

Report to the European Scout Committee

External Relations and Funding

1. Introduction

This report deals with 'Strategic Objective 8 – External Relations and Funding as outlined in the Regional Scout Plan 2010-2013. It should be read in conjunction with the Regional Scout Plan 2010-2013, which can be accessed at www.scout.org/europe

2. Progress in implementing Objectives, Actions and achieving KPIs

Since the last meeting of the European Scout Committee

- **AC 8.1.1 – IN PROGRESS**

Encourage NSOs/NSAs to participate in the creation and development of National Youth Councils

Progress:

- Active support to the Serbian Scout Association in the establishment of the NYC in Serbia (KOMS). KOMS is in the process of being a member of YFJ
- Bulgaria National Youth Council is in the process of becoming a member of YFJ. The region supported, informally, some years back, the Scouts to be part of the platform. One Scout is in the board of this platform.

- **AC 8.1.2 & 8.1.3 – IN PROGRESS**

*Ensure networking between NSOs/NSAs in the area of External Relations and Funding, including support for network meetings
Strengthen the existing network of Scouts in relevant positions and ensure the monitoring of issues and trends that could affect NSOs/NSAs*

Progress:

- Successful next NYCs reps meeting (16-18 December)

- **AC 8.1.4 – IN PROGRESS**

Act as a conduit for the introduction of issues of concern to actors including wider civil society, government, institutions, formal education and the private sector

Progress:

- YFJ - Following and contributing to:
 - The definition of the next 6 years priorities of the platform
 - Youth rights debate
 - Volunteering : EYV and European Charter of the rights of the volunteers
 - Youth in Action: WOSM is represented by a volunteer in an expert group looking at our contribution for the next Youth in Action programme. We also coordinate the exchange of activities and actions of INGYOs inside YFJ
 - Contribution to diverse policy papers
- Alliance – see other sections
- ICMYO: following the hiring of a staff at the central office, WOSM Europe redrew at the end of February 2012 from the process
- Continued to follow the policy issues that affect or are of interest to our work on development/ the Africa Region, attending and contribute to various meetings, panel discussions etc.

- **AC 8.2.1 – IN PROGRESS**

Cooperate with the European Parliament, European Commission, Economic and Social Committee on relevant topics and hold meetings with Scout representatives

Progress:

- European Parliament: Alix Masson, for WOSM, was invited to speak about EYV2011 at the Hearing on Youth and Volunteering organised on February 9 at the EP by the EPP group, under the leadership of MEP Marco Scurria. The Hearing was attended by over 150 people

- Planned working lunch with two EESC Members to further the work with WOSM (Pavel Trantina and Kryztof Pater)
- In the planning of a hearing or round table at the EP in June (about euro Africa cooperation and youth in action)
- See other sections

• **AC 8.2.2 – IN PROGRESS**

Encourage and convene annual meetings of the 'Big 6' youth organisations in Europe to discuss issues of common interest

Progress:

- The format and the content of such a meeting is still under discussion

• **AC 8.2.3 – IN PROGRESS**

With NSOs/NSAs, review and develop policy positions on issues relevant to the needs of young people including employment, mobility and human rights

Progress:

- The CG has started to develop the one about volunteering (in cooperation with the volunteering working group) and will move on with the one on employment

• **AC 8.2.4 – IN PROGRESS**

Develop contact with external organisations having consultative status with WOSM, including but not limited to ISGF and WSPU, and share outcomes with NSOs/NSAs

Progress:

- The next core group meeting will look into a closer cooperation with WSPU

• **AC 8.3.1 – IN PROGRESS**

Lobby with and on behalf of NSOs/NSAs for the necessary legislation through other platforms, including the European Chapter on the Rights of Volunteers sector

Progress:

- Contributing to the ongoing process with the European year of Volunteering Alliance, especially through the policy development taking place in the 6 working groups of the Alliance
- Contributing to the European Youth Forum process regarding volunteering, especially regarding the European Charter on the rights of volunteers

• **AC 8.3.2 – IN PROGRESS**

Promote the value of volunteering and participate in consultations on the promotion and validation of non-formal and informal learning

Progress:

- The work of the Region is mainly done through the very active role taken by Marcio Barcelos representing WOSM in the YFJ Working group on Education.

• **AC 8.2.3 – IN PROGRESS**

Support NSOs/NSAs in their efforts to develop their lobbying techniques and encourage them to promote the value of volunteering

Progress:

- Study Session, Europe Eurasia Balkans (February 2012):
 - Planning team: Alix Masson, Jordan Bajraktarov, Mariana Fragkou and Irina Pruidze
 - The prep meeting took place in December 2012
 - The study session took place in Budapest 2012 (19-25 February). 24 participants from Europe, Eurasia and the Balkans. It was a successful session with great outputs, with hopefully good follow up at the NSO/NSA level. We had two experts invited – David Gvineria, from UNICEF Georgia and Giuseppe Porcaro, from YFJ

• **FUNDING – IN PROGRESS**

- Youth in Action

- YiA European Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources in collaboration with NORS - submitted 01/11/11, rejected and resubmitted on 01/02/2012
 - YiA Training Commissioner Network meeting in collaboration with Hungarian NSO - submitted 01/09/11 - rejected
 - YiA Young Spoke person event - submitted 01/09/11 at European level, resubmitted at the national level (with FOS) on 01/02/2012
 - YiA Youth Support System in collaboration with Hungarian NSOs - submitted 01/09/11 - Accepted – Antal Piross started on 01/02/2012
 - YiA Admin Grant 2011 Final Report - Submitted in March
 - YiA Admin grant 2012: approved for 50 000 EUR
- Council of Europe – European Youth Foundation
 - EYF CAT A to support WOSM/WAGGGS participation at Roverway - submitted 01/10/11 – rejected
 - Admin grant submitted 01/02/2012 – waiting for results

3. Next steps in implementing Objectives, Actions and achieving KPIs

Until next meeting of the European Scout Committee

- **AC 8.1.1**
Encourage NSOs/NSAs to participate in the creation and development of National Youth Councils
Next Steps:
 - Monitoring the work of YFJ in this regards, in order to approach and offer support to NSOs. Countries identified so far: Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland
- **AC 8.1.2 & 8.1.3**
*Ensure networking between NSOs/NSAs in the area of External Relations and Funding, including support for network meetings
Strengthen the existing network of Scouts in relevant positions and ensure the monitoring of issues and trends that could affect NSOs/NSAs*
Next Steps:
 - Continue the mapping of Scouts and Guides in relevant positions
- **AC 8.1.4**
Act as a conduit for the introduction of issues of concern to actors including wider civil society, government, institutions, formal education and the private sector
Next steps:
 - CONCORD: send a circular to NSOs/NSAs to offer a stronger involvement in the work on CONCORD
 - Continued involvement with diverse platforms and institutions
- **AC 8.2.2**
Encourage and convene annual meetings of the 'Big 6' youth organisations in Europe to discuss issues of common interest
Next steps:
 - CG will plan and organise such a meeting in the coming months (looking at core issues for Scouting such as retention of volunteers, trends, etc...)
- **AC 8.2.3**
With NSOs/NSAs, review and develop policy positions on issues relevant to the needs of young people including employment, mobility and human rights
Next steps:
- **AC 8.2.4 –**
Develop contact with external organisations having consultative status with WOSM, including but not limited to ISGF and WSPU, and share outcomes with NSOs/NSAs

Next steps:

- contact will be made with the secretariat regarding supporting the content (upon their request) and to consider the possibility to open WSPU to MEPs

• **AC 8.2.3 –**

Support NSOs/NSAs in their efforts to develop their lobbying techniques and encourage them to promote the value of volunteering

Next steps:

- Preparation of a training kit on advocacy/external relations. It will be done in the framework of the grant for Antal Piross. We will apply for funding at the EYF.

4. Successes

Please list the key successes since the last meeting of the European Scout Committee

- Successful study session
- Good visibility at the European Parliament
- Election of WOSM/Sandu Coica at the Advisory Council.

5. Challenges

Please list the key challenges since the last meeting of the European Scout Committee

- External representatives management
- Volunteers are not always motivated/pro active in between meetings, especially regarding communication with the others

6. Issues for the consideration of the European Scout Committee

In brief, please list significant issues that you would like the European Scout Committee to consider

- The involvement of WOSM in the preparation of the European Year of Citizens in 2013.

On 11 August 2011, the European Commission proposed to designate 2013 as the "European Year of Citizens" to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the European Union Citizenship under the Maastricht Treaty in 1993. European civil society organisations and networks members of the EESC Liaison Group have created a civil society Alliance aiming to advocate on MEPs for a broader understanding of European citizenship within the proposal to designate 2013 the European year of Citizens. The Alliance benefits from the support of the European Economic and Social Committee and is aiming, in the long run, to mobilise and coordinate wide civil society engagement in the activities which will be scheduled during the European Year of Citizens 2013, to initiate a European-wide debate on issues relating to the exercise of European citizens rights and to citizens' participation in the democratic life of the EU. The Alliance is open to all civil society organisations sharing the same vision and willingness to promote a collective engagement for a common project and the emergence of a European public space.

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