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**Position: Project Officer and Vice-chairperson 2017-2018**

**Name: Jovana Mirjanić**

Dear Colleagues,

Another working year is slowly coming to an end, though there is still some work to be done, some extra effort to be given and there are always opportunities to learn and improve!

This year was my second mandate in the Board – I chose the same position not only because I found it most interesting, but also because I saw a lot of chances for improvement from last year. Along with being the Project Officer, this year I was also helping out as Vice-Chairperson. I can say that these two roles are very different and it so happened that both of them needed certain time investments throughout the year – YEE needed new Secretary General and Project Coordinator. I was participating in the selection of both (especially SG), which was an incredible learning opportunity for me, considering that I am not so experienced in job interviews. Along with that, I was helping out when needed to bring some speed in the work of the Board, and I must say that, even though we run into some obstacles and given that our communication is mostly online, I am genuinely satisfied with the work done.

As the Project Officer, I feel like I have improved since my previous mandate: I was able to have a better overview of the projects and report to others about them, I earned more project management related skills (thanks to the Project Coordinator) and actively took part in project teams of the TC “Uniting Youth for Eco-tourism” and the long term project “Active Youth – Better Environment”. The most remarkable thing for me was to contribute to the development of these projects and see the outcomes of our work, because I was initially involved in them last year, so it gave me a good opportunity to see the circle closed.

One thing that I (or we as the Board) didn’t succeed in and I initially put it in my work plan, was securing more funds for YEE in 2018. I took part in the Fundraising work group because I wanted to help out, but found myself a bit lost there since I didn’t have any knowledge about fundraising and I lacked time to research on how I can improve it. This, in general, was maybe my biggest struggle throughout the year – there are a lot of things to communicate about and it takes quite some time, which results in lack of time for more concrete work (e.g. research on some topic or problem) and the Board Members are all volunteers with busy schedules.

Apart from this work group, I took part in four more: Work Plan 2019, Projects from MOs, Internal Audit Guidelines and Gender mainstreaming. Some of the groups successfully finished the work with visible outcomes, while there is still some work to be done in others until the Annual Meeting.

I would like to thank once again all of my colleagues and to underline how much I gained by collaborating with them!

In case you have any questions, feel free to drop a line!

Best regards,  
Jovana Mirjanić