Dear all,

Below is the report of one of the students who attended the YRE mission this January. We sincerely hope to take another group of students next year – so start working on your projects and uploading them on the website. It’s an opportunity not to be missed!

An unforgettable experience for YRE Malta

65 Young Reporters for the Environment, originating from 10 different countries, got the opportunity to meet together in Stockholm, Sweden between the 23rd and 27th January 2014 to participate in an educational mission focusing on sustainable development.

January 2014 to participate in an educational mission focusing on sustainable development. All the participants - from Malta, Romania, Montenegro, Slovakia, Canada, France, Germany, Kazakhstan, Latvia and FYR Macedonia had done well last year in the YRE litter less campaign.

Throughout the experience students enjoyed a number of inspirational speeches by hosts which varied from Regional Waste Company representatives, ecological magazine editors and motivational companies’ representatives. The talks instilled passion and conveyed the possibility of developing the potential within each of the students as future environmentalists and journalists.

The main focus of the mission was a practical session which started with informative sessions on article, video and photojournalism, and continued with practical reporting on themes related to sustainable development. Ten different groups worked on various themes such as waste produced by fast food outlets, packaging waste or the value of tap water vs bottled water, and investigations included interviews with people on the streets, dialogues with outlet managers and contacts with people concerned. Groups were composed of students from all four corners of the world and the end results were exhibited on the last day.
The experience included also appreciation of Sweden, with a visit to the Museum of Photography on Friday and a visit to Skansen on Sunday - the world’s first open air museum, founded in 1891. Other activities included the screening of an interesting story about the production of bananas, which conveyed a message true to the aim of the YRE.

Apart from the actual experience, this opportunity was an invaluable hub for networking, and some of the Maltese students are now considering producing joint projects with foreign students for this year’s campaign.

Martina Mifsud  
Young Reporter for the Environment  
St Aloysius’ College

YRE Workshops

As already stated in previous emails, this year there is another opportunity to attend sponsored workshops with professionals in order to improve journalistic skills. These will only be possible this year for the last time through the Wrigley funds. Since the dates proposed were not convenient for all, workshops dates are being rescheduled for in-house training in schools.

There are still some vacant options for these workshops – please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested. Schools will be accommodated on first come first serve basis. Another opportunity not to be missed!
Projects for 2014

Once again, be reminded that the deadline for this year’s projects is end of March 2014. Participants need to register on the local website www.yremalta.org, and, if you are participating in the litter less campaign, on the litter less website. Only a few have registered so far – please do so at your earliest.

Young Reporters at work

As from this year, YRE students are being invited to report / photograph / take videos of activities organised by any one of the FEE programmes. So far, young reporters were present at a turtle release session (EkoSkola), tree planting activity (LEAF), Global Education Week activity at St Margaret College BSS Verdala (GEW) and our mission in Sweden (YRE). On all occasions reporters have done a wonderful job!

Upcoming activities include the Young People’s Summit (March 2014), an environmental audit at Playmobil funpark (March 2014), the EkoSkola Parliament session (May 2014) and another turtle release session closer to summer. Schools that are interested in sending students to report the events are to contact YRE Malta as soon as possible. On each occasion the number of reporters allowed is limited, so schools will be chosen on first come first served basis. These opportunities are giving our students first-hand experience on reporting - heartfelt thanks to Nature Trust Malta for making it possible!

Audrey Gauci
YRE National Coordinator
yre@naturetrustmalta.org
www.yremalta.org
Tel: 21313150