

ENCOURAGING SUBUD GROUPS AND COMMUNITIES TO EXPLORE THE EXPRESSION OF THE LATIHAN IN THE WORLD

1. How do we use creative tools and processes (such as open space discussion, visioning workshops, etc.) to explore the expression of our inner guidance in the world?
2. How can stronger Subud groups and communities support those seeking help to develop and grow?
3. What can we do to help groups optimize the quality of their community space for latihan and for putting its expression into practice?

This initiative is based on a vision and intention arising out of the experiences and workshops at the World Congress in Christchurch, where many of us felt a great vitality, wider capacity, and deeper connection, as well as a sense of purpose and direction as a world community. It also arises from the acknowledgement that when we return to our local groups, we often have difficulties and challenges in communicating and sharing our hopes, inspirations, concerns and fears with our fellow members. Thus our intention is to explore ways to empower local Subud communities, so that the reality so often experienced at congresses and gatherings is also part of our daily lives.

Vision

Our Subud groups bring us together to worship through the Latihan. It is here too that we can join together to create sacred spaces that are inclusive and accepting, providing safe and respectful communication, and empowering us to develop and unfold – each according to our talents, personalities and needs.

In the safety of our communities, we can provide nurturing opportunities to discover and grow our talents, gifts and abilities. It is from this space that we can incorporate the Latihan as a core element in our daily lives, becoming whole, healthy human beings that demonstrate the fruits of the Latihan.

As we create solid foundations, our Subud Communities and our Centres can become vessels through which we can interact with the world around us. They can be used as commercial venues for a whole range of entrepreneurial activities, including creating income for Subud; and they can be open to our neighbours and the broader communities as spaces for dialogue, social projects, cultural activities and exchange.

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We hope the Council can take this initiative on board, communicating the intention during their travels, visits to groups, gatherings, and so on. For example,

- The International Helpers could do testing – and encourage helpers in the different countries to test – about the significance of the spaces where we do Latihan, and the significance of using them for nurturing, exploratory activities that foster the expression of the Latihan in our daily lives.
- The Zone Reps could encourage National Committee – and locals in turn – to take on the initiative and also help identify local talent with experience in Community Building and other areas, willing to share their expertise with the groups if required.
- The Wings could consider ways of becoming involved in this initiative.
- All Council members could acknowledge the practical steps that will be set up, so that they can easily share the information with members when asked.