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Invitation

SWAP SHOP

18 – 22 June 2009

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Hosted by Scouting Nederland

The SWAP SHOP

The first SWAP SHOP was first organized in 2005 as an event where Associations could equally exchange best practices and project ideas and work together on increasing the quality of Guiding and Scouting in Europe. Following the great success of this model, the Europe Region WAGGGS and WOSM - European Scout Region decided to open again this space as a joint initiative.

Through this event we want to encourage and support the development of new and high quality projects and programmes and ultimately the full development of Member Organizations and National Scout Organizations.

The Swap shop is a place where you can come and exchange your ideas and projects related to developing quality and quantity in your Association. It is a very special shop that will only be open over a week end in June 2009 and where you do not buy but exchange something for something else that you consider as beneficial as what you give.

We are opening this special shop as part of our long term strategy to assist Associations in the areas of organisational development and sustainable growth.

The event aims at creating an opportunity to bring all the actions and ideas together and to share them, to swap them and to learn from them. We know that not every action has been as successful as expected – and we will work together on the multiplication of successes and the improvement of less successful models.

The event will be a space where to network on different topics, support the development of MOs and NSOs and encourage partnership and continued exchange among Associations.

Programme and Implementation:

The programme will be built around the priorities identified by Associations and following the implementation of the Joint action plan 2007 – 2010.

In particular we will focus on the following areas:

- Educational Programme /Youth Programme
- Training/Adults in Scouting
- Structure and Management/Organisation for the 21st Century
- Membership growth
- External representation and advocacy

Although the programme will be designed according to the concept of the event, the Planning Team will take into consideration the needs expressed by MO's and NSO's and we would be happy to receive your suggestions and proposals, please send them in with your application.

Participants Profile

Volunteers, leaders and staff members responsible for strategic development or other specific areas of work who can actively contribute to the program of the SWAP SHOP and effectively feed back the results to their Association.

Participants will be asked, and should be able, to fully participate to the delivery of the event and to present/exchange the work as well as the future strategies of their association. Participants should be ready to collect information and materials before the event.

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
Association Mondiale des Guides et Eclaireuses



World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout

Please also consider that participants will also be requested to evaluate the event and to help the Regions improving their future activities.

Working Methods

We will use a number of interactive and participatory methods and focus our attention on methods that allow the participation of all actors involved in the sessions. Workshops, group discussions as well as presentations and display areas will be included in the programme. The active participation of participants will be essential for the success of the methods.

Dates

The SWAP SHOP will open from 18th June. Arrivals are anticipated for 17th June after 18.00. The event will finish in the morning of the 22nd June. Due to the characteristics of the events participants can also come on Friday 19th June and leave on Sunday after 16.00.

Venue

The event will be held at the Stayokay Youth Hostel Amsterdam .

As the venue is in Amsterdam, we would advise participants to fly/take a train to Amsterdam. More information on this will be given in the acceptance letter.

Languages

In case of a low number of participants requiring French, the roundtable will be held in English only but support will be given for French-speaking participants.

Participation fee

A fee of 150 euros will be charged for the whole event and a fee of 120 euros will be charged for participants arriving on Friday and leaving on Sunday. Fees will be invoiced to participating associations.

Thanks to a grant received from the European Youth Foundation we will be able to provide travel grants (up to a maximum of 200€ per person) to participants staying for the total duration of the event.

Travel

No travel should be booked until it is confirmed by the European Offices that the event is going ahead. The Europe Regions can not be held responsible for any loss of tickets due to the cancellation of the event before the confirmation letters have been sent.

Please note that adequate travel and health insurance is the responsibility of the participant

Visa

Participants are responsible for organizing their own travel and obtaining a visa if necessary. Please be aware it may take up to 6 weeks to obtain a visa. Please send your visa form in order to allow sufficient time for visas.

Application

Application forms should be submitted to the Europe Office WAGGGS no later than **30th March 2009**. By email to events@europe.wagggsworld.org or by Fax +32 541 08 99
Please indicate when you expect to arrive in the form.

Additional information

For further information, please contact Elisa Chiodi, Europe Region WAGGGS
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