



**SCOUTS**  
Creating a Better World

World Organization of the Scout Movement  
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout  
Всемирная Организация Скаутского Движения  
Organización Mundial del Movimiento Scout  
المنظمة العالمية للحركة الكشفية

2016-2017

**WORLD ORGANISATION OF THE SCOUT MOVEMENT  
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU MOUVEMENT SCOUT**

AFRICA REGION/REGION AFRIQUE - WESTERN ZONE/ZONE AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST



Bénin-Burkina Faso-Cap Vert-Côte d'Ivoire-Gambia

Ghana-Guinée-Liberia-Niger-Nigeria-Sénégal-Sierra Leone-Togo

**WEST AFRICAN SCOUTS YOUTH FORUM  
COMMITTEE**

**WASYF  
PROJECT  
1**

**« STOP TO LANGUAGE  
BARRIERS »**



# **DRAFT OF TERMS OF REFERENCES**

## **BRIDGING THE LANGUAGE BARRIER GAP**

Language barriers are a common challenge in Scouting, and a two-way process for Anglophones and francophones.

Scouting is a movement that aims to support young people in their physical, mental and spiritual development, that they may play constructive roles in society, with a strong focus on the outdoors and survival skills. WOSM describe Scouting as “a voluntary nonpolitical educational movement for young people open to all without distinction of origin, race or creed, in accordance with the purpose, principles and method conceived by the Founder”. The scout method is the principal method which the Scouting Organizations, boys and girls, operate their units. Scouts are also trained to become responsible citizens and active members of their local, national and international communities.

To train young people, we organize events that brings together scouts from many countries as Scouting is well structured and allows people from all over the world to meet, socialize and make friends. Aside international gatherings for people from abroad, overseas, the WOSM is subdivided into regions. The Africa Region comprises some areas such as the West Africa Scouting.

At this end, the Conference and Forum of West Africa Scouting is the biggest event known in this area. It consists of gathering adults, elders and young people as future leaders in the same background, talking on the advance of Scouting, exchanging, training each other for more impact of scouting in our common and various communities.

However, a recurring issue is that of communication and an understanding of each other in respect to languages. The issue of languages limits scouts from understanding and communicating with one other properly and therefore coming together to implement common projects, for the well-being of Scouting and therefore the well-being of our West African communities. This is to ensure good communication between the 13 NSOs in the West Africa Scouting.

We do need to unify West African countries in and by Scouting to achieve or fulfill the common assigned mission. At this end, the West African Scouts Youth Forum Committee (WASYF/C) remains committed to overcoming that issue that corrupts our communication.

**2023 VISION:** The Project “**STOP TO LANGUAGE BARRIERS**” (**S.L.B**) can be used beyond the realm of ensuring better communication. The **S.L.B** can contribute to achieve the 2023 vision in that once implemented, it can be reachable to those non-scouts, so that Scouting may

provide other young people the framework of learning other language by becoming scouts beforehand, by registration.

### **HOW: IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

#### **Exchange of textbooks:**

Both sides exchange. For instance, scouts from Ghana will gather English books and send them to the Francophone countries within the same area.

The francophone countries can also send some of their French books to Anglophone countries. By doing this, both countries will help improve the languages on each side so that when there is a program we will be able to communicate better among ourselves.

We could present this idea in the form of a proposal and give it to the different NSO's. They can tell their scouts to donate the books they want to give out and then the country packs it and mail it to the country she wants to give it to.

We can do this yearly and it can also contribute to the “BOOKS FOR ALL” project.

#### **Set Scouts English Club and Scouts French Club:**

At that level, scouts can themselves carry some activities related to language barriers. To have a language Club may help scouts improve their language skills. The club can be led by bilingual scouts or the NSO could ask the support of people from outside or likewise from an entity such as the American Cultural Center of French Cultural Center or any kind of Organization involved in language learning.

#### **WHERE?**

Aside Scouts Centers, the Scout English Clubs can also be set in **schools and colleges** to help students and pupils and to attract them towards Scouting, **Youth Centers** etc.

#### **Ensure registration in a Language Learning Center:**

Moreover, NSOs may send their Scouts having international positions or key-positions in the NSO, to a Language learning Center to learn English or French:

The NSO can ask the sponsoring of the Language Learning Center, that's to let scouts learning freely the language;

Or the NSO can endorse the entire registration fees or just the half and let the beneficiary pay the half of the fees;

### **TARGETED YOUNG PEOPLE/LEADERS**

- Scouts having international positions in Scouting such as Commissioners, Advisors;
- Scouts reading international studies;
- Scouts at any level;
- Non-Scouts yet, young people;
- Pupils and students;
- Elders;
- Etc.

**NB: This project is a recommendation from the Youth Zonal Committee**

**Yours in Scouting**

**For the Zonal Forum Committee**

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