



IBF Foundation



ICA World

International Consulting Alliance

**NEW EDITION**

Sept 2024 - Feb 2025



Young  
Professionals  
in Development

apply now



[www.ibf-foundation.org](http://www.ibf-foundation.org)

# What is it?

'**Young Professionals in Development (YPD)**' is a joint high-level traineeship programme of **IBF Foundation** and **ICA World**. The first edition of the programme is currently under way (February to July 2024) and we are now preparing the second session of the year.

The programme aims to give selected university students and recent graduates a practical field experience on **donor-funded projects in beneficiary countries** in the Global South, implemented by one or more member organisations of ICA World.

**Starting in September 2024**, we are planning offer a **6-month traineeship programme (until February 2025)** to a small group of 5 to 10 outstanding young professionals.



**IBF Foundation**

The YPD traineeship represents a transformative field experience for young professionals on their early career path in the field of international cooperation.

**This programme contributes to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in different geographical areas and within various sectors of expertise.**

# YPD Objectives

1

## CULTURE

Improve awareness on development cooperation among youngsters and contribute to the development of a culture of sustainability and equality.

2

## EXPERIENCE

Offering unique opportunities to students and recent graduates from Europe to learn and experience work in developing countries.

3

## PERSPECTIVES

Contribute to generate perspectives of employment for youngsters while increasing their personal and professional growth.



The IBF Foundation is a non-profit organisation founded in 2018 by IBF International Consulting, from Belgium, with the ambition of supporting education through its **Traineeships Programmes** on development cooperation projects worldwide for the benefit of young professionals from the Global North and South.

ICA World - the International Consulting Alliance is a unique network of independent organisations and individual experts with clear technical or geographic specialisation, working on donor-funded projects in different beneficiary countries.

We facilitate cooperation among our members, while aiming to ensure **high-quality project delivery and a sustainable impact** in different technical sectors and countries worldwide.



“Education is the passport  
to the future!”

[www.ibf-foundation.org](http://www.ibf-foundation.org)

Networking for  
Development

[www.icaworld.net](http://www.icaworld.net)

# Young Professionals in Development

1

## TRAINING

Early September 2024

A few days of virtual induction trainings aimed at providing trainees with some basic knowledge about the development cooperation sector.

2

## EXPERIENCE

Sept 2024- Feb 2025

Field experience on projects implemented by one of the ICA members.

A mid-term online event will be organized during the traineeship.

3

## CONCLUSION

February 2025

End of field experience.

Final online event to share experiences, best practices and lessons learned by the trainees.

# Young Professionals in Development

The **programme covers all costs of the traineeship** (travel, accommodation, other living expenses) and is financed through different funding schemes:

**The EU's  
Erasmus +  
Traineeship  
Programme**

**Municipal and  
regional  
scholarships for  
young graduates**

**Budgets of the  
projects  
(whenever  
possible)**

**CSR  
departments of  
ICA members and  
selected partners**

# Who can apply?

## Eligibility Criteria

- The YPD Traineeship Programme is open to final year undergraduate students, Master's students, and upcoming graduates currently enrolled at a European University
- Background in international studies, European Studies, Political sciences or similar.
- Excellent command of English, other languages are an asset. French/Spanish is required for francophone/hispanophone areas.

## Selection Criteria

- You have proven interest or experience in development aid projects and/or international affairs.
- You are service-minded, pro-active and outgoing and have excellent communication, interpersonal and organisation skills.
- Strong IT skills are required (MS Excel and MS Word proficiency). Additional digital and marketing skills will be considered an asset.



The Sustainable Development Goals are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure a sustainable future for all.

# YPD Selection Process

The selection for the traineeship positions available at the YPD joint Traineeship Programme is carried out on the applications received during the competitive call and involves the evaluation of **qualifications held, skills and motivation.**



**Shortlisted candidates will be contacted** by the YPD selection team **in September** for the next steps of the selection procedure.

## TIMELINE

**March - Early May**  
Call for Applications

First assessment and interviews with preselected candidates

**April - June**  
Selection of candidates and 2nd round of interviews with the host organisations  
Matching with the relevant projects

**April - July**  
Securing adequate funding (in cooperation with the selected trainees)

**June -August**  
Preparation for departure (flights, accommodation, visa etc.)

**September- February**  
Traineeship



# Young Professionals in Development



Applications

The 2024 YPD trainees will be selected through a **competitive Call for the Traineeship Applications:**

**Applications  
Deadline:**



**18 March 2024**



**06 May 2024**

Those interested in the YPD Traineeship Programme can apply by sending the completed **application form** and a **detailed CV**, both in English, to the following email address:

**[info@ibf-foundation.org](mailto:info@ibf-foundation.org)**

**Apply to the YPD Traineeship Programme and Good Luck!**