



AUGUST 2025, NUMBER 1

WSA CONNECT

Newsletter from the World Subud Association



WSC Meeting, Fátima Portugal July 2025

The Subud World Council in Fátima: a wonderful experience of teamwork and worship

Written by Amanda Rivera, communications coordinator WSA

Gratitude is the word that has accompanied me since I left the SDivine Hotel on July 30 in Fátima, Portugal, after ten intense days of kejiwaan work, meetings, and presentations. The harmonious integration of the affiliates, wings, and MSF gave the council's proceedings a uniquely special quality. There was a shared sense that everyone could contribute to the future and growth of Subud.

Hosted at the beautiful SDivine Hotel, surrounded by olive fields and with the distant sound of ringing bells, the first in-person WSC of this term was held, chaired by WSA Chair, Rifka Several; ISC Chair, Arifin Konrad; and the incomparable host, Hamid Da Silva, to whom we extend our special thanks for ensuring that each participant enjoyed the best possible stay. Read the full report: <https://shorturl.at/VISt5>

IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU CAN EXPECT:

- The Subud world council in Fátima: a wonderful experience of teamwork and worship
- Safeguarding
- Consensus in Subud
- Mental illness, crises and latihan
- Archives
- Planes, trains and automobiles
- Together in Lisbon
- Harmony and hope: a look inside the Subud zone 4 gathering
- Subud Venezuela – special update
- MSF: 2026 grant process, two new application cycles
- SIHA: looking forward to 4 upcoming zoom-events
- Meet the new ISC admin staff

TRENDING TOPICS

Safeguarding discussion points during the Council in Fatima

Strengthening Safeguarding: Procedures and Response

Our recent safeguarding discussion emphasized the importance of having clear reporting procedures. Each group and country has different response capacities, making it essential to document reports.

When it comes to responding to reports, there is a clear need for more education, the involvement of trained professionals, and well-defined guidelines for addressing illegal activities.

Achieving an effective resolution ultimately means stopping the harmful behavior. Members must feel that the process not only takes action but also ensures a safe environment for everyone.



Discussion groups during the safeguarding sessions in Fatima WSC.

What is consensus in Subud ?

At the 16th Subud World Congress 2024, members reaffirmed the importance of seeking consensus in decision-making, guided by the Latihan Kejiwaan. Consensus goes beyond voting — it is a process of listening, patience, and mutual respect, ensuring that all voices are heard and the group moves forward as one.

By working towards consensus, we build unity, shared responsibility, and lasting engagement. The challenge is to avoid pitfalls such as time pressure, personal agendas, or holding on to strong emotions. Instead, we are called to quiet listening, flexibility, and trust in God's guidance

If you are interested in reading more about consensus in Subud, please read the GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBUD ORGANISATION: <http://www.subud.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Consensus-in-Subud.pdf>

TRENDING TOPICS

Mental illness, Crises and Latihan

Working party report

Following the 16th Subud World Congress 2024, a new Subcommittee has been formed to support helpers assisting members facing mental health challenges or spiritual crises. The group will provide advice, conduct workshops, and develop resources in collaboration with international helpers.

We are seeking expressions of interest from:

- Helpers with mental health qualifications or experience in crises.
- Advisors or consultants with expertise in mental health, lived experience, training, translation, or communication.

If you can contribute, email matthew.moir@subud.org indicating your role of interest and including relevant experience.

WSA ARCHIVES

Taken from Subud World News

Daniela Moneta of the WSA Archives has put together another Finding Aid for those accessing the archives. This one focusses on Bapak's travels around the world.

In the document, Daniela asks: "Are there members who are still with us who can recall details that have not yet been collected? Are there recorded interviews, newsletter articles, photographs, stories about peoples' individual experiences with Bapak? As an example, Muchtar Aarom Martins tells of his memories of driving Bapak around Portugal in 1970 on Bapak's first and only visit to that country." If you have memories of Bapak that you have yet to share with the Archives, please contact Daniela at admin@wsaarchives.org.

For access to the WSA Archives website, send a request email to: admin@wsaarchives.org.



*Bapak and party at The Hague, September 1957, during Bapak's First World Journey.
Photo donated by Leonard Tjalsma.*

SUBUD LIFE

The IH Area 1 inform:

Planes, Trains and Automobiles

Indonesia has over 2,100+ active members, including more than 450+ helpers. With such a large membership, National Helpers are spread out over six regions. Each region has three types of groups: cabang, the largest; ranting - small groups ; and kelompok- sub-groups.

Our busy seven-city, 17-day journey began in Rungan Sari, Kalimantan, where we met together as a dewan and did Latihan and testing with helpers and members.

We then flew to East Java and met with groups in Mojokerto and Surabaya, followed by train trips in Central Java, where we visited groups in Semarang and Purwokerto. On day 11 we took a car trip and train to West Java, to meet helpers and members in the city of Bandung.

Three days later we boarded the new high-speed train, and in less than 50 minutes, we were in Jakarta for the culmination of our journey – Bapak's birthday celebration in Wisma Subud.

Continue reading: <https://www.subud.org/the-ih-area-1-inform/>



IH Area 1 (front) M. Mustafa Syafrudin (L-R) Rusdi Bustillo, Suzanna Dayne, Hermina Flynn, Elisabeth Medina, Sudarmadji H. Sumohadiwidjojo arrive in Jakarta on the "Whoosh" hi-speed train.



With women helpers from Semarang and surrounding sub-groups at Bapak's home.

"The IH visit encouraged the helpers to be more courageous and confident in carrying out testing, and the members felt happier and closer. The Subud Brotherhood unites us all. Thank you, Bapak and Ibu Rahayu, and thank God Almighty. Salute to IH Area 1!" said Ibu Kustinah, KC for Indonesia.

The IH Area 2 inform:

Together in Lisbon

Subud Portugal invited the International Helpers of Area 2 to participate in a Kejiwaan event with the Lisbon group. Portugal is hosting the next World Congress in 2028 and is currently supporting the WSC meeting in Fatima, so developing a feeling of harmony was particularly important.

Our meeting started with all the helpers coming together. After Latihan, we continued discussing all kinds of topics and sharing our experiences. The following day, we met with around twenty members and did some wonderful testing that brought us all closer together. Sharing was an important part of our meeting and very touching.

Sunday, June 22nd, was Bapak's birthday. We began our celebration with Latihan and testing, and enjoyed a traditional Indonesian yellow "Rice Mountain" (Nasi Tumpeng) to honour Yang Mulia Bapak.

Continue reading: <https://www.subud.org/the-ih-area-2-inform/>

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Area 2 Ihs Lucia Boehm, Beata Thana Alexander, Isti da Silva, and Anwar Ziesel



The beautiful Nasi Tumpeng (yellow rice mountain)

NEWS FROM THE ZONES



Delegates at Zone 4 Meeting 2025

Zone 4

Harmony and Hope: A Look Inside the Subud Zone 4 Gathering

This year's Subud Zone 4 gathering was more than just a delegates' meeting; it was a powerful reunion of a family.

Over three days, representatives from across the zone came together in person to tackle challenges, share insights, and reconnect on a deeply spiritual level. The atmosphere was filled with harmony and joy, proving that even in a world of online communication, there's nothing quite like gathering face-to-face.

Continue reading: <https://www.subud-zone4.org/2025/08/09/harmony-and-hope-a-look-inside-the-subud-zone-4-gathering/>

Zone 8

Subud Venezuela – Special Update Visit of the Area 3 International Helpers & National Congress Caracas, June 27–29, 2025

After more than 10 years, Venezuela had the joy of welcoming the international helpers from Area 3: Helena Gruner (Argentina), Kohar Parra (Colombia), and Manuel Potes (Colombia). Their visit brought unity, renewed energy, and valuable guidance for our spiritual and collective practice. Thanks to the generosity of Subud members from Zone 8 and around the world — from the Americas, Asia, and Europe — the trip was made possible, arriving at just the right moment to



Venezuela Subud members and International Helpers from Area 3

support the renewal of Subud in Venezuela. Thank you from the heart! 🧡

During the visit, the National Congress was held, electing Sandra Diez Parra (Caracas Group) as President of the National Committee for 2025–2027. In kejiwaan matters, Elena Godoy tested positive to begin her preparation to serve as a helper in Caracas.

Continue reading: <https://shorturl.at/GGuDu>



Varindra Vitachi, former UN officer, WSA chair in the initial days of Subud, and founder of MSF.

Photo courtesy: Simon Cherpitel

MUHAMMAD SUBUH FOUNDATION

2026 grant process: two new application cycles

On its effort to enable more Subud groups to apply for a grant, MSF will offer two grant cycles beginning in January 2026.

The decision of opening a new grant cycle was taken after reviewing the current grant process, which is on track since 2019.

After six years of experience, it was clear that timelines were not so favorable for some groups. Weather conditions, contractors, and construction permits timing were some of the aspects considered. MSF expects to receive more applications in 2026 with this new cycle and encourages more Subud groups to apply for a grant.

Continue reading: <https://tinyurl.com/ywukafus>

SUBUD INTERNATIONAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION (SIHA)

Looking forward to 4 upcoming Zoom-Events

1. Presentation on "Nutrition & Stress Resilience"

- 31th August at 7pm CET
- by Latidjah Miller and Laura Nasser
- Zoom-Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86725395969?pwd=0bpnecRnoo2OaKxHDqxQpuRahAygLQ.1>
- Meeting-ID: 867 2539 5969
- Passcode: 692430

2. Short Intro followed by kejiwaan on "Guidance in Nutrition"

- 14th September at 7pm CET
- Short Intro followed by Kejiwaan on "Guidance in Nutrition"
- Zoom-Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81980463939?pwd=WmTluCaa3l3dlnqKaqCilIqPwCjFG3.1>
- Meeting-ID: 819 8046 3939
- Passcode: 520925

3. Short Intro followed by kejiwaan on "Exhaustion & Fatigue"

- 21st September 2025 at 7pm CET
- Zoom-Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84337248001?pwd=95NRxmdZbOdhbW3Jdvk5YHrJVil6Zm.1>
- Meeting-ID: 843 3724 8001
- Passcode: 097591

4. Workshop on "EFT tapping & Anxiety"

- 12th October 2025 at 8pm CET by Freya Harvey
- Zoom-Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88149649070?pwd=74IPEdCsNbnvRcqS3kymL7vKNTHOb9.1>
- Meeting-ID: 881 4964 9070
- Passcode: 459736

MEET THE NEW ISC ADMIN STAFF



Yosef Leuthold

WSA Administrator

Switzerland

Yosef is a senior consultant advising corporations on environmental stewardship, specializing on Climate Change. He's an experienced project and account manager, currently working in the private sector.

He was raised in Subud in Switzerland and opened in 2006, married and a father of 4 young children.



Amanda Rivera

WSA Communications coordinator

Colombia

Amanda is a communications professional with experience in international organizations. She has worked with business associations as well as in the education sector, managing communications and stakeholder relations. She was born in a Subud family and was opened in 2004. She has a lovely family in Subud.

Deadline for next content submission

Please send your news and newsletters or any comments to amanda.rivera@subud.org before September 26, 2025.

Upcoming Subud events please go to Subudworldnews.com, events page
Thank you for sharing.

Guidelines on using Subud symbol & quoting Bapak's and Ibu's talks

Check the WSA guidelines on using Subud symbol and quoting Bapak and Ibu's talks. The Subud symbol is exclusive property of the World Subud Association.
GUIDELINES: <https://www.subud.org/symbol-quoting-guidelines/>