





Media Information 19 February 2024

Start of applications for the Intercultural Innovation Hub 2024.

Connecting, empowering, and elevating global grassroots organizations.

- The Intercultural Innovation Hub (IIH) of UNAOC and the BMW Group, with the support of Accenture, connects people and cultures, empowers grassroots organizations and elevates intercultural innovation.
- Innovative projects championing diversity, integration and social inclusion will be selected to scale up their impact and achieve sustainable growth.
- Participants of the Hub will benefit from a financial grant of up to USD 20,000 in addition to a comprehensive capacity-building programme, international workshops, customized support and mentorship, as well as membership to an exclusive global platform.
- Deadline is: 25 March 2024 at https://www.interculturalinnovation.org/

Munich/New York. Every day, at the forefront of addressing intercultural challenges through social innovations, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the BMW Group, with the support of Accenture, are pleased to announce the 2024 cycle of the Intercultural Innovation Hub.

Through the Intercultural Innovation Hub (IIH), we continue to connect people and cultures, empower grassroots organizations, as well as elevate and scale up innovative approaches that contribute to inclusive societies.

To this end, we invite grassroots organizations that promote intercultural dialogue and understanding as well as social inclusion to apply. Selected organizations will benefit from a comprehensive support programme designed to expand the impact of their projects.

The Intercultural Innovation Hub will select up to 10 projects focused on addressing xenophobia and hate speech, preventing violent extremism; promoting gender equality; using sport, art and culture as tools to drive social change and foster social inclusion; and building inclusive and cohesive societies.

Selected recipients will receive:

Financial support for sustainable growth: Each finalist will receive up to USD 20,000 to scale up the sustainability of their project and accelerate the impact of their work.

Year-long capacity-building programme: Selected recipients also will benefit from a year-long series of capacity-building workshops, focused support, and

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customized mentoring provided by UNAOC and the BMW Group, with the support of Accenture.

Access and membership to a global leadership platform: Recipients will have an opportunity to extend their spheres of influence, collaborate with other changemakers, and take part in regional and international events by becoming part of a global leadership network.

To apply, please read the <u>eligibility criteria</u> and complete your application no later than 5 p.m. (EDT) on 25 March 2024 at http://www.interculturalinnovation.org/application-process

If you have any questions, please contact:

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United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)

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The BMW Group

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. The BMW Group production network comprises over 30 production sites worldwide; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2022, the BMW Group sold nearly 2.4 million passenger vehicles and more than 202,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2021 was \in 16.1 billion on revenues amounting to \in 111.2 billion. As of 31 December 2021, the BMW Group had a workforce of 118,909 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company set the course for the future at an early stage and consistently makes sustainability and efficient resource management central to its strategic direction, from the supply chain through production to the end of the use phase of all products.





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United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) is a United Nations entity that builds bridges between societies, promotes dialogue and understanding, and seeks to forge the collective political will required to accomplish these tasks. UNAOC works as a convener and facilitator to bring all sectors of society together to strengthen intercultural and interreligious dialogue to diminish hostility, and promote mutual respect and harmony among the people and cultures of the world.

A special initiative of the Secretary-General, UNAOC was established in 2005, at the initiative of the Governments of Spain and Turkey, under the auspices of the United Nations. In January 2019, H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos assumed the position of Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for UNAOC, succeeding H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, who succeeded H.E. Mr. Jorge Sampaio.

UNAOC's activities are fashioned around the five pillars of Education, Youth, Migration, Media, and Women as peace mediators in identity-based settings.

UNAOC maintains a global network of partners, including states, international and regional organizations, civil society groups, foundations, and the private sector, to improve cross-cultural relations between diverse nations and communities.

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