



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
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Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

The Director-General

To the Permanent Delegations
of the Parties to the 2005 Convention

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Sir/Madam,

It is my pleasure to provide you with information on the current situation of the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD). Established by the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, the principal objectives of the Fund are to invest in creativity and transform societies.

The IFCD demonstrates how investing in creativity sparks lasting change in societies by focusing on developing policies and strategies, capacity-building, supporting cultural entrepreneurs and promoting market access. As of 28 February 2013, the IFCD had received a total of USD 5,822,898.97 from 41 Parties to the Convention, one State not Party to the Convention and individual donations. The complete list of contributions is available on the 2005 Convention website (www.unesco.org/culture/en/diversity/convention). I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to those Parties that have made voluntary contributions to the Fund.

Thanks to this invaluable support, the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, held in December 2012, approved 13 projects that will be funded and implemented in 2013. This session also called upon UNESCO to launch a fourth call for projects in 2013 (Decision 6.IGC 5). To date, the IFCD has invested in 61 projects in 40 developing countries, totaling USD 3.9 million. I am pleased to share with you herewith a brochure presenting the results of some of the key projects.

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As you may know, by ratifying the Convention, 126 Parties have expressed their support for the IFCD and its mission, and have made the commitment to provide regular voluntary contributions equivalent to at least 1% of their total contribution to UNESCO. Creativity and the production of a diversity of cultural expressions are sources of employment, revenue and innovation. This fact is supported by the IFCD projects. We must, therefore, pursue and intensify our efforts to maintain and increase this momentum.

With this in mind, I should like to reiterate my appeal to all Parties to support the IFCD, by providing an annual voluntary contribution to sustain projects in developing countries.

Thanking you in advance for supporting UNESCO's efforts to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions through the IFCD, I ask that you accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Irina Bokova

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cc National Commissions for UNESCO and National Points of Contact of the Parties to the 2005 Convention