

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.
- On going: inform NSOs/NSAs in which NYCs are not established yet of networking opportunities for youth organisations. Last examples have been Hungary (they did not manage to send any participant) and Macedonia (they will participate).

- **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) and WOSM received funding from the Youth in Action programme to run it. Preparations are proceeding jointly with WAGGGS.
- Young SpokePersons training was organised in July 2012 and appeared to be a very successful event. It was funded by the Youth in Action programme in a project in partnership with FOS – Belgium.
- European Parliament simulation organised in the frame of Roverway with very positive feedbacks received. Similar activities will be most probably held in the future in other events, starting from the next Agora.
- The toolkit on External Relations is being currently being developed and tasks have been divided among Core Group members and External Representatives in order to complete the publication.

- **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; ensuring the continuation of European Youth Forum Work Plan 2012-2013 consultations and policy papers to be discussed at the forthcoming GA (November 2012)
 - Election of the YFJ Board: campaigning for Marcio Barcelos as WOSM representative in the board (joint circular with WAGGGS out to support candidatures)
 - Youth rights debate – awaiting the publication of the study carried out by YFJ
 - Volunteering and Alliance: following and working closely with the VWG Youth in Action / Erasmus for all: WOSM is represented by a volunteer in an expert group looking at our contribution for the next Youth in

Action programme. Advocacy process for the new programme is ongoing and WOSM external representatives and Brussels office are strongly involved with the European Youth Forum to ensure youth priorities and Scout priorities in the upcoming weeks and months. Many contributions have been sent and the Office ensures participation at every meeting organised on this topic. Very positive feedbacks from the partners on WOSM's role in this field.

- Development of new relations with new partners such as IPPF (International Planning Parenthood Federation) and PLAN International (one of the oldest and largest children's development organisations in the world).

- **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:

- Presented the EC proposal on the validation of Non Formal and Informal Learning http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/informal_en.htm

- **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:

- BIG 6 Representatives have been invited to attend the Academy 2012
- Shared with Working Group the Memorandum of Co-operation with the 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
- Working towards the finalisation of formalising the European Alliance for Volunteering.

- **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.
- Preparation for YFJ is organizing an NFE week with a focus on Employability. WOSM participation is highly important and will be ensured by Lorenzo Nava and a representative of Les Scouts.
- Exploring funding and support opportunities at EU level to ensure European-level actions and activities to ensure the recognition of volunteering and non formal learning.

- **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:

- Young spoke person training organised.
- European Parliament simulation held at Roverway
- Development of a toolkit for external representation and training for it

• **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. Closed by NORS.
 - 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. Final Report is due in November.
 - YiA Admin Grant 2011 Final Report – approved but with some challenges related to the delay in getting audited account and again on the timeframe for which WOSM receive the grant.
 - YiA Academy 2012 – submitted at national level, with PBS – approved
 - YiA Euro Africa project – submitted at European level – rejected. Checking interest of partners to continue process and identify new funding.
 - YiA NYC network meeting – submitted at the European level (on behalf of WAGGGS) – Approved
 - YiA Euro Arab Meeting 2013 – applied 01/09/2012. Waiting for an answer.
 - YiA North South Network Meeting applied 1st October at the Swiss National Agency. Waiting for an answer.
- Council of Europe – European Youth Foundation
 - EYF CAT A – activity on social inclusion of minorities – approved. In the hands of the ECWG to organise.
 - Admin grant submitted 01/02/2012 – approved for 14400 EUR
 - Study Session on Sexual Education applied by IPPF with WOSM Brussels Office support in the application, approved. End of April 2013.
 - EYF CAT B Rovernet Application. Just applied
 - EYF CAT A Academy. Just applied
- DAPHNE – European Commission
 - Child Protection project – applied April for 416 055 EUR – waiting answer
- Erik Frank Trust
 - Euro Arab Young Leaders Workshop – applied/approved for 15.000 EUR
- Europe for Citizens: Exploring opportunities for recognition of volunteering activities in 2013
- Life Long Learning : Exploring opportunities for recognition of non-formal education in 2013.

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. On hold at the moment.
 - 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. On the pipeline. The CG worked on it during the last meeting.
- **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 a self funding meeting (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 Currently on hold.
- **AC 8.3.3**
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. The training kit will be available on line

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 2012-2013 Work plan and Policy Papers. So far no plans
- Increased number of sources of funding identified and applied to
- WOSM work on the next EU programme for youth organisations
- WOSM Module on European Presidencies applied for and ready to be implemented
- Candidacy of Marcio Barcelos on behalf of WOSM for the Board of the European Youth Forum.
- Participation at the 9th conference of ministers responsible for youth of CoE
- Advocating for visibility of Scout Leader Skills SLS methodology implemented by Belgian Les Scouts in the framework of ROLIS

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