

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:

- On going: KOMS is in the process of becoming a member of YFJ and compliance with the membership criteria. Planning the continuity of Scout representation in NYC. At the present moment one Scout is in the Board of the NYC and the Secretary General is also a Scout.
- On going: 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:

- Next NYCs reps meeting is scheduled (February 2013)
- Meeting of external representatives project team held in Brussels in April 2012

- **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 – adopted at the spring Council of Members' Meeting
 - Youth rights debate – awaiting the publication of the study carried out by YFJ
 - 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. As a result of this coordination, an open letter explaining the necessity of admin grant in the next cycle of the multiannual financial framework was sent to all partners. WOSM role in the process has been highly praised by partners.
 - Contribution to policy papers on UN and Global Youth Work Development, Structured Dialogue and New Media and Internet Governance.
- Alliance – see other sections
- 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 the autumn (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:

- At the YFJ COMEM the meeting of 5 of the Big 6 organisations took place. The necessity of the meeting following the first seminar in 2009 was discussed. Our partners are expecting WOSM to take over the leadership role in the organization. However, the format and the content of such meeting are still under discussion. A viable option proposed by the Core Group is opening one of the Regional events to the representatives of Big 6.

• **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:

- After the adoption of the PP on Volunteering, the CG has started to develop the policy position on employment and human rights.

• **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:

- At the moment the themes of common interest are being identified for cooperation.

• **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 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.
- 28.10-31.10.2012 YFJ is organizing an NFE week with a focus on Employability. WOSM participation is highly important.

• **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:

- Development of a toolkit for external representation and training for it
- Application to EYF to fund the toolkit is submitted

- **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. Approved for 19508 EUR
 - YiA Young Spoke person event - submitted 01/09/11 at European level, resubmitted at the national level (with FOS) on 01/02/2012. Approved for 13 235 EUR
 - YiA Admin Grant 2011 Final Report – delay in the approval
 - YiA Academy 2012 – submitted at national level, with PBS – waiting for an answer
 - YiA Euro Africa project – submitted at European level – waiting for an answer
 - YiA NYC network meeting – submitted at the European level (on behalf of WAGGGS) – waiting for an answer
 - YiA Euro Arab Meeting 2013 – postponed application due to lack of PPAs from the Arab Region
- Council of Europe – European Youth Foundation
 - EYF CAT A – activity on social inclusion of minorities – waiting for an answer
 - Admin grant submitted 01/02/2012 – approved for 14400 EUR
 - EYF CAT B – training kit for external representatives – waiting for an answer
 - Study session – Peace Education – waiting for an answer
- DAPHNE – European Commission
 - Child Protection project – applied in April for 416 055 EUR – waiting for an answer
- Erik Frank Trust
 - Euro Arab Young Leaders Workshop – applied and approved for 15.000 EUR

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: FYROM, Montenegro, Poland
- Encouraging Scout representatives to take part in the annual meeting to identify the needs of NSOs in this field.

- **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:

- Organizing an external relations experts think tank (in conjunction with the Networking Meeting) - the focus of the meeting is on the renewed financial framework on youth, the future of the processes connected to the recognition of volunteering (legislation, recognition, etc), strategic planning for the future external agenda for Scouting in Europe
- Preparing a contribution to the Chief Executives' Meeting on the recognition of Scouting and funding of activities of Scouting.

- **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
- Development of a guideline for NSOs/NSAs on how to benefit from Structured Dialogue on Youth through involvement in European Presidencies

• **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:

- On going preparations

• **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 have applied for funding at the EYF.

4. Successes

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

- Good visibility at the European Parliament
- Adoption of YFJ Strategic Priorities
- Increased number of sources of funding identified and applied to
- WOSM work on the next EU programme for youth organisations

5. Challenges

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

- Core Group and External representatives Group management
- Motivation of volunteers to work enthusiastically in the field which has no immediate result and/or impact on society and Scouting
- To balance between the set agenda and the necessity to react to the changing realities which go beyond the agenda and require additional resources and responsibilities.

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

- See briefing note on YFJ next mandate
- Discussion around the next European platform on Volunteering