



Areas of Work

The WSB-ERO goes green

After many months of work the World Scout Bureau – European Regional Office (WSB-ERO) has adopted an environmental action plan. Just as the tag line of WOSM is “creating a better world”, so we must ensure not to cause any unnecessary harm. The WSB-ERO will now seek to do these two things through our work and through our actions.



The office and the staff have committed to a number of personal and collective actions. If you would like to know more, the action plan is available at this link:

http://scout.org/en/media/files/europe/wsb_ero_environment_action

Educational Methods



RoverWay 2009 Jambassador meeting

29 May – 2 June 2008 at Ulfjotsvatn Scout Centre in Iceland

Every 3 years Rovers from all over Europe are offered the unique opportunity to attend RoverWay. The Icelandic Boy and Girl Scout Association ‘Bandalag islenskra skata’ will present the next RoverWay from 20-28 July 2009.

Recently the RoverWay Jambassadors met in Iceland. As official representatives of RoverWay 2009 in their own National Scout Association, they had the opportunity to:

- Get all the information on RoverWay2009
- Discuss different issues of interest
- Get to know the RoverWay organising team
- ‘Scout out’ the Ulfjotsvatn Scout Centre where the second part of RoverWay (Althingi) will take place

This meeting was an excellent opportunity to present the RoverWay programme, its Journeys and Althingi; the registration system, IST, financial issues, promotion plans, etc. and all of this with an “Icelandic touch” during 24 hours of daylight.

25 Jambassadors from 22 different associations, as well as representatives from European Regions of WAGGGS and WOSM, participated in the meeting.

More information about RoverWay 2009 can be found on its website: www.roverway.is

Development and Support

T-Kits

We know that associations in Europe are always keen to see and use new and interesting resources to help them in their work. The Organisational Development Core Group would like to take this opportunity to remind associations of the very useful T-Kits (Training Kits) that are produced by the Council of Europe in partnership with the European Commission. We believe that the content in many of them is relevant to associations in Europe. There are 10 T-Kits covering the following topics:

1. Organisational Management

This T-Kit seeks to encourage the development of well-managed youth organisations across Europe through the provision of a theoretical foundation and practical application of organisational management techniques.

2. Methodology in Language Learning

Language skills and intercultural awareness are essential in the organisation of international events. More and more youth organisations now need to be able to provide their members or European volunteers with the necessary skills to communicate in international settings (international events or volunteering in a host country). This T-Kit presents a methodology for learning language and developing communicative ability in a target language.

3. Project Management

In the last 20 years projects have taken a central role in youth work and can be considered today as a tool for social change, a cornerstone to community development and to international youth work or even as a tool to build and/or strengthen civil society. As a consequence, the management of projects has become a necessary skill for youth organisations and a recurrent topic for youth work training.

4. Intercultural Learning

This T-kit will help you to come to your own conclusions about intercultural learning theory and practice within the context of youth work and training.

5. International Voluntary Service

“Volunteering” or “voluntary service”: is there a difference? Knowing that every concept has different national and local connotations, we wanted to clarify the distinction we made between these words and the main issues underlining these concepts.

6. Training Essentials

Training is present in nearly every field of our societies today, in business and politics, in our public roles and aspects of our private lives. This publication addresses training in the specific contexts of international or intercultural youth work and co-operation, and informal or non-formal education and learning.

7. Under Construction – Citizenship, Youth and Europe

This T-Kit explores the concept and practice of European Citizenship itself, and then of education for European Citizenship, both in theory and in practice. All of this is linked back into youth work in Europe.

8. Social Inclusion

Youth work plays an essential role in reaching and bringing together young people who face exclusion on a daily basis. It is true that there are many other factors in society that can contribute to the social inclusion of young people, not least the abilities and strengths of young people themselves, but for young people with the fewest opportunities youth work and youth organisations can be a principal means of such inclusion. This T-Kit explores these important issues.

9. Funding and Financial Management

The search for funding and financial management has been a challenge ever since organised youth activities began some 150 years ago. In Europe funding for youth activities has come from various sources over the years. Members of youth organisations and individuals have

always been sources of financial and material support. This T-Kit explores the ongoing search for funding and need for wise financial management.

10. Educational Evaluation in Youth Work

Evaluation is not something that people get immediately excited about. Often it is associated with "writing long reports", "justifying your work to someone else", "measuring the immeasurable", "filling out forms and questionnaires", etc. Boring, tiring, difficult: not exciting at all.

In this T-Kit we want to show you that evaluation can be thrilling, electrifying, stimulating, fun, exciting... or at least attractive and inspiring enough to integrate it into your educational work. Evaluation becomes Educational Evaluation.

Reasons to use T-Kits

- They are aimed at youth workers and trainers
- They offer theoretical as well as practical tools to use when training
- They have been produced in many languages
- They have been developed by trainers and leaders working in similar organisations
- They are high quality
- They are accessible from the wide and can be distributed widely
- They recognise the diversity of different realities in organisations across Europe
- They already exist! There is no need to 'reinvent the wheel'.

Who produces them?

The T-Kits are a product of the Partnership in the field of Youth between the Council of Europe and the European Commission. Besides the T-Kits, the Partnership has resulted in other areas of cooperation such as training courses, the magazine 'Coyote', research and youth policy activities and an Internet site hosting also the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy.

Where can I find the T-Kits?

You can find all of the T-Kits on-line at: www.youth-partnership.net

Relationships and Funding

External Funding Unit meets

23 – 25 May 2008 in Athens, Greece

The External Funding Unit, a new unit offering solid support to NSOs that are interested to explore their financing potential has met to further advance its work and continues its preparations for the forthcoming Scout Academy. Vojta Broucek (CZ) and Costas Tsolakidis (GR) had a productive weekend with the guidance of Marios Christou (CY) and the support of Mike Walker from the WSB-ERO staff.

As already announced, the External Funding Unit is available to support NSOs in various ways, such as;

- Direct support to NSOs
- Exploring the broad potential that Scouting in Europe
- Attracting and maintaining funding in support of their programmes
- Dealing with specific issues
- Guidance in succeeding with E.U. funded programmes

- Increasing awareness in funding opportunities within a sub-regional perspective.
- Support to interested NSOs is provided through the Tailored Support Unit contact system

The EU recognises the role of youth organisations in increasing the participation of disadvantaged young people



The Education, Youth and Culture Council of the European Union adopted a resolution on 22 May on the participation of young people with fewer opportunities. The resolution recognises the role of youth organisations in promoting the inclusion and well-being

of disadvantaged young people and the need to secure support from public authorities for these organisations, so that they may continue and expand this work.

Scouting in Europe is committed to reaching out to all young people – to create a better world for all, including those with fewer opportunities. Numerous NSOs are adapting and delivering a flexible Scout programme. An example of this being the Overtures Network: www.overture-network.org While WOSM welcome the adoption of the resolution we must continue to press Member States and the European Commission to deliver on their commitments to develop and implement concrete policies and initiatives that empower the full participation in public life of all young people in partnership with youth organisations.

In response to a proposal made by the European Commission in September 2007, WOSM and the European Youth Forum (YFJ) expect the President of the European Commission, the President of the European Parliament and the Prime Minister of Slovenia (President of the European Council) to sign a declaration on strengthening the cooperation between young people and European decision-makers. We are anxious to see a continuation of the development of structured dialogue between the European institutions and the YFJ to contribute to a coherent and tailored strategy for young people over the next decade; a European Youth Strategy 2009-2020.

Link to this resolution:

www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/educ/100570.pdf

WOSM's 6th Meeting in the European Parliament

7 May 2008 at European Parliament, in Brussels, Belgium

On 7 May WOSM held its 6th meeting in the European Parliament on how young people are leading social change in Africa in the framework of EU Africa co-operation.

The meeting was hosted by a Scout and a Member of the European Parliament (MEP), Alessandro Battilocchio (IT) and was addressed by Margrete Auken (DK), the Parliament's Vice-President Luisa Morgantini (IT), Anthony Crasner, The European Commission (DG DEV), Julia Ojanen of Plan International/Concord, Giuseppe Porcaro, The European Youth Forum and Babacar Ndiaye, CNGEI (IT). Various methods of empowering young people were discussed, as was the need to focus on education and the opportunities provided by youth organisations between the two continents especially between the nearly one million Scouts in Africa and the 1.4 million in Europe.

Babacar Ndiaye explained how Scouting in Africa has been adapted to meet local needs, particularly community development. Ms. Auken described Scouting as "Being of



vital importance by giving young people a sense of their own potential, especially for girls". Ms. Morgantini praised the increasingly collaborative approach being taken by the EU with Africa, but expressed the belief that policy contradictions still exist. Anthony Crasner of the Commission added, "Young people should have a voice... and that voice should be heard". Julia Ojanen of Plan International/Concord said young people must claim political spaces so as to empower a voice, equality and employment.

Although Scouting is not involved with party politics, it plays an active role in civil society as it advocates youth involvement, non-formal education, global citizenship and volunteering. In December 2007, Scouts played an active role at the EU-Africa Youth Summit and as a grassroots organisation is now ready to help in the implementation of the EU-Africa strategy. Mr. Battilocchio reaffirmed that; "Scouts are always welcome in my office".

2011 European Year of Volunteering



Last month we told you how, on Wednesday 9 April, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), Marian Harkin (IE), Gisela Kallenbach (DE), Emmanouil Angelakas (GR), Mieczyslaw Janowski (PL) and Joel Hasse Ferreira (PT) launched a written declaration in the European Parliament to propose 2011 be designated the European Year of Volunteering.

We explained how a declaration in the European Parliament requires 50% +1 (391) of all MEPs signature. We now have 206 signatures. To those of you have contributed to that number by making contact with your MEPs, thank you. To the rest, it is not too late.

Scouting is led and based on volunteering. The designation of 2011 would significantly add to our recognition and to the climate in which we work. Contacting your MEPs is not difficult and it can be enough to motivate them to sign, particularly if you do it in co-operation with your National Youth Council, National Scout Organisation and/or Red Cross National Branch. The deadline for collecting signatures is 10 July, so please do not delay in acting.

We would strongly encourage you to act with your National Youth Council and Red Cross National Branch to:

- Make contact with your national MEPs;
- Personalise and send the template letter to your MEPs. Download at this link; http://scout.org/en/content/download/11159/91734/file/European%20Parliament_EN.doc more details at:

www.europarl.europa.eu

- Invite them to participate in a local activity, giving MEPs the opportunity to learn more about your work and volunteering.

This is a great opportunity to affect change at a local, national and European level - the potential outcome far outweighs the work of reacting to this letter. If you would like further information or support in exploiting this opportunity, then please do not hesitate to contact mwalker@scout.org.

EU Funding



For the second year in a row the European Scout Region has secured administrative support from the EU Commission through the Youth in Action.

This year we have been awarded the maximum allocation of €35,000.

This is an important endorsement of the work of the Region and illustrates two things:

1. European Scouting is fundable;
2. Youth in Action is open to Scouting.

While only European level organisations can apply for administrative support, there are many other opportunities for NSOs within Youth in Action.

If you would like to know more, or have experience of the Youth in Action, please contact mwalker@scout.org. EU Youth in Action programme website: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm

Committee Contacts

Visit to Switzerland

Weekend of 16 – 18 May 2008, in Einsiedeln, Switzerland
The Committee Contact for Switzerland, Paolo Fiora attended the first National Conference 2008 of the Swiss NSO *Mouvement Scout de Suisse* (MSdS). During this Conference, Anne Guyaz was elected as President of MSdS. She joined Andreas Spichiger to chair the National Board. The assembly has clearly shown they would like to change their decision making process so that all the Swiss Cantons achieve decision making through a common method.

The participants attended different workshops presented at the National Conference.

From 22 July till 2 August, 23,000 Swiss Pfadfinder plus 2,000 Swiss helpers (staff) will attend *Contura 08*, their National Camp. More information can be found on the *Contura 08* website: www.contura08.ch/en/contura

Life of the Movement

The 'KISC Adrenaline Experience'

31 August – 7 September 2008

If you want a week of High Adventure with like-minded people, this event is for you! This week is a perfect way to finish your summer on a high altitude note, and make some new international friends!

To take part you must:

- Be over 18
- Have a good fitness level



- Be ready to try new activities
 - Have CHF 674 (EUR 420*)
- Included in the price is all of your food and shared accommodation with 6 days of high altitude adventure activities. Get the details on www.kisc.ch.

* The price is charged in Swiss Francs. The EUR price is only an indication and may vary according to the current exchange rate.



KISC special Members' Week

21 – 28 September 2008

The week is for KISC Members to come together and enjoy a week-long programme in Kandersteg.

During this week you will get the chance to meet KISC Members from all over the world and catch up with old friends.

To take part in the week you must:

- Be a member of the KISC Association
- Be ready to try new activities and make new friends
- Have CHF 674 (EUR 420*)

Included in the price is all of your food and shared accommodation with 5 days of high altitude adventure activities. Get the details on www.kisc.ch.

* The price is charged in CHF (Swiss Francs). The Euro price is only an indication and may vary according to the current exchange rate.



Stay in contact

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Reminders and Deadlines

Managing Adult Resources Network Meeting

4-7 September 2008 in Athens, Greece

Deadline: 28 June 2008

Campaign to have 2011 as European Year of Volunteering

In every country in Europe

Deadline: 8 July 2008

The Scout Academy

20-26 October 2008 in Molina, Spain

Deadline: 12 September 2008

Network meeting for Guide and Scout representatives in National Youth Councils

21-23 November 2008, Dublin, Ireland

Deadline: 30 September 2008

Useful Information

- **Europak**
www.europak-online.net