Scouting Shapes Young Leaders

Scouting is a worldwide educational youth movement that contributes to the development of young people from childhood till the time they totally blossom. Scouting is like nature in which a caterpillar can become butterfly with the most beautiful wings in the world.

A little boy Scout said “Scouting is a school with a lot fun where all you do is for someone else first and there are no marks.” This simple image of Scouting helps us to understand that leadership is a process in which the highest achievement is to serve others and help bring the best out of them.

Three inspiring quotes should remind us the magic of being empowered through membership.

- “Education is the best way to reach the better world” Nelson Mandela
- “Leave this world a little better than you found it” Baden Powell
- “A hero is any person really intent to make this a better place for all people” Maya Angelou

Many stories come along the way of youth empowerment and leadership especially through Scouting. The impact is not only social but also on a personal level. Scouting makes people become good persons, actors of change and great leaders by counting on one another as a part of the chain.

Facing the same issues and seeking for solutions to bring change, youth with different backgrounds make their voices heard and bring positive change to their communities.

Be it peace, education, environment, health, entrepreneurship, gender equity, tolerance, politics, sport, all they do is to stand, raise awareness, share experiences and overcome obstacles.

As they are the future and nothing valuable could be done alone, Scouting prepare them to be active citizens; embrace and continue growing as strong leaders in partnership with adults. Through each event, activity, adventure, campaign, this goal of creating a better world is enjoyed by more young people and adult volunteers as diverse as the communities and cultures for inclusion.

In August 2016, among many events within and outside of Scouting, more than one thousand young people had a lifetime experience during the Africa Scout Jamboree that they decided to duplicate in their home countries on different ways.

In the framework of the Better world tent activities, 12 youth leaders collaborated by sharing their strengths and experiences with many others to help them take the lead through the Young Correspondents and Spokespersons, Dialogue and MOP trainings. The hope, the strong teamwork and the vision to do better is the goal of empowering people as this reflects the impact of their future actions. Let’s call it “ONE world”. This was a classic example of youth impacting people and communities through taking action by sharing stories and helping others stand for a cause in their communities.

INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF AFRICA: JOIN THE AFRICA SCOUT FOUNDATION

Donations are vital in helping Scouts help others. Your contributions will go towards ensuring the sustainability of a wide variety of programmes and projects that enable millions of young people in Africa to learn and develop skills useful for personal growth and community service. For more information on becoming a member of the Africa Scout Foundation, visit www.scout.org/africascoutfoundation or email africa@scout.org.
FOCUS ON NATIONAL SCOUT ORGANIZATIONS

Scouts Association of Malawi Review their Youth Programme and Develop Youth Involvement Policy

The Scouts Association of Malawi, has taken a step ahead in issues concerning young people. During the Global Support Assessment Tool (GSAT) Workshop under the MOP funding it was found that the NSO has some shortfalls in terms of Youth Program handbooks for the Scouts and other youth related policies. The NSO put in place a revitalised Youth Program review committee to consider the reviewing of the youth program incorporating emerging issues and youth trends and the opportunity to young people to contribute to the development process. Thus, the NSO now has a reviewed Youth program which is currently being pretested, targeting young people and once that is done it will be published.

Scouts Association of Malawi has managed to come up with youth Involvement policy that empowers young people in decision making processes, and this gives an opportunity to young people to take up different roles within the NSO structures. The policy is currently awaiting final approval before dissemination. The policy will serve as a guide towards ensuring involvement is achieved at the Unit, Community and Institutional levels.

Story contributed by Howard Maujo who is a young leader from Malawi and their current National Executive Commissioner

Niger Scouts Participate in a 138KM Peace Walk and Support Victims of Natural Disaster

In efforts to globalize the Messengers of Peace network, Scouts of Niger undertook a 138km walk traversing different parts of the Country. During the journey, the Scouts had exchanges with different communities on Scouting, its purpose and objectives and its vision of peace, before focusing on promotion of peace within the respective communities.

This journey took them to Dosso where they participated in the celebration of the anniversary of the Republic by being part of the official parade mounted for the President of Republic, for the history of Scouting in Niger! To emphasize the role and the place of youth in general and Scouts in particular in peacebuilding, the Scouts handed an MOP flag to the officials.

Additionally, in the context of disaster relief, Niger Scouts participated during the winter campaign alongside the red cross and the United

...Continued from Page 1

Be they Youth coordinators, youth advisors, youth commissioners, youth representatives, youth MOP heroes, Scouting is all about youth and leadership. It provides the platform to be a decision maker and a helper so that you experience both sides of being a leader. Scouting educates and connects people to be driven by the same purpose. Young Scouts build communities after disasters; they run projects; bring peace and tolerance through community services; empower and help others become leaders through trainings, panels, conferences; they are entrepreneurs. They work within and outside of the movement to share their passion to serve.

Before being elected as the Chairperson of Africa Scouts Youth Advisors in 2015, I had been appointed to run a yearly project called “Girls Can Lead” in Benin based on my experience as Scout leader. The impact and the way it helped realize the social challenges of my country made it unforgettable. The project aims to propose non-formal and sport activities in the rural areas for the girls to make them utilise their time meaningfully during holidays and protect them against domestic violence, sexual abuse and child trafficking. My Scouting skills enabled me to make this edition of the project unique. We reached almost 150 participants.

Due to its positive impact, we got support of many parents. The biggest challenge was that we lost one young girl aged 9 years who got married at that tender age getting pregnant in the process. Since that time, I decided to become a girl’s Education Champion and fight for human rights by strengthening my social activism. Knowing this, the US Embassy in Benin nominated me based on my social, academic, athletic and professional background for the Global Sport Mentoring Program and the US Department selected me as one of the 16 World Emerging Leaders in social activism and sport leadership.

I urge all NSOs to give an opportunity to many young people to develop their leadership through meaningful engagement. We thank our leaders who continue to mentor and support us even as we endeavour to sharpen our leadership skills and as positive change agents. I am happy this edition of kudu mail is dedicated to celebrating youth leaders across the region who have done exemplary service. I know there are many young people doing great service and let me encourage them to keep contributing to the mission of Scouting.

Pamela Akplogan
Chairperson, Africa Scout Youth Advisors

Playground for Katutura Kindergarten

Christian Stroh Bach, a seventeen years old Scout from Windhoek identified the need to construct a Jungle Gym for a Kindergarten in Windhoek, Namibia in one of the informal settlements and to took up the initiative in stride. The Kindergarten at TiVo Timonen Pre-Primary School has up to 60 kids and only 3 small swing sets.

To accomplish this goal, Christian Stroh Bach assembled a team of 11 volunteer Scouts and parents and built a big jungle gym, consisting of two towers, two swings, a bridge, a slide and various other fun, yet child safe playing ornaments. It took the team 6 days of hard work to complete the project. Currently the kids are having a safe play ground with lots of fun. The project was of significance because it targeted kids in poor suburbs where parents couldn’t afford such a venture. This is a classic case of a Scout doing his best to make positive impact in the Community.

Story contributed by Ester Hilundwa who is a young leader from Namibia and the Food For Life coordinator for Scouts of Namibia.

...Continued on Page 3
Feed a Street Child “More than Just a Meal” Project

This project was aimed at bringing together people who are from diverse cultures and faiths with the aim of creating diversity and unity among them through reaching out.

As part of my “Do good campaign” through A Common Way Among the Youth (ACWAY), I came up with a project dubbed “feed a street child campaign” and purposed to make a difference in a child’s life in my own little way. I believe in the power of numbers. I decided to rally up everyone I know to join me in replicating the effects of the feed a street child campaign to impact more than just a child in the streets.

I made a different call all together to those I have come to term as an army of change (all those who join me in making a difference) under the ACWAY do good campaign. The response I got was overwhelming and a group of us were set to join others in feeding a street child at city park Nairobi.

We not only fed the kids and had fun but we also gave them an opportunity to belong to a family as the project linked them with key sponsors and well-wishers who promised to take them to school and give them shelter.

I believe my perspective in life changed. I went out seeking to feed a group of strangers with thoughts of thanks giving lingering in my head for more reasons than I can put down on paper. It was a day set aside to feed a street child, which later translated into a series of activities leading to the launch of the “Feed a Street Child Project”.

All it took was a simple call to make a difference despite our cultural and religious differences. These young people gave us more than just beautiful memories. In them we saw young people living and sharing life experiences despite their ethnic/cultural/religious backgrounds. On the streets, they are one family with one purpose-survival. The spirit of brotherhood is embedded in them and I believe we could all borrow a leaf from this and strive to live as one despite our differences.

This is a project that has been well received globally for its impact on the lives of the street children. Among the organizations that have been at the fore front to ensure its success are: Right Start Foundation International, KAICIID, Kenya Scouts Association, Lea toto among others.

Story contributed by Zachanah Munayi who is a young leader from Kenya, the National Rover Coordinator, and the NSOs’ Youth Programme assistant and Messenger of Peace positively impacting his community.

Supporting Disadvantaged Children Through Sports in Cote D’Ivoire.

Through the “Golf for All” project, we aim to fight poverty and unemployment in Africa through sport. The project involves thousands of children from disadvantaged neighbourhoods, orphans and Public schools throughout Cote d’Ivoire who have had the chance to practice golf for the first time and free of charge. Golf in Côte d’Ivoire is a sport reserved for the well off in society due to the high membership costs that run into thousands of dollars.

Embarking on such a project, we wanted to break down the socio-economic barriers and inspire and empower these children to fulfill their dreams. Just like Jessica (pensioner) who dreams of one day working at the World Bank, Mohamed wants to become a great international golfer like Tiger Woods and that everyone will see him on TV at major competitions.

Accordingly, we went to remote areas, in the interior regions of the country (Korhogo, Ouangolodougou, Yamoussoukro) to provide free mass initiations to golf lessons in public squares, schools and childcare centres to select the talented youth who will integrate the Golf Academy Team STL.

So far there are more than 10,000 children initiated to golf and 120 children who are sponsored to be trained to become the initial generation of proficient golfers in Cote d’Ivoire.

We offer free kits, which include sports clothes and golf equipment to these children and work to enrol these children through our Sport-Studies program. Good academic results have an important place in our project because it is the foundation for the success and development of the youth of Africa.

One of our pensioner selected in our Golf for All project of the golf academy team STL is a 07-year-old deaf and dumb girl, Nassara C. This little girl loved school but could not follow the lessons like the others nevertheless she always attended class to watch her friends. She took part in the initiation to golf and thanks to the project she is now sponsored by Randgold Resources for care. Now this child can hear and emit sounds. What’s more wonderful than posing actions that can change the lives of others? As messengers of peace, we continue to build a better world through Scouting, in our work, in our neighbourhoods and in our everyday lives.

Story contributed by Marie Louise who is a young leader from Cote D’Ivoire, the National MOP Coordinator, and a recipient of the MOP Heroes award for her exemplary contribution towards promoting the goals of MOP and positively impacting on her community.
SCOUTS IN ACTION

Scouts of Cameroon Engage in Partnerships that Champion the Development of Youth

Partnership is one of the pillars of the Scout movement. It is in line with the strategic priority “Communication and External Relations”. It is in this sense that the Scouts of Cameroon (SDC) have always maintained a frank collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Civic Education (MINJEC). This long-standing partnership was illustrated by the support of this supervisory body at the 2014 Elective General Assembly (AGE), which enabled the setting up of a new executive team (BES) and acted as mediator to end the crisis in our National Scout Organization (NSO).

MINJEC pursued this mission of rehabilitating Scouting by recognizing the primary role of SDC in non formal youth education. This was demonstrated by the leading role occupied by the NSO during the parades marking the celebrations of the National Youth Day in 2015 and 2016 on the Boulevard on 20th May in Yaoundé. Both partners are concerned with the future of Cameroon’s youth, collaboration was also frank during the holding of the 1st Youth Forum of Cameroonian Scouting (CSYF) at the Jean XIII de Mvolyé Centre in Yaoundé. The interest of MINJEC was seen through the representation by a strong delegation during the opening and closing ceremonies of the forum. In a different perspective, MINJEC again supported the SDC as its leading partner in the organization of the 7th National Jamboree “NGAOUJAMB 2016” held in the city of Ngaoundéré.

Beyond what has been achieved, collaboration will continue to grow. Thus, more involvement of the SDC in the National Youth Council (NJC) is expected in 2017, which is the national youth representation body to the public authorities. It is therefore worth noting the reflection that is being carried out to give a greater share of responsibility to the SDC in the educational proposal on the civic supervision of young Cameroonians by 2023. On another axis, the role played by the Scouts in the implementation and propagation of the U-Report program, which is headed by the MINJEC and UNICEF.

Indeed, the partnership between MINJEC and the SDC is bound to consolidate and has a bright future. This will benefit the Scout movement and will make it possible to truly work for a better world by increasing the social impact and commitment of young people in their communities.

Story contributed by Baskouda S. K. Shelley who is a young leader from Cameroon, the National MOP Coordinator, and Messenger of Peace positively impacting on his community.

OTHER NEWS FROM NSOs

Chairperson of Ivorian Scout Federation Elected Member of Parliament

Eugene KOUASSI KRA, the chairperson of Ivorian Scout Federation, was recently elected as a Member of Parliament in Republic of Ivory Coast.

The Scouts of Africa congratulate him for this achievement and encourage him to be a good ambassador of our Movement.

Scout Association of Cape Verde elects a New National Board

During the extraordinary General Assembly held on 8-9 January 2017, the Scout Association of Cape Verde (AECV) elected a new National board, headed by Jailson Monteiro as General Commissioner. The NSO also approved a new statute and new regiment for the General Assembly. Working groups were defined in order to elaborate new proposals for the Rules of Procedures for AECV that will be approved in the coming months.

In his message to AECV the Regional Director congratulated the new team and looks forward to working closely with all of them to take Scouting in Cape Verde to new heights.

Staff and Volunteer Changes at Scouts of Namibia

In December the Scouts of Namibia bid farewell to former National Executive Officer, Gerson Tuneeko after 10 years of service and National Administrative Officer, Klaudia Iyambo-Shapumbu after almost two years with SoN. They have both been replaced at the national headquarters with the following:

- Mr. Allen Sameja - National Executive Officer (aliansameja45@gmail.com)
- Ms. Uaundja Tjiutura - National Administrative Officer (huggynandi@gmail.com)

The contacts for the national headquarters remain as follows:
Telephone: +264 61 277974, Mobile: +264 81 575 1698, E-mail address: scoutnam@mweb.com.na

In other developments, at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the NSO held on 21 January 2017, in Tsumeb the following changes have also occurred among the volunteers of the NSO.

- Mr. Victor Nghiengwa - National Commissioner, International Affairs (valdesvictor93@yahoo.com). He is a life-long Scout and a former Executive Committee member of the Africa Scout Youth Forum. Aged 26, Victor previously served as SoN's National Commissioner for Rovers from 2010-2016.
- Mr. Simeon Amupala - Deputy Chief Scout (simeonamupala@yahoo.co.uk). Simeon is a long-time Scout leader and well-qualified as a Scout executive at SoN's national and regional levels. An adult literacy training officer by profession, Simeon has the right combination of vision, character, diplomacy and commitment to assist the Chief Scout and the entire organization in carrying out the Mission of Scouting and achieving the objectives of SON’s five-year Strategic Change Management Plan.
- Mr Gerold Witbooi – Acting National Commissioner, Adult Leader Training (witbooi@mweb.com.na). Mr Witbooi, a human resources training/development specialist, management consultant and qualified youth counselor, will serve in the ALT caretaker role until SoN’s Annual General Meeting on 29/07/17.

“On behalf of the Africa Scout Committee, my colleagues at WSB-Africa and on my own behalf, I wish to congratulate the new and/or continuing office bearers and staff members of SoN. We wish them every success in their endeavors and personal fulfillment as they serve the Movement. We are also grateful to their predecessors for their contributions to our Movement and look forward to keeping in touch.” Said the Regional Director, Frederic Kama-Kama

These changes come at time when the Scouts of Namibia is set to launch its Centenary Year celebrations in 2017 to mark 100 years of Scouting. We congratulate the Scouts of Namibia on this achievement and wish them well in the new century of Scouting in their country.
Howard Maujo (33 years)
Scout Association of Malawi

Age at 1st Appointment/Election: Appointed International Commissioner at 18 years, Appointed National Executive Commissioner at 32 years. Apart from Scouting, he is currently the National Youth Leader for his church.

What inspires you as a young leader? As a young leader am inspired by the trust people have in me that they bestowed me with such a responsibility to manage the secretariat and the chance given to oversee our NSO administration work, that gives me determination and courage to go on

Any role model? My role model is the former US President, the son of Africa, Barack Obama

What can you tell other aspiring young leaders? Aspiring young leaders should have self-belief, develop confidence and be ready to listen and learn as they sharpen their leadership skills

Grace Michuki (25 years)
Kenya Scouts Association

Age at 1st Appointment/Election: Became the 1st Female Chairperson of Africa youth Advisor Committee in the year 2012 in Burundi at the age of 21 years. This gave her a valuable experience and at the same time a task to serve Africa youth and to make sure that the youth agenda is fully articulated across the world.

What inspires you as a young leader? She has always been inspired by Baden Powell’s last message to Scouts and strives to be happy and live healthy as she contributes to leave this world a better place. She also draws inspiration working as a champion of Girl Child Empowerment.

Any role model? Her role models are Mr. Antony Gitonga and Madam Jemima Nartey. “These two amazing people have proved their trust and belief in young people and youth Leadership especially in Scouting and go out of their way to mentor and reach out to more youth” Grace asserts.

What can you tell other aspiring young leaders? She urges all young people to know that nothing is impossible in life, to boldly step out of their fear zone, to go out there and seek for leadership not only in Scouting but also in Life. Be involved in key decision making organs and articulate not their own agenda but the agenda of all young people.

Victor Babachuwe Atipagah (31 years)
Africa Scout Committee (Ghana)

Age at 1st Appointment/Election: Elected to the Africa Scout Committee at the age of 29 years

What inspires you as a young leader? The opportunity to strive to create positive change through his actions as a person, how that influences others to promote suitable change and how that eventually influences a whole movement of change

Any role model? His role models are, Jemima Nartey, the Vice Chair of the World Scout Committee with whom he has worked personally since 2010 and later on in other capacities. She always tells him to “take the action and be ready to defend what you have done, for that it is your thinking, and that will be your commitment” She knows and trusts that he can go the distance to achieve the right results.

The other is another Scouter, but a professional; Frederic Tutu Kama Kama, the Regional Director of the Africa Support Centre who over the years since 2009 when he was first introduced at the Africa Scout Conference in Ghana won his deepest admiration. “He stands for hard work, discipline, integrity and as a true character of great self-worth. He keeps me renewed with self believe each time” Victor asserts

What can you tell other aspiring young leaders? Victor believes that there is never the impossible if one is determined to go the distance to achieve significant results. However, this comes with a great and noble character and a tremendous amount of hard work. And more so youth need to be disciplined to accept to work with others in regardless of their age, status, economic standing or persona. Life is an opportunity each day so youth need to grab it the best way possible.

“Am proud to have walked that great height of member, Africa Regional Committee at just 29! To most its prestige and honour, to me its servitude and a privilege. Believe in yourself!” Victor concludes

Jude Essosolim Assoti (27 years)
Association Scoute du Togo

Age at 1st Appointment/Election: Became the first Regional Dialogue for Peace Facilitator at the Age of 26.

What inspires you as a young leader? As a young leader, the road isn’t easy but I am still learning and try to be better each day by: Building relations and understanding my emotions; using my intuition to know myself better and developing ideas to build a direction and to inspire others

Any role model? It’s quite funny but they are the Fox in The Little Prince of Antoine de Saint Exupéry; Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer in the book The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain.

What can you tell other aspiring young leaders? I am not the right person to give advice but from what I got with the little experience I have I can summarize by saying: learn to build strong bonds; learn to take good personal decisions; try to be wise everyday; adopt good communication practices and build confidence in others and value their qualities

Gregory Manful (36 years)
Ghana Scout Association

Age at 1st Appointment/Election: Elected as the Youngest Chief Commissioner in Africa at the age of 31.

What inspires you as a young leader? I am inspired by the resilient desire of people making positive changes wherever they find themselves regardless of the challenges. I also draw much inspiration from my late father, Gilbert Manful for his innovation and positive attitude even in the midst of challenges.

Any role model? Dr. Kwame Nkrumah for his selfless work and desire to develop Ghana and to unite Africa to have a common but stronger voice.

What can you tell other aspiring young leaders? Teamwork is very key if one wants to succeed in any endeavour, so it is important for aspiring young leaders to acquaint themselves with teamwork and team building to a large extent. Humility, integrity, hard work, sense of purpose and courage are essential elements of successful leaders. They must work on these areas to equip them in achieving their purpose.

...Continued on Page 6
Member Organizations are invited to submit the Draft Resolutions they wish to put forward to the Conference. The deadline for submission is 14 May 2017 23h59 GMT. Several resources are available to support your work; read this Circular for detailed information. If you have any questions or need support in drafting a Resolution, please email resolutions@scout.org. Read more at https://www.scout.org/sites/default/files/media-files/C0317_ConferenceBaku2017_OpenCall_NSOResolutions_all.pdf

Ledet Yosef (26 years)
Ethiopia Scouts Association

Age at 1st Appointment/Election: Became the Youngest International Commissioner in the region at the age of 20 years

What inspires you as a young leader? Being a Scout on its own gives you the platform and training to become a leader. In addition to that, after internalizing the Scout values and principles it inspired me to take up the responsibility of imparting to the youth these values I hold very dear. It is also the fact that, I believe, there is no other group of young people that are as committed for a collective goal and who work constantly towards this goal.

Any role model? My role model is Dr. Wayne Davis who is the current Chairman of Africa Scout Committee. He has been my mentor for a very long time and is also the person responsible for my joining Scouting as a cub.

What can you tell other aspiring young leaders? I would tell other aspiring young leaders that there isn’t enough guidance or information you can get to prepare you for the challenges you will face in any leadership position that you will hold. However, don’t forget to stay committed, persistent, diligent and faithful for what you believe in.

Nelson Ochieng Opany (29 years)
World Scout Bureau Africa Support Centre (Kenya)

Age at 1st Appointment/Election: 24 years when he was elected National Youth Representative and member of National Board at Kenya Scouts Association. He also became the 1st African recipient of the World Scout Messengers of Peace Heroes Award in 2013 aged 25.

What inspires you as a young leader? My inspiration comes from the desire to impact the lives of people in ways that can make them better and more useful to themselves and others. It is anchored on the values of Scouting. My young family also gives me the zeal to want to become a better person each day.

Any role model? I draw a lot of inspiration from the lives of two great men; Lord Baden Powell founder of the Scout Movement - whom I named my son after and Dr. Geoffrey Griffin, founder of Starehe Boys Centre. They both lived for others and positively impacted the lives of so many young people.

What can you tell other aspiring young leaders? You don’t achieve anything in life by merely sitting down and waiting for it to come to you. You need to go out and find your success. In the process, vision, persistence and networking are very key. Above all focus on doing things not for any reward at all but because it is the right thing to do.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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<td>8-11 Mar 2017</td>
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STAY IN TOUCH

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