



world scouting



scouts®  
of the world - du monde



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# SCOUTS OF THE WORLD IN BRIEF

## **Challenges for the future of the world**

The future of our small planet is threatened by many challenges:

- By 2025, 2 out of 3 people will not have enough water for their basic needs.
- A billion people do not have access to clean drinking water.
- Polluted water affects the health of 1.2 billion people.
- Desertification affects over a billion people.
- Soil degradation affects a third of the world's land.
- 375 km<sup>2</sup> of forest disappear every day.
- Two billion people do not have access to electricity.
- 3.1 million people died from HIV/AIDS in 2002, 42 million are infected.
- 25% of the world population live in wealthy countries and consume 75% of energy.
- Over the past years, numerous conflicts led to 10 millions of deaths.

In September 2000, one hundred-eighty-nine UN member States adopted the UN Millennium Declaration:

"We will spare no efforts to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected... We believe that the central challenge we face today is to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people... For a while globalization offers great opportunities, at present its benefits are very unevenly shared..."

The Millennium Declaration refers to universal values that are also those of Scouting: freedom, tolerance, equality, solidarity, respect of nature, shared responsibility.

The Millennium Declaration identifies three main challenges for the future of the world:

- Peace, security and disarmament;
- Development and poverty eradication;
- Protecting our common environment.

## **The UN Millennium Development Goals**

As a follow up of the Millennium Declaration, the UN General Assembly adopted eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
2. Achieve universal primary education.
3. Promote gender equality and empower women.
4. Reduce child mortality.
5. Improve maternal health.
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability.
8. Develop a global partnership.

## **What is the Scouts of the World Award?**

### **● Definition**

The Scouts of the World Award is an initiative to help National Scout Organizations revitalize their programme for senior sections (15-26 age range, boys and girls) by giving young people the skills and opportunities to face the challenges and problems in the world.

The Scouts of the World Award has been developed in the framework of the Strategic priorities "Youth Involvement" and "Adolescents" approved by the World Scout Conference in Thessaloniki in 2002.

It is proposed to young people from 15 to 26 years old, Scouts (Senior-Scouts and Rover sections) and non-Scouts, willing to contribute to make the world a better place. It should help to improve the programme of the senior sections (over 15). This is why National Scout Organisations are invited to integrate the Scouts of the World Award within the programme of their Senior-Scout or Rover sections.

### **● Educational objectives**

The Scouts of the World Award is aimed at helping young people to achieve the following educational objectives:

- Ability to explain the main challenges of today's world.
- Ability to live and take action in an intercultural context.
- Sense of solidarity and community spirit.
- Aptitude for finding and analysing information.
- Autonomy and leadership.
- Aptitude for using negotiation, mediation and problem-solving techniques.
- Aptitude for developing and managing collective projects.

### **● Components**

The Scouts of the World Award comprises two components:

- The Scouts of the World Discovery
- The Scouts of the World Voluntary Service

The Scouts of the World Award is granted to individuals having successfully accomplished a "Scouts of the World Discovery" and a "Scouts of the World Voluntary Service".

Young people having obtained the Scouts of the World Award are invited to join the Scouts of the World Network.

### **The Scouts of the World Discovery**

The SW Discovery is an adventure lasting several days, proposed by a Scouts of the World Base with a focus on environment, development or peace.

#### **Process**

The SW Discovery comprises three steps:

1. Exploring ("What is it about?"): active discovery of one or several aspects of the Millennium Development Goals, for example:
  - Hiking with rangers in a forest threatened by pollution.
  - Visiting an ethnic community suffering from prejudices and racism.
  - Visiting a refugee camp.
2. Responding ("What does it mean for me?"): processing the collected information and developing a feeling of personal commitment towards the issue through a process of critical thinking about the causes and the consequences.

3. Taking action ("What can I do?"): developing a personal project of action in order to increase community's awareness about the issue and contribute to solving the problem.

### **Content**

1. Introduction to the Scouts of the World Award.
2. An active exploration of the Millennium Challenges and Goals ("Exploring").
3. Sharing the outcomes of the exploration and reflecting on them ("Responding").
4. Training workshops: acquiring skills to be able to set up and carry on a project of personal action ("Taking action"), for example:
  - Problem-solving techniques.
  - Communication skills
  - Organisation and planning skills.
  - Renewable sources of energy.
  - Mediation and negotiation.
5. Conclusion: how to develop a personal voluntary service or project.

### **The Scouts of the World Voluntary Service**

After having accomplished a SW Discovery, a young person willing to obtain the SW Award has to do a period of voluntary service in order to contribute to solving a problem related to the Millennium Development Goals.

The duration of the voluntary service should correspond to at least a period of 2-week full time work. A SW Voluntary Service can take two forms: (1) assisting a project already developed by an organization (Scout Association, youth centre, NGO); (2) developing a specific project with a team of friends.

Examples of voluntary services:

- Participating at an international work camp for the protection of the environment
- Developing a project with a team of friends to prevent substance-abuse or violence at school

### **● How to get the Scouts of the World Award**

Any young person between 15 and 26 years old, girl or boy, member of the Scout Movement or not, can obtain the SW Award following the next steps:

- Contact the National Scout Association and ask for information on the SW Award, and inquire as to where to accomplish a SW Discovery and how to register it.
- Register and accomplish a SW Discovery in order to acquire more knowledge and skills and prepare a SW Voluntary Service.
- Do a SW Voluntary Service either individually or within a team project.
- Complete an evaluation process and record his/her experience in the SW Passport (see pages 57-58), and send it to a SW Base or to the Provincial/National Headquarters.

If the recorded experience fulfils the requested criteria, the SW Award is granted.

### **Scouts of the World Bases**

Around the world, there are thousands of Scout centres and campsites. They are invited to become Scouts of the World Bases and play a key role in the development of the programme.

Temporary SW Bases may also be created during International or National events. Rovers involved in local community projects may also share their experience with other young people by creating a SW Base.

SW Bases are recognized and accredited by the National Scout Organizations. Find more information in the chapter "How to setup a SW Base", in this book.

The Scouts of the World Bases are committed to:

- Promote the Scouts of the World Award;
- Organize Scouts of the World Discoveries;
- Offer opportunities for Scouts of the World Voluntary Services;
- Organize exchanges with other SW Bases;
- Grant the SW Award.

## **The Scouts of the World Network**

### **• Definition**

The SW Network is open to Scouts having obtained the Scouts of the World Award.

Its mission is to:

- Develop friendship and solidarity among all Scouts and young people around the world;
- Encourage and support projects to contribute to building a better world;
- Encourage and support young people willing to prepare the SW Award;
- Encourage support between SW Network members and other members.

### **• How to become member of the SW Network**

To become a member of the SW Network, a Scout has to send a copy of his/her SW Passport to the World Scout Bureau.

## **The Scouts of the World Partnership**

The SW Partnership is formed of NSOs having adopted the Scouts of the World Award. It is supported by the World Scout Bureau Central and Regional Offices.

It has the following mission:

- To facilitate contacts and exchange of experiences and resources between NSOs engaged in the Scouts of the World Award;
- To organise co-operation and exchanges between the various Scouts of the World Bases in order to provide young people with a broader range of SW Discoveries and Voluntary Services;
- To support the SW Network at the international level.

## **Support structures**

### **• At the national level**

Every National Scout Organization willing to adopt the Scouts of the World Award is invited to set up a SW task force, formed of experts and members of the Scouts of the World network, which will be in charge of promoting and supporting the implementation of the SW Award. This task force should be integrated within the National team of the senior section (Senior-Scout or Rover).

The SW task force has the following mission:

- To inform young people about the Scouts of the World Award with all appropriate means: magazines, website, exhibition, distribution of the SW information through the local, provincial and national Scout headquarters, etc.
- To organise Scouts of the World Bases where young people can accomplish a Scouts of the World Discovery and be supported to do their SW Voluntary Services.
- To support the preparation and organisation of SW Discoveries and Voluntary Services.

- To ensure the proper delivery of the SW Award either directly from the national level or through the SW Bases.
- To ensure the participation of the NSO in the Scouts of the World Partnership (see p. 41) in order to support youth exchanges and SW Voluntary Services in co-operation with other NSOs.
- To support the SW Network.

#### ● **At the regional level**

Each Regional Scout Office will look at the most adapted way to support the Scouts of the World Award. It can be through a team integrated into the task force or a working group in charge of the "Adolescents" Strategic priority.

Supported by the Regional Programme Director, this team has the following mission:

- To promote the Scouts of the World Award among National Scout Organizations in the Region.
- To support NSOs in organizing and implementing the Scouts of the World Award.
- To contribute to publishing training and educational resources in order to adapt the Scouts of the World Award to the specific background of the Region.
- To organize and support the SW Network and the SW Partnership in the Region.

#### ● **At the world level**

The Scouts of the World Technical Commission is set up with the aim of ensuring the development of the Scouts of the World Award. Directly placed under the authority of the Secretary General and working with the support of the Education, Research & Development Department of the World Scout Bureau, it is composed of young people and experts from the various regions.

It has the following mission:

- To promote the Scouts of the World Award within the Scout Movement as well as externally;
- To support Regional and national SW teams or task forces;
- To publish educational and training materials to support the implementation of the SW Discoveries and Voluntary Services, and to support the development of the SW Network and the SW Partnership.