

World Scout Bureau - European Regional Office Bureau Régional Européen - Mondial du Scoutisme

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17 December 2013

To:

International Commissioners and other principal contacts of National Scout Organisations in the European Region

Circular 22/2013

Invitation

Partnerships Event 2014 13-16 March 2014 in Helsinki, Finland

The Guides and Scouts of Finland and the European Region of WOSM, on behalf of The Partnerships Network and in cooperation with their troika, are pleased to invite you and your partner organisations to the Partnerships Event, which will be held from 13-16 March 2014 in Helsinki, Finland.

What?

This meeting is organised by The Partnerships Network (formerly the North-South Network), a coalition of Scout and Guide Organisations, which aims at fostering, strengthening and developing new partnerships between associations in Europe and associations from other regions of the world. The overall idea of the network is to share and create information about on-going partnerships, as well as to provide a platform for the exchange of experiences and knowledge. A continuous reflection on the relevance of partnerships, as well as the promotion of inter-cultural understanding and mutual respect are central elements of the Partnership Network.

At this particular Partnership Event, the objectives will be:

 Improving the quality of the existing partnerships by better addressing the needs of both or all partners, and measuring their impact;

- Creating new partnerships with Scout and Guide organisations from other regions, and especially with the Eurasia Region:
- Promoting exchanges of experiences, information, tools, best practices and success stories;
- Deciding on the future development of the Unguvu project and encouraging the creation of other multilateral partnerships.

Who?

The target group of the Partnerships Event are Organisations/Associations who are and Member Organisations from WOSM and WAGGGS, particularly from Europe, that are interested in the topic.

Your delegation ideally contains persons who are already engaged in partnership activities or are motivated to create new projects, as well as persons in strategic positions, such as international commissioners. As one of the objectives of the event is to create new bilateral

or multilateral partnerships, it is expected that each organisation will send participants that can engage and commit their organisation. This is particularly required for the Unguvu session where the future development of the project should be decided.

With whom?

We would like to invite your partner organisations and strongly encourage you to support and facilitate their participation in the event. In order to have a holistic view on the topic, and also to share visions and ideas of your partners abroad, the presence of your partner organisations is crucial to the success of the event. NSOs/NSAs from the Eurasia Region will be invited by the European Region of WOSM.

Planning Team

The Planning Team is composed of members of Guides and Scouts of Finland, and of volunteers of the European Region of WOSM coming from Scouts et Guides de France, from the Scout Association of Croatia and from Danske Baptisers Spejderkorps. Two staff members from Guides and Scouts of Finland and from the European Regional Office of WOSM are supporting these volunteers.

When?

The event officially starts on Thursday 13 March 2014 at 17.00 hours with the session of introduction for new comers and ends on Sunday 17 March 2014 at around 14.00 hours.

Where?

The event will be held at the headquarters of the Guides and Scouts of Finland headquarters in Helsinki (Töölönkatu 55, 00250 Helsinki). The participants will be accommodated in a Youth Hostel near the venue in dormitory facilities. There are possibilities to be accommodated in double or single bedrooms for an extra fee. The prices will be communicated upon request. Please contact the hosting team at partnerships@scout.fi if you wish to have specific accommodation.

More information will be provided directly to all the participants when their registration is confirmed.

Participation fee

The participation fee for the event is EUR 200. This fee does not include travel cost to reach the venue. You will be provided with the necessary information on how to make the payment prior to the event. We will also count on your appreciated financial support to your partner associations.

Languages

The working language of the Partnerships Event 2014 is English. However, we encourage participants to help each other with translation.

Insurance

The Guides and Scouts of Finland and the European Region of WOSM do not cover the participants, neither during the event, nor during the travel to or from the venue. Please note that it is the exclusive responsibility of the participant's national association to check and be sure that the participants are covered by insurance (illness, accidents, repatriation etc...)

Inscription

Please register online for the meeting before **26 January 2014**.

You can register using the link at this page:

europak-online.net/event/partnerships2014

Visa procedure

Requests for invitation letters for visa applications have to be completed on the online registration. Please send an email to partnerships@scout.fi for any further information concerning the procedure to get a Visa.

Contact

If you have any questions regarding the Partnerships Event, please do not hesitate to contact the organising team: Marguerite Potard (mpotard@scout.org) or partnerships@scout.fi.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Helsinki and will get back to you soon with more information regarding the Partnerships Event.

Yours in Scouting and Guiding,

The Planning Team of the Partnerships Event 2014