

ALF Strategy and Development

New mission: Intercultural dialogue as a tool to further development

Presentations from Greek, Algerian, Bulgarian and Spanish networks on their respective views on different development needs facing each country.

Overview of the debates, discussions:

- There was an extensive discussion on what development work should focus on given the fact that development has a wide scope from environmental issues to economic issues to social issues.
- It was pointed out by Munir from Monocco that in order for our activities to have a meaningful impact and succeed in reaching the public at large, we must focus on concrete actions that tackle economic, social and environmental issues at once.
- It was emphasized that it is important to not think about ALF's added value as a foundation for intercultural dialogue and use intercultural dialogue as an essential tool in development projects.
- Overview of specific ideas:
- Calls for proposals in the field of economic, social, and environmental development with an intercultural approach.
- Cross-network initiatives in the field of development.
- Sustainable tourism to promote development for the local population. Put forth by Esther from France, this idea to utilize tourism in order to enable genuine culture exchange across different regions was received with enthusiasm in our group. The idea is to promote cultural tourism (the intercultural dimension) in a manner that will create jobs for the local population (the developmental dimension).
- Proposal from Turkey: to publish an electronic journal focusing on civil society, democracy and the aims of ALF. Articles from ALF members and academics could be published as well as providing multimedia training materials. This could lead to a virtual ALF academy.
- Corporate social responsibility and environment: It was proposed that ALF activities could be made more ecological by requiring an environment audit.