

Youth and Environment Europe (YEE)

Working Plan 2014

Adopted by the General Assembly, in Svycarna, Czech Republic, July 21st 2013

“YEE aims to unite environmental youth non-profit organizations in Europe in order to enhance international cooperation, increase knowledge about nature, raise awareness of environmental problems and to strengthen participation of youth in environmental decision-making.”

Mission Statement of YEE adopted in 2008

Youth and Environment Europe (YEE) is an international youth non-governmental organisation.

YEE is a federation of 45 member organizations in 26 countries and it aims to seek to organize and encourage all that might increase the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of nature and the awareness of environmental problems among young people throughout Europe in order to promote the commitment of youth to the principles of environmental conservation and to stimulate young people’s voluntary action for the protection of nature, the enhancement of the environment and the sustainable use of the Earth's resources.

Stránka:

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To fulfill its mission YEE federation planned various projects to realise in the year 2014. To improve the network short-term strategies were prepared. In the year 2014, YEE Short-term strategies shall be implemented to achieve the following:

- 1/ to improve YEE publications,
- 2/ to promote YEE website,
- 3/ to promote YEE through social media,
- 4/ to ensure financial stability of YEE,
- 5/ to reduce the negative impact on the environment,
- 6/ to improve communication,
- 7/ to improve YEE representation in external relations.

The separate document ‘YEE Short-term strategies 2013-2014’ was adopted by the General Assembly at the YEE Annual Meeting 2013. The document “YEE long-term strategies 2013-2016” was adopted by the General Assembly at the YEE Annual Meeting 2013.

1. YEE INTERNAL STRUCTURE

Executive Board

The executive board of YEE 2013 - 2014 has 6 members.

Chairperson: Anja Wilken

Treasurer: Francesco Chiechi

Project Officer: Ana Bianca Badea

Member Organizations Officer: Lira Hakani

External Relations Officer/Vice-chairperson: Zaruhi Stepnyan

Promotional and Publications Officer: Vasily Bashutkin

Internal Auditors

Irena Oupicova (Hnuti Brontosaurus, Czech Republic) and Christiane Klemm (FOJ – Aktiv, Germany) were elected as internal auditors for YEE. They shall carry out the internal audit for the financial years 2013, 2014.

Secretariat

Secretary General: Mercedes Fioravanto Alvarez

Main Coordinator: Natalia Luchko

EVS volunteer: Jessica Massucco

EVS volunteer: Jesus de la Hoz Trapero

EVS volunteer: pending (beginning of the project April 2014)

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The office of YEE is located in the ecological centre Toulcuv Dvur in Prague, Czech Republic. Most of the coordination work of YEE is carried out from there. The ecological center can be used for hosting international activities and meetings as well.

Volunteers

The Secretariat and the Executive Board are not meant to cover all the various YEE activities on local and international level. YEE projects and activities can be hosted by YEE as a federation or by one of its member organizations. Volunteers from YEE member organisations are encouraged to get involved in YEE and help actively with implementation of the Working Plan and the Short-Term Strategies and to develop their own ideas for bringing YEE forward. Volunteers are welcome to get in touch with the YEE Board and the Secretariat at any time during the year and get involved in tasks according to their interests.

2. PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Projects and activities of YEE for the executive year 2013-2014 will include a number of training courses, youth exchanges, networking projects, and campaigns. YEE will continue to produce publications and the website will be updated and improved. During the previous years YEE has used “youth” and “environment” areas for funding and for setting up activities and will continue to apply for such funds for the activities in this Working Plan.

TRAINING COURSES

- **Environmental education for sustainability**
April 2014, Serbia

The aim of this training course is to train young people in methods of environmental non-formal education in order to become efficient promoters of sustainability issues. The project will focus on volunteering in environmental organizations as a good practice to gain experience in environmental education.
Person in charge: Natalia Luchko

- **Sustainable construction**
June-July 2014, United Kingdom

The aim of this training course is the improvement of the participants on sustainable community living and sustainable construction through energy efficiency, waste reduction, efficient management of natural resources for the construction and development of creative ways of construction.
Person in charge: Ana Lopes

- **Project management**
May-July 2014, Armenia

The goal of this training course is to give practical knowledge to participants about the whole cycle of a typical project. There will be as well a space to share good experiences and lessons learned and tips on making projects impact less on environment.
Person in charge: Arsen Simonyan

YOUTH EXCHANGES

- **Waste management**
September 2014, Moldova

This youth exchange aims to promote recycling and upcycling, to increase the awareness among youth about the need of recycling and upcycling, to share good experiences and to develop green skills and behaviours, through non-formal education and learning by doing.

Person in charge: Elisaveta Gutu

- **Cycle of water**

May-June 2014, Latvia

The aim of this youth exchange is to raise awareness about the water quality issues, and in cooperation with local municipality organize 1 day event for local people to show them that they can drink the water from tap. During the YE participants will get knowledge about different water treatment systems.

Person in charge: Girts Baranovskis

- **Energy**

June 2014, Albania

This youth exchange aims to raise capacities of the youth participants in renewable energy and energy efficiency measures through concrete and practical examples implemented in Albania. Participants will share experiences of different countries in this topic.

Person in charge: Lira Hakani

- **Environment and photography**

APV May, YE June, Armenia

The aim of this youth exchange is to provide space to discuss global environmental challenges, their local impact and work together to create tools for raising awareness on those issues in their communities through photography.

Person in charge: Arsen Simonyan

NETWORKING PROJECTS

- **Partnership Building Activity – Environmental project planning**

July 2014, Latvia, Portugal or Romania

The aims of this project are to promote the cooperation between the Member Organizations of YEE, to share their experiences, to raise the number and the quality of the projects, to define the direction of the federation and to identify the needs of the Member Organizations of YEE.

Person in charge: Zaruhi Stepanyan

CAMPAIGNS

- **The right to be(e)**

Spring 2014, Europe

A flashmob of planting actions (flowers and trees) all over Europe, to make people aware of the problem of decreasing bee populations.

Person in charge: Christiane Klemm

- **Biodiversity**

Spring 2014, Portugal and partner countries

The aim of this campaign is to raise the awareness on biodiversity issues through theatre and storytelling. It will also point out simple solutions to support specific species.

Person in charge: Jorge Tome

LOCAL PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

All year

World Water Monitoring Day

- YEE water monitoring team measuring the quality of water
- Spreading information about WWMD through YEE webpage
- Call for public to join water monitoring team

World Days celebrations

- Information campaigns at YEE webpage

Person in charge: YEE Secretariat, EVS volunteers

PUBLICATIONS

- *Booklets*

2014 - two issues per year

The topics will be decided

- YEE e-newsletters

2014 - 6 issues per year

WEBSITE

- Improvement of the interactive YEE website

All year

3. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The growing dimension of global environmental problems calls for international teamwork by environmental activists to promote change and encourage solutions. YEE believes in such an effort and the potential it brings. That is why YEE is actively involved in several significant international organizations and networks by being a member or collaborating and participating in the activities and events of these organizations.

European Commission

The European Commission is undertaking an exercise to seek improved European governance, with emphasis on participatory democracy and capacity building in civil society organisations. YEE can play an important role in speaking out on environmental interests on behalf of European youth. YEE will be oriented on closer cooperation with the DG Environment next year, especial under implementation of The Seventh Framework Programme (FP7).

European Environment Bureau (EEB)

The European Environment Bureau is a network of environmental organisations including YEE. The EEB supervises the environmental issues more than anyone else as they arise in European policies and send information to its member organisations. The working groups of EEB are specific in expertise and in interest. YEE aims to explore the full potential of this membership by participating actively in working groups and activities organized by EEB. YEE member organizations will be encouraged to be involved in EEB in the name of YEE.

European Youth Forum (YFJ)

European Youth Forum is the biggest platform for international youth non-governmental organisations (IYNGOs) and National Youth Councils (NYCs) in Europe. Their role is to promote youth interests across the policies at European level. As a member of European Youth Forum, YEE is regularly represented in their various activities and statutory meetings and will continue to cooperate with YFJ to build capacity of youth work.

Taiga Rescue Network (TRN)

TRN works for the protection and conservation of the Taiga, the boreal forests in the world. YEE is a member of TRN and will support its activities and try to be involved in their important work.

United Nations Environmental Program UNEP

Information about this organization will be added.

Other networks/entities

YEE will continue to explore the possibilities of cooperating with other networks and entities with common interests, in order to strengthen each other and get closer to reaching our mission.

4. MEMBERSHIP ISSUES

Member Organisations

After the Annual Meeting 2011, YEE has 45 member organizations (24 full members and 21 associate members) in 28 countries. YEE will do its best to keep close contact and collaborate with its members during the year, to inform them and to be informed about their local, regional and national activities.

Membership Fees

In order to be fair to the different member organizations and to ensure the stability of its economical situation, YEE will be strict about collecting the membership fees and to cancel the possibility to excuse the fee. The amount of the membership fee depends on the annual budget of the member organisation, see table below.

| Member Organization's budget 2011/12 | Membership fee for 2012 FULL MEMBERS | Membership fee for 2012 ASSOCIATED MEMBERS |
|---|---|---|
| EUR 0 – EUR 12.500 | EUR 30 | EUR 15 |
| EUR 12.500 – EUR 25.000 | EUR 45 | EUR 22,5 |
| EUR 25.000 – EUR 37.500 | EUR 60 | EUR 30 |
| EUR 37.500 – EUR 62.500 | EUR 75 | EUR 37,5 |
| EUR 62.500 – EUR 125.000 | EUR 90 | EUR 45 |
| EUR 125.000 – EUR 250.000 | EUR 105 | EUR 52,5 |
| EUR 250.001 | EUR 120 | EUR 60 |

The fee should be transferred to the bank account of YEE before the deadline set up by the Executive Board. In case the bank transfer is too expensive for a particular organisation, it can be brought in cash to one of the YEE meetings. The fee has to be paid before the official opening of the Annual Meeting takes place, otherwise the voting right of the organisation is suspended.

Membership Solidarity Fund

The Membership Solidarity Fund will receive donations that are meant to cover membership fees of the membership organisations.

5. CONTACT INFORMATION

Youth and Environment Europe (YEE)

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