

IFM-SEI Newsletter

April to June 2011

Issue 7



The first training course for All Together Against Climate Change Project

IFM-SEI News

IC Meeting 2011 in Berlin

50 representatives of member organisations will meet in Berlin this week for the IFM-SEI International Committee meeting 2011. The meeting will be hosted by SJD die Falken in their new federal office 'Louise and Karl Kautsky House' and in their education centre Kurt Löwenstein Haus. The following topics will be on our agenda:

- IFM-SEI organisational development
- The election of two new Vice-Presidents (coming from Asia, Latin America and/or Africa)
- Workshops to share our educational work on the MDGs
- Workshops on developing the African region in IFM-SEI.

The International Committee is our chance as a movement to discuss, share and plan for the coming year – We look forward to meeting you all there!



Children play games at the Camp in India

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ATACC gets going with training course!



seminars where they planned campaigns, learnt the science behind climate change and explored how to create change through political action and education. With guest trainers from PUSH Europe: the European Youth Climate Movement, the participants heard inspiring stories

The website www.atacc.ifm-sei.org is now online making available all resources that we used at the training course and the campaigns are being prepared by participants. The campaigners will gather together again at Co-Camp and then at a final training course in Prague in November.

In May over 30 comrades from around Europe gathered to start work on our next big project: ATACC. All Together Against Climate Change brings together 9 organisations across Europe to fight against Climate Change by running local campaigns. The campaigners had a week of



The coming months will see the launch of local campaigns around Europe, using social media and street campaigns the campaigners hope to be able to support each other though the specially created online portal for action.

Go online to check out all the resources and videos that the group made during the seminar.

Europe tackles poverty head-on



The European Falcon Network will meet in Norway in Autumn, focusing on one of our core priority areas: child and youth poverty and youth unemployment. The seminar will provide the space for member organisations to share ideas and approaches to addressing child poverty and will explore how involvement in a regular falcon group can support disadvantaged young people to feel more confident and valued as a member of society. Together we will consider how we can contribute to the fight against poverty through campaigning and lobbying governments. Detailed information will be distributed soon.

Volunteering and IFM-SEI



2011 marks the commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers, marked by the United Nation's General Assembly in 2001.

To IFM-SEI volunteering is not just a commemoration, it is the core of our organizations and our movement. IFM-SEI relies on the motivation of thousands of people, especially young people, that believe in the possibility of a better world where social justice, equality, solidarity and friendship rule.

Our international's strength is the voluntary work across the world and we want acknowledge the importance of volunteering in terms of activism, development and social change.

One of our most important values is

solidarity and a big proof of what solidarity means is when you give part of what you are or what you have in order to improve the lives of others.

Our volunteers really make a difference in their communities with their hard work! We want to thank all of them and remind our organisations to look for strategies to reward and motivate them!



Volunteering Against Poverty - VAP

We have big plans for next year: A 'European Voluntary Service' (EVS) project between eight member organisations in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America and IFM-SEI.

Young volunteers from these organisations will work for one year in another member organisation, supporting them in their day-to-day work, getting to know their host community and learning a new language.



All volunteers will also be involved in a common project: Volunteering against Poverty. They will receive training in documentary film making and together with local groups produce videos on youth poverty, unemployment and decent work. With these videos we will produce one common global documentary film on youth poverty.

We have applied for a Youth in Action grant of the European Commission to fund the project. Let's all hope that funding will be granted, so that the 16 young people involved can start their service in 2012.

Queer Easter seminar 2011



Another successful Queer Easter seminar took place this year, bringing together over 150 participants from IFM-SEI, IUSY and ECOSY. For the first time this year we were able to support young activists from Latin America, Asia and the Middle East to take part, beginning the process of globalising our rainbow network.

The week combined specialised workshop sessions, networking meetings and Creative Working Groups (CWGs). Each of the ten working groups explored a specific aspect of queer education, working with a creative tool (film, theatre, animation, activism, public speaking, etc.) throughout the week.

The theme for the seminar this year was sexuality education. One group worked on developing educational resources for children's groups on the topics of gender and sexuality while another focused on producing a reader on women and LGBT issues. See below for more information about the resources being published in the Autumn as a companion to the Council of Europe publication 'Compasito'.

As well as learning lots, Queer Easter offered the opportunity for participants to meet new people from across the world. There was an extensive range of social events, including partying, tours of Berlin, an evening event in the city and a varied social programme in the education centre.



Rainbow Resources: Compasito Companion on sexuality and gender



In Autumn IFM-SEI will publish a handbook on gender and sexuality education with children, providing methods and information for leaders on the topic. The handbook will compliment Compasito, the Council of Europe's human rights education manual for use with children. Compasito does not tackle the issues of gender and sexuality and there are few resources in the world that look specifically at these issues with

children (under 13 years). Rainbow Resources will be the first of its kind!

Rainbow Resources is an IFM-SEI led project, with an expert team leading the project from the United Kingdom, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Slovenia and Lithuania. Queer Easter 2009, Queer Easter 2010 and Winterschool 2010/11 (another international seminar at the Kurt Loewenstein House, with the theme of feminism on this particular seminar) laid the foundations of the project by producing activities for children on sexuality and gender roles.

Our British comrades, the Woodcraft Folk, are hosting their international camp (called CoCamp) this summer. CoCamp will be a platform for trialling these activities and leaders who are not familiar with the topic will be encouraged and supported in running workshops from Rainbow Resources with children on the camp. The manual will be published in Autumn 2011.



News from member organisations

CoCamp Precamp (Woodcraft Folk, UK)



While the royals were making their vows, Woodcraft Folk from across the UK met in Nottinghamshire over a sunny weekend to finalise plans for this summer's CoCamp. Representatives from almost every Woodcraft Folk district came along, to talk about the practicalities of living and learning together during the international camp, which will take place from 30th July, and to make sure that international guests will receive a warm welcome when they arrive in the UK. Every village of the camp will



include at least one delegation from an IFM-SEI organisation, with some also including young people from other Co-operative organisations from the UK and around the world. Organisations planning to attend the CoCamp can keep up to date via www.cocamp.coop and e-mail any questions to cocamp@woodcraft.org.uk.

Acacia Children's Day (Colombia)



On the 30th April, many more kids than usually go to our well known English classes went to the Children's Day in Santa Cecilia library (now we have a new and better place to hold our activities), it was clear that no teacher would be there trying to take a lesson!!! Instead there was many friends playing around. Karime and I decided not to lose that opportunity to improve our English skills and try to show to the parents how non formal education can work.

I had had some problems trying to teach the names of some animals in English because it was very hard to make the kids memorize them, so that day each of our lovely kids became an animal, they were animals!,

so they found it very funny and at the same time they make so many jokes about their new animal friends, they learned them, it was just amazing! at the end of the day they knew more animals in English than I had been able to teach in weeks and now its very difficult to go back to the normal names of my kids.

I take this chance to thank many people who make it possible, Don Olivo, Doña Balnquita, Melba y Mercy and obviously all you my peers.

Marco Rincan, Acacia

Photo above, Karime with children, photo left Marco with children



Children Convey Friendship Messages (KKSP - Indonesia)



Indonesian children called for the entire world to keep forging friendships, and invited all parties to help child victims of natural disasters, as well as victims of conflict, war, and all forms of violence. The call was delivered

in Sibolangit Friendship Messages as the result of the Indonesian Children Jamboree initiated by KKSP Foundation in March 2011 in Sibolangit, North Sumatra Province

Activity report of youth for behaviour change (YOBEC – Liberia)

In 2011, YOBEC-Liberia has conducted a series of activities in three communities (Paynesville Red light Community, New Georgia Community, and 21st.Street, Sinkor, Fiamah respectively) including community engagement, sporting events as well as African Custom for kids to show their traditional talents.

The activities included the conduction of several awareness and sensitization exercise in the three communities around Monrovia.



The objectives of the events were:

- To identify with the less fortunate kids;
- To address a comprehensive child rights monitoring mechanism and child rights education in communities; and
- To establish a friendly link among less fortunate and fortunate children within communities; making them know that despite of every situation (race, gender, religion, culture etc) we need to make the world a better place for every child.

One import aspect of the programmes held were to help improve the interaction amongst kids of local community and also help provide more information on the rights of a child.

OGEEYOD launch “Read Beyond Borders” (Cameroon)



The “In Between magazine” launched by OGCEYOD Cameroon in January 2011 is in its third publication this May 2011, with environmental issues being the topic of discussion amongst the youth. It should be noted



that youth issues were discussed in the first edition and girls/women in the second.

The “Read beyond Borders project” which started at the beginning of the academic year 2010-11 is on going in four schools with Reading Clubs already established to encourage students to read for information, School/Exams and Pleasure/leisure. This project was designed to boost our reading culture which is fading out.

Greetings from Nuoret Kotkat (Finland)



Nuoret Kotkat (Finland) organise cultural festival every year. In April we were in city of Turku. This year Turku is the European cultural capital. During the festival we saw an exhibition about the historical Great Fire of Turku in 1827, the castle and an old big sailing boat. We had different kinds of activities like handicrafts,



dancing and singing.

In 2013 Nuoret Kotkat will be 70 years young. We will organise an international camp in Sauvo (near Turku) and we welcome you all there!



Antar Bharati Camp (India)

Antar Bharati the Indian member organization of IFM-SEI organised a camp for tribal boys and girls from 30 April to 5 May 2011 in Bhekhadia, a remote village in the picturesque hilly area of the tribal belt of Gujarat region.



The camp was attended by sixty tribal girls and boys entering into their adolescence.

The theme was the importance of environmental protection and children's rights.



Each day began with a group song followed by a walk in the beautiful environment of the camp site, intellectual discourse and discussions on the subjects related to the theme of the camp, sports

and the cultural and entertainment programme

The campers were introduced to various species of plants, trees animals, birds, insects and their habitats.. They were enlightened to the fact that mother earth and its resources are not only for mankind, but for all living beings including insects.



An exhibition on Children's Rights was put up by the campers which was warmly appreciated by the many visitors of the camp.

Ninety three year old Paragji Bapuji, one of the resource persons, conducted a origami workshop on making caps, frogs, pen-box, dresses, etc from the old newspapers. He endeared himself to the boys and girls instantaneously and was cheered and hugged.

Experienced resource persons talked to the campers and held discussions on Children's Rights and environmental Protection.

The boys and girls got deeply involved and thoroughly enjoyed group singing and various games. A film well – inclined towards "goodness" was screened and CDs of patriotic songs were played every day.

At the end of the camp, the boys and girls were in tears when they dispersed. The campers, being very poor were, not required to pay.



Using Videos in ESPLAC (Catalonia)



Since November 2010, Esplac has been promoting the use of video as a tool amongst our esplais and working methodology, stressing two organisational priorities: participation and teenagers. Our goal is to empower the pedagogical work with teenagers and to achieve the social recognition of esplais as voluntary-based youth organisations. Thus, teenagers are the main characters of all composition phases of the audiovisual material, from first proposals to dissemination, with the support of their youth leaders.



School opened for Brick Kiln Workers (APFUTU - Pakistan)



Our member APFUTU (All Pakistan Federation of United Trade Unions) inaugurated a school for Brick Kiln Workers on March 18th 2011. With this school they are able to get child labourers, particularly brick kiln workers, back into education.

They will open a second school in another district in Pakistan in the near future. Both schools are operated by APFUTU and the Pakistan Brick Kiln Labour Union and could open with support of UNISON (UK) in Pakistan.

Dates for your diaries

| Date | Activity |
|---|--|
| 3-10 th July 2011 | International summer school on Antiracism, Werftpfuhl |
| 30 th July-9 th August 2011 | Co-Camp, UK |
| 8-11 September 2011 | Presidium meeting, Austria |
| 11-18 September 2011 | Training for Trainers, England |
| 18-25 September 2011 | VAP Kick off and Rainbow Resources finalisation, Spain |
| 6-9 October 2011 | European Falcon Network meeting, Norway |
| 3-6 November 2011 | 'All together against climate change' Resource Development meeting, Prague |
| 1-4 December 2011 | Presidium meeting, Palestine |

Contributions to the IFM-SEI Newsletter

If you would like to tell other members about the work you are doing in your organisation, or a co-operation project you have set up in partnership with another organisation, please send a short article and photo to contact@ifm-sei.org. The deadline for articles for the next edition is **21st August 2011**

Friendship!

