

EYV 2011 Alliance Yearbook – October 2011

Big Green Weekend 2011

Written by Conservation Volunteers Alliance – CVA



CVA's campaign to promote environmental volunteering throughout Europe during the second-last weekend in October was a big success. Numerous volunteers helped to improve the environment in ten countries around Europe.

EYV 2011 Volunteering Stockshots, part 3

Written by EYV 2011 Alliance



The Audio Visual team at the European Commission, EbS have made available the third [volunteering stockshots](#) featuring volunteers from EYV 2011 Alliance member organizations to be used free of charge by anyone during 2011 and beyond. [Watch the stockshots](#) and [Download the stockshots script](#). [See document](#)

ENGSO Hearing Sport Volunteers: Promoting an Active Europe

Written by European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation – ENGSO



ENGSO Hearing "Sport Volunteers: Promoting an Active Europe" discussed the importance of volunteering for the sports movement. Hearing brought together MEP's and representatives of the sport organisations to share their views on policies enabling volunteering, and challenges and solutions of volunteering. It was organised in the context of the 14th ENGSO Forum in Brussels at the European Parliament on 13th October and hosted by Slovakian MEP Katarina Nevedalova (S&D). In the discussions MEP Hannu Takkula (ALDE) from Finland highlighted the EU's role to promote the exchange of best practice examples in the field of sport. In the second part of the Hearing "Challenges and Solutions" British MEP Emma McClarkin (ECR) was worried about the issues that makes it more difficult to volunteer, e.g. bureaucracy and lack of spare time. However, she concluded her opinion on importance of volunteering: "Volunteers are not paid, not because they don't deserve it but because they are priceless." ENGSO President Birgitta Kervinen, President of the Swedish Sport Confederation Karin Mattson Weijberg and Martijn Pakker from the European Volunteer Center also took the floor and contributed to the discussions.

More information on <http://www.engso.eu>

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The Academy

Written by The World Organization of the Scout Movement - WOSM / The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts – WAGGGS



Europe Region

World Association
of Girl Guides
and Girl Scouts
Association mondiale
des Guides et des
Eclaireuses
Asociación
Mundial de las
Guías Scouts

Over 140 participants enjoyed 5 days of interesting workshops and a lot of fun at the 2011 Academy, organised jointly by the WOSM - European Region and European Region WAGGGS. The event took place in the inspiring city of Paris from October 28 to November 1. Participants from all around Europe had the choice between 22 sessions, all related to the overall theme of the event "Growth through Quality". Some of the sessions were dealing with the issue of volunteering, especially those on:

- Recruitment, management and retention of adults
- Advocacy and value of volunteering
- Development and recognition of skills learned through Scouting
- Mentoring and Coaching
- Reaching out to volunteers from immigrant groups
- Lifelong Learning/active ageing in Scouting



This year's Academy provided great learning experience, space for exchange of knowledge and best practices, but was also used for a lot of fun during the sessions and after the official programme. The hosts from Scouts et Guides de France organized a funny game to discover Paris by using mobile phone technology.

The Academy was extensively followed by Scouts and Guides through social media networks. More about the Academy is available from <http://academy.europak-online.net/>

EYV 2011 Alliance Secretariat

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Recognition of learning in Scouting and Guiding

Written by The World Organization of the Scout Movement - WOSM / The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts – WAGGGS



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Scouting Netherlands, in intensive communication with the WOSM - European Region, invited National Scout Organisation to join Europe wide project to stimulate recognition of learning within Scouting. At the European Scout Conference representatives from interested organisations met and agreed on the basics of the project, which was designed later in the summer. The project on Recognition of Learning in Scouting was then submitted and granted by the Youth in Action programme of the EU. It involves associations from Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain. WOSM and WAGGGS European Regions are supporting the project providing expert support if and when needed.

In the scope of the project, two meetings of the project managers were held in December 2010 (to exchange ideas and methods, make plans and set goals for each project team) and in May 2011 (to start writing a national project plan and to start working on establishing a project team in each partner country)



The meeting held from 14 to 16 October 2011 in Apulia, Portugal brought together project teams from all 8 participating countries. This network meeting was focused on sharing ideas, discussing approaches, exchanging methods and developing activity plans for each pilot project team.

The meeting showed that all national teams are well underway in their projects in area of recognition. Project teams from Belgium, Czech Republic, Netherlands and Portugal held workshops to present methodologies they developed during the project.

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The European Year of Volunteering Dream Team - An ENGSO Youth reflection on 2011: Volunteering, Sports and Non-Formal Education

Written by European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation Youth- ENGSO Youth



Let's imagine a Europe where all young people actively participate in and physically contribute to society. Would this not just be the Dream Team European Volunteer Culture, in a healthy mind and body?

Let us take a look at reality...

Sport (the environment, the context): In the world of sport, on the mass participation club level; sport does not exist without volunteers. This is not just a statement, it is fact. Whether it is a young person becoming an assistant coach, refereeing the younger group's games, whether, it is parents coaching sessions, parents driving their children to games, all the way to decision makers in the field; they are for the majority volunteers.

The individual (you, us): Although volunteering is often considered as a "selfless activity" which promotes good for others and its surrounding community it cannot be neglected that individuals often volunteer because the opportunity lies in front of them (they are asked), this is often followed by a realisation that they can make a difference, they can contribute, they have a role. This experience in turn, often leads to the realisation that not only do they have a sense of belonging and contribute they in turn also benefit by learning, developing skills, experience etc...

Here volunteering benefits the individual on two levels: the individual self and the surrounding local reality. We have active participation, we have physical activity, we have volunteering, what we are missing is, the European dimension, the exchange of these diverse experiences from which we can learn and transfer ideas, what we are also missing is spreading this movement further... How can this self-sufficient pool of young volunteers benefit Europe? How can it be taken further? How can the potential for education which is already present in the trans-generational system of volunteering, taking on responsibilities be pushed further? Can the experience of these various young individuals make an even greater difference? In volunteering even though we learn a lot and are possibly empowered in and through this role and experience, we may not necessarily see any further, how this can apply to another field, how we can take it further, how we as an individual can make a difference...

Looking at Youth for youth by youth solutions:

To develop more volunteers using all volunteers? Yes.

In using Sport as a tool to reach out and attract? Yes.

With a vision of Education? Yes.

On European level? Yes.

Using Non-Formal Education? Definitely.

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European youth exchanges and trainings offer this opportunity and possibility requires even more volunteering, commitment, energy, engagement, motivation from the volunteers. This year ENGSO Youth with the support of the EYCB (European Youth Centre Budapest) of the Council of Europe, to focus on bringing together young individuals involved in inclusion of people with and without disabilities in and through sports. This session was led by volunteers, the participants were either volunteers or working with volunteers in their local reality, and for this entire week they were volunteering their time. For their own development, in order for them to go back and have a wider impact in their local reality through their engagement in providing access in and through sports...and empowered they were, and ideas they created and multipliers they have become. It has now been two weeks since the end of the session and already a publication for other leaders is coming out, they have already planned another 4 meetings, applied for funds for another European exchange and all this as volunteers.

Our "last event" for 2011 during this European Year of Volunteering has taught us the close relation and the motivations between; education, for youth, by youth, with youth in short, peer education and volunteering.

Sport is attractive to numerous groups possibly inaccessible otherwise, through this combined with volunteering peer education, we can empower youth and make a difference towards the creation of the "Dream Team European Volunteer Culture", in a healthy mind and body.

Karine Teow, ENGSO Youth Vice Chair

To find out more about ENGSO Youth activities, visit our website <http://www.youth-sport.net>



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CEV General Assembly and Symposium: Volunteering and Active Citizenship: Two sides of the same coin ?

Written by CEV - European Volunteer Center



EUROPEAN VOLUNTEER CENTRE

In 2011 we celebrate the European Year of Volunteering for the Promotion of Active Citizenship. While aspects of volunteering are widely discussed and the need to value and recognize voluntary activities is highlighted, we are still lacking a profound discussion on the link and interdependence between volunteering and active citizenship. In this context, CEV is dedicating its 22nd Symposium to the issues of active citizenship, activism and all sorts of civic participation in the local, regional, national and European life and decision-making. But are volunteering and active citizenship projecting the same kind of engagement? What are the common points and what are the differences? How does volunteering complement active citizenship and the other way around? Where do we draw the borderline? Or is volunteering a means to perpetuate the state of affairs instead of questioning the reality? These are the pressing issues participants explored at the CEV Symposium Volunteering and Active Citizenship: Two sides of the same coin?". The Symposium took place in Berlin, the Symbol of multiculturalism built on civic drive towards reunification and democracy, where participants visited local projects showcasing the power of active citizenship, divided into the following 7 thematic areas: social inclusion and empowerment; participation in decision-making; cross-border community cooperation; civil protection and humanitarian aid; employee volunteering; intergenerational solidarity; sustainable development.

The Symposium aimed to accomplish the following main objectives: To further grasp the link between volunteering and active citizenship; To ensure a space for debate starting from concrete, specific projects implemented at local level by comparing and contrasting similar projects from across Europe; To identify the most effective ways to empower citizens to be active through volunteering.

http://www.cev.be/138-2011_october_%28berlin%29_volunteering_and_active_citizenship_two_sides_of_the_same_coin-EN.html
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkM9_thm76E

[See document](#)



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CSV Net: International conference, Italy- Central and South Eastern Europe. Volunteering and institutions in comparison, 7th -9th October in Gorizia

Written by CEV - European Volunteer Center



On 7th- 9th October 2011 CSVnet, CEV member organisation hosted the conference Italy- Central and South Eastern Europe. Volunteering and institutions in comparison in Gorizia. Delegates from 14 countries put forth recommendations on youth work, active ageing diversity and social inclusion. Amongst the proposals were the following: to encourage sustainable funding for volunteering and the exchange of best practices in all spheres of social action; to harmonize the data collection process, especially on the social and economic value of volunteering and to valorize skills obtained through voluntary commitments.

Swedish Red Cross: Pearl of the year

Written by Red Cross - EU Office



Red Cross / EU Office
Bureau Croix-Rouge / UE

We started a cooperation with a weekly paper on the theme "The pearl of the year" – a person with big compassion. About 140 people were nominated and 60% of them were volunteers within the Red Cross. A jury (persons from the Red Cross and the Weekly paper) picked out 10 finalists and everyone that wished to vote could do that online and in the weekly papers homepage. The Pearl of the year was revealed on an event trip by boat. All the finalists and the persons that had nominated them was invited for free to participate on the trip. There were also entertainment and lectures on the trip. You can look at and read about the winner on our homepage: <http://www.redcross.se/bli-frivillig/arets-parla/>

Belgian Red Cross practice guide on volunteering management

Written by Red Cross - EU Office



Red Cross / EU Office
Bureau Croix-Rouge / UE

At the occasion of the European year of Volunteering, Belgian Red Cross French Community published a practice guide to help non-profit organisations working with volunteers. The contents is the result of the report written by a working group of 30 volunteers and employees who have met during more than one year and half to propose new solutions to improve the volunteering management in our organisation. A lot of the recommendations and tools (based on the scheme presented by the International Federation of Red Cross and red Crescent Societies) are easily transferable to every kind of non-profit organisations. As no similar guide existed in Belgium, we've decided to share it. You will find the pdf in attachment.

Further contact: Volontariat de la Croix-Rouge de Belgique Communauté francophone en collaboration avec Education Santé Société asbl volontariat@redcross-fr.be

[See document](#)

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20th Volonteurope Conference & ACE Awards 2011

Written by Volonteurope



The 20th Volonteurope Conference was held in Edinburgh (20-23 October 2011) delivered in partnership with CSV in Scotland and supported by the European Commission's 'Europe for Citizens' Programme.

The Conference in Edinburgh, delivered in the framework of the European Year of Volunteering 2011, also celebrated the 5th Active Citizens of Europe (ACE) Awards. On Friday 21 October 2011, at Greyfriars Tolbooth & Highland Kirk in Edinburgh, we recognised outstanding individual volunteers and volunteering NGOs, as well as corporate companies with effective CSR and volunteering programmes. We are grateful to the Lloyds Banking Group who supported this year's Awards Ceremony. The winners of the 2011 ACE Awards were:

NGOs:

- Scottish European Educational Trust (Scotland)
- Sue Ryder (for work in Scotland through the Prison Volunteer Programme)
- Serve the City (Europe-wide)

Volunteers:

- Redhall Walled Garden Trainees (Scotland)
- Saronikos Young Volunteers in Action (Greece)

Corporate Organisations:

- Fundação INATEL - 'Conversa Amiga' Programme (Portugal)

The award winners were presented their awards by the judges John Macdonald (EC), Gabriella Civico (EYV 2011 Alliance), Matthew McGhee (CSV Youth Board Member) and Francis Lake (Lloyds Banking Group). [Full details here](#)

Winners of the International Social Innovation Competition for Naples

Written by Euclid Network – EN



The winners of the International Social Innovation Competition for Naples, organized by Euclid Network and UniCreditFoundation, in collaboration with Project Ahead were announced.

[Download Euclid Press Release.](#) [See document](#)