**IHEU-HIVOS 2015 Grants Programme**

This document contains the Grants Announcement of the IHEU-HIVOS Humanist Network and Development Programme for 2015.

**About IHEU & HIVOS**

The International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU) is the world union of humanist, rationalist, secularist and atheist organizations with over 120 member organizations in more than 40 countries. IHEU promotes and defends freedom of conscience and expression, and advocates for the separation of religion and state. IHEU co-ordinates the activities of its member organizations and offers them advice and guidance on policy issues and strategy. It fosters the growth of new humanist groups, and represents humanist interests at the UN, UNESCO, UNICEF and the Council of Europe. More information can be found on the website [www.iheu.org](http://www.iheu.org)

HIVOS is the renowned Dutch humanist funding agency, and a Specialist Member of IHEU, with headquarters in The Hague in the Netherlands, and regional offices in Bangalore, Harare and Costa Rica. More information can be found on the website [www.hivos.nl](http://www.hivos.nl)

IHEU and HIVOS have been collaborating since 1988 to promote a humanist oriented development, through [human rights](http://www.iheu.org/glossary/term/248) and humanist networking oriented projects. All applications regarding this program should be directed to IHEU as specified below.

**About the applicants**

This grants programme is ONLY for organizations that are already members of the IHEU (including “Applicant Member”), and are located in developing countries according to the DAC list.

**Grant criteria**

The project should achieve specified goals in one or more of the following five areas: promoting Humanism, secularism, human rights, the scientific method, or building competence and capacity of the organization itself.

**Promoting Humanism**: The project is promoting Humanism as a life-stance to politicians, media or the general public. The activities of such a project could include public meetings, seminars, advertising, media coverage, publishing, articles in printed media, etc. The project will have to include an assessment of the effect of the activities on the target audience.

**Promoting secularism**: The project is promoting separation of state and religion and/or equal treatment of secular and religious life-stances to politicians, media or the general public. The activities of such a project could include public meetings, seminars, advertising, media coverage, publishing, articles in printed media, etc. The project will have to include an assessment of the effect of the activities on the target audience.

**Promoting human rights**: The project is promoting the human rights of people with a secular life-stance, and/or supporting human rights of other specific groups suffering from discrimination based on religion, caste, descent, work or gender. The activities of such a project could include promotion of new legislature, exposing human rights violations of the government and advocacy towards politicians, media or the general public.

**Promoting the scientific method**: The project is promoting critical thinking and the scientific method as opposed to pseudo-science, superstition and alternative religions. The activities of such a project could include means to popularise science, propagating the scientific method, producing information material, skeptical activities towards witchcraft, sorcery, astrology, etc.

**Building organizational capacity**: The project is strengthening the organization’s ability to reach out to new potential members, to grow and prosper. The activities of such a project could include training of staff, elected officers and other volunteers, sending representatives to meetings or conferences organised by IHEU or one of its Member Organizations, improving fundraising capabilities, or improving gender equality or youth participation in the organization.

**Funding availability**

Budgets in applications must be made in Euros and also indicate the equivalent in local currency. Projects should preferably be completed within the year of 2015. A total of Euros 40,000 is available for 2015. The maximum funding for a single project is Euro 8,000 per year. However, IHEU encourages smaller proposals from new humanist groups. The project should be partly funded by the humanist organization applying for a grant, and not be solely reliant upon external funding.

Where travel funding is allocated, the cheapest economy class air fare / Apex air fare / cheapest train travel along with minimum living expenses only will be paid. The purpose of travel must be consistent with the projects that IHEU would normally support under this funding programme. The grant cannot be used for capital costs, e.g. equipment, computers, etc.

Where appropriate, IHEU will also consult with other humanist organizations which may also be funding humanist activities, to ensure there is no overlap in funding allocations. When approved, funding is guaranteed for only one year.

All funding recipients will have to provide an **interim** report on the project by 30 September 2015 and a **full** report with detailed accounts by 15 January 2016. Recipients who have received grants from IHEU for other projects in the last five years will have to have completed their reporting and accounting for those projects.

Funding recipients will be expected to acknowledge IHEU's assistance in their publications and project material.

**Application Form**

The application form, available here, must provide sufficient detail for your proposal to be evaluated without further reference to you.

The proposal must be realistic and clearly state the project activities and the practical results that are expected. It must clearly show the financial participation of the applicant organization.

The most common issue with unsuccessful applications is that they are long on problem description, but short on how the proposed activities will help solve the problem, and to document that effect. We encourage applicants to pay particular attention to this in the application.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to check their own eligibility and local legal position for receiving IHEU's funds. Usually, a Chartered Accountant, a lawyer or your local Government Charity Commissioner's office can give you written advice on this matter. Please include such a certificate where such laws exist in your country.

**Project Assessment and Monitoring**

Once funds are allocated, disbursement will take place after IHEU enters into a contract with the recipient organization. IHEU will monitor the project’s progress closely, and an external evaluation will be conducted in 2015. All fund recipients are expected to fully cooperate with IHEU and HIVOS and their representatives by providing information and ready access to records to enable evaluation of the projects.

**Schedule**

Funding applications for 2015 must **arrive** at IHEU’s London office by email by 21 March **2015**. All applicants will be informed about the result of their application on 10 April 2015. Please do not ask for information about how your application is being processed before these dates.

***Date Activity***

21 March 2015 Application deadline

10 April 2015 IHEU to notify applicants of the result and recipients send in the Grants Acceptance Agreement

02 May 2015 IHEU will transfer grant to recipients

30 September 2015 Recipients sends interim report

15 January 2016 Recipients sends final report and accounts