

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**

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

Progress:

- Participated actively in the GA of the European Youth Forum
- Developed contacts with other representatives
- Co-organised the Network meeting for Representatives with more than 60 participants
- Continued monitoring of the work of YFJ in this regards, in order to approach and offer support to NSOs. Countries identified so far: FYROM, 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

Progress:

- Organised the Network meeting in March in Austria
- Input on funding made at 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

Progress:

- 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 8.2.1**

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

Progress:

- Ongoing contacts, formal and informal including training opportunities (eg for the Daphne project)
- Scout representatives participated in the Network Meeting in Austria

- **AC 8.2.2**

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

Progress:

- Alternative approaches made to the Big 6 to participate in WOSM and Joint events due to reduced capacity in this area. Dialogue on one to one basis continues.

- **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

Progress:

- 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
Progress:
 - Contact established with WBSB and promotional material circulated
 - Contact with ICCS regarding their centenary and participation in their centenary event
 - Contact with the International Forum of Jewish Scouts with view to further interaction.

- **AC 8.3.1**
Lobby with and on behalf of NSOs/NSAs for the necessary legislation through other platforms, including the European Chapter on the Rights of Volunteers
Progress:
 - Continued lobbying as part of the wider Youth constituency and separately on the next European Youth programme and other issues concerning volunteering

- **AC 8.3.2**
Promote the value of volunteering and participate in consultations on the promotion and validation of non-formal and informal learning
Progress:
 - Ongoing linking with the emergent European Alliance on Volunteering and observing the outputs of the ROLIS project.

- **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 and is still in production.

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:
 - Follow-up on specific countries – FYROM and Serbia as priorities

- **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:
 - Follow-up on possible representatives
 - Continue to provide briefing and motivation

- **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:
 - 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. Aim to conclude this.

- **AC 8.2.1**
Cooperate with the European Parliament, European Commission, Economic and Social Committee on relevant topics and hold meetings with Scout representatives
Next steps:
 - Ongoing contacts, formal and informal including training opportunities
 - Maintain and grow contacts with Scout representatives

- **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:
 - Continue dialogue with the Big 6 across all areas of work, especially including programme

- **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 work

- **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:
 - Continue dialogue
 - Explore more actions to support these organisations to support the Region

- **AC 8.3.1**
Lobby with and on behalf of NSOs/NSAs for the necessary legislation through other platforms, including the European Chapter on the Rights of Volunteers
Next steps:
 - Continued lobbying as part of the wider Youth constituency and separately on the next European Youth programme and other issues concerning volunteering

- **AC 8.3.2**
Promote the value of volunteering and participate in consultations on the promotion and validation of non-formal and informal learning
Next steps:
 - Ongoing linking with the emergent European Alliance on Volunteering and observing the outputs of the ROLIS project and other recognition issues

- **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 and is still in production.

4. Successes

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

- Successful election of Marcio Barcelos to the board of the YFJ
- Increased number of sources of funding identified and applied to
- WOSM work on the next EU programme for youth organisations
- Very successful Networking Meeting of Scout Representatives
- Confirmation of the Safe from Harm project
- Successful recruitment of a new Director of External Relations and Funding – Letizia Gambini

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.
- Staffing issues caused by the vacancy

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

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