

Youth and Environment Europe (YEE)

Work Plan 2016

Adopted by the General Assembly, in Toulcov Dvur, Prague, Czech Republic on 18th July 2015.

“YEE aims to unite environmental youth non-profit organisations 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 42 member organisations in 26 countries and it aims to seek to organise 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.

To fulfill its mission YEE federation planned various projects to realise in the year 2016. To improve the network short-term strategies were prepared. In the year 2016, YEE Short-term strategies shall be implemented to achieve the following:

- To reduce the negative impact on the environment within YEE network.
- To strengthen YEE external relations.
- To ensure a smooth and efficient cooperation between YEE Board and Secretariat.
- To improve the communication among Member Organisations and between Member Organisations and Board and Secretariat.
- To ensure financial stability of YEE.
- To make YEE more visible towards Member Organisations, public and media.
- To make YEE more sustainable and cohesive.

The separate document “YEE Short-term strategies 2015-2016” was adopted by the General Assembly at the YEE Annual Meeting 2015. 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 2015 - 2016 has 6 members.

Chairperson: Anja Wilken (Germany)

Treasurer: Janis Porietis (Latvia)

External Relations Officer: Christiane Klemm (Germany)

Project Officer/Vice-chairperson: Zaruhi Stepanyan (Armenia)

Member Organisations Officer: Marieta Baricevic (Croatia)

Promotional and Publications Officer: Jessica Massucco (UK)

Internal Auditors

Vasily Bashutkin (Russia) and Thomas Maguire (Ireland) were elected as Internal Auditors for YEE. They shall carry out the Internal Audit for the business year 2015/2016.

Secretariat

Secretary General: Mercedes Fioravanti Álvarez

Main Coordinator: Natalia Luchko

Consultant: Małgorzata Zubowicz-Thull

Networking Coordinator: pending (starting from September 2015)

EVS volunteer: Judit Suveges

EVS volunteer: Vladimir Jordanov

EVS volunteer: pending (beginning of the project April 2016)

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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

YEE is a voluntary base organisation. All projects and tasks are planned and organised by volunteers from Member Organisations. 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 organisations. Volunteers from YEE member organisations are encouraged to get involved in YEE and help actively with implementation of the Work 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 2016 will include a number of youth exchanges, campaigns, training courses, other projects and local activities. YEE will continue to create 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 Work Plan.

YOUTH EXCHANGES

- **Be(e) the change**
Spring 2016, Czech Republic

This youth exchange will bring together young people from YEE who have been active in the international campaign “The Right to Be(e)”. They will share their ideas, knowledge and experiences about their campaign activities and explore tools for environmental education.

The follow-up activity will be an international campaign where the participants will promote and make local actions. These actions will be part of the 2016 “The Right to Be(e)” international campaign.

Both the youth exchange and the campaign aim to raise the awareness on the disappearance and well-being of bees in Europe.

Person in charge: YEE Secretariat

- **Water resource protection**
Summer 2016, Georgia

The goal of the project is to bring attention to the importance of fresh water resources and their preservation. It will give the opportunity for young people from developed and developing countries to raise the awareness on this issue in their communities, to develop tools of environmental education and to share and exchange their experience on water and sustainable development.

Person in charge: Ketevan Kochladze (SAEM, Georgia)

- **Sustainable lifestyle**
Summer 2016, Moldova

This youth exchange will aim at helping young people living in urban areas to re-connect with their natural environment and strengthen the relationship between people and nature using methods of non-formal education.

Person in charge: Lidia Chirita (Gutta-Club, Moldova)

TRAININGS AND OTHER PROJECTS

- **Sustainability in NGOs**

Throughout 2016, various countries

The main aim of this long-term project is to create and implement non-formal educational events to assist member organisations of YEE in better addressing transition issues, knowledge management and human resources based on the concept of “learning organisation” and sustainability principles.

The project will include a set of activities aimed to reach the objectives (for example, training course, creation of the publication, seminar, needs analysis). The concrete activities will be decided according to the needs of the target group.

Persons in charge: Natalia Luchko (YEE, Czech Republic)

- **Training for trainers**

May 2016, Armenia/Croatia

The main aim of the project is to empower and train youth workers (aged 18-35) to conduct high quality educational activities and lead learning processes, and develop skills for sustainable and eco-friendly methods of facilitation.

During the training course participants will learn how to build an educational activity, different methods of working with groups and learning styles, how to assess their competences. They will share eco-friendly methodologies and practical tips for planning, implementing and evaluating activities.

Persons in charge: Zaruhi Stepanyan (Khazer, Armenia) and Marieta Baricevic (Argonauta, Croatia)

- **Green your life**

Throughout 2016, Albania and other countries

This project aims to enhance the creation of green entrepreneurship and to educate consumers to buy more green products.

As a follow-up of the project, a “Green Business Guide” will be created. It will include examples of green businesses from the partner organisations and it will aim to increase the demand on green products.

Person in charge: Adela Vllamasi (IPAS, Albania)

- **Climate Change and Adaptation**

Spring 2016, Albania

This project aims to empower youth leaders with knowledge and skills to be involved in constructive dialogue with their national stakeholders (local/national governments, NGOs) in mitigating climate change effects.

Participants will gain knowledge on the up to date climate change effects and best ways to be dealt with it in order to mitigate its effects. They will be encouraged to be involved in constructive dialogues with main stakeholders in their countries in order to give their expertise in shaping national policies and strategies on climate change.

Person in charge: Florenca Korbi (EDEN Center, Albania)

- **Ecoclubs around Europe**
Summer 2016, Portugal

This project aims to create a European Network of Ecoclubs and to share knowledge about practices of facilitation and management of Ecoclubs.

Partners will learn how the national network of Portuguese Ecoclubs works and its best practices. Participants will be trained to become facilitators of environmental and non-formal education.

Person in charge: Joana Silva (OPE, Portugal)

- **Partnership in the project STEP**
Throughout 2016, Greece and other partner countries

The project is coordinated by DRAXIS – Environmental Technologies (Greece). The scope of the proposal is to develop and pilot test an ICT (Information and Communications Technology) platform that stimulates the societal and political participation of young people in the decision making process in the environmental sector.

Person in charge: Anja Wilken (FÖJ-Aktiv e.V., Germany)

CAMPAIGN

- **The Right to Be(e)**
Summer 2016, Europe

A grass root campaign managed by the Secretariat of YEE aims to raise the awareness about the problem of bee colony collapse disorder. After the success of the “Bee competition” organised during 2014 and planting actions in 2015, the office will search for new ideas and activities for 2016 to promote the campaign further.

Person in charge: YEE Secretariat

LOCAL PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Throughout 2016

Office cuisine blog

- Update of the online blog with vegetarian recipes

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 website

Person in charge: YEE Secretariat

PUBLICATIONS

- Booklets

2016 - Two issues per year - The topics will be decided

- YEE e-newsletters

2016 - Six issues per year

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Throughout 2016

- Improvement and update of the interactive YEE website and social media

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 organisations and networks by being a member or collaborating and participating in the activities and events of these organisations.

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.

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 organisations 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

UNEP is the voice for the environment within the United Nations system. UNEP acts as a catalyst, advocate, educator and facilitator to promote the wise use and sustainable development of the global environment. The mission of UNEP is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and people to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. The aim of YEE in UNEP is to get involved in the discussions of environmental problems worldwide and explore more possibilities for cooperation with different organisations.

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 2015, YEE has 42 member organisations (23 full members and 19 associate members) in 26 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 Member Organisations 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.

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.

Member Organization's budget 2015/16	Membership fee for 2016 FULL MEMBERS	Membership fee for 2016 ASSOCIATED MEMBERS
EUR 0 - EUR 12.500	EUR 40	EUR 20
EUR 12.501 - EUR 25.000	EUR 60	EUR 30
EUR 25.001 - EUR 37.500	EUR 80	EUR 40
EUR 37.501 - EUR 62.500	EUR 100	EUR 50
EUR 62.501 - EUR 125.000	EUR 120	EUR 60
EUR 125.001 - EUR 250.000	EUR 140	EUR 70
EUR 250.001	EUR 160	EUR 80

5. CONTACT INFORMATION

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