the country's civilization in general and education in particular, in other words: do not isolate themselves
- Schools/initiatives work together with other initiatives and organisations in the country that are inspired by the same ideas. Such as initiatives in the field of medical, social-educational or agricultural development.
- The school strives to work on the creative and all round development of the child
- The teachers or workers in the school have the opportunity to join teacher training programmes for Waldorf education in the country, or Waldorf teacher trainings are organised within the school
- The school stays in touch with other Waldorf schools and /or alternative schools with a similar direction; teachers are in touch with other Waldorf teachers and can share ideas and experiences
- There is openness to learn from others and to develop
- There is the will to work on sustainability of the school and the environment
- There is transparency in finances, administration, organisation-structure and communication
- School has an active policy in poverty alleviation in the region, e.g. a fixed percentage (number of children) for underprivileged parents.

* With the exception of the Benelux

Applications must meet a number of criteria. We owe accountability to our donors as to how their money is spent. This is why we need the following information from the initiatives and projects submitting an application:

Checklist by applicant in case of request for support

<p>Name of the school and address:</p>	
<p>Name and function of contact person for IHF and email address:</p>	
<p>School exists since:</p>	
<p>Purpose and period of time for which support is being requested: <i>(give short description and reason why this is needed)</i></p>	
<p>Amount being requested from IHF in euro's</p>	
<p>Total amount needed in euros</p>	
<p>Is there any support from other funds or sources? If so, from whom? If not, why not?</p>	
<p>Are the local authorities or the government contributing?</p>	
<p>What can be contributed by the school? <i>(funds, loans, work)</i></p>	

<p>Is there a financial plan/budget? <i>(Please provide it as attachment)</i></p>	
<p>Is there a substantial group of people who have a serious interest in the foundations of Steiner/Waldorf education (Anthroposophy) and have engaged in studying it for several years?</p> <p><i>Please describe number, names, professions and history/ways of working together.</i></p>	
<p>Is your initiative recognizable as a pedagogical initiative from an anthroposophical perspective?</p>	
<p>Are there other Waldorf education initiatives in your country or region?</p> <p><i>Please describe.</i></p>	
<p>Has contact or cooperation been established with other similar initiatives in your country or neighbouring countries?</p> <p><i>Please describe.</i></p>	
<p>Is there a local carrying group who take responsibility for the practical aspects of your project, such as Board, school building, teachers, budget?</p> <p><i>Please describe.</i></p>	

<p>Has your organisation legal status?</p>	
<p>What is the future outlook? Does the initiative or project have the potential to become financially independent?</p>	
<p>Do staff members at your school / initiative have a work agreement or will they get one in the near future?</p>	
<p>Have you got a transparent financial administration and are you willing to make information about the financial situation available to IHF, such as salaries of staff members, maintenance of buildings, etc.?</p>	
<p>Who will be responsible for writing a written progress report afterwards and an article on your initiative to be published in the IHF newsletter?</p>	

Date and Signature:

Name and role: