

Partnership Management Meetings

The Youth Partnership team is wishing you



a merry Christmas and an happy New Year 2009

The Youth Partnership management structures met in autumn 2008 in order to monitor the implementation of the current work programme and to prepare the ground for the new activities 2009.

Partnership Sectorial Group "EuroMed, Human Rights Education and Intercultural Dialogue"

The Sectorial Group includes representatives from the European Commission, the Council of Europe's Directorate of Youth and Sport and the North-South Centre, the Euro-Mediterranean Youth Platform, the European Youth Forum, the European Network of Youth Researchers, the Salto-Youth Euromed Resource Centre, the Anna Lindh Foundation, the League of Arab States as well as an independent expert in the field of Euro-Med youth co-operation.

In its meeting in September the group made useful proposals for implementation of the remaining activities in the 2008 programme of the Partnership, namely the T-Kit on Euro-Mediterranean Youth Work, the training seminar on gender equality, the conclusion and follow-up to the evaluation and impact study of the activities held in the field of youth policy cooperation. The group elaborated also a draft calendar of activities for 2009, including the possible inclusion of an African-Europe youth dimension.

Partnership Sectorial Group "European Citizenship, Quality and Recognition"

Representatives of the main stakeholders of the Youth-Partnership, the Council of Europe and the European Commission, the network of National Agencies of the Youth in Action programme, the network of Youth Centres, the Advisory Council on Youth and the European Steering Committee on Youth (the European Youth Forum was excused) also met in September, in Strasbourg.

They discussed the Partnership training activities and programmes implemented in 2008 and planned for 2009, particularly the European Citizenship Training Courses and the planned Training for Trainers of Youth Workers course. The Sectorial Group identified some potential synergies between the training programme of the Partnership and of the other stakeholders.

Partnership Sectorial Group "Better Understanding and Knowledge of Youth"

Representatives of the European Commission, the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ), the Advisory Council (AC), the European Youth Forum, the Network of Experts on Youth Knowledge and the network of correspondents of the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy, the cooperation partners for regional activities, the SALTO Resource Centres for South-East Europe and for Eastern Europe and Caucasus, a policy adviser from Luxembourg and the evaluator of the Partnership research and youth policy strand discussed in their meeting in September in Strasbourg the 2008 activities and those envisaged for 2009 and gave recommendations concerning their implementation.

The contribution of the Youth Partnership activities to enhancing dialogue between the policy makers, researchers and civil society representatives was underlined as one of its main strengths. Further developments of the EKCYP were appreciated and welcomed. An exchange took place with regard to the setting of priorities beyond 2009.

Partnership Consultation Meeting

The main recommendations of the three Sectorial Groups were reported to the Partnership Consultation Meeting. The purpose of the Partnership Consultation Meeting that took place on 30 September 2008 in Strasbourg was to gather members of the Partnership Management Board and Partnership Sectorial Groups and other interested parties for an exchange of information on each others' activities and with an aim to increase synergies among the various stakeholders involved.



Partnership Management Board

The Management Board meeting on 27 October 2008 in Brussels confirmed the continuation of the current Partnership activities and priorities in the following fields: training (European Citizenship, Training for Trainers of Youth Workers); youth policy development (particularly in South-East Europe and in Eastern Europe and Caucasus); gathering and provision of knowledge on youth (thematic seminars and expert workshops, further development of the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy); Euro-Mediterranean co-operation (Human Rights education, intercultural dialogue); the future integration of a Euro-African dimension in the Partnership workplan, in co-operation with the North-South Centre in Lisbon, was also agreed by both partner institutions.

Further to the meeting, the specific grant agreement 2009 once prepared by the Partnership secretariat will be signed by both institutions accordingly.

First reflections took place on the new Framework Partnership Agreement 2010-2013. These reflections will be continued inviting all stakeholders in the next management meetings (Sectorial Groups, Consultation meeting) and the Partnership Management Board meeting in spring.

10 years YOUTH PARTNERSHIP

All stakeholders who participated in the Partnership Consultation Meeting on 30 September joined an evening celebration event on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Youth Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe (in existence since 1st November 1998).

The event highlighted the achievements of the past and identified some future challenges as well as contributed to increasing visibility of the Partnership.

Approximately 120 participants representing youth organisations, trainers and researchers communities, policy makers, the statutory organs of the Council of Europe, the National Agencies and SALTO Resource Centres of the Youth in Action programme and other stakeholders were present. Special guests: the Minister of Youth & Sports Mrs. Snezana Samardzic-Markovic from the Republic of Serbia, the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mrs. Maud de Boer-Buquicchio and the Director for Youth of the European Commission, Pierre Mairesse were present.

They highlighted the relevance and importance of the 10 year cooperation for the two institutions and other stakeholders underlined the role of the Partnership as an important tool building on their respective strengths. Consequently it was proposed that the Youth Partnership should be extended and a new Framework Agreement should be signed for 2010-2013.