

IFM-SEI Newsletter

Winter 2009 - 2010



IFM-SEI News

Train for Change: Full steam ahead!

The Train for Change Team has been working tirelessly during the Autumn to prepare the wonderful IFM-SEI camp 2010 and we're getting to the exciting stage where we can really imagine arriving in Dobriach! Organisations all over the world are registering to participate in this inspiring event - make sure you don't miss out- Register now to book your place at this exciting camp! All the information you need to be found on the special www.trainforchange.info have been translated into guages and the solidarity form is also online - don't if your movement needs travel costs and partici- We are also looking for people to join the central programme team to contribute to making sure the camp is as international as possible, contact programme@trainforchange.info or info@trainforchange.info with any questions.



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All Together Handbook now finished

After a lot of hard work over the last few months, we have finished the IFM handbook 'All Together - Making inclusion happen'. Inside you can find everything you need to be more inclusive in your organisation. The Handbook brings together the results of the first two years working on this important topic, it contains advice about starting inclusion work, analysis of the barriers to inclusion and best-practice examples of inclusion work undertaken by falcon organisations. The handbook is accompanied by a new web-based database of inclusion ideas which we hope you will all contribute to to ensure it is a dynamic and useful tool for local group leaders to be more inclusive. We hope that the handbook will inspire and support you to fulfil our principle of being inclusive of all children and young people in our communities. The handbook will be available from February onwards from the IFM-office, just send us an email when you want to order one!



Celebrating 20 years of Children's rights

Children and young people all over the world were celebrating 20 years of the CRC throughout November. They organised events to raise awareness of children's rights in their local communities through open activities and games.

Children's rights demonstration in Austria

Approximately 1000 people from all over Austria collected near Westbahnhof in Vienna to prepare themselves for the demonstration. Kinderfreunde informed people about Children's Rights and 12 workshops were set up for creating demonstration equipment (loudspeakers made of cardboard, but also hairdressing, button machine and so on). Then the demonstration moved through the most busy shopping mile in Vienna (Mariahilfer Str.). All shopping was stopped for a moment when we came with our whistles, drums and loudspeakers. On the way we met an info-point of ECPAT, the worldwide anti-trafficking and anti-children-sex-tourism movement, an organisation we are members of. At Museumsquarter they had some speeches from politicians, then they moved the party into the famous (in former times squatted by 68 revolutioners) Viennese culture club "Arena". There they had some cheering to prize winning children, the "1,2 or 3 – CR" game (guess the right answers) bands were playing, a discussion about participation took place and a clubbing for the 20th birthday of CRs. It has been in the daily TV-news and in some of the biggest newspapers.



Child poverty in Norway

Framfylkingen keeps putting child poverty in Norway on the agenda. The last years there has been a steady increase in child poverty in Norway. This Autumn, Framfylkingen sent letters to all Norwegian municipalities, informing them how many poor children lived in their municipality in 2000, how many children were poor in 2006, and if there had been an increase or decrease in their town. In most places, the child poverty had increased. Framfylkingen initiated a small survey, asking the mayors in Norway to answer two questions – if their municipality had a plan to fight child poverty in their municipality, and what steps their municipality had taken in order to fight child poverty. We experienced that there are huge differences among the municipalities, and how they deal with child poverty. Many municipalities have no focus on this important issue at all. However, Framfylkingen's letters give results, and several mayors have now decided to make a plan against child poverty.



On the 20th of November, Framfylkingen organized a seminar on child poverty and children's rights in Norway. The UN-Norway told us about children's rights, and Markko shared his experience with living in poverty, and his experience with helping school drop-

outs back to school. –The school is not only a place for education of different subjects, but it is the main social area for children and youth. That's why it is so important to adapt the education to each pupil, and to work hard for making the school a good place to be socially as well, he said in his presentation. On 16th of December Framfylkingen will launch an anthology about child poverty in Norway.



Children's rights celebration in Peru

A celebration of the 20th anniversary of the UN convention on children's rights was conducted in an area called Callao, a poor community located 30 kilometres north of Lima. The children in the CHAP and the adults were doing all-day workshops, games and a march with the children to raise awareness of their rights. Our work to globalize the rights of the child continues as we work on upcoming activities.

Story-telling contest in Spain

The story-telling contest was started on 20th of November. All esplais - children, youth leaders, families - among other social actors, were invited to write their stories and draw about them. Stories had to be based on the Children Rights Declaration and one extra article joining all participation articles of CRC. There were 11 story winners of the contest. Esplac received 68 stories and 580 people took part in the contest. As a follow up, they have published a book with the 11 winners and have created a web page, www.esplac.cat/vetaqui with all stories.



CRC-Training courses in Spain

Since 2006, the international training course of Esplac is linked to Children's Rights into the frame of Human Rights Education. They have been using methodologies linked to experiential learning and theatre of the oppressed, entering into topics related to Participation, Inclusiveness, Creativity, the role of Educators and Leadership. In 2010 they will continue with the training policy.

Malta - Road Show

In Malta between the 26th Nov and 1st Dec our member organisation was having the ROAD Show. These events are about the European Union citizen's rights. This campaign will visited 5 prominent places around the island and with the help of trained youth, the people were able to recognise and understand the rights s/he has as a European union citizen. These ROAD SHOW had already visited Romania, Germany, Bulgaria, Slovakia and Slovenia.



Global Networking for Children's Rights



In December, the European Youth Forum Children's Rights group held a meeting in Geneva attended by our Secretary General as well as Tim Schrock representing the German Youth Council. The meeting was hosted by the Finnish permanent representation to the UN and was attended by several other national representations, UNICEF, the International Labour Organisation and the NGO group on children's rights. Unfortunately, due to internal problems, no representative of the committee on the rights of the child could be present but they expressed their commitment to join the process at a future date. The meeting provided a space for an exchange of opinions about children's rights with the aim of increasing the influence of youth organisations on UN children's rights processes. Following the recently released general comment on article 12 of the UN convention, the focus of the discussions was on child participation and we were able to present a paper outlining our approach to child participation which was gratefully received. The meeting marked the beginning of a very fruitful relationship and will lead to several key developments:

1. IFM-SEI working with the ILO on child labour issues (we have been invited to attend the ILO child labour conference in May 2010 and have begun discussions on future co-operation)
2. IFM-SEI expanding our children's rights work to the global level by joining the NGO group on children's rights based in Geneva.

Peers without Frontiers off to a flying start

Peers without frontiers' is a global project initiated by IFM-SEI to run throughout 2010. Our aim is to set up a global network of young people actively contributing to the achievement of the MDGs. We aim to do this by training and supporting a network of peer educators in 18 organisations worldwide (IFM-SEI plus eight other European organisations and nine non-European organisations). The young people involved in the project will share approaches to peer education and develop high quality strategies for local implementation. Peer education projects will be set up in 17 local communities, eight in Europe and nine in Africa, Asia and Latin America, focusing on youth contribution to the achievement of the MDGs.



New project officer - Christine Sudbrock

In January 2010 Christine Sudbrock joined the IFM-SEI secretariat team. We are very happy to have her on board supporting the peers without frontiers project. She writes: "My name is Christine and I am 27 years old. I will join IFM-SEI in 2010 as a project officer for the "Peers without frontiers" project and I will also help with many of the other interesting IFM-activities. I am very happy to join the international IFM-family and already feel very welcome within the organisation! In Germany I grew up within a youth

organisation strongly committed to children and youth rights and for many, many years I have volunteered in this field. Now I am enthusiastic about striving together with all of you for children and youth rights all over the world! I am sure that we will set up a successful project while learning many things from each other and making new friends on our way.”

Youth organisations build a network in Africa

MIRIM Brazil and Unga Ornar organised the second phase of their innovative south-south co-operation project in December 2009. Bringing together nine African organisations as well as representatives of MIRIM, Unga Ornar, Woodcraft Folk and IFM, the seminar aimed to strengthen ties between youth organisations in Africa working on reproductive health education issues. Hosted by the Senegalese Pioneers in Lac Rose, the seminar provided the space for the exchange of ideas and experiences, to explore south-south co-operation, find out about IFM-SEI and children's rights. The event was a great success and also resulted in organisations expressing an interest to join IFM-SEI.



IFM-SEI history conference

Around 50 Comrades of the Socialist Youth of Germany, Die Falken, the Swedish Unga Ornar, the English Woodcraft Folk, the Finnish Nuoret Kotkat, the former French Falcon Rouge and SKIFF and the Israeli Hashomer Hatzair came together at the IFM-SEI Archive to discuss and learn about our common history and reflect upon differing perspectives.

The gathering was sometimes an academic search for historical data and facts. Sometimes it was a recollecting of memories (as also ¾ of the participants was over 50). Sometimes it was a quest, trying to understand and reflect upon why what had been done at the time. And sometimes basic questions with which workers children's and youth movements are confronted were discussed, which are still relevant and actual. The conference was greatly enjoyed by all, if you are interested to read the papers submitted to the conference, please contact Alexander Schwitanski archiv@arbeiterjugend.de

EFN-Meeting 2009 in Vienna

In October 30 participants from Europe met in Vienna for the yearly European Falcon Network meeting. The main issues for discussion were participation and volunteering in our movements, exploring ways to encourage and support our members in their volunteer roles. In addition, structures and new ideas for the international IFM-Camp 'Train for Change' in Austria and Czech Republic were discussed.



Småkultur – how to do cultural activities in your local branch.

This autumn, Framfylkingen was running a project, Småkultur – directly translated into English it means little or small culture, on how to implement cultural activities in the local branches of the organization. This is an educational project, where the youth involved, participated in three meetings at different places in Norway.

The first weekend, they all gathered in Porsgrunn, to get to know each other, plan the other meetings, and learn how to organize a youth club for younger people. They also got an introduction on how to describe a project and how to apply for monetary support.

The next gathering took place in Oslo, and was about drama. Two theatre instructors taught the group some basic theatre history, basic activities for improvisation. Different given tasks were solved by the youth with great creativity. The third gathering was in Trondheim, and was about choirs, singing and guitar playing. The group learnt some basic guitar skills, and how to organize choir rehearsals.

As a result of the work, the youth and the leaders have now written a handbook for others, on how to organise cultural events in the local branches. The handbook was launched on the 12th of December.

Congratulations to MILAVF

We would like to congratulate MILAVF- Nicaragua on their 30 anniversary. For 30 years MILAVF has been struggling and working hard for children's rights in Nicaragua and the whole region. The 14th of November was a special day for MILAVF and the Nicaraguan Children! Congratulations.

IFM-SEI joins steering group of the World Youth Conference in Mexico

IFM-SEI has been selected as one of eight international youth organisations to work with the Mexican government and the UNFPA to organise the World Youth Conference in Mexico City in August. The conference will bring together young people from every country in the world to develop a youth input to the next UN programme of Action on Youth. IFM-SEI's involvement in this process shows an increased recognition of the work we are doing and the active role we are playing at global level. Tamsin is a member of the steering group on our behalf and Ana-Maria Almario (Acacia, Colombia) is representing FLAJ, the Latin American Youth Forum, in the steering group. More details on how to apply to participate in this event will be circulated very soon.

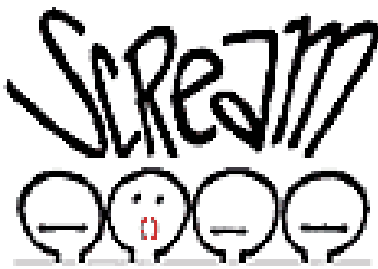


Council of Europe Ad-hoc group on child participation

The Council of Europe's programme 'Building a Europe for and with Children' focuses on Children's Rights in the Council of Europe member states as well as beyond Europe's borders. Violence against children including corporal punishment and bullying is the first priority area and the other is child participation. Having been involved in the process from the beginning, IFM-SEI's Secretary General, Tamsin, was asked to join the newly established ad hoc group as a child participation expert. The group's task is to monitor child participation mechanisms in place in member states and to support them in putting in place more effective methods of child participation. The group comprises three representatives of youth organisations, three governmental representatives and three external experts.



ILO Launch Child Labour educational materials – SCREAM!



The International Labour Organisation has launched a series of educational materials aiming to work with children and young people in schools and youth groups on child labour. The packs have been produced in many languages and can be downloaded directly from the website www.ilo.org/scream Why not try some of the activities with your group as a way to start the discussion about child labour?

Upcoming events

2010 is an exciting and action-packed year – I'm sure you'll all want to be a part of it! We want to plan early with some of the upcoming activities, please circulate these calls early to make sure we find the right participants for IFM events.

Month	Date	Activity	Location
January 2010	22nd - 24th	IFM-Presidium meeting	Austria / Salzburg
February 2010	15th - 21st	All Together Training course	Germany / Düsseldorf
March 2010	14th - 21st	Study session - Peer education for a sustainable world	France / Strasbourg
April 2010	15th - 18th	IFM-Congress	Czech Republic / Prague
May 2010		T4C - Preparation Seminar	Czech Republic / Brno
		Peers without Frontiers	Mumbai / India

All Together Training Course 15 – 21 February 2010, Düsseldorf, Germany

This training course on inclusion will bring together local leaders from falcon organisations who are motivated to make their groups and activities more inclusive of disadvantaged young people. The training course aims to give people the skills, competencies and energy to do inclusion work. During the week, the All Together Handbook and Website will also be launched, providing falcons with inspiration and tools for more effective inclusion.

Target group are european falcon members interested in improving their skills in inclusion, or who have no previous experience but who are motivated to make their work more inclusive. Applications from young people with fewer opportunities are particularly welcome.

70% travel costs will be reimbursed and there is a participation fee of 50 Euros per person for falcon members.

Train for Change programme seminar, Brno, Czech Republic

A programme planning seminar will take place in February in Brno, Czech Republic. The aim of the seminar is to involve IFM member organisations in discussing and planning the central camp programme. It is an exciting opportunity to help shape the programme and get to know other IFM volunteers who are full of energy, ideas and motivation for Train for Change! If you, or someone from your organisation is interested to participate, please contact the Train for Change team programme@trainforchange.info

Target group are People interested to be part of the central programme team. These people should be able to commit to working in an international team preparing the programme after the seminar and up until the camp itself.

Czech Pionyr has applied for a grant for this seminar. More details will be circulated shortly.

Study session 'more than just recycling: Peer education for a sustainable world' 14 – 21 March 2010, Strasbourg, France.

The aim of this seminar is to train participants as peer educators on sustainable development. They will share their approaches to peer education as well as their knowledge about sustainable development. We will link the study session to the peers without frontiers project, developing an even bigger pool of peer educators. The participants will also develop plans for future action including piloting peer education approaches at the IFM camp 2010 and developing peer education support materials on sustainable development.

Target group are young people who are active in falcon organisations, are interested in the topic of sustainable development and are motivated to be peer educators. We are particularly targeting young people with fewer opportunities to support them to be more involved in leading the development of IFM-SEI. We have five places in this course for people from outside Europe.

Full travel costs are covered. A participation fee of up to 50 Euros will be charged by the council of Europe to contribute towards accommodation and food costs.



IFM-SEI Congress April 15 -18 2010

The Congress is the highest decision-making body of IFM-SEI. Taking place every three years, the congress makes decisions on the political and organisational development, approves the finances and elects a new Presidium.

Target group is leadership or representatives of IFM-SEI member organisations

Each delegate pays a fee to participate in the Congress. This fee is different according to the world regions as defined in our membership fee system:

Western Europe: 220 Euros per person
Central and Eastern Europe and Israel: 170 Euros per person
Rest of the world: 120 Euros per person.

Peers without frontiers May and July 2010

Peers without frontiers is IFM-SEI's exciting new global project. 36 young people from 18 countries world-wide will lead a project on peer education for the Millennium Development Goals. They will participate in a long-term training course, building a strong network of falcons across the globe committed to contributing to the achievement of the MDGs. The project is ambitious and exciting, it will reach all IFM organisations at the IFM camp in summer 2010 and we hope that it will have a lasting impact.

Target group are 2 young people (one male and one female) from each of the 18 movements committed to working for the whole year.

Train for Change IFM-SEI Camp, 25 July – 6 August 2010

Train for Change is IFM-SEI's global camp 2010. Hosted by Czech Pionyr and Rote Falken/ Kinderfreunde, Train for Change will bring together 1200 young people from all over the world to take part in a programme of activities on the theme of Action for Social Change.

Everyone is welcome at train for change but the main target group for activities is young people aged 10 – 20.

The participation fee is 250 Euros per person, however, we aim to reduce this amount through the solidarity fund.

