By 2023 Scouting will be the world’s leading educational youth movement, enabling 100 million young people to be active citizens creating positive change in their communities and in the world based on shared values.”
Dear Brother & Sister Scouts,

Scouting exists to bring positive change to the world, both to its individual members and to their local communities, and we have been doing that for more than 100 years now.

However, in the world of tremendous opportunities which we are living in, we can do even better. As a global movement of over 40 million members (and growing), we are in a privileged position to bring positive change to the world, in each family, each neighbourhood, each village, each city and each country.

To be more effective in transforming lives, we need to reinforce our educational profile, our culture of service, and our response to societal challenges. Everybody needs to be involved, especially young people, because they are an invaluable source of energy, creativity and values.

Young people account for a quarter of the world’s population. They are a powerful force for change and a significant contributor to facing both local and global challenges. This is being done by taking action in their communities – providing for their families, implementing development projects, advocating for human rights, participating in decision-making, or providing solutions for collective problems – and Scouting needs to contribute to unlock this potential in our young people.

Scouting offers young people, with the support of adults, the opportunity to work on programmes that are active, fun, meaningful and participative. But their foundation lies on fundamental principles and on a number of values which we are proud to call our own. When programmes are executed based on these principles and embracing the Scout Promise and Law, we will see active citizens being developed, a better world created, and more and more young people joining the Movement to do their part for their communities and the world. By enabling this to happen, we will be implementing the vision we recently adopted:

“By 2023 Scouting will be the world’s leading educational youth movement, enabling 100 million young people to be active citizens creating positive change in their communities and in the world based on shared values.”

I urge you, therefore, to join hands with us to create a better world for ourselves, our communities and the world.

Yours in Scouting

João Armando Gonçalves
Chairperson, World Scout Committee
WORLD SCOUT PROGRAMMES... A FRAMEWORK FOR CREATING A BETTER WORLD

Scouting is all about young people – building values (Scout Promise and Law) in them, developing them to be active citizens and leaders of their community and the world, and empowering them to take action as responsible and committed citizens.

It is, therefore, important that World Scouting has exciting and innovative programmes and activities that will draw the attention of these young people to join and be involved, and to contribute to positive changes in their communities.

Recognising this, World Scouting strives to continuously offer opportunities and channels that will truly enhance young people to be the catalysts of change, addressing global issues in their local communities through volunteerism, internships, community services and partnership projects with other non-governmental and governmental organisations.

Over the years, these have morphed into, what is now called, the World Scout Programmes, comprising the Scouts of the World Award, World Scout Environment Programme and Messengers of Peace.

SCOUTS OF THE WORLD AWARD (SWA)
The SWA challenges all young people (Scouts and non-Scouts) aged between 15 and 26 years to reflect on global issues and act on them at local level. It is the only award for young people that is provided by World Scouting. It aims to encourage stronger involvement of young people in the development of society. Launched in 2004, the SWA is one of World Scouting’s contributions to the UN Millennium Development Goals.

WORLD SCOUT ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (WSEP)
The importance of the environment to Scouting was highlighted at the 37th World Scout Conference in 2005. In 2006, the Educational Methods Committee, through the Environment Education Task Team, developed the World Scout Environment Programme, introduced a new World Scout Environment Badge, launched SCENES (Scout Centres of Excellence for Nature and Environment), and established and maintained effective environment partnerships.

MESSENGERS OF PEACE (MOP)
The MoP is a global initiative of World Scouting, which aims to inspire millions of young people throughout the world to do amazing things in their communities to create a better world. Since 2012, Scouts have been sharing their community service initiatives online on scout.org. To date, more than 620,000,000 service hours have been registered in over 40,000 community service initiatives. This has contributed to building a common sense of purpose among Scouts Messengers of Peace.

Through these World Scout Programmes, under the “Better World” framework, World Scouting hopes to develop generations of active citizens who are committed, responsible, and endowed with critical thinking to examine and potentially challenge the status quo using the principles of democracy. The World Scout Programmes aim to motivate the “active citizen” within each young person (Scout or non-Scout) and move him/her to take concrete actions on issues that affect his/her local community to create a better world in a Global Network of Service, as envisioned by Baden-Powell:

“...a place where young citizens, male and female in all countries, are brought up to look upon their neighbours as brothers and sisters in the human family allied together with the common aim of service and sympathetic helpfulness towards each other.”

Hany Abdulwahab Abdulmonem
Director, Youth Programme
World Organization of the Scout Movement
Food scarcity remains an issue for many countries in Africa. One way to overcome it is to help the population produce enough food for their family despite limited resources (such as water and land) and the need to rely on weather patterns.

In 2003, the Food For Life (FFL) Project was conceptualised. The aim was to the fight against hunger in Africa by equipping young people and Scouts (six to 18 years old) with agricultural skills to produce their own food, and entrepreneurial skills to generate income from agriculture.

The project achieved the above objectives through:

- The implementation of a Scouting proficiency programme that disseminated agricultural skills.
- Training and supporting the national project coordinators who trained the trainers and Scouts at local levels.
- Supporting the implementation of the programme at national level.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the project.

Participants of the project went through the proficiency programme in three stages and upon the completion of each stage, they received a proficiency badge.

The different stages helped the participating Scouts learn how to successfully grow vegetable/crop species, harvest the crop, develop a simple business plan and keep records in order to turn farming into an income generating activity.

Since 2013, the project has been introduced to Rover Patrols in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Malawi and South Sudan. Other countries that have implemented or are implementing the project include Burundi, Benin, Kenya, Lesotho, Niger, South Africa and Uganda.
Testimonial

I appreciated the Food For Life training in theory but I could not imagine the scope of the project. It was only during the practical implementation that I started to see the importance of all the work we did and that really fascinated me.

At the beginning, it was difficult to find motivation for the group gardening as we also had schoolwork and classes to attend. It was only when the plants started to grow that we really began to find interest in the project. The observations and discussion topics were interesting. Then came the competition for making bio-intensive home gardens.

I planted beans, roselle (hibiscus), okra and spinach in a 3m x 1m space. It wasn’t easy with my parents when it comes to using water – the garden had to be watered both in the morning and the evening due to the heat. But I agreed with my mother that I would use non-soapy water left over from cleaning the house.

When my garden developed, she cooked the vegetables, and during meal times she would often ask our family members to thank me as the vegetables came from my garden. This is how my family really understood the scope and benefits of the project. I am proud to be able to help my family and decided to teach the techniques to all my friends, too.

– Judicaël Toé, Burkina Faso

My son started the home garden quietly during the dry season, which is usually not a good time for gardening due to the heat and lack of water. At first I was worried about the water bills as the garden needed to be watered regularly, but he insisted and we allowed him to do it. After a while there was an abundance of leaves growing, and I started to pick and cook them on a regular basis. When I saw the impact of the project, I really started to appreciate the objective of the project. We agreed to extend the garden.

Since we’ve the garden, I no longer need to spend much money on meals. There is no need for me to go to the market every day anymore as the garden now supplies the essentials for our meals. I believe this project is very educative for the young people and should be available to all youths in Burkina Faso.

– Toé’s Mother
SCOUTS EMBARK ON EBOLA AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

When the Ebola epidemic hit West Africa last year, a local community troop of the Liberian Scout Association located in the community of Bernard Farm (the outskirts of the Monrovia) embarked on a month-long anti-Ebola sensitisation and awareness campaign.

The main objective was to reach over 5,000 locals within the Bernard Farm-FDA community and its environs with the "Stop Ebola" message. More than 30 Scouts went around to share messages on the importance of washing hands, and the need to avoid shaking hands, touching dead bodies and/or sick people, eating bush meat, or coming into contact with bodily fluids of sick people.

The Scouts also creatively dramatised their messages to galvanise the community members into taking preventive measures and alerting each other on signs and symptoms of the virus.

This campaign was initiated and supported by the People Empowerment Programme (PEP) through its local leadership and its Dutch Foundation in The Netherlands. PEP is a local Liberian non-governmental and not-for-profit organisation whose mission is to empower people through transformative education as a means to combat ignorance, resource inequality, poor governance, human rights violations and gender disparity.

CYCLING FOR PEACE AND HEALTH

In preparation for the World Scout Cycling Expedition to Japan and the Centenary celebrations in Uganda this year, Scouts in Uganda have undertaken various community activities as a way to promote peace and engage in test route trainings in order to keep fit and prepare for the great adventure.

In September 2014, the Uganda Scout Cyclists embarked on a community service and cycled from their respective homes to the Kisenyi Health Centre IV where they cleaned the ward and compound of the health centre and its environs. This activity was also to commemorate the International Day of Peace.

After the activity at the health centre, the Scouts met with young people from the community and members of the press to talk about their Scouting activities and share the Messengers of Peace message.

They also joined young people from different youth-led organisations at a peace conference facilitated by UNICEF Uganda themed Youth Right to Peace, and discussed how young people can play a central role in promoting peace in Uganda.
SCOUTS LEVERAGE U-REPORT

In September 2014, UNICEF hosted an awareness campaign about its U-Report tool where young Scouts in the city of Goma committed to be active in this effort.

U-Report is a free SMS-based platform that allows young people to speak out on what is happening in communities across the country, and work together with community leaders to effect positive change.

For the young people, this tool provides them with an opportunity to share their opinion on various development activities in their communities. The Scouts who had been introduced to U-Report greatly appreciate the tool as it is in line with the Scout Promise and Scout Law.

To help expand the use of U-Report, the Scouts proceeded with activities to raise awareness about this tool among other Scouts and young people.

With this, they hope that the voice and opinion of young people will be heard by government policy-makers and donors, and eventually, will be a step forward in creating a better world for the communities.

This article is courtesy of Pierrot MUVHIRI, Assistant Leader Trainer, Federation of Scouts of Congo.

SCOUTING MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN PRISON

In Luzira, a suburb of Kampala the capital of Uganda, sits the country’s main prison – the Luzira Maximum Security Prison. This prison compound houses another prison for petty offenders called the Murchison Bay Prison, which hosts over 5,000 inmates.

In February 2015, the Youth Programme Director of the Uganda Scout Association, Dr. Moses Mpuuga, formed the Murchison Bay Prison Scouts Troop as a Messengers of Peace community service project.

Dr. Moses, a medical doctor, works as a part time consultant with the Uganda Prisons Service and Murchison Bay Prison is one of the stations he visits. During one of the prison’s Sports Day, he was invited by the Officer In-charge of the prison and he attended the event, wearing a Scout scarf, accompanied by a Rover Scout.

One of the inmates approached them and saluted. They saluted back, exchanged a left handshake and that was how the Scout troop started. The inmate who met them quickly mobilised his friends, and two weeks later they formed the Murchison Bay Prison Scouts Troop. During the launch of the troop, Dr. Moses reiterated to them that Scouts are Messengers of Peace.

The Murchison Bay Prison Scouts Troop. With membership open to all inmates for free, the Murchison Bay Prison Scouts Troop grew to over 50 members in less than two months. The Troop divided themselves into four patrols and each Patrol Leader formed the Troop Executive Committee under the leadership of a Troop Leader. The Inmates Chairman and Prison Welfare Officer became the ex-officio members. The Troop operates under the support of the Officer In-charge of the prison, with authority from the Commissioner General of the Uganda Prisons Service.

Some of the activities carried out include troop meetings on every Sunday, life skills training, community work to support the prison’s programmes, leadership training to empower them to support Scouting back in their districts when they finish serving their jail terms.

The Troop also supports the medical doctor in administering medication to fellow inmates and performing first aid at the sick bay. In addition, they run small micro-projects related to the production of liquid soap used for cleaning within the prison and also sold to the locals in small quantities.
In November 2013, the King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) and the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together to improve relations among people of different religions and cultures.

KAICIID trains Scouts on Dialogue, which in turn will lead to the development of a Scout Dialogue badge.
Witnessing the influx of refugees, Scouts of Lebanon moved into action and offered emergency assistance. They also reached out to the young people in refugee camps to run Scout programmes and related educational and social activities.

The ongoing instability, insecurity and violent situation in Syria have led tens of thousands to flee their homeland and seek safety in neighbouring Lebanon. Witnessing the influx of refugees, the Scouts of Lebanon moved into action, and vowed to assist the most vulnerable — women and children.

The Lebanese Scouts organised an emergency response to help to provide for the urgent needs of the refugees. With support from across the region, shelter, food supplies, sustenance and related care were provided. Most importantly, the Scouts are reaching out to the young people in refugee camps to run Scout programmes and related educational and social activities.

The Messengers of Peace Support Fund helped in terms of securing essential goods such as winter clothing, tents, as well as training and support for the Scouts in Lebanon.
SERVING THE FASTING PRAYERS IN AL-AQSA MOSQUE

In 2012, the Palestinian Scouts and Girl Guides Association, in collaboration with the Palestinian Scout Commission in Jerusalem, the management office of Al-Aqsa Mosque, and the Jordanian Awqaf office, carried out public service during the month of Ramadan.

Over 1,000 Scouts contributed their service by assisting thousands of prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque where Muslims came to perform their religious duties during the holy month.

By the end of the project, Scouts had supervised the safety and security of over 300,000 prayer sessions in the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock (Qubbat Al Sakhra). Daily support activities included publishing and distributing awareness collaterals to clarify the role of Scouts who have been trained to deal with potential life-threatening situations. In addition, a large amount of effort was dedicated to caring for the elderly and infants.

This commendable effort continues today.

CHILDREN IN HOT CONFLICT ZONES WELCOMED AT SCOUTING ACTIVITIES

Given the ongoing conflict and insecurity in various parts of Sudan, Scouts in the country saw an urgent need to engage with local young people to offer a peaceful and safe respite. As such, the Scouts of Sudan invited young people to participate in Scouting activities.

The Scouts and their leaders collaborated on this effort to ensure the safety of the young people while offering them educational programmes. Now, the Scout programmes offer hope to the local youth in developing skills to deal with the stress related to the aftereffects of violence and conflict.
SORT, REDUCE, RECYCLE

This "sort, reduce, recycle" project aimed to reduce pollution by emphasising the importance of sorting out and recycling waste, and how the community can play an important role in sustainable development. It also promoted partnerships between the public and private sectors and the society.

Organisations such as the Department of Education, Governmental Department for the Environment, Governmental Department for Social Insertion, Pedagogical Medical Centre for children with disabilities, Radio Bouira and many more were involved in this activity.

In addition to gaining knowledge related to recycling, volunteers also learnt the necessary project management and planning skills. This project involved approximately 5,000 children from 60 educational institutions across 12 municipalities.

One million bottle caps were collected in the first phase of the project and the income generated went to providing for the educational needs of children with mental disabilities at the medical centre.

Overall, this activity also helped to enhance the image and role of Scouts in providing community service and in contributing to community development.

PLANTING A GREENER TUNISIA

In 2002, an illegal fire in Tunisia consumed 50 hectares of pine tree forest in Chat Zouaraa (Beja). Fifty Scouts and Guides collaborated in a Scouts of the World Award effort for 14 days and planted 4,700 trees on 20 hectares of land with the support of the Messengers of Peace Initiative.

The key purpose of the project was to raise awareness among the Scouts and Guides on the importance of trees in a balanced local and social ecosystem.

Pine tree forests in Beja affect the economic activity of local families who collect pine as a source of income. To ensure sustainability and to increase community engagement, the participants went door-to-door talking to locals and educating them on the importance of protecting their forests.

CREATING A BETTER LIFE FOR THE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED

The Scout movement is an all-inclusive movement that supports physical, mental and spiritual development among young people. Scouting offers many positive benefits for youths across the world. A group of Scouts from Alexandria, Egypt, took the lead and organised an activity with Scouts who are handicapped to teach them life skills and create a better world together.
Regardless of background or circumstances, the Award encourages you to set your own goals and stretch yourself to achieve your personal aims. Its effects can be truly transformational!

For young people today, academic qualifications are only one side of the story – we know that lessons learned outside the classroom, particularly through Scouting, are equally important to your life and future.

The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award (the Award) is a global youth achievement award that equips young people for life. It is a voluntary and non-competitive programme of activities for the 14-24 year olds. Community service is an integral part of the Award, empowering you, as tomorrow’s leader, to take action and make a difference to the lives of others, fostering peace and understanding between people and communities.

Coming up to its 60th anniversary next year, the Award has a long and rich history working with the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), which is now one of its largest licensed providers. Through this partnership, the Award supports the activities and achievements of Scouts including Scout Venturers, Rovers and Young Adult Leaders to be more widely recognised worldwide, giving young people a unique and well-respected international accreditation of their experiences.

As with Scouting, doing the Award requires commitment. The Award’s three levels – Bronze, Silver and Gold – can generally link to existing national programme schemes within Scouting, so taking part in the Award can be completely integrated with the usual Scouting activities.

You can work your way through four sections – Service, Skills, Physical Recreation and Adventurous Journey – while making new friends and having fun. Regardless of background or circumstances, the Award encourages you to design your own programme of activities, set your own goals and stretch yourself to achieve your personal aims. Its effects can be truly transformational!

The Award can also complement the Scouts of the World Award, which challenges young people to reflect on global issues and act upon them at a local level. Your Discovery or Voluntary Service, for example, could count towards the Award’s Residential Project undertaken at Gold level. You broaden your experience by staying in an unfamiliar environment with other young people, taking part in a worthwhile project and building new relationships.

So, while you are working towards one accreditation, you are actually working towards both – that’s twice the recognition for all the efforts you put in!

Both programmes are widely recognised by employers, colleges and universities alike, enabling you to stand out from the crowd. They both encourage young people to make positive changes, not only to their own lives, but to the lives of others and their wider communities.

Since its inception in the UK in 1956, the Award has expanded to more than 140 countries and territories across the world, inspiring millions of young people to transform their lives and make a positive impact. This could be through volunteering in their community, encouraging social inclusion, raising awareness of environmental issues or helping to reduce conflict. Young people become role models to others around them, expanding their horizons and reaching outside of their comfort zone.

Combining the Award programme with your Scouting activities is a perfect way to strengthen the international recognition of your efforts across all of these worthwhile achievements.

Learn more at intaward.org.
Unity in diversity is about respecting differences and appreciating varieties. This was evident after the completion of the Uniting Two Cultures through Scouting project by the Scout Association of Mongolia, under the Messenger of Peace Initiative.

The project started in November 2012 at Bawan-Ulgii Province in Mongolia. Twenty-seven leaders were trained on the fundamentals and history of Scouting, and the Scout Method.

Deliverables of the project included the translation of Scouting books from Mongolian to the Kazak language and the printing of 1,000 copies each for the Cub and Scout sections. This was done in order to help the children understand Scouting better. Recently, 50 Cubs and 120 Scouts received and started using these books during their troop meetings.

Additionally, 45-minute Mongolian language classes were held three times a week. The young participants were taught the Mongolian language to help them cope with formal education, and to reduce the number of school dropouts.

During the project, a total of 119 children aged between six and 12 years participated in the Scouting programme. To date, this activity has helped 700 participants and contributed 6,640 service hours.

The Kazak children now have the opportunity to participate in Scouting. Together with their Mongolian counterparts, they can share and learn about each other’s cultures and traditions.
SCOUTS STRENGTHEN ABILITY TO FACE NATURAL DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES

Apart from the inevitable impact of global warming and climate change, the Philippines is also exposed to natural and human-induced hazards due to geographical and geological factors, as well as the presence of internal disputes in some areas.

According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), the annual direct damage caused by disasters between 1990 and 2006 amounted to PhP20 billion every year or roughly 0.5% of the GDP. In comparison, the damage caused by Tropical Storm Ondoy and Typhoon Pepeng in 2009 was estimated to be about 2.7% of the GDP.

These provided compelling reasons for the Philippines to adopt the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM), and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) plans.

The Disaster Preparedness Programme for Scouts aimed to build capacity and create a strong foundation for Disaster and Emergency Preparedness as well as in Safety, Risk Reduction and Management.

The programme further sought to strengthen the capacity of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines (BSP) Regional Offices and local councils to organise and mobilise Emergency Service Corps (ESC) groups to render aid in times of disasters and calamities. It included training courses for BSP Scouts, leaders, instructors and trainers in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

PEACE, WHAT WE MAKE OF IT

In our society, peace has a comprehensive definition. It is not only defined as the lack of war but also the absence of conflict. Hence, peace is defined by society.

Among the Korean youths, there are many elements that threaten peace such as bullying in schools and the lack of awareness about personal safety.

At the 4th International Patrol Jamboree 2014 held in Sangju, Gyeongsangbukdo, the Messengers of Peace Initiative was introduced to the participants to encourage them to be messengers of peace. They were taught how to protect themselves from bullies in school, about personal safety, and were trained in handling threats and promoting peace.

Over 1,000 people participated in the effort contributing to 2,000 service hours.
HELPING CAMBODIAN FAMILIES

While she was in Cambodia for her volunteer service project, Korean Venture Scout, Kim So Hee, discovered that poor families could increase their incomes if they had boats. Spurred by this realisation, she decided to help the four Cambodian families whom she met during her stint.

Upon her return to Korea, Kim joined the Korea Scout Association’s project, known as the Youth Philanthropy Programme with Happy Bean. Through this youth leadership-building project, she initiated an online fundraising campaign for the Cambodian families.

About 460 people responded, including Duk San High School students, the Sang Rok Soo Foundation and the Happy Bean donors. With a total of USD2,800, Kim returned to Cambodia with several donors to purchase boats and hand them over to the families.

Kim is not only a Scout but is also an active citizen who inspires others to join her effort to help people in need.

PEACE THROUGH SCOUTING

Promoting a culture of peace need not be a major project. A simple game to foster friendship can also be an activity to promote peace. For example, several years ago, the Kurram Scouts Open Group participated in a Friendship Game at the 2nd Special Integration Camp. Through this activity, Scouts from India and Pakistan developed their friendship, discussed current issues in Asia and how peace between India and Pakistan is possible through Scouting.

PEACE & I WORKSHOP

Throughout history there had been individuals who, believing that their actions would bring good to their societies, had instead brought about numerous conflicts worldwide.

The Singapore Scout Association (SSA) believes that peace is only possible when individuals learn that “the opposite of truth is another truth” and embraces the diversity that exists in their societies. Every individual and society wants peace. However, every society faces tensions and has fault lines that can divide the different communities within the society.

Therefore, there is a need to bring about greater awareness on how the values and belief systems of individuals affect and influence the thinking and behaviour of others. It is by understanding and appreciating differences that the concept of peace can be promoted.

With this in mind, the SSA organised and hosted the Peace and I Workshop that comprised two parts: a six-day programme that was conducted in Singapore, and a project that each participant was required to carry out when they returned home. The aim of the project was to ensure that the participants internalised and applied what they had learned in Singapore. This workshop was supported by the Messengers of Peace Support Fund.
Back in 1999, there was an enormous need for Scout leaders in the Eurasia Region, especially leaders in the National Scouts Organization (NSO) to help advance the NSO and the youth programmes. It was a new region and Scouting was in need of structure and consolidation.

To address this need, the first international training course for Scout leaders — Excelscout 99 — was conducted at the Eurasia Regional Scout Center Krasnokamenka, in Ukraine. Forty-one boys and girls aged 16 to 18 from eight NSOs of the Eurasia Region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine and Tajikistan) participated in the event. The training topics covered “actor in my community”, “actor in a global world”, “nature and culture”, “our common heritage”, “the person I want to be”, and “from ideas to action”.

The second training course — “Excelscout 00, Responsible Citizenship and Scouting” — was conducted the following year with 46 boys and girls from eight NSOs of the Eurasia Region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine and Tajikistan), Uzbekistan and the NSO of Poland (European Region).

The subsequent third training course — Excelscout 01 — was conducted in 2001 in Geneva and Kandersteg, Switzerland. Seven Scouts from seven NSOs from the Eurasia Region participated in the event. These three editions of the Excelscout training formed the first cycle, where all three events focused on “responsible citizenship”.

The Second Cycle

The second cycle started with the fourth international training course — Excelscout 04 — held again at the Eurasia Regional Scout Center Krasnokamenka, in Ukraine.

Themed “The values of democratic societies”, 21 Scouts aged 18 to 21 from seven NSOs from the Eurasia Region successfully completed the five-day training course dealing with the following specific goals: promotion of the values of modern civil society, development of their personality and professional competence, and gaining experience of efficient international and intercultural communication within the framework of Scouting.

Excelscout 05 was a follow-up to Excelscout 04, held in 2004 in Switzerland with seven Scouts from seven NSOs from the Eurasia Region. This time, the main goals were on getting an impression of the work of international institutions promoting universal values, experiencing the reality of small and medium private companies of all economic sectors and the banking system in a liberal state, associating with the everyday life in a democratic and liberal society, and experiencing the different aspects of the Scout Movement.

The Third Cycle and Beyond

“Excelscout 06, Social Integration of Children and Youth from Migrant’s Families”, started the third cycle of the training course in 2008 with 19 young Scout leaders aged 18 to 23 from six NSOs from the Eurasia Region. Excelscout 07 was also held in 2008 with the participation of 17 Scouts from eight Eurasia Region NSOs. Themed “Children with Special Needs in Scouting”, it had special relevance for the countries in this region — it helped address social and health challenges caused by the social and economic situation in the region where the living standards of a majority of the population remained at a critically low level, creating negative impact including those on human health.

The fourth cycle saw a change, with “Excelscout 2011, RELOAD” held in 2011 with 24 Rovers from eight NSOs from the region. The theme “RELOAD” reflected the essence of the event — the concept of the presentation was changed based on all positive and constructive feedback from previous years’ sessions. Leaders of the NSOs shared their experiences and helped to prepare the projects, while the Rovers showed genuine interest, enthusiasm, initiative and creativity. There were active debates, discussions, and development of new projects.

The same idea was promoted in 2012, at “Excelscout 2012, Plan your way, play your game”. For Excelscout 2015, Scout Camp”, 23 Scout leaders from eight Eurasia Scout Region NSOs attended the training course in Byurakan, Armenia, in May 2015.

Overall, Excelscout is a unique initiative of the Eurasia Region aimed at supporting and motivating young Scout leaders and Rovers. Today, there are 167 Excelscout alumni. Many young people who have passed the Excelscout training have become successful Scout leaders in their NSOs, and achieved significant success in life. Since 2013, this training course has become a long-term programme — “Excelscout - Eurasia” — to ensure progressive growth of young Scout leaders.

By 2020, “Excelscout - Eurasia” aims to create a continuity of training courses, workshops and practices aimed at sustaining quality growth in the number of Scout leaders and young people aged 18 to 26 in the Eurasia Region.
UKRAINIAN SCOUTS HELP TO CONNECT COMMUNITIES AND COMMON GOALS

The tough political situation in Ukraine over the past year had resulted in significant partitions among the Ukrainian society, especially the young people. Due to various political challenges, youth organisations from different regions in the country faced problems with communication and cooperation on common goals when working with local communities.

Leveraging the Messengers of Peace Support Fund, the National Organization of the Scouts of Ukraine (NOSU) decided to address this challenge with a project involving young people across the country. Despite the complicated internal situation, the Scouts were able to roll out a majority of the planned activities to raise the level of understanding among young people, and deployed common activities at the regional and national level.

LENDING A HELPING HAND TO UKRAINIAN SOLDIERS

During the school holidays in Ukraine, the Scouts of the Troop Totem passed a difficult challenge named “The survival school”. As a result of this challenge, the participants understood how it is sometimes difficult to survive without the benefits of civilization such as making fire when there are no matches, providing first aid with the lack of medicine and so on. After this course, they proceeded to help those who were in need.

It is widely known how hard life is for those living in the conflict zone in Eastern Ukraine and many people try their best to help those who defend the country. The Scouts, as Messengers of Peace, decided to be a part of this initiative of kindness and supported the soldiers. They organised a game to help raise funds to purchase some daily necessities for the soldiers.
STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHILDREN AND SCOUTS

In commemorating the Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day, Scout leaders of the National Scout Movement of Armenia hosted various activities over several months with about 100 children from orphanages and social day care centres.

Divided into different groups, the Scouts first accompanied some children to the Armenian Genocide memorial complex to pay respect to the 1.5 million innocent victims of Genocide at Tsitsernakaberd, while other children visited museums and discussed about Scouting and the Messengers of Peace Initiative.

The 100 children also participated in five hiking trips, which played an important role in integrating the participants into the life of Scouting, and strengthening the relationship between the children and Scouts.

This six months project clocked approximately 36,000 hours!

GEORGIAN SCOUTS PROMOTE NON-VIOLENCE AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

Violence among young people is a recurring societal problem in many countries. It is often perpetrated both by and against young people, resulting in physical, emotional, social, and economic consequences. Despite many prevention programmes carried out by local institutions, cases of bullying, teasing, physical abuse and discrimination related to gender, religion, homophobia, racism and ethnic identities are on the increase in Georgian schools.

Scouting’s non-formal educational programmes form a strong basis towards preventing violence among youth. With a belief that the educational programmes in Scouting can help this cause, the Scouts of Georgia launched a Messengers of Peace project — Scouts Promoting Non-Violence Among The Youth — for young people aged 13 to 16.

The Scouts promoted peace and dialogue among young people, visited educative centres and hosted Scout activities with non-Scouts, raising awareness about the different forms of discrimination and intolerance affecting us today.

Peaceful 2012 Camp
Following the different activities introduced during the project, the Scouts of Georgia organised a Scout camp called “Peaceful 2012”. More than 100 participants from different parts of the country gathered to learn more about Scouting and life outdoors.

Working in small groups, the participants of Peaceful 2012 went through training on peace education, environmental protection, administering first aid and Scout skills. The participants also took part in hiking, sports activities, orienteering and team building games, which further enriched their camp experience.

One of the indirect results achieved was that the project managed to attract many young people from Georgia who initially were not involved in Scouting to join the Scout Movement as well.

“I am the leader of this Messengers of Peace project. It is a great way for us to change habits and views among the young people, to give them a reason to think about living peaceful lives.

On a personal level, it is obvious from what we have been through as a country that peace is the most important thing. Prior to this, I was just thinking about it, but now I am doing activities that ensure there is peace, so I am able to contribute to it.” — Keti Piranishvili, Georgian Scouts National Board Member

“I’m so happy that I’ve learnt about Scouting. This camp was really a peace camp for me. I understood that peace is not only a political issue, but also an everyday matter affecting our lives. This Scout camp taught me that we are all responsible for peace in our souls, families, cities, countries and in the world.” — Kote Kiknavelidze, student.
Commitment, responsibility, service, courage, solidarity... these are all values that are very well known to Scouts! For over 100 years Scouts have been creating a better world, being active agents in their communities and are probably the first real global citizens on our planet. Scouting has also built knowledge and experience of informal education, especially in environmental and social issues, which is unrivalled and that many other organisations could learn from.

As humans continue to alter the world in unprecedented ways, there is an even greater need to change behaviour and create more sustainable life styles. Every effort and intervention counts! There is no better way to achieve this than empowering children and young people to be active agents of change in their local communities and in global arenas.

It is for this reason that different United Nations agencies and other organisations have come together and created the Youth and United Nations Global Alliance (YUNGA). The Alliance has the objective of creating initiatives and educational resources to raise awareness, and allow young people to become involved and tackle issues related to the United Nations, including the new Sustainable Development Goals.

In particular, YUNGA has been working with the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) in the creation of a series of United Nations Challenge Badges that are intended to educate, inspire and most importantly, change behaviour and promote action to address different social and environmental issues. Topics include: Agriculture, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Energy, Forests, Gender, Governance, Hunger, Nutrition, the Ocean, Soils and Water.¹ The curricula are available in a number of languages including Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Italian, Russian and Spanish and can be tailored to a number of age range and needs.

Linked to the Challenge Badges there is also the possibility to create YUNGA tribes and interact with other tribes on the new website that has just been launched.

The Challenge Badges are already being undertaken and completed by thousands of young people all over the world.

So what are you waiting for?
Join the fun and be the one to effect change! For more information visit fao.org/yunga or send an e-mail to yunga@fao.org to register for the free newsletter featuring news and updates on new resources, activities and programmes.

(If you are at the 23rd World Scout Jamboree 2015, visit our stand in the Global Development Village or attend one of our workshops to learn more.)

¹Some of the Challenge Badges are still under development.
As Scouts, we are helping to create a better world. We help create positive change in the world by becoming active citizens in our community and we have been doing it for over 100 years. Now let’s get others to join this effort.

We can take the lead in our neighbourhood and invite others to be part of our efforts and transform peoples’ minds in a positive way. If all Scouts take the same action, we can inspire the world and create a lasting culture of kindness, dialogue and peace.

Anyone (Scout or non-Scout) can be a Messenger of Peace. All you have to do is get involved in community service activities with your Scout friends, your Scout patrol, or local community groups.

Follow these four simple steps and start sharing stories about your community service activities. Once you start sharing, you automatically become part of the Scouts Global Network of Service, joining efforts with millions of Scouts, young people and adults who are doing community service, and promoting dialogue and understanding.

The four steps is a cycle – if you go through all four steps, it can continue to replicate and multiply its effects. Eventually, it will help create a positive change and inspire more people to do the same.

**4 STEPS TO BECOME A MESSENGER OF PEACE**

1. **INSPIRE**
   - Explore and research about local problems, people in action and good practices.
2. **LEARN & DECIDE**
   - Identify your motivation and talents. Choose a field of action. Select useful knowledge, skills and ideas to apply.
3. **SHARE**
   - Plan your actions, execute, monitor, evaluate and report.
4. **DO**
   - Share what you did, your experiences, outcomes and lessons learnt.

ACTIVE GLOBAL MESSENGER OF PEACE CITIZEN

YOU
The European Scout Region (ESR), with co-financing from the Messengers of Peace Support Fund and the Council of Europe – European Youth Foundation, is currently implementing a three-year project named “Scouting for All – Diversity & Inclusion Strategic Objective” to address the topic of social exclusion as a whole.

To effectively and efficiently implement and rollout this project to the National Scout Organizations/Associations (NSOs/NSAs), a pool of consultants and national experts comprising volunteers active in their organisations, was formed. The aim was to ensure a solid basis for the provision and dissemination of quality consultancy services, expertise and know-how to the NSOs/NSAs. In addition, it was also to be more open and accessible to all young people in particular towards Roma, migrants and other vulnerable and excluded groups by effectively implementing projects at the local level.

Pool of Consultants

Ten volunteers were nominated by the ESR to form the pool of consultants on Diversity and Inclusion together with five national experts. The consultants participated in a four-day training on Diversity and Inclusion, and Strategic Planning conducted by an external expert. After the training, the consultants delivered several training sessions and workshops on the topic.

The pool of consultants now supports the efforts of the NSOs in reaching out to young people from excluded groups and in particular, to respond to their needs at the community level and make their voice heard. The consultants act as the reference group for Diversity and Inclusion within the ERS and for NSOs, more specifically in the design and implementation of Diversity and Inclusion policies, strategies, programmes and projects.

Involving Young People from excluded groups

The training was prepared and conducted by volunteers from the pool of consultants on Diversity and Inclusion, and one external expert, to broaden the view and perspectives of the participants towards the topic.

The approach provided an integrated solution to training and sharing experiences among participants and experts, which gave a holistic view on how to reach out and involve young people from excluded groups. Participants and their NSOs agreed to test and implement at least one project in favour of young people at risk, by using a set of methods presented during the training to further develop the projects and the educational and training programmes.

At the end of the training, the participants developed a common understanding of the Diversity and Inclusion concept.
SCOUTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO START MESSENGERS OF PEACE PROJECTS

The Kandersteg International Scout Centre, the World Scout Centre of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, is into its fifth year of hosting the International Rover Week. This international event brings together people, both individuals and groups, from different countries within Scouting and Guiding.

In mid-July 2014 when it hosted its fourth Kandersteg International Rover Week, the 12 participants of the programme were asked to come up with a Messengers of Peace project. The young people from Australia, Brussels, Egypt, Germany, Ireland, Seychelles, Spain Switzerland, Sweden and USA spent the day helping the “Pinkies” (the staff), and also provided pallets to other campers to help create bridges over swampy areas.

PEACE AND DIVERSITY TRAINING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN IRELAND

Castle Saunderson is an International Scout Centre situated on the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland. It is a peace centre where young people from all communities on the island of Ireland can come together in a safe environment. During the Phoenix Challenge — a four-day national Scout craft competition which also includes skills challenges, special projects and cooking competition — in August 2013, this centre launched a specific Scout training that challenged the current perceptions on human rights and discrimination. Close to 600 young people participated in this event, clocking over 400 service hours.
LATVIAN SCOUTS PRESERVE THE COUNTRY’S ANCESTRAL TRADITIONS

In efforts to sustain the ancestral traditions of creating a harmonious environment, Scouts in Latvia decided to extend the country’s nature heritage by planting a new oak grove and named it the Poweroak Grove.

The new Poweroak Grove now has 27 oaks, which is a magical number for Latvians. This number symbolises continuity — a formula of the world’s structure that means no beginning and no end.

The planting started at the 200th year anniversary of the farmstead MedNi in 2011. A group of Scouts and Guides, together with their family and friends, planted the first nine oaks of the grove. Eight more trees were planted in 2012 and an additional nine were planted the following year, completing the Poweroak Grove.

In the upcoming years, the Scouts will be fostering the new oaks and protecting them from harm to ensure that they grow strong and beautiful. This effort also contributes to environmental conservation and the Messengers of Peace Trees For The World global campaign.

RINGING THE BELL FOR PEACE

Taking every opportunity to promote the message of peace, approximately 4,500 young people and leaders from the Boy Scouts of America, the Scouts and Guides of France, Poland and Germany gathered at Omaha Beach in France in April 2014, to commemorate the sacrifices made by those who believed in fighting for world peace, and promised to work together for a future of service and peace.

The event was held at the Bayeux Cathedral where the Bell for Peace and Freedom was unveiled for the first time. One Scout from Germany, France, the UK and the USA symbolically unveiled the bell and rang it nine times for the nine official sponsors (one from each country that fought in World War II in Western Europe).

SCOUTS SUPPORT FLOOD RELIEF EFFORTS IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

In May 2014, catastrophic floods hit parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia. The floods caused massive damage to infrastructure, and forced hundreds of thousands local residents to leave their homes. Scouts in the region sprang to action and formed emergency teams to help with the evacuation, collection and distribution of canned food, clothes, shoes, and school and hygiene supplies.
Trees For The World was a simple idea that had become a global campaign. Today, more than 100,000 trees have been planted throughout the world.
Can 10 Scouts living in 10 different countries organise 100,000 trees to be planted in 40 countries in five continents?

Yes, it is possible. What started as a joke among friends one year ago has become a reality today.

Several young people met for a few weeks during a leadership training session in Houston, USA, and thereafter, stayed connected via social channels (Facebook and mobile).

During the training, they were given a challenge — to initiate a community service project together. They debated for a long time on what to do, on how to create a real impact and to inspire many people to join and extend their idea in their own country.

The common topics discussed were related to helping the homeless, animal care, violence prevention, bullying, water conservation/sanitation, and so on. However, they wanted to keep it simple while at the same time, they wanted something sustainable.

"Why don't we plant trees?" was the common idea — which was too common that most of the teammates brushed it aside. However, several of them were thinking beyond just planting trees in their own backyards — they wanted to plant trees across the globe! The idea itself was not new, but planting trees as a global vision and purpose was. As such, they came up with the name Trees For The World with a tagline "one Scout, one tree".

The team wanted to connect young people and get them to start planting trees with a common purpose, and unite all efforts to raise awareness. A logo was designed, a badge was created and the idea was shared on social media.

Soon, they started gaining the interest of their Scout friends who were attracted by the badge. In keeping it simple but global, each country could design its own badge with its own flag, and each Scout could get a badge whenever the young person planted a tree. Initially the 10 countries started slowly with local environmental activities. Part of the challenge was to raise funds for buying the trees, for producing the badge and for the day activity.

Sharing the initiative on social media helped to boost interest among Scouts from Latin America and the Caribbean to join the effort. Surprisingly, something as simple as planting a tree was, the nationalisation of the badge added an extra spirit to the challenge — all of us as individuals, feel proud about presenting the image of our country in the global sphere hence more and more countries started to participate.

This "personal invitation" — one Scout, one tree — subsequently reached countries in Europe, Africa, Eurasia, Arab and Asia, each designing its own badge to be part of this global effort of "greening" the world. As an initial result, more than 60,000 trees were planted between April and November 2014.

Today, Trees For The World is a global campaign running into its second season and continues to be an active activity for 2015. It has now reached 100,000 trees planted, earning a Guinness World Records in Ecuador in collaboration with the local governments. More trees are already in the agenda to be planted throughout the year.

The World Scout Environment Programme is now supporting and including Trees For The World as an inspirational message to all. In addition, more Scout Camping Centres are talking about this campaign, too. The tree planting activity is not exclusive to Scouts but to anyone who is interested in planting a tree and being a part of this global effort. Local community members are invited to participate, and in many cities, parks, schools, and homes are opening their doors to be part of this global effort.
STRENGTHENING SOCIAL IMPACT OF SCOUTING THROUGH COOPERATIVE DIALOGUE

In 2014, the Argentina Scouts Association (ASA) saw the importance of promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogues as a way to become active promoters of peace. ASA leveraged the Messengers of Peace Support Fund and organised an Interreligious Symposium and Scout Youth Forum.

As a result of this initiative, a consultative network to raise awareness and introduce the concept of interreligious and intercultural dialogue was established. The youth representatives also recommended the approval of the Interamerican Youth Participation Policy and the development of crowd funding tools to support youth-oriented initiatives to increase the social impact of Scouting.

CELEBRATING AND SHARING EXPERIENCES OF SUCCESS

In 1994, Scout Group “Tropa 31” started its activities within the Casa Alianza Centre for children living in vulnerable situation in Tegucigalpa city. One of Casa Alianza founders, a former Scout, incorporated the Scout Method as part of the programme to attract and support children to join the centre and leave the harsh and dangerous life in the streets. Scouting soon became one of the attractive and main programmes of Casa Alianza.

After 20 years, “Tropa 31” Scout leaders celebrated two decades of life-changing stories by gathering the first generation of Scout beneficiaries and the current Scout members of the centre, with a camp experience.

The outdoors and casual environment plus teambuilding activities run by the first generation Scouts, allowed former and current beneficiaries to bond and exchange experiences of endurance, hard work and life successes. For the youngsters, the camp was an encouragement that there is a brighter future out of the streets, through Scouting.
FRENCH AND BOLIVIAN ROVERS DRAW SMILES IN EL ALTO

A team of eight female Rover Scouts from Scouts et Guides de France went to Bolivia in 2013 as part of their Scouts of the World Award Voluntary Service.

Together with Bolivian Rovers and the Environment and Development in Action organisation (ENDA), they worked on social reintegration of young girls who suffered from violence, drug abuse and lived in the streets. At the ENDA Centre of El Alto, they spent time engaging in meaningful activities with the girls in the Centre, produced board games with them, and created some paintings together. They focused on raising awareness about the importance of solidarity, cultural pluralism, gender equality, and social justice.

This experience enabled everyone to learn more about their two cultures, and created strong friendships.

A CHANCE FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUTH TO ATTEND SUMMER CAMP

The Beavers and Cubs in Canada started a simple activity last year to raise funds for disadvantaged youths to attend a summer camp. These young people have never had the opportunity to go to a camp before. The Scouts involved 30 participants and sold bulbs for spring planting from Vessey’s Bulbs. The $542.50 raised was used to send the disadvantaged youth to the Haliburton Camp.

SHARE A MEAL THAT WARMS THE HEART

Every year during the Christmas Season, the Scout Association of Guyana brings cheer to several dozen children and hosts a Share-a-Meal and Fun Day for the less fortunate.

In December 2012 for instance, they invited the less fortunate children from depressed areas around Georgetown, Guyana, to share a meal, have fun playing games, and be entertained by clowns, and Santa Claus and his elves.

Scout groups around the central Georgetown area gave away 300 boxes of food and more than 250 gifts. Among the beneficiaries were children from Ruimveldt Children’s Home.

Similar Share-a-meal projects were carried out around Guyana where there are Scout groups.
MAKING THE FIRST CONNECTED GENERATION
THE FIRST SUSTAINABLE GENERATION

Global sustainable development is the challenge that defines our time. In September this year, the United Nations will adopt a new set of international development goals — commonly referred to as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) — which will replace the current Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The SDGs will only succeed when every citizen in this world takes ownership of the goals and when all are empowered to become agents of change.

As more and more young people around the world gain access to the Internet especially via mobile devices, the avenue for learning and skills training at all levels is revolutionised! There is opportunity to now reach people all over the world in ways that were not possible only a few years ago. This sets the right time to raise the first connected generation as the first sustainable generation.

CONNECTING AND UPSKILLING YOUNG PEOPLE

TheGoals.org is primed to leverage this opportunity. It evolves from the Young Masters Programme on Sustainable Development (YMP), highlighted by UNESCO as a world-leading tool in education for sustainable development. TheGoals.org embraces the proven crowdlearning pedagogic method developed in YMP and builds a free, mobile-first learning platform that will efficiently disseminate the SDGs to young people, and catalyse concrete local actions to help achieve the SDGs.

TheGoals.org has the potential to reach and educate over 100 million young people worldwide. Designed to empower learners worldwide to take actions to improve local environmental and socioeconomic conditions through learning about global challenges and opportunities, TheGoals.org will be technically optimised to run on affordable smartphones and in societies where bandwidth is limited.

This online platform will be an ideal tool for Scouts when working together with their troops to create a sustainable world. Scouts working locally while connected to others globally, will make substantial steps forward in leading the next generation.

TheGoals.org is part of an ongoing collaboration between the International Foundation for the Young Masters Programme (ISYMP) and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) at the Earth Institute of Columbia University (EI). The partnership forms the basis of the project, which consists of three interconnected components: content, technology and distribution.

The World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) is the first confirmed distribution partner for TheGoals.org. A WOSM-branded version called Scout.TheGoals.org will be launched during the 23rd World Scout Jamboree 2015 in Japan.

"SCOUTS WORKING LOCALLY WHILE CONNECTED TO OTHERS GLOBALLY, WILL MAKE SUBSTANTIAL STEPS FORWARD IN LEADING THE NEXT GENERATION."
LEVERAGE THE MESSENGERS OF PEACE SUPPORT FUND TO DEVELOP COMMUNITIES AND COMPETENCIES

The Support Fund is one of the components of the Messengers of Peace (MoP) Initiative. It was created from the grant awarded by the late King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and serves to finance projects undertaken by National Scout Organizations and its members. To date, over $7,000,000 has been allocated for 170 projects worldwide, helping Scouts initiate and implement amazing things in their communities.

But what is more important is that their efforts have inspired thousands of fellow Scouts to undertake service activities and to create a better world. The result is that the 170 funded projects make up less than 0.5% of all projects registered on scout.org. This translates to over 43,000 projects and over 618 million service hours!

The Support Fund aims not only to provide financial help that acts as a seed fund for ideas and service, but also at educating young people on how much impact they can achieve in their communities. Through a formalised framework, the MoP Initiative develops the capacities of Scouts, helping them in drafting grant applications for both Scout and non-Scout grant programmes. It creates a learning opportunity for young people to get familiar with project management – a life skill that will be useful to them in the future.

As such, the MoP Initiative and Support Fund are much more than a grant programme. It is an important element of the educational path of Scouts to become active citizens, providing them with useful competencies and inspiring them to do even more good deeds. We encourage local groups and troops to talk to their national leaderships in identifying projects with greatest impact that could contribute to creating a better world.

EVERY US$1.00 HELPS TO SUPPORT 75 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

THE NETWORK IN SOCIAL MEDIA
Green Cross International is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) that addresses the issues of environmental security and degradation, and poverty eradication by applying the "think locally" and "act globally" methodology.

Just like Scouts as Messengers of Peace!

Scouts around the world are taking action to address environmental issues locally while making a global impact. The examples are endless — from the disaster response efforts in Nepal, Madagascar and the Philippines, to initiating the Trees For The World campaign in Ecuador, Canada and Kenya — these local actions truly have a global effect.

As such, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), together with Green Cross International, founded by former Soviet Union President and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Mikhael Gorbachev, created a special "Green Star Award". This is an award that will be presented to every Scout in the world.

But first, you have to earn it! How?

By telling your story — sharing your projects and community service on scout.org, and highlighting the positive change and global impact the Messengers of Peace Initiative has on the environment, climate change, and communities affected by disasters.

The Green Cross International showcase at the 23rd World Scout Jamboree 2015 demonstrates the work Scouts are doing in the field of environmental sustainability. Now, all you have to do when you return home is spread the word to fellow Scouts, write and share your efforts online and you will soon receive a certificate from Green Cross International!
Since U-Report launched in 2010, the Scouts have been a consistently strong leader in the development of the U-Report programme. As the inaugural partner, Scouts helped form the roles and responsibilities of the programme for those who use it, founded in the steadfast philosophy to put young people first, and maintain the integrity of the U-Report. Over the subsequent years, the Scouts organisation has leveraged its vast network of young people to advocate for child rights and provide real-time support to the most marginalised populations facing barriers to accessing life-saving services through U-Report.

Today the Scouts have gone from the inaugural national partner from where U-Report first started in Uganda to the inaugural global partner to help scale U-Report and ensure young people all over the world have a chance to speak out on issues they care about. UNICEF is proud to work with the World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM) to leverage its network of 40 million Scouts in over 200 countries and territories, which it plans to grow to over 100 million by 2023, to encourage them to participate in global and national advocacy and mobilisation efforts through U-Report as part of efforts to create a better world.

Yours Sincerely,

James Powell
U-Report Global Strategist & Coordinator
Global Innovation Centre

U-Report is free and open to everyone. Join U-Report to connect and work together with other Scouts and young people around the world for positive change. Register at ureport.in or follow @UReportGlobal on Twitter. Tell your friends and invite them to join U-Report as well!
UPCOMING EVENTS

13-15 November 2015: World Scout Seminar on Scouts of the World Award

December 2015: Interamerican Leadership Training

Spring 2016: Peace Culture & Messengers of Peace Seminar


October 2016: World Scout Education Congress

INTERAMERICAN LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Learn about teamwork and enhance your leadership and management skills. Enrol in the Interamerican Leadership Training (ILT) programme today!

The week-long ILT course is part of a 10-year programme that aims to strengthen Scouting in the Interamerican Region by training a total of 600 Scout leaders. In the past two years, over 150 Scouts and young people from more than 30 National Scout Organizations in this region have benefitted from this course.

To participate, contact your National Scout Association.
DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE AN ACTIVE CITIZEN?

The Scouts of the World Programme challenges you to contribute to solving global issues through local initiatives in a sustained and effective way.

Join thousands of Scouts around the globe in this shared commitment - and receive worldwide recognition through a unique Award!

Find out more at scout.org/scoutoftheworld
The World Scout Environment Programme (WSEP) is a collection of tools, resources and initiatives to support the development of environment education in Scouting around the world.

The programme is based on a set of environmental principles and aims that provide a foundation for environment education in Scouting.

Scout Centres of Excellence for Nature and Environment (SCENES) are very special places that have made a long-term commitment to protect the environment and promote environmental understanding. They are also implementing WSEP.

scout.org/wsep
1 BILLION SERVICE HOURS ... BY 2020

Be part of this mission and make a difference to the community. Let’s create a BETTER WORLD together.