

## A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH TRAVEL FUND (IYTF)

The International Youth Travel Fund was set up by the WSA (World Subud Association) and MSF (the Muhammad Subuh Foundation) primarily to help young people to travel abroad to Subud events, with the idea of it being a way for them to become involved in Subud more than by simply practicing the latihan. It has also been and can be used to help young Subud members travel to Susila Dharma projects as volunteers.



The basic criteria other than age (up to around 30) are:

- A. A willingness to participate actively in the meetings;
- B. To share their experience with other youth in their country on their return;
- C. To write a report; and
- D. To organize a fundraising event to help replenish the Travel Fund.

The principle is not to finance 100% of costs; youth are encouraged to find other means to pay some of their costs. *The goal is to empower them rather than simply assist them.*

The IYTF relies on youth organizing events and fundraising projects internationally to replenish the fund. For example, a recycling project was set up in various countries in 2008 and the first of a series of International Community Dinners occurred in 2010 with this aim.

## PROCESS

The process of obtaining funds occurs by application. A youth requests the detailed application form from the International Youth Representatives or downloads it [online](#), then fills it in with as much information as possible and sends it to the Youth Representatives. His/her application must be supported by the national committee, helpers, or other active Subud members.

The team that looks at the application is at minimum made up of: the International Youth Coordinators, Maya Korzybska (for the WSA Executive), the international helpers of the area, and often the zone representative. Applications are also copied to an MSF trustee.

Applications must be submitted at least 3 months in advance of the date of travel. Of course this does not always happen and the team tries to be flexible, but we ask that the applicant treat the matter with forethought, accountability, and professionalism.

## RESULTS + LOOKING AHEAD

The results so far have been very positive with good follow-up and with endeavors to make donations to the fund by those who benefited.

Obviously, World Congresses generate the highest number of applications. The team would like to stress the idea of empowering the youth to also work towards paying part of their trip, and not covering 100% of the costs. In this way, the fund can serve as many people as possible. It also means that there must be a significant fundraising effort across the globe in preparation for Congress.

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