

## Youth Visions & Actions for Tomorrow's Societies: Ideas become reality

Whether they are out in the streets or working behind closed doors, young people are active through political and cultural means and contributing to change locally, regionally and internationally. They are united by a common desire to get involved and fight to create a better future for their communities, countries and the world at large.

The Cultural Innovators Network (CIN) is part of this movement. It counts more than 100 members, whose ideas and initiatives bring a variety of approaches to creating change. In 2013, these ideas became reality through 20 interdisciplinary, inter-sectoral and inter-regional projects that were developed and selected by the members themselves in a democratic process, at the 1<sup>st</sup> CIN Forum in Istanbul in December 2012. They have taken shape and action on a high international level with a small start-up budget, a crowd-funding process and successful bids for further funds back by the already strong reputation of the CIN brand. All this was initiated and supported by the strong relations and infrastructure of the Goethe Institut.



On the CIN website

(<http://www.goethe.de/ins/eg/prj/cin/enindex.htm>) and Facebook site (<https://www.facebook.com/culturalinnovators>), the projects, ideas and movements in the countries around the Mediterranean

and Germany, which are already underway, are showcased. With 20 cross-over projects (with international teams from Turkey to Morocco, from Sweden to Sudan) from arts and culture, media, Politics, education, Human Rights, Online Platforms, Economy and Entrepreneurship), CIN people offer solutions, encourage alternatives and advocate for positive change in times of political and economic crises. These actions epitomize the spirit of the Cultural Innovators Network.

At the 2<sup>nd</sup> CIN Forum in Tunisia (Nov 2013) the foundations for a fully independent and sustainable community and network were laid with the fully democratic voting for a members-led constitution, conception of an independent association status and project generation-lab – all member and youth lead, expertly facilitated by the elected CIN Committee. 2014 and beyond roll on! CIN is ready and pro-active, let actions speak.

