

Letter of Motivation

In times when the sense of togetherness and belonging is affected by local wars, global migration, financial uncertainty, social polarisation and political populism, CILECT's goal to be an oasis of intercultural understanding and a bridge for the world's integration becomes even more solid. CILECT's strategy for its members and society in general has always been based on the principles of *equity, diversity and inclusion* and strives to achieve 1) *engagement* (of institutional members); 2) *capacitation* (of academic/non-academic staff and students) and 3) *participation* (transversal across all activities).

CILECT priorities could be summarized in the following four directions:

- 1. Networking & Sharing Methodologies/Good Practices.** *CILECT supports and promotes activities that facilitate networking, collaboration and interaction opportunities for its members through its Teachers' Forums (conferences, workshops, seminars, symposia, etc.,) i.e. events that are held at CILECT Full Member schools and that provide new knowledge and/or practical experience of pedagogical/research methodologies and/or tools for **teachers**; and its Committees:*

 - SCEDI (Standing Committee on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion);
 - SCS (Standing Committee on Sustainability);
 - DTSC (Developing Technologies' Standing Committee).

- 2. Capability & Quality Recognition/Showcasing.** *CILECT supports and promotes activities that enhance and recognize/showcase the capacitation of its member schools through a mixture of preserving best traditions and creating new practices such as The CILECT PRIZE (the biggest collection of premium student films online – currently 3,600+ films, many of which awarded internationally); The CILECT Teaching Award (for Promising Young Teacher and Lifetime Educational Achievement); PILOTS (a program which supports projects that introduce new methods of teaching/learning as well as interdisciplinary approaches to curriculum; or projects that help members to enhance their standards of teaching by program/institutional assessment or consultancy on the processes of self-evaluation); and The Vision & Innovation Grants (VIGs) awarded to teachers working on innovative pedagogical/scientific projects.*
- 3. Knowledge & Information Database Development.** *CILECT supports and promotes activities that contribute to knowledge generation, research fostering and information sharing in the broader domains of audio-visual arts and media through its website (currently transposing all uploaded research materials as Open Access); The 21st Century Film, TV & Media School Books' Project; etc.*
- 4. Advocacy.** *CILECT supports and promotes dedicated advocacy formations dealing with relevant issues/topics not covered by other internal structures through its Laboratories (The Ethics Lab; The Lab on Artistic Research and others); The Observatory (an R&D structure that intends to collect, review, produce and disseminate guidelines and reference terms on matters not covered by other internal bodies); etc. A major element in the advocacy policy of CILECT is the recruitment of new members from non-represented and under-represented countries.*

Based on all of the above CILECT believes it could contribute to the work of UNESCO and create mutually beneficial relations. And I, personally, would be glad to dedicate efforts for the success of this goal.

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