



## **Values and role of IVS in the current political, social, economic situation**

**Alliance Congress - Rispescia (Italy) - from 2nd to 7th November 2014**

“Looking into a Youth future with hope and trust” Workplan 2014 - with the support of the Council of Europe

# Strategic Recommendations

## **Sustainability**



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## Issue addressed 1

Unclear information of the volunteers about what sending fees and extra-fees are for

# TOOLS AND METHODS TO CLARIFY FOR VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERS THE ALLOCATION OF FEES ARE CREATED

1. To exchange practices and collect information from member organizations about how the fees are managed
2. To elaborate a common (agreed) and (detailed) graphic explanation for the volunteers of how sending and extra fees are used
3. To create a guide for member organizations on how to explain the fee systems to the volunteers.
4. To show to volunteers how the fees they're paying are a solidarity contribution that impacts the whole IVS movement.
5. To explain to volunteers how the same amount of money has a different financial impact in different countries



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Issue addressed 2

No Alliance model for allocating financial resources for workcamps

## A STRATEGY OF FINANCING WORKCAMPS IS IN PLACE

1. To collect information from members on funds, lobby possibilities and advocacy tools available in different countries; to elaborate the data and create a publication about financing workcamps, including the ethics of fundraising from different sources, and to share it with members.
2. To make research on economic impact of workcamps to use it to attract possible donors
3. To seek financing from private companies, being clear on the message advertised
4. To have training on fundraising, start fundraising campaigns, also making use of web fundraising platforms



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## Issue addressed 2

### No Alliance model for allocating financial resources for workcamps

# A STRATEGY OF FINANCING WORKCAMPS IS IN PLACE

5. To address different institutions (national and international), and to apply for EU funding when workcamps will be recognized as a non-formal education form
6. To survey and foster any kind of contribution from the host of the workcamp that could lower the workcamp's costs
7. To apply fair fees to volunteers to cover the necessities of the organization, taking into account that each organization lives in a unique reality/context



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## Issue addressed 3

Insufficient staff fully dedicated to the Alliance (compared to the workload and needs)

THE ALLIANCE HAS FOUND  
A WAY TO SUPPORT A  
SECRETARIAT TO SUPPORT  
ALL FUNCTIONS OF THE  
WORK OF THE ALLIANCE,  
THE ALLIANCE REMAINING  
A VOLUNTARY BASED  
NETWORK

1. To search for more guaranteed public grants
2. To better explain to members why the Alliance Secretariat is fundamental, so that they participate in the search for guaranteed funds to support it
3. To allocate funds available in the budget based on the membership fees only, through a matter of saving.
4. To increase the membership fees
5. To increase the number of members and therefore the income from membership fees
6. To have some Alliance meetings online to reduce costs.
7. To seek private funding



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Issue addressed 4  
Unbalanced exchanges

THE ALLIANCE  
ADDRESSES THE  
CAUSES AND  
CONSEQUENCES OF  
UNBALANCED  
EXCHANGES BETWEEN  
MEMBERS

1. To analyze the reasons and how the situation of unbalanced exchanges influences the network, also collecting information about the extra-fees that are charged by each member and calculating the total amount applied
2. Make the situation of each organization better known to other members
3. To adjust membership fees of each member organization to its financial situation and performance on exchanges
4. To search for alternative sources of funding



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Issue addressed 5

Lack of a consulting system to gather members' opinions

THERE IS AN EFFICIENT  
AND EFFECTIVE  
INFORMATION FLOW  
BETWEEN THE MEMBERS  
AND THE EC  
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

1. To make the existing connections/ systems known and understood more
2. To make the existing structures more visual and to convey the information in a simpler and easier way



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## Issue addressed 6

### Different understanding/sets of “workcamp’s conditions”

# THERE IS AN UPTO DATE ANALYSIS OF A MODERN WORKCAMP MODEL

1. To analyze the existing workcamp types to define a workcamp model, collecting and exchanging good practices, know-how and members’ and stakeholders’ experience, taking into account existing structures in the network (TNWG, Course Director...) already developing educational curricula, to clarify workcamps over other types of voluntary service projects
2. To describe examples, good practices, and suggestions on what a “good workcamp” would be
3. To clarify to members and all stakeholders (volunteers, camp leaders, local communities etc.) the sense and philosophy of workcamps and the values it carries on



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Issue addressed 6

Different understanding/sets of “workcamp’s conditions”

THERE IS AN UP TO  
DATE ANALYSIS OF A  
MODERN WORKCAMP  
MODEL

4. To survey and identify the needs of volunteers for attending workcamps, and of local communities to run workcamps
5. To make clear the difference between workcamps and other projects that gives an understanding of the specific fees that might be asked.



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## Issue addressed 7

### Lack of financial solidarity model among members

# A SOLIDARITY POLICY AND TOOLS FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF EXCHANGES IS DEVELOPED

1. To organize meetings dedicated to analyze financial issues and management in different countries, in order to exchange information about the situation of each member, identify problems and needs and share best practices
2. To define the support that can be provided to members and assist them in dealing with local/national financial situation; lobbying from the network at international and national level for the common benefit of the members
3. To develop solidarity measures on financial and/or technical level (i.e. mentoring organizations with fewer skills on financial management or grant applications) and in terms support of human resources
4. To activate crowd-funding measures, as a network or as members, to help members that are financially struggling



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## Issue addressed 8

The budget depends too much on one public grant  
(EU administrative grant)

### THE ALLIANCE BUDGET IS COMPOSED OF GUARANTEED AND DIVERSE FUNDING SOURCES

1. To analyze the institutionalized relationship with the European Commission of other NGOs or networks to act in a similar way, getting a status of permanent partner instead of applying for grants on a regular basis
2. To explore good practices of other networks, also dealing with actions other than IVS
3. To explore and discuss social entrepreneurship as a permanent way of funding without depending on grants
4. To create a policy/strategy for private funding of the network consulting private fundraisers
5. To raise funds from private donors at local and national levels through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)



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## Issue addressed 9

good practices/activities aren't written down anywhere  
(i.e. joint meeting of Working Groups)

### JOINT MEETING IS INSTITUTIONALIZED

1. To present a proposal to have Joint Meeting adopted by the GA, to make it constitutional and allocate funds if needed, possibly not depending on administrative grants but applying for other types of funds
2. To integrate in the Alliance meetings study session and/or visit to members' local projects, in order to learn more about their activities and best practices
3. To provide more time for networking to members, to exchange practices, methods, besides already existing ones (TM, AD at the GA)
4. To develop the Buddy System and the job shadowing to increase networking between members



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## Issue addressed 9

good practices/activities aren't written down anywhere  
(i.e. joint meeting of Working Groups)

## JOINT MEETING IS INSTITUTIONALIZED

5. To change the structure of bilaterals and meetings between partners at TM, to increase the time dedicated to share about specific topics, common projects etc., including the creation of a November meeting (not PCE) for evaluation
6. To create and diffuse a questionnaire on financial management, fundraising, project management etc. and share the results with members
7. To create common frames of communication tools to ease the presentation of members organizations to each other



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