

## International Day of Education: Statement by the IFS Helsinki Office

Helsinki, 23 January 2023

Ahead of the International Day of Education on 24 January, the IFS Communication Manager Junias Kanyinda made the following statement:

*“As we celebrate the International Day of Education, I want to reflect on the importance of Education in our communities and the world. Education is the foundation of personal and societal growth, empowers individuals to reach their full potential, and is the key to unlocking the world, a passport to freedom.*

*We in the IFS understand that investing in Education and people is investing in the future, and we are proud to be part of a community that values Education and lifelong learning.*

*The IFS represents thousands of local organizations active in providing different forms of Education and practical skills in their communities worldwide. The IFS Office often collaborates with educational institutions and serves as a platform for students to get hands-on experience in various fields. The ongoing strategic European program run by the IFS network and funded by Erasmus + of the European Union enhances cooperation between IFS members around innovative practices in adult non-formal Education. It influences institutions on active citizenship, migrant integration, and social inclusion and is also one way to show the involvement of the IFS in diversified Education and learning.*

*Education provides equal opportunities and a level playing field for everyone's progress and development. It is an essential tool for motivating individuals to fulfil their potential and contribute to the betterment of society. Education is necessary for people to avoid falling into poverty and be able to make informed decisions. Education is one of the major solutions to inequality and poverty, and it matters to everyone.*

*On this International Day of Education, let us all take a moment to appreciate the power of Education and reaffirm our commitment to advocating for easy access to Education and the best opportunities for different kinds of Education in our communities.*

*Let us work together to ensure that Education is accessible to all and makes a difference in the world.”*

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