Final Memorandum of Understanding for the Strategic Partnership between WAGGGS and WOSM at European Level

16th European Guide and Scout Conference
Split, Croatia
24-28 August 2019
Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the Strategic Partnership between WAGGGS and WOSM at European level.

The Europe Region WAGGGS and the European Scout Region of WOSM (the Partners) hereby agree to work together as laid out in this document.

The partners commit to deliver common projects and activities that bring more value and impact for their Members in line with the principles and values of the Guiding and Scouting Movements.

The partners recognise that they are two independent organizations sharing the similar core values, working together to strengthen their impact on leadership and skills of young people.

This document expresses the will of the partners to value cooperation over competition with respect to the common purpose.

Common objectives may be built on the areas, on which collaboration was valued as highly important and highly performing in the past, like:

- Connecting to people and organisations.
- Exchanging experiences (such as best practices) with other MOs/NSOs.
- Finding and joining existing networks.
- Improving skills and expertise of volunteers.
- Gaining more influence on national and European policy level.
- Increasing the quality of the programs (for example the educational program or training of adult volunteers).
- Benefiting from additional funding streams

General Provisions

All activities and projects will contribute to the respective agreed strategies of the Partners, will be achievable within the available resources of the Partners and will ultimately support Members to achieve more than would be possible if either Partner worked alone.

Based on evaluation and feedback, a joint approach of the Partners should be considered particularly when

- the pool of knowledge for associations to share experience and expertise is enlarged;
- the voice and influence of Scouting and Guiding associations is amplified with key decision makers and target audiences;
- the scale and range of participants at events are enlarged making these more practical, cost-effective, attractive and influential;
- the Partners can build on or complement each other’s work.

Duration of the agreement

This agreement comes into effect at the 16th European Guide and Scout Conference in 2019. It is due to terminate naturally upon completion of the report of the two Regions in 2025 and when all relevant accounts are closed.

At the beginning of their mandates, the respective Chairs of Europe Region WAGGGS and European Scout Region, WOSM will also sign this Memorandum of Understanding to confirm the continued commitment of the two European Regions.

Responsibilities of the Partners

The Partners commit to respect the strategies, priorities, values, decision-making processes and ways of working of the other Partner. Decision-making processes and ways of working are reflected in the text of this Memorandum.
The Partners commit to develop an overall strategic action plan for what to accomplish with the joint work. The strategic action plan should take into account all relevant aspects of the joint work, including but not limited to strategic objectives, working methods, purpose and common understanding of joint work.

The Partners commit to set common objectives for joint projects, events and initiatives. These objectives shall contribute to the achievement of agreed Strategic Partnership outcomes and the respective strategies, targets/KPIs, and priorities of each Partner.

The Partners commit to allocate and manage effectively human and financial resources towards the achievement of common projects, events and initiatives.

The Partners commit to taking responsibility for sharing information within their own organisations and with each of The Partners; to communicate openly, realistically, honestly and in a timely manner with The Partners, especially about any risks or challenges in the implementation of shared work plans or projects.

The Partners renew their commitment to overseeing ongoing projects and objectives already decided and being implemented in partnership.

The Partners commit to monitoring, evaluating and regularly reviewing the opportunities which arise based on achieving more through working in partnership.

The Partners will identify one committee member from each committee to manage the further development of joint work - not necessarily the chairs or vice-chairs.

Administration of this Memorandum

The Co-ordinating Group of the two Regions; comprised of the two Regional Chairs, the two Regional Vice Chairs and the two key principal Staff Members are responsible for monitoring the fulfilment of this Memorandum; The Co-ordinating Group will also be available to address potential conflicts or challenges that the partnership might face.

Development and agreement of projects

At any time, any Regional Committee or staff member or Member Organisation can bring forward proposals of projects, events or activities which support the achievement of agreed strategic objectives to the two Regional Committees working together as the Joint Committee.

Confirmation on allocation and availability of existing staff, financial resources and approaches to specific donor agencies are the responsibility of the key principal Staff Members or their authorised delegates.

Ways of Working

A working group consisting of volunteers and committee members from both regions should be created in order to ensure the overall strategic action plan for the joint work is developed.

Additionally, for every area or event in which the Partners agree to work together including joint advocacy, the partners will develop a document outlining the ways of working on the topic/event which will include the agreed objectives, the desired impact, the resources required, the methodology to be used, description of the roles and shared responsibilities, and the reporting of the work done.

The Partners and their respective volunteer and staff teams will work with open and transparent communication, positive intent and trust.

The Joint Committee will undertake a review of these ways of working whenever the need arises, but at least once every two years.

Review

The impact and effectiveness of this MoU will be evaluated by the Joint Committee in consultation with Member Organisations after 2 years, with a view to providing feedback and recommendations. The results of this review will be shared with Member Organisations in the last quarter of 2021 or the first quarter of 2022.
Terminology

WAGGGS
World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts - Europe Region
(World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (Europe), 0457.323.425), registered at Rue de l'Industrie 10, 1000 Brussels, Belgium
Represented by Eline Marie Grøholt, and in the document referred to as ‘WAGGGS’.

WOSM
European Scout Region, World Organization of the Scout Movement
(Bureau Mondial du Scoutisme Bureau Régional Européen, CH 660.0.195.970-0), registered at Rue Henri-Christiné 5, case postale 327, 1211 Genève, Switzerland
Represented by Lars Kramm, and in the document referred to as ‘WOSM’.

Members
Member Organisations and National Scout Organisations in the European Regions, in the document referred to as ‘Members’.

Partners
The two organisations collectively are known as ‘The Partners’.

Joint Committee
A loose term referring to the two Regional Committees for WAGGGS Europe and the European Scout Region of WOSM working in partnership.

Coordinating Group
Meeting of the two Regional Chairs, the two Regional Vice-Chairs and the two principal staff contacts to coordinate the work of the two regional Committees.

Adopted by the 16th European Guide and Scout Conference held in Split, Croatia, on 28 August 2019.