

Guidance Document

Purpose

IHEU will link older, more established Member Organizations (Branch partners) with newer and developing Member Organizations (Root partners) in “twinning” arrangements that will benefit the organizations with some or all of:

- knowledge or skills transfer
- formal training
- delivery of work
- grant-funding
- fundraising opportunities
- or increased profile.

Programme of work

Areas of work and support agreed between partners may include:

- Fundraising on behalf of the Root partner
- International publicity on behalf of the Root partner
- Online training or advice, or in-person training and consultation during visits by representatives of the Branch partner, for purposes of improving the newer organization in terms of its:
 - o Operations
 - o Public affairs or campaigns work
 - o Governance or strategy etc
 - o Promotion of Humanism

Criteria

Criteria for twinning include that:

- the Root partner is in a position to make use of assistance, is not already over-supported
 - for example is not already receiving funds that put it at maximum capacity without realistic prospect of immediately expanding, or is not in a position such that the only thing the more established Branch partner can do is lend its name to activity which is already aided by other partners
- the aims of the Root partner stand some chance of success on a timescale that is meaningful to the Branch partner and achievable because of the involvement of the Branch partner
- clear aims and means for both the Root partner and the relationship overall
 - The relationship should not be an abstract commitment. There should either be existing projects/policy agendas on which the Branch partner can assist, fund, etc, or there should be a commitment to develop the same.
- some history or opportunity for personal contact
 - the Branch partner should not be in a position of twinning with an organisation whose individual staff/members are unknown to IHEU or themselves; and/or they should be in a position to visit the Root partner and establish a more meaningful relationship

Process

IHEU Member Organizations interested in being either a Branch or Root partner in a twinning arrangement must contact comms@iheu.org in the first instance.

IHEU may in a position to help identify a partner organization, or approach a partner organization if you believe you have already identified a suitable partner.

We will then coordinate a preliminary discussion about the likely terms and projects covered by the agreement.

Pairs of partnering organizations will be asked to work through and sign a copy of the Membership Twinning Programme Planning Agreement document <<https://goo.gl/H97bg8>>.

The Planning Agreement document will be used throughout the period of work and to conclude the partnership at the end of any programme of work.

IHEU may publicize the twinning arrangement to other Members and the broader public as appropriate.