

IFM·SEI Newsletter

December 2011



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Rainbow Resources now available!

RAINBOW RESOURCES

Compasito Companion on Sexuality and Gender

After several years of hard work and contributions from all over Europe, we are proud to announce that our educational resources for children on gender and sexuality are finished!

The manual contains lots of educational activities in three chapters: 'Families and Relationships', 'Identity and Being' and 'Bullying and Discrimination'. You will also find background information on issues like child development and sexual rights.

Every member organisation will receive a hard copy of the publication in the new year, but if you would like another copy, please email us at contact@ifm-sei.org.

The full publication is available for download on our website www.ifm-sei.org.

New look for IFM-SEI website!

Take a look at our website www.ifm-sei.org. It has a new look and new functions! As before you can find out what's new in IFM and its member organisations on the front page, and we added a gallery for photos of IFM-SEI activities and an updated list of members with relevant contact details.

The Toolbox

Most importantly, the new website also hosts our 'Toolbox' of educational materials and other results from projects and training courses. You can search the toolbox for activities on many different topics such as inclusion, gender and sexuality, poverty and peer education.

IFM-SEI has developed lots of its own educational materials in the last few years, but the toolbox will be more useful if more people contribute. So create your own account to upload educational materials from your organisations. You can search in French, English, Spanish and German, so feel free to share your tools in these languages too.



Bon Voyage VAP Volunteers!

In the beginning of January 17 volunteers from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe will spend up to a year in another IFM member organisation, working with groups of children and contributing to the work of the organisation at local and national level. They will bring the international spirit of IFM to the grassroots level!

In addition, they will participate in the global 'Volunteering against Poverty' (VAP) project, making a documentary film on youth poverty and unemployment together to raise awareness on this big global challenge. From January on you will be able to find lots of short videoclips and updates from the volunteers on their common blog.

IFM-SEI wishes all the VAP EVS volunteers a safe journey and positive start to their year of volunteering!



ATACC Active Across Europe

Young Europeans engaged in IFM's All Together Against Climate Change project are actively campaigning in their communities across Europe.

Having taken part in three common activities, the ATACC volunteers have developed innovative and inspiring campaigns to raise awareness of climate change across Europe. Local campaigns include an educational computer programme for schools in Slovakia, a vegetarian camp cookbook in Germany, an environmental festival in Norway and flash mob activities around a climate change game in Latvia.

In November the volunteers met in Prague to feed their new knowledge and experiences into the development of a manual for climate change activists. The 'ATACC handbook' full of easy-to-understand information on climate change, a 'how-to' section on campaign development and lots of educational activities on climate change and campaigning will be published in February 2011. Every member organisation will receive a hard copy of the publication.



VAP: Falcons Tackle Poverty Head-on in 2012

Falcons from all over the world will spend 2012 exploring global youth poverty and unemployment and will produce a documentary film to express their views on solving the crisis.

24 volunteers from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe will work together during the year looking at the root causes of poverty and formulating a common response to it. The documentary will be shown at a special screening event in Brussels, where politicians, decision-makers and youth activists will be present. The volunteers will also organise local screenings in their communities and of course you will all be able to watch the documentary online. Watch this space for further updates.



European Falcon Network Meeting

Falcons from around Europe came together in Oslo, Norway in October to discuss the challenges young people face in Europe and how we can address them. Participants discussed the role of group work in overcoming individualism, inclusion in falcon organisations and our common response to the changes to the Youth in Action programme. They welcomed the space to share the experiences of their organisations in tackling these issues and felt that they could learn much from how other Falcon organisations are dealing with the same challenges. The group also had the chance to assist the premiere of the 'Bridges' film, a documentary produced by members of Framfylkingen who visited Palestine to meet young members of IYU.



IC meeting 2012 in Dakar



It is with pleasure that we invite all member organisations to the IFM-SEI International Committee meeting 2012. The meeting will take place in Dakar, Senegal, from 3-6 May 2012, where we will be hosted by Action Enfance and Mouvement National des Pionniers Senegalesse. The International Committee brings together representatives of our member organisations and we hope that many of you will come to contribute with your ideas to the development of our movement.

Cocamp: An Experience of a Lifetime

As I sit down to write a report on this wonderful trip to England, memories flash by... Nostalgic enchanting memories of probably the Best Summer-cum-Winter Holidays for me... (Summer because it was 'summer' in England, but for me it was equivalent to 'winters' in India). It was indeed a life changing experience. While I was lost amidst the green, beautiful and the royal country, I found myself to be a part of the spirit of the Woodcraft Folk: friendship and co-operation at the global platform brought together by the International Falcon Movement.

I have been to several camps before but at Co-camp I learnt what true camping was, actually 'co-camping'! Far away from the hustle-bustle of the city, a three hour drive away from the mostly lively city London, just by ourselves, soaked in the spirit of love, friendship and unity. Co-camp brought together thousands of young people around the world on the foundation of the Cooperative theme, defining the general atmosphere of friendship and collaboration that the event fostered.

An air of enthusiasm, excitement and ardour wrapped me as soon as I reached England! The feeling was soon replaced by butterflies and jitters on reaching upon the Campsite. Not a single known soul and an alien place! But owing to the people of Woodcraft and the spirit of friendship that they pursue, we were given a warm ardent welcome. We lived in Silver Birch town, village one. It was an international village in the true spirit of Woodcraft with groups from Spelthorne, Southampton, Denmark, Portsmouth and India symphonised together around one silver tree. This camp was an opportunity for all of us young people from across the world to learn about, and put into practice, co-operative values, and with these values also embedded in the planning, organisation, and programme of this event. The International aspect of the event brought about a wide range of different perspectives on co-operations and co-operatives and strengthened our experience of 'being part of something bigger'.

The entire camp was exciting from day one. It all began with the putting up of tepee tents, learning about the Woodcraft Folk, meeting wonderful vibrant people, meeting my own Indian friends and the colourful and vivacious opening ceremony. The exuberant ceremony marked the beginning of the brilliant experience of Co-camp with co-operative dances and songs. The Woodcraft Folk made us a part of them with their overwhelming welcome.

The 'Harry Potter' theme of the camp made it even more interesting. The clans and clan duties were so much fun. The helping in the kitchen, the washing up, the fire and water duties and the cleaning-up - all with team effort and co-operation made it all the more amusing. The ice-breaking name games, the regional games and music made us all bond with each other. The daily afternoon activities like the badge-making, rock climbing, jewellery making, the games, visiting other towns and villages and the exultation everywhere made this camp such a unique experience. The fun-filled activities, the discussions, the decisions as a village everyday at the Village circle and the Town Council was an epitome of democracy and alliance, the attributes that Woodcraft and IFM stand for. The witty word games, the exciting wide games, the innovative peace rallies, the cooking of Danish breads and the mesmerising talent events made the evenings fun.



The days ended with a warm campfire and all the folks singing the traditional Woodcraft songs, a few Danish and mostly English. The wonderful music at night would lift up the spirits and make the atmosphere lively! The most fun part was dancing the night out with the rock music by the bands on the camp! The highlight of the day was the delicious food we ate. I loved the English food and the delicacies made by the adults in the kitchen. The pies, puddings and sandwiches! Oh, how much I miss them.

And then there was this one day... the 'Indian day' in our village. It was an extraordinary experience. Cooking Indian food, talking about our traditional values, Indian dances, Indian music.

Every day was an experience in itself, a learning experience. An experience I would cherish all my life! Learning to work together, have fun together, to support one another, respect for one another and ultimately making such wonderful friends! Friends made for a lifetime; we exchanged our cultures, our stories, our traditions and our art. We sat at the tables in the marquee everyday chatting about everything in the world and how each one from a different region works for a global cause!

The new wonderful people there, the warmth and the politeness and the affection made this an enriching experience! We were unknown when we went there but at the end of the Co-camp, it was one big family just going back home with memories of lifetime and a promise to see each other again!

Thanks to the Antar Bharati, Woodcraft and the IFM for making such an event!

Dhruti Chokshi

World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse

In the framework of the World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse and the Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Action Enfance showcased their work on children's rights together with their partner organisations in Senegal. A demonstration of 500 young people was welcomed by the mayor and the administrative team of the city of Mbao to discuss their actions against children having to beg on the streets. On the same day the leaders of the organisations met with children to share experiences and develop their strategies to strengthening the fight for children's rights.



Peers without Frontiers project in Senegal

The Pionniers of Senegal organised a girls-camp in the region of Thies to give girls a space to be trained as young leaders and to share their plans and dreams for the future. The participants were chosen from several schools in the region and with the new things learnt they will be role models for the other girls in their schools.

Every day the group received training in a different area: for example on health issues, on environmental questions or on opening up small businesses. The programme also gave them the space to reflect on the role of women in Senegalese society. Every day started with a relaxing yoga session. They also played lots of wide games and became very good friends in this week.



On the Road to Rio+20: Consultative Youth Meeting in Cameroon

In June 2012 the 'United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development' will be held in Rio, 20 years after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. OGCEYOD (Organisation for Gender Equality, Civic Engagement and Youth Development) organised a big meeting in November 2011 to raise awareness and introduce young people to the issues that will be central to Rio+20: The green economy and institutional frameworks to achieve sustainable development. The young participants were encouraged to take action to promote sustainable development and they came up with a list of recommendations for their government to promote green economy.

Participants came from secondary schools in Limbe, from the Cameroonian Youth Council, from Youth Media stations and from the Muslim youth community in Limbe. This ensured that the results of the meeting were brought back to a very wide community of young people.



Children Rights Camp in Peru



In Lima Peru, children and youth leaders from Club Infantil 23 de Mayo – CHAP went on a camp on a beach 100 miles south of Lima. They ran lots of workshops on their rights as children and adolescents to better promote the rights of children.

Child labour in Pakistan

IFM-SEI member organisation APFUTU recently published a report on core labour standards in Pakistan, which revealed serious violations of fundamental workers' rights including a high degree of prevalence of forced labour and poverty.

Both local suppliers and multinational enterprises make extensive use of anti-union practices including lock-outs, dismissals, unfavourable work assignments and eviction of union members in order to curtail union membership and activities. Employers often use contract labour to weaken bargaining power in Pakistan.

Many children are victims of the worst forms of child labour, mainly in brick kiln, carpet industries, agriculture, bangles industries, fisheries, local industries, and domestic servitude as well as, unfortunately, prostitution. They often have to carry too heavy loads, work long hours and handle pesticides and other dangerous substances. A survey found that 500 000 working children between the ages of 5 and 14 in brick kiln, agriculture, carpet industries, bangles industries, workshops, tea stalls perform unpaid work. Girls are often employed as domestic servants where they work long hours and are vulnerable to sexual and physical abuse.



The Pakistan trade unions face numerous problems faced with a capitalist system that wishes to do away with trade union and labour rights. In fact, local and foreign capitalists in Pakistan push the government to ban trade unions in Pakistan.

Preserving the Human Dignity of Palestinian Detainees

Hundreds of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli detention centres started an open-ended hunger strike on the 27th of September to protest against a series of oppressive measures depriving them of their basic Human Rights guaranteed by and enshrined in international treaties and International Humanitarian Law. Conditions witnessed by around 6000 Palestinian detainees and prisoners are both cruel and degrading. Israeli occupation and Prison Administration Authorities deny prisoners and detainees basic Human Rights such as access to healthy food, medical care, education, books and clothing while enforcing solitary confinement and preventing visits between detentions centers sections and cells. Moreover, occupation Authorities continue to deny around 2000 prisoners family visits. IFM-SEI member organisation PRCS (Palestinian Red Crescent Society) affirms that these tragic conditions as well as Israeli measures which have led to this open-ended hunger strike constitute a crying violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. PRCS also calls upon the Israeli Authorities to facilitate the work of the International Red Cross and to enable it to fulfill its responsibilities in line with this Convention which is considered to be International Customary Law.



New National Council of **Pionniers of Mali**



Every four years the Pionniers of Mali meet for their National Council. This December they met in Katibougo to present what the different groups had done over the last period, to renew their statutes and to plan the activity period 2012-2016. Also a new Federal Bureau was elected.

Seminar by **Integridad Absoluta**

Integridad Absoluta- Chile organised a seminar called: “In the mirror of culture: Heritage, Cultural and Gender Identity,” which led to an exchange and discussion on these issues for three days. Participants also discussed the relationship between culture, gender discourses and the various aesthetic possibilities that arise in this era of cultural migration, multiplication of identities (if not disappearance of the same by the excesses of identifications), disappearance of the distinction between public and private, and global involvement by the emergence of the local.

Integridad Absoluta volunteers participated in the event and also student leaders, social leaders and guests from other IFM organisations (from Argentina, Peru, Bolivia, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico and Dominican Republic).



Walk for Children’s Rights

Integridad Absoluta organised a walk with children of La Higuera, children of La Serena, Coquimbo for a whole day. The activity involved 60 children and teenagers. The activity took place within the framework of the commemoration of the UN convention on the Rights of the Child.

Children's and young people's participation needs to increase

Young leaders of Falcon groups from all over Scandinavia met in Helsinki, Finland in the beginning of December. The main topic of their seminar was children's rights and participation. Their participation must increase in society and also in falcon organisations.

They came to the conclusion that leaders should use methods which are more suitable to children and youngsters. Different matters must be dealt with concretely, so that children can work with them. During the seminar, the participants met the chairperson of Nuoret Kotkat, MP Sirpa Paatero in the Finnish Parliament. She told the young leaders about a new law on children and young people in Finland, demanding that municipalities develop new participatory methods. The number of youth councils and children parliaments is increasing more and more.

Nuoret Kotkat has developed different kind of participation methods suitable for children. Children make video interviews, draw or tell their wishes and ideas to leaders, who include the results in a written report. In March 2012 they will organise second congress for young leaders aged 13-17. The young leaders have planned the congress and children will also attend the meeting.



Indonesian Children Report to the ASEAN

Indonesian children took part in a workshop striving to raise awareness of their rights and aiming to encourage children to take a more active role in the development of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations). 19 children took part in workshop on the role of child participation in the ASEAN Process organised by KKSP Foundation in collaboration with the CRC-ASIA (Child Rights Coalition in Asia) in Medan, North Sumatra Province.

During the workshop held in October 2011, the participants discussed child rights and child participation and developed a common agenda for participating in the preparation of the report on violations of child rights in Indonesia to the ASEAN Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC).



Club Infantil de Vacaciones Alegría, Nueva Generación



In the beginning of December Nueva Generación started the 'Alegría children's holidays club', run for kids of school age in the northern zone of La Paz.

The objective of the club is to have a space where boys and girls can have fun and make new friends. At the same time we spread and discuss Child Rights and the values of democracy, solidarity, respect and inclusion through games, workshops and songs. The initiative was very much welcomed in the neighbourhood because before there weren't any projects or programmes where kids could spend their free time.

IYF: Partnership Between Families, Schools and the Community

The Independent Youth Forum (IYF) in partnership with Woodcraft Folk London is currently implementing a project to develop effective partnerships between families, schools and the community. The project focuses on formal and nonformal education in an attempt to create a healthy educational environment and to document the relationship between family, school and community. The project targets students in the eighth and ninth grades and will continue until the end of January 2012.



Our power is our unity: Anniversary camp in Lithuania

Lithuanian Young Falcon Union is celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2012. We cannot imagine our birthday celebration without our IFM-SEI family and its members. Therefore we would be really glad if you come along to celebrate it together with us from **29th June-8th July 2012**.

The last 20 years have been amazing, we believe we have grown; we have children growing inside the movement, we have learned a lot and are willing to learn further.

We will not only celebrate our birthday, but our diversity; we will educate ourselves, have fun together. The earlier

you register, the earlier we can ensure there is a programme created that each and everyone of us can enjoy.

Where do we meet? In campsite "Pasaka" at the seaside. Find more information on www.sakaliukai.lt, and if you have any questions or wish to send us congratulation messages next year, please contact us at sakaliukai@gmail.com

Price: For organisations from Western Europe it will be 200 €, and for organizations from Eastern Europe 188€.



UNITED 2012 in Doeбриach



From Great Britain to Lithuania, from Oslo to Barcelona: Everywhere in Europe there are Falcons – like us – who are working in groups regularly and are also going to camps. Now we invite all these Falcons to our European Falcon Camp UNITED. We want to show each other how we work in our groups: Which games do we play, how do we treat each other, which songs do we sing ... To learn in groups and have fun together is the focus of all this because: The group matters!

Our Camp:

This summer children, youth and families will be our guests in Döbriach. Together we will have a lot of fun & action and we get to know new friends from different countries. Our cool and varied programme will focus on 'group work'. There are perfect facilities for recreation on our camp-site in Döbriach: from beach volleyball to canoeing, from billiard to cycling. Don't miss this unique chance to come with your kids to United – THE European Falcon Camp 2012.

We invite children, youth and family groups from all over Europe to UNITED and will design a programme addressing the needs and interests of all these different groups.

Date: **16th to 26th July 2012**

Location: Falkencamp Döbriach, Glanzer Straße 66, 9873 Döbriach, www.falkencamp.com

Camp fee: for Western Europeans 220 €/for East Europeans 170 € per person (incl. accommodation in your own tent, food and programme)

Come and be there!

Dates for Your Diary

- 19-27 February 2012 **All together Against Climate Change: Training Course on Media Campaigning Against Climate Change** - Liepaja, Latvia
- 5-12 April 2012 **Volunteering Against Poverty Training Course** - Medan, Indonesia
- 3-6 May **IC meeting** - Dakar, Senegal
- 16-26 July 2012 **UNITED 2012 Falcon Camp** - Doebriach, Austria
- 29-8 June/July 2012 **LYFU "Our power is our unity" Camp** - Pasaka, Lithuania
- 14-20 August 2012 **Volunteering Against Poverty Editing Meeting** - Barcelona, Catalunya

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 1st March after 2012

Friendship!