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Circular 22/2011

DEADLINE - 2 DECEMBER 2011

14 November 2011

Survey on the use of external funding by National Scout Associations in Europe

Dear Friends,

In the recent years the Region has been increasingly trying to promote the use of and the accessibility to external funding for Scouting in Europe. Several efforts have been done to inform NSOs/NSAs about European funding opportunities, such as the <u>Youth in Action programme</u> of the European Commission and the <u>European Youth Foundation</u> of the Council of Europe, and good results have been achieved in terms of support to regional and national events and projects.

In this frame I'm now glad to introduce to you a Survey on the use of external funding by NSAs that has been prepared by the European Regional Office in cooperation with a group of students for the Master in "European projects management" of the University of Cergy-Pontoise. As part of their curriculum, the students are asked to work on a practical assignment in collaboration with an external organisation and the European Regional Office was requested to identify a specific topic and support them in accomplishing their task. The survey you can find at the link indicated later on this page. It's in fact the first result of this collaboration and it aims to collect data and analyse the access and use of external funding of NSAs.

In particular, thanks to the research work of the students, the European Regional Office aims to identify trends and challenges in the accessibility of external funding in order to provide better support to the NSAs and exploit the results of the survey as an advocacy tool that could be used with the relevant stakeholders. It is very important to collect a high number of contributions and data from NSAs in order to obtain a research that corresponds to the reality of the vast number of youth associations in Europe.

Therefore I warmly invite you to fill in the online survey by 2 December 2011.

To open and fill in the survey please click on the link below:

www.soscisurvey.de/scouts

The password is: scouts

The students will take care of collecting and analysing the data to produce a written report that will serve both internally for them to accomplish their Master's assignment and externally, by being published and circulated to NSOs/NSAs and external partners by the European Regional Office. I would like to emphasise that in the results of the survey no direct mention of the names of NSAs will be made and all the data collected will be treated as confidential. In any case it not asked to explicitly provide figures related to income and amounts of money.

If you, as International Commissioner, are not aware of the information requested in the survey please share this circular with the responsible person in your association for funding/fundraising/finance and ask her/him to fill it in. In order to obtain results that are close to reality it is very important that the person with the proper knowledge in this area is providing the information.

You might be directly contacted by the students via email or telephone and I'd like to inform you that Nicolò from the Brussels Office will be in regular contact with them and you can always get in touch with him in case you require clarifications at npranzini@scout.org or by phone at +32 2 538 73 61.

Many thanks in advance for your contribution with this important matter that will help the European Regional Office to be better support your NSO/NSA.

Yours sincerely

David McKee

Regional Director