



# IBF Foundation

generating perspectives

For its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary

**IBF International Consulting**

decided to create the

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## IBF International Consulting

IBF International Consulting ([www.ibf.be](http://www.ibf.be)) was founded in Belgium in 1977. IBF works worldwide on development cooperation projects financed by international organisations such as the European Commission, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the African Development Bank.

IBF has built a solid reputation for its knowledge, good practices, reliability, as well as for its ability to successfully implement projects within its core sectors: educational and social reforms, institutional support, economic development, trade and regional integration.

In 2012, IBF launched the International Consulting Alliance ([www.icaworld.net](http://www.icaworld.net)), a growing network of currently 120 top experts and 70 consultancy organisations present in more than 50 countries. They share experiences and good practices and support the IBF Foundation.

The Foundation complements IBF's activities with a non profit dimension, where IBF makes its expertise in education, micro enterprises, and network available to the benefit of youngsters from developing countries.

## IBF Foundation

### Mission and Values

The IBF Foundation aims at:

- Increasing learning and personal growth opportunities for youngsters in developing countries and generating perspectives of employment for them.
- Offering unique opportunities to youngsters from Europe to learn and experience work in developing countries.

The IBF Foundation team works with passion, integrity, transparency and responsibility.

## Perspectives for the future

The IBF Foundation provides three programmes:

### **1. Traineeships**

Organising traineeships on development cooperation projects worldwide for youngsters from Europe and from developing countries.

### **2. Youngsters to Youngsters**

Youngsters from schools and universities in Europe support youngsters in rural areas in developing countries, from their time at school into their first work experience.

### **3. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**

Creating tailored CSR projects in developing countries for private companies in Europe.

## 1. Traineeships

The Foundation proposes traineeships in developing countries in health, energy, trade, engineering, agriculture, justice, finance, human rights and many more sectors.

Trainees have the unique opportunity to work with international and local experts, from a couple of months up to a year.

Trainees can choose the most suited project amongst those presented by the Foundation. They travel to - and live in their chosen country at their own expenses and pay a fee to the Foundation for organising the matching and for the overall supervision (250 Euro for trainees from Europe and 75 Euro for trainees from developing countries).

During the traineeship, under the Foundation's guidance, trainees support a rural school in need, contributing to the Foundation's second programme *Youngsters to Youngsters*. European trainees identify an activity they wish to sponsor in the school.

National trainees are invited to do the same if they can afford it, but at least keep a close link with the school over time. This connection with schools creates beautiful friendly ties between the youngsters and is a fantastic way to open minds.

Trainees enjoy an unforgettable experience with a positive impact on their future professional life.

*The experience of Manuela in Georgia on a traineeship with IBF on an EU funded technical cooperation project*

*"Through this experience, I got a good insight into how development projects are implemented. Working with a small team gave me the opportunity to contribute directly to the project: I assisted in meetings, drafted reports and planned trainings.*

*Also, living in Tbilisi was a fantastic experience, allowing me to work in an international environment and learn about the Georgian culture. Overall, this internship was an excellent practical complement to many theoretical things taught in my Bachelor's degree in Politics and International Relations."*

## 2. Youngsters to Youngsters – Y2Y App

The programme supports youngsters from their time at school into their first work experience, contributing to the economic growth of the rural area they live in.

Trainees, international and local experts working on development cooperation projects identify schools in need in rural areas as well as schools and universities in Europe willing to support.

The Y2Y App is at the centre of the *Youngsters to Youngsters* programme. The App brings together youngsters from schools and universities in Europe who wish to support youngsters in rural schools in developing countries around a set of actions that they can finance.

## HOW THE Y2Y APP WORKS

### 1. Support for schools

- Rural schools post a video about their school and list their needs on the Y2Y App (chairs, blackboards, windows, solar energy modules, arts, music and sports equipment, etc.).
- Youngsters from Europe chose on the App what they want to finance. The school goes to the city to buy the material (which stimulates the local economy), films the purchasing and transportation back to the school and posts the video on the Y2Y App. Experts and trainees visit the school regularly to check that the material is used and maintained.

### 2. Support for pupils

- Where pupils face difficulties to afford going to school, financial support can be provided to their families via the IBF Foundation to cover transportation, school material, accommodation at the school, etc.

### 3. Workshops

- Workshops about communication skills, critical thinking, managing conflicts, educational challenges for parents, entrepreneurship, etc. can be conducted. Youngsters attend with their parents and any interested local citizen.
- Workshops are animated by local professionals identified by our experts and trainees.

### 4. Road to be an Entrepreneur

- The Foundation supports youngsters graduating from school to set-up their business, by creating business incubators with advisors and micro-credit schemes that European youngsters and companies can finance.
- Successful entrepreneurs having received support shall reserve a small percentage of their revenues for a fund that assists new entrepreneurs.

#### The story of Farid

- *Farid, 7 years old, and his school in Bangladesh, received a blackboard from Sophie and her school class in Belgium. Sophie enjoyed seeing the happy faces of Farid and his classmates on the video.*
- *They are now in regular contact and Sophie might even visit the school next summer. Sophie's classmates understood what it means to support children in need that are less fortunate.*

#### The story of a school in Namibia

- *In Kaokoland, a remote rural area in Namibia, the school has been partly destroyed by vandals during the summer holidays.*
- *The scholars from Santa Teresa Institute in Torino are happy to purchase for their friends the services of a guardian during the holiday breaks to avoid such damages in the future.*

### 3. Corporate Social Responsibility

The IBF Foundation helps European private companies to set up a tailored project that they could finance in developing countries, within their scope of activities. The project is then implemented by - or with the support of the Foundation, under the name of the company.

The project will help youngsters in the age of working to strengthen their skills and better integrate the labour market. At the same time it creates awareness and interest amongst the staff of the company for the initiative that helps developing countries.

An example of CSR

*A European automotive company, with the help of the IBF Foundation, builds its own mechanics vocational education training centre in Namibia. Young locals are given a chance of gaining experience in the field and may one day set-up their own garage.*

*Through this project, the company generates working perspectives for these youngsters. The company is the effective donor and its logo appears on all communications.*

*The IBF Foundation helps to ensure the vocational centre is a success, based on 40 years of experience of IBF International Consulting in supporting vocational education centres.*

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### 1. Traineeships

- Think about possible candidate trainees amongst your family, friends or colleagues and invite them to write to the Foundation.
- If you are a development cooperation expert or staff of a consultancy organisation, welcome trainees on your projects.
- Sponsor the traineeship fee of a local youngster to help him/her benefiting from a traineeship.

### 2. Youngsters to Youngsters

- Identify schools in rural areas in developing countries or schools/universities in Europe that could be willing to support them.
- Give financial support to pupils who cannot afford going to school.
- Tell us if you know “famous” people who could sponsor arts, music or sports equipment.
- Sponsor or tell us of companies that could sponsor workshops.
- Sponsor the business incubators with their advisors and micro-credit schemes.

### 3. Corporate Social Responsibility projects

- Talk to companies about our CSR programme and help us get a contact at decision-making level so that we can propose our tailored ideas.

**If you wish to support our programmes**

**please write to Raffaella Paniè**

**Director of the IBF Foundation**

**at**

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