



**SCOUTING'S  
GIFTS FOR  
PEACE**

**PEACE**

is not as simple as black and white

# Black and white

“Peace – it’s not as simple as black and white” – that’s how veteran Scout peace campaigner Paul Browne explained the complexity of building bridges between embattled communities in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Whether you address issues such as the Western/Muslim divide, the rift between Belfast’s Catholics and Protestants, the violent street gangs of El Salvador, youth crime in Hong Kong, isolated immigrants in Stockholm, marginalised AIDS orphans in Cape Town or frightened communities in New Orleans, Scout volunteers have found that you’ve got to look beyond the obvious black and white assumptions to find a solution.

The Gifts for Peace programmes and projects described in this report show how Scouts worldwide are taking action to make a difference. Millions of Scouts, in over 110 countries, are working to create a better world!

## Photo Features

Pictures taken by award-winning photographer Yoshi Shimizu on behalf of the World Scout Foundation.

- 18 El Salvador: “Give me back my childhood”
- 28 Hong Kong: Finding hope and inspiration in prison
- 4 Saudi Arabia: “Welcome to the land of peace”
- 42 South Africa: “A new challenge for our Scouts”
- 36 Sweden: “It was scary at first”
- 12 UK, Northern Ireland: Overcoming the barriers
- 50 USA: Rebuilding communities, rebuilding trust

Cover photo  
Former gang leaders in San Salvador find a reason to smile again. You can read about them on page 18.

Joe, on the right, is standing in a flood damaged house in a poor neighborhood of New Orleans. Read about him on page 50.



## Scouting's Gifts for Peace

Scouts worldwide celebrated 100 years of Scouting in 2007 by presenting their Gifts for Peace, locally, nationally and internationally. The aim of this global programme is to inspire young people to tackle issues in their communities, build peace and bring people together.

Building bridges between people has been a central focus of Scouting since its founding when Baden Powell brought together boys from different social backgrounds. In 1920 young people from countries which had been at war with each other gathered at the first World Scout Jamboree, a celebration of cultures, fun and friendship.

The Gifts for Peace projects have given renewed emphasis to the active promotion of peace throughout the world.

The Gifts for Peace reported here are projects undertaken by 110 national Scout organizations for their impact in terms of education, understanding, tolerance and respect for others. Countless more Gifts for Peace are being carried out by local Scout groups. Some projects have concluded and others continue.

Through the Gifts for Peace, Scouts worldwide are:

- Managing conflict without violence: conflict resolution, problem solving, negotiation, mediation and anger management.
- Challenging prejudices and stereotypes such as racism, religious intolerance, bullying and gender discrimination.
- Encouraging greater solidarity: with refugees, internally displaced people, asylum seekers, street children and ethnic minority groups.
- Working at national and local levels on issues including child soldiers, child labour, street violence and gangs, health education and human rights.

Read on and "Be Prepared" to be impressed!

## Scouting and Peace



"Scouts are the messengers of peace in the world. You all have an important job to do: you need to mobilise all 28 million of your members throughout the world in the cause of building peace. We in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are proud to be supporting you in these efforts. We will continue this support in the future."

*HM King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz al Saud of Saudi Arabia  
inspired the Gifts for Peace programme.*



"We can see the impact of Scouting in the communities where Scouts have helped to build peace and reconciliation across communities and across borders. We should be proud of this, but there is more work to do. I challenge Scouts worldwide to participate in the Gifts for Peace programme and show how we can make a global impact!"

*HM King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden  
Honorary President of the World Scout Foundation*



"All conflict is about difference, whether the difference is race, religion or nationality ... difference is not a threat, difference is natural. Difference is the essence of humanity. Difference is an accident of birth and it should therefore never be the source of hatred or conflict. The answer to difference is to respect it. Therein lies a most fundamental principle of peace - respect for diversity.

Scouts here have broken down distrust and worked for the common good, but need to continue their work to establish respect for the difference between the peoples (of Northern Ireland)."

*John Hume  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Ireland*



"I am pleased at the progress of Scouting in South Africa and in the steps that are now being taken to make the programme more accessible to more young people. The international Scout Movement is a world leader in youth education and has particular relevance to the needs of youth in Africa and the emerging democracies around the world."

*Nelson Mandela  
Former President of South Africa, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, pictured with World Scout Committee Member Nkwenkwe Nkomo.*



"Scouting has successfully brought about long term changes in the lives of many young people in Hong Kong who would otherwise have been tempted to turn to crimes in their early and formative years. In helping these young men, Scouting has indeed made a most valuable contribution towards our society."

*Justice Patrick Chan  
Permanent Judge  
Court of Final Appeal, Hong Kong*

## “Welcome to the land of peace!” Saudi Arabia

Saudi Scouts welcomed 1,500 campers from 85 countries to Jubail, with the words “Welcome to Saudi Arabia! Welcome to the land of Peace!”. The hosts had planned this camp as the first of their Gifts for Peace – with the aim to learn first-hand about other cultures, other nationalities and other faiths. Scout camp life in Saudi Arabia is full of singing, dancing and laughter. Participants exchanged food, songs and folklore on the international day, they made an expedition to discover the wonders of desert life, and joined in evening concerts and social activities. Soon the visitors felt completely at home.

Apart from the normal activities in the camp, Scouts took part in a series of workshops organized by the Saudi Centre for National Dialogue. The Centre – a brainchild of King Abdullah – is tasked with involving ordinary people throughout the country in discussion to find the way forward for the future. Together, the participants – men and women – discuss issues such as the rights of women, preventing militant Islam being taught in schools or preached in the Mosque and how to open the Kingdom to others from different cultures, nationalities and faiths.

“My job,” says Faisal bin Muaammar, the Centre’s leader, “is to take people who may not want to sit together in the first place, and have them shake hands when we are finished.” Faisal and

his team helped the Scouts discover consensus building, conflict resolution and mediation techniques.

“These workshops have changed my impression of Saudi Arabia and, in fact, of Islam, completely,” says John Lawlor, a political science student from Ireland. “The skills of peace-building can be learned by any of us. And the methods work – the changes they are bringing about in Saudi society are truly amazing!”

“It was certainly an eye opener for all involved,” writes Rod Abson from Australia. “We learned so much about other cultures, and of Scouting’s role to foster peace through its 28 million members. We all left camp still humming the Together for Peace song – with many memories and ideas of what to do when we got home.”

John and Rod were among a small group chosen to represent the camp in a visit to the Royal Palace in Riyadh. His Majesty King Abdullah renewed his call for Scouts to work for peace and understanding worldwide. “The God of Judaism, the God of Islam and the God of Christianity are the same God,” His Majesty stressed. “We just pray to Him in different ways. When we work together we can achieve peace in communities, in countries and throughout the world.”





"Together for Peace" camp in Saudi Arabia. *centre left*: Faisal bin Muaammar shares skills of consensus building. *bottom right*: HM King Abdullah inspires Scouts to work for peace.

ALGERIA

*Scouts Musulmans Algériens*

### Scout camp for solidarity

Scouts are taking action on environmental issues and have been particularly involved in the management of environmental disasters, such as the earthquake that took place in May 2003. The Scouts set up a Solidarity Scout Camp within 48 hours and organized thousands of volunteers to help in this camp in the weeks and months following the disaster.

The first stage was devoted to emergency aid, including searching for victims, distributing 120 tons of aid and food each day and erecting 1,400 tents for displaced families.

The second stage aimed at making the life of the homeless people a little easier, particularly for the children. An average of 1,100 leaders each week helped in 75 centres. Over 12,500 families received help and over 250,000 children were looked after. The activities for the children and their parents included learning games and sports, outdoor activities and camps, and having access to portable libraries and mobile cinemas.

ANGOLA

*Associação de Escuteiros de Angola*

### Combating the cholera epidemic

Scouts are working in partnership with UNICEF to combat the cholera epidemic in Luanda and the four most affected provinces of Angola: Benguela, Cabinda, Malange and Huambo.

About 3,000 Scouts and adult leaders are visiting 245,000 families in the most affected neighbourhoods and distributing a solution of calcium hypochlorite to mothers so that they can disinfect drinking water in the home. The Scouts of Angola and UNICEF have worked together since 1993 on projects ranging from the distribution of food in besieged cities during the war, to social mobilisation activities for vaccination against measles and polio. In April 2007, the Angolan Scouts signed an agreement with UNICEF to work together to combat cholera.

ARGENTINA

*Scouts de Argentina*

### The right to play

(Por el Derecho a Jugar)

Scouts are promoting peaceful games and reading as a way of developing positive attitudes towards peace building in young people.

There are two parts to this project. Firstly, Scouts are producing peaceful toys and delivering them to kindergartens, day care centres and other centres where children from poorer backgrounds are cared for. Scouts are also involved in the decisions about where the toys are distributed after considering the needs of specific communities.

The second part of the project involves Scouts of all ages compiling, editing and distributing a book containing stories, drawings and pictures about peace. The book helps the general education of children by improving reading skills. Scouts are the main contributors, writing the stories, making the drawings and taking the photographs. A contest determined the final content of the book. All the contributions were exhibited in public places.

AUSTRALIA

*The Scout Association of Australia*

### Sister cities project

Scouts are learning about different cultures through partnerships with local cultural associations in their communities and international exchanges with sister cities. Every Scout group in Australia hopes to link up with Scouts in another country to build new friendships and understanding.

Australia is a culturally and linguistically diverse society. Twenty-three percent of Australians were born overseas, there are about 200 languages spoken and a wide variety of religions are practised.

Scout groups are making contact with local cultural associations to develop partnerships. Through this, Scouts of all ages will learn more about their community and develop inter-cultural understanding. Over 500 links overseas have been recorded with some 40 countries.

AUSTRIA *Pfadfinder und Pfadfinderinnen Österreichs*

### Better integration of migrants

Scouts are raising awareness of the migrant situation in their country in order to promote tolerance, exchange and the acceptance of migrants as part of Austrian society.

They support the integration of immigrants in Austria and aim to develop open minds and inter-cultural understanding as essential steps to peace. They are taking an active role to show how the Guides and Scouts of Austria can be a model and partner for migrant initiatives.

Scouts produced a guidebook on how to work with migrants and distributed it to all Scout groups. Local groups are now implementing projects and a report on their work was presented to the Austrian President in a huge multi-cultural festivity in June 2007 in Vienna and the regional capitals.

At a national level Scouts have started to work with Muslim youth groups to look for ways to better integrate second and third generation Muslims into mainstream society. These are the children of immigrants from countries such as Turkey, Serbia and the Middle East who often live in segregated communities. They are welcoming more young people from these communities into Scouting.

AZERBAIJAN *Azerbaican Skaut Associasiyasi*

### Youth participation through action

Scouts are bringing together leaders and young people from Azerbaijan, Georgia and Russia, to help young people increase their involvement in decision making in the local and regional communities and to learn about diversity management, conflict resolution, democratic citizenship, civil society and participative youth work.

The training camp is located in the area of the Salimabad settlement and is ethnically diverse and multi-confessional. The course is based on a training course delivered by the European Youth Council in Strasbourg. Young people are encouraged to share, explore and learn through a variety of non-formal educational methods. The young people can then identify opportunities to use their new-found skills at home.

Participation and active citizenship is about young people having the right, the means, the space, the opportunity and the support to participate in and influence decisions and engage in activities to contribute to building a better and more peaceful society.

Young people are involved at all stages of the project, from needs assessment, to concept development and project design as well as fund raising and implementation.

Argentina



Australia



Belgium



*BAHAMAS*

*The Scout Association of The Bahamas*

### **Integration of Haitians into Scouting**

Scouts are working to integrate immigrants from Haiti into Scouting. They are forming friendships and building solidarity between Scouts from the Bahamas and the Haitians, including those who were Scouts or leaders in Haiti and those who were not.

The Bahamas continues to be a major stop off point for thousands of Haitians fleeing their impoverished island. These immigrants risk their lives in search of a better way of life. It has been estimated by the Bahamas government that nearly 30,000 Haitians are now living in the Bahamas. This is nearly ten percent of the total population of the Bahamas. The resulting discord and lack of integration into society has serious political and humanitarian consequences.

Scouts have been speaking to the Haitian community through churches and conferences. The Haitian leaders have been invited to attend Scout training programmes, new Scout groups have been formed and significant numbers of new Scouts have been registered. Efforts are made to make sure that all Scouting activities are integrated and provide opportunities for cultural understanding, dialogue and forming new friendships.

*BANGLADESH*

*Bangladesh Scouts*

### **Solace for needy young people**

Scouts are working in a centre for destitute, orphaned, homeless and delinquent youth run by the government's social welfare department. They are conducting educational and recreational activities and providing support for young people.

Scouts aim to help the young people develop to their full potential by gaining confidence and self-esteem. The goal is to lessen the likelihood of the juvenile delinquents becoming adult criminals.

One of the techniques is to establish Cub Scout groups. These are popular and provide the framework for many constructive and fun activities. For older young people, the emphasis is more on working together, learning job skills, making and marketing products.

Those who eventually "graduate" from the centre often provide role models for those in training.

*BARBADOS*

*Barbados Boy Scouts Association*

### **Preparing young people**

Scouts are being trained to respond to the key issues facing young people on the island today: HIV/AIDS, drug abuse and emergency preparedness. The Scouts are learning about these issues in order to support others, live healthier lives and be better prepared for the hurricanes which hit the island annually.

Scouting in Barbados is active in all parishes across the country. It is therefore in a strategic position to work with government and non-governmental organizations.

Scouts of all ages are learning about HIV/AIDS and substance abuse and following a special badge programme, supported by the National HIV/AIDS Council of Barbados. The older Scouts and their leaders are helping to spread this information.

*BELGIUM*

*Federatie voor Open Scoutisme*

### **Happiness and toys for Christmas**

Scouts are collecting toys throughout the year and recycling them to needy children for the holidays. This work is bringing Scouts and their families more in touch with the poorer side of Belgium where not everybody has the same opportunities. Belgium has many immigrants who have moved there in search of a better life but often live in segregated communities and have very limited resources.

Many care centres, children's hospitals, orphanages and neighbourhood associations appreciate receiving the toys. In the process, links are forged, bridges are built and there are benefits for everyone.

Barbados



*BELGIUM*

*Scouts en Gidsen Vlaanderen*

### **Scouting for disadvantaged young people**

This Gift for Peace develops work in two areas: 1) Helping young people with disabilities to be more integrated into mainstream activities and reducing their social exclusion and isolation. 2) To provide Scouting to more young people who are disadvantaged.

So far there are about 1,000 Scouts with special needs in the Scout association. Integrating them into mainstream Scouting requires leaders and Scouts to be aware of their special needs and have the skills to respond.

Since 1991 special efforts have been made to make Scouting available to those who are poor and/or marginalised. There are opportunities for financial support to participate in Scouting activities, as well as special membership fees. Annually there is a special camp for marginalised young people to learn about the out-of-doors, have fun and learn.

*BENIN*

*Scoutisme Béninois*

### **Mobilising for the UN Millennium Development Goals**

Scouts are raising awareness of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals. They have created an information centre where young people can learn to use computers, use a library, attend lectures and seminars and take part in discussion groups. The Scouts will also launch an awareness campaign, using adapted and simplified versions of the Millennium Campaign kits.

The programme focuses on building the skills of Scout leaders and young Scouts to plan and organize education and sensitising sessions on HIV/AIDS, using radio programmes, workshops, meetings and consultations.

*BOLIVIA*

*Asociación de Scouts de Bolivia*

### **Let's save lives**

Scouts are fighting child mortality by informing people and distributing Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) packets. This massive ongoing campaign is aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goal of cutting child mortality in half by 2015. Each Scout plays a role by taking responsibility for one block of houses, distributing ORT packets to every child under the age of five and explaining to mothers the benefits of using them.

In busy shopping areas Scouts also set up information kiosks to distribute leaflets and ORT packets, and they perform street theatre to help communicate the message at fairs and popular festivals. Through their ORT work, Scouts hope to reach 50,000 families per year and to help their country achieve its Millennium Development Goals.

*BOTSWANA*

*The Botswana Scouts Association*

### **Adolescent sexual and reproductive health education**

Scouts are helping to educate young people about HIV/AIDS and other important adolescent health issues.

Scouts see education, at an early age, as a key way of addressing the problems which ravage their country. They recognise that early sexual activity in young people can often profoundly affect their lives and have significant consequences such as a lack of education (early school dropouts), unwanted or unsupported children, social exclusion, poverty, sexual abuse, etc.

Scouting has the framework, experience and method for educating young people. In 2004 the Botswana Scouts developed a programme to reach as many young people as possible and educate them about sexual and reproductive health issues.

In August 2007, for the Centenary of Scouting, they ran a nationwide celebration to demonstrate their programme, with the active participation of the President of the Republic, who is also the Chief Scout. They know they are making a difference, but the battle continues and there is so much more to do.

*BRAZIL*

*União dos Escoteiros do Brasil*

## Let's disarm our children!

Scouts have launched a project titled Let's Disarm our Children! They are educating young people to stay away from firearms of any kind, even toy guns. They are learning to understand how destructive the use of firearms is and how to resolve disputes through dialogue and compromise.

There is a culture of gun ownership in Brazil and the population is becoming more aware that guns often convert simple conflicts into irreversible tragedies. Brazil has a national campaign for voluntary disarmament and Scouts want to contribute to this campaign to help young people realise that owning a gun is not a necessity in life. Difficulties, differences and conflicts can be managed in a peaceful manner, without reverting to the use of guns.

All 1,060 Scout groups in Brazil are encouraged to work with local churches, schools and community centres. They work together to offer activities for young people who are asked give up toy guns to participate in the events. Young people handing over their toy guns is a key news media opportunity.

The young people in Brazil will take this learning into their adult lives, helping to break the cycle of gun ownership and use.

*BULGARIA*

*Organizatsia Na Bulgarskite Skauty*

## A friend by my side

Scouts are working with children who have been placed in special homes following acts of delinquent behaviour or abandonment by parents. They are helping them to develop social skills, create friendships, reduce aggression and re-integrate into society.

The government agency for child protection estimates that over 10,000 children are living in residential institutions in Bulgaria. Most have at least one living parent and are placed in institutions because their family is extremely poor or under severe stress. Only three percent of the children are orphans. Many children with disabilities are institutionalised and a disproportionate number of children are from the Roma minority.

Scouts are organizing a range of activities, including special camps for children in institutions. Activities include work on team building, leadership training and conflict resolution.

The programme is expected to become a new model for addressing problems of aggression in schools. The techniques and results will be communicated by producing and distributing 500 CDs for school directors and related organizations.

*CANADA*

*Scouts Canada*

## Reducing racism

Scouts are focusing on improving cultural education in an effort to decrease racism. They have set up a website database called the Cultural Connections Collection containing information on other countries and cultures. Information is posted by Scouts with family or personal knowledge of other countries, cultures and religions. All Scouts can explore this information on-line and take part in awareness raising activities.

Canada is a country of immigration with many people from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds living side-by-side. Due to a lack of understanding of other people's cultures and traditions, some people develop prejudices and display racist behaviour.

The Cultural Connections Collection website is one way to spread information and encourage understanding. Scouts are encouraged to post games, songs, stories, crafts and recipes. Younger members work with their parents to post information, whereas older Scouts can design presentations and activities to dispel stereotypes.

With the support of this on-line resource, Scout groups are having discussions on racism and developing tolerance for other cultures. Groups are encouraged to organize local events to enhance this learning and to increase understanding throughout the community.

*BURUNDI, RWANDA, D. R. CONGO*

*Association des Scouts du Burundi  
Fédération des Scouts de la RDCongo  
Association des Scouts du Rwanda*

### **Amahoro Amani**

Scouts and Guides in the Great Lakes region of Africa (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda), are fighting ethnic prejudices and breaking down barriers that were previously the source of great violence in the region. To do this, young people are training as community mediators and organizing public awareness campaigns, peace and reconciliation workshops, peace days, and getting involved in village and neighbourhood councils.

The 1990s saw the rise of long-term social, economic and political instability affecting the population of the Great Lakes region.

Inter-ethnic conflicts, the explosion of xenophobia due to ethnic prejudices, power struggles, tribal wars and armed violence left thousands dead in the region and led to genocide and massacres. Children and young people, which account for 60 percent of the population, were victims of this terror and many became deeply involved in the violence and killing.

During the turmoil, Scouts in the three counties got together under difficult circumstances and asked themselves what they could do to contribute to the return and the maintenance of peace in the Great Lakes region. As a result, the Scout associations in the three countries set up a partnership focusing on education for peace, one of the fundamental parts of the Scout programme worldwide.

### **Renewing Amahoro Amani**

In 2005 Scouts decided to take this three-country partnership to a new level by developing the Amahoro Amani project, in collaboration with the Girl Guide associations of the region.

Amahoro means peace in the Kirundi and Kinyarwanda languages, and Amani means peace in Swahili. The project is based on the work of 420 young men and women aged between 15 and 25 who run all of the activities. They have been trained as community mediators, and work to combat ethnic prejudice, manage conflicts without violence and train others to do the same.

In addition to the awareness campaigns, peace workshops and political involvement, the mediators are also helping to safeguard the environment by taking part in the reforestation of areas where large refugee camps had been set up.

The peace education and promotional actions have now been extended to non-Scouts thanks to good cooperation with other youth organizations working for peace.

Over the course of the first two years, it is estimated that 20,000 young people have benefited from the advice and help of the community mediators, becoming agents of peace in the region.

Amahoro Amani



Amahoro Amani



Amahoro Amani



## Overcoming the barriers Northern Ireland

Belfast in the early 1970's was a difficult place to live – minority families in mixed communities were burned and bullied out of their homes, barricades were built preventing one community from encroaching on the other. Murders, bombings and intimidation were commonplace.

Mike Loder and Paul Browne were Scout leaders from groups on each side of the sectarian divide in a tense Belfast. They strongly believed that their responsibility to their Scouts included helping to develop tolerance and understanding. Moreover, they believed that through Scouting they could do something to stop the downward spiral Northern Ireland was experiencing.

They knew that if progress was to be made, people had to meet, prejudices had to be challenged and friendships had to be forged. They began quietly and courageously by bringing Scouts from their own local groups together. They knew this could put their own lives at risk, but they knew it was worth it.

"It's difficult to know who's Catholic and who's Protestant when you're drenched by the rain on a joint Scout expedition in the Mourne Mountains," says Mike, "and you care less about the religion of the person cooking your dinner when you are really hungry and cold!"

"Our ambitions were quite limited when we first started," adds Paul, "but even from the first joint weekend, the results were amazing! In discussions on the bus on the way home, young men surprised us with the depth of their learning. They had peeked over the barricades, and learned a lot! I am sure that over the years, we prevented many young people from turning to prejudice, discrimination and violence."

"As time went on we encouraged other groups to join us. Since we started, over 100,000 Scouts have taken part in similar exchanges so far. And when you imagine these 100,000 with their parents, siblings, and schoolmates, we have touched upwards of 1 million people. On an island with only 4.5 million inhabitants, this is quite an audience for a message of tolerance!"

Now, over 30 years on, relative peace reigns in Northern Ireland, but inter-community tension still bubbles under the surface. "We still need to keep going," says Mike.

"It's never as simple as black and white," adds Paul. "In conflict everyone believes their side is right. We have been able to open the minds of young people to the humanity and the value of the other side."





*top left:* Joint mountain expeditions develop cooperation. *centre right:* Scouts don't get involved in politics. *bottom right:* Paul and Mike see generations of Scouts change their communities.

CHAD

*Eclaireurs du Tchad*

### Supporting vocational training

Scouts are supporting vocational training for young people from the suburbs. The aim is to alphabetise youth who have been marginalised from society and to train them in joinery, sowing, plumbing or animal breeding, so that they can take care of themselves and re-integrate into their communities.

In order to fight juvenile delinquency and the poverty which often is its cause, Scouts created a reception and training centre. Situated in the southern periphery of Ndjamená, it helps train young people who have not received education and are exposed to juvenile delinquency.

CHILE

*Asociación de Guías y Scouts de Chile*

### Centenary: time for integration

Centenario: Tiempo de Integración is the theme of a Scout centennial project in Chile. Scouts and Guides are working to support and integrate children and young people who have been marginalised by society, namely children of immigrants and refugees living in Chile, people with physical and/or mental disabilities and descendants of indigenous cultures.

Scouts and Guides wish to show the country that all Chileans should have equal opportunities. They are doing this by using the Scout Method. They share their own experiences gained in Guiding and Scouting to help integrate these social groups into society and welcome them into Scout and Guide groups if they wish to join.

They hope to develop awareness of the problems that these young people face, to learn to live together, to recognise what they have in common and not to discriminate where there are differences.

During the week of 1st August 2007, the 100th anniversary of Scouting, the groups exhibited their projects in district and regional camps, fairs and meetings, sharing their Gifts for Peace with the communities and encouraging the work to continue.

SCOUTS OF CHINA

*Scouts of China*

### Bridging the digital divide

Scouts are working to overcome the digital divide by teaching computer literacy to school children in the remote countryside.

Scouts teach them the basic techniques of using a computer and how to safely and constructively access the Internet. They hope that by learning about computers and having access to on-line resources, the students will have better education and be better prepared for the future. The Ministry of Education and local schools are supporting this teaching programme, which has been developed by the Rover Scouts (the older-age section). They hope that this will benefit communities and that the project can be expanded elsewhere if successful.

COLUMBIA

*Asociación Scouts de Colombia*

### Columbia without landmines

Scouts are raising awareness of the dangers of anti-personnel mines, learning about the difficulties of living with a handicap due to mine-related accidents and aiming to reduce the numbers of accidents related to mines each year to build a Columbia without mines. They have a special programme for all Scouts in the country, and are also running this for children and young people from marginalised areas and from low income families. The Scouts are sharing this information with their families and friends, aiming to reach at least 100,000 people.

Chile



*COSTA RICA Asociación de Guías y Scouts de Costa Rica*

## Hope for the future

Scouts in Costa Rica are learning about environmental issues, and taking part in activities and voluntary service projects with other organizations to safeguard the environment for future generations.

Scouts are involved in leading and managing the projects, promoting them at local and regional level and in finding the resources to support the projects.

The activities promote working relationships with local and national organizations whose ideals are compatible with those of the Scout Movement. The shared approach to solving local problems helps continuity and sustainability.

The projects also demonstrate that Scouting as an opportunity for a positive lifestyle and personal development.

*COTE d'IVOIRE Les Scouts Catholiques de Côte d'Ivoire*

## Peace messengers

Scouts are working for peace by setting up peace messengers' clubs in schools, and by reinforcing education for peace, children's rights and humanitarian law. They aim to develop attitudes of conflict prevention and conflict management without resorting to violence in families, schools and communities.

Scouts first contact school administrators and teachers as well as local political and religious officials to get them interested. Various support tools are provided to develop awareness raising techniques, and to integrate peace education, children's rights and humanitarian law into the curriculum.

Peace messengers' clubs are formed for the purpose of organizing peer discussions on these topics. Larger public discussions are also organized.

*CROATIA Savez Izvidaca Hrvatske*

## Small steps: big impact for peace

Scouts are working to overcome the prejudice that still exists following many years of conflict in the region. They are spreading a message of peace by organizing joint activities with Scouts and other young people in neighbouring countries.

They are running workshops for Scout leaders from all of the countries involved, to help leaders to develop the skills and attitudes needed to build a more peaceful and tolerant society.

Another product of the workshops will be a handbook for Scouts. Leaders will then have a tool to help Scouts understand the importance of dialogue and conflict resolution in peace education and also help them to overcome their prejudices.

Activities are being organized for Scouts from all of the countries. To highlight the programme and promote positive values, Scouts are seeking news media coverage.

*CYPRUS Cyprus Scouts Association*

## 100 Scout peace parks

Scouts are working in co-operation with local authorities to convert waste land into peace parks for public use.

Every Scout group in Cyprus is working on this project and identifying suitable pieces of land. Through these projects the Scout image will be improved, local authorities and communities will benefit from an improved environment, and the links between local Scouts and local authorities will be strengthened.

*CZECH REPUBLIC Junák-svaz skautu a skautek CR*

## Let's build a school in Africa!

Scouts are raising funds to build schools in Ethiopia and to support young people who have few opportunities for a school education.

Ethiopia has one of the highest rates of illiteracy in the world: 60 percent. Only one out of two children can attend primary school, and those who do are usually in classes of 50 or even 90 students. The existing schools usually run three shifts of classes a day. Obviously the need is great.

Three years ago, Scouts teamed up with People in Need, a Czech non-governmental development organization with experience and success in Ethiopia. Together, they built one school in 2005, two in 2006, and more are in the planning.

Czech Scouts are learning a great deal about the situation of less fortunate countries, including the rich culture of Ethiopia.

DENMARK *Fællesrådet for Danmarks Drengespejdere*

### Building schools in Uganda

Scouts are learning about the difficulties of getting a school education in developing countries. They are raising money to build schools in Uganda, promoting the rights of children to education, and some are even using their hands to build schools!

Scouts recognise that education plays a very important role in determining a person's growth and development, widening perspectives, and therefore ultimately affecting the way we act in society. Education contributes to a better understanding of building peace in the world.

ECUADOR *Asociación de Scouts del Ecuador*

### Murals of peace

Scouts are promoting a culture of peace by painting murals on the topic of peace. They have organized a gathering of Scouts from all over Ecuador in Ambato, where, among other activities, they used their artistic skills to paint 95 murals showing the importance of non-violence and peace. Non-Scouts, parents and the media were invited so that this project could inspire others to act for peace.

EGYPT *Egyptian Scout Federation*

### Supporting children's rights

Scouts are working to eliminate child labour and to help working children. In Alexandria they are cooperating with the International Labour Organization's Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) and in Cairo they are implementing the SCREAM project (Supporting Children's Rights through Education, Arts and Media).

Scouts have been working on the issue of child labour since 2002, when they first started the project in Alexandria, working directly with working children and their employers. The project is being extended and has three stages, the first of which consists of training the trainers, so as to ensure sustainability and a multiplying effect. The second is the training of Scout leaders throughout the country, who in the third stage organize activities for Scouts and working children.

By taking care of these often forgotten children and making sure they play and learn like other kids of their age, Scouts are focusing the community's attention and setting an example that others will hopefully follow.

El Salvador



Ecuador



France



*EL SALVADOR Asociación de Scouts de El Salvador*

## **Give me back my childhood!**

**See photos and story on page 18.**

*ESTONIA Eesti Skautide Ühing*

## **Reaching Out**

Scouts are reaching out to children from less-advantaged areas, by including them in camps and activities. They take part in team-building activities and learn special crafts to make wooden toys for the local children's home. Estonian Scouts have also exchanged peace postcards with Scouts in Finland.

*ETHIOPIA Ethiopia Scout Association*

## **Let's save our indigenous trees**

Scouts are planting and taking care of 50,000 indigenous trees, and also teaching people about the importance of trees and sustainable development.

Ethiopia is one of the most environmentally affected countries in the world. Most indigenous and endemic trees have been destroyed for varying reasons and the result has been desertification and extreme drought. The Ethiopia Scout Association has mobilised its 80,000 plus members to contribute to the reforestation of Ethiopia by planting and taking care of 50,000 trees all over the country.

The project started in July 2004 and planting continued until September 2007. The weeding, protecting and caring for the trees continues.

Scouts are also involved in programmes of education within their communities about the importance of trees, the sustainable use of trees for fuel and the fight against drought. It is hoped that these actions will result in a better, greener Ethiopia.

*FINLAND Suomen Partiolaiset - Finlands Scouter*

## **Peace education**

(Rauhanrakentaja)

Scouts and Guides are working on providing more peace education for young people. They are developing local projects to explore the different dimensions of peace and are also participating in a national project with UNICEF which supports children in need in Carelia, a neighbouring area in Russia.

The first exploratory stage of the project ran from January to April 2006, with Scouts working on specially designed activities from the Rauhanrakentaja website.

The second phase of the project ran from April to October 2006. During this period young people were encouraged to put their learning into practice. Projects were developed locally, with local partners. Members also work with UNICEF on the national project.

Finland's Gift for Peace positions peace education as a mainstream part of the Scout and Guide programme; it helps young people to be involved in peace projects locally or nationally and it highlights Scouting's contribution to peace.

*FRANCE Scoutisme Français  
Scouts Musulmans de France*

## **Flame of hope**

On the occasion of the Centenary of Scouting, the Muslim Scouts of France, together with the other associations of the French Scouting Federation, carried a flame of hope throughout France, stopping in all the major cities and being present at many events and activities. The flame was accompanied by a bus for the young people carrying the torch. People's hopes and wishes for peace were gathered in the form of a special charter which grew as the flame continued its journey. The flame began its journey on 13 May and arrived in Paris on 1 July 2007.

## “Give me back my childhood!” El Salvador

When gang rivalry between schools in San Salvador led to the deaths of a number of teenagers, Scouts in the community decided enough was enough. They couldn't stand by while tension escalated further. They invited selected gang leaders to join a Scout camp far away from the city and far away from the depressed shantytowns where they lived.

The camp was planned so that Scout patrols included members of each gang, and activities were developed to help with conflict resolution and bridge building. In particular, the programme allowed the young people gathered together *to be* young people – to have fun and to reclaim their childhood in a way that they were not able to do in a tough, gang environment. These gang leaders went back and used their new-found skills to stop the violence and lead their gangs in a different way. The camps were so successful that the government of El Salvador has now taken over the programme to ensure its long-term sustainability.

“We didn't stop there,” says Cynthia, one of the inspiring leaders responsible for the programme. “We decided if it worked for these young people it would work for others.”

At the age of 15, Carlos is the sole breadwinner in his household. After being abandoned by his parents, he and his cousin were

taken in by his grandmother, but she was sick and so Carlos worked 12-hour days in the sugar cane fields. Cynthia and her team found support for Carlos to go back to school and supplement the household income so that he now only works two days a week. “Thanks to my new brothers and sisters in the Scouts, all my dreams are coming true!”

And other working kids are benefiting too. Children work long hours in the mangrove swamps collecting clams and shrimp for San Salvador's restaurants. Kevin Lopez was saved at the tender age of 11 years from this tough and dangerous life. Cynthia adds: “We cannot take all these kids out of these situations. For some we can compensate families for the lost income, but for most this is impossible. For the weekend at least, we give them back their childhood – they play, they learn, they have fun. It is sometimes the only opportunity they have to smile. They build their confidence and move on.”

The latest initiative of El Salvador Scouts is to take young women who have been forced into the sex business and help them in the same way. This venture is very new, but again, these young women find dignity and friendship in a world where they are shunned and abused. They find a reason to smile – and, at least for a while, to be a child again!





Former gang leaders in San Salvador find a reason to smile again!



top: Carlos in the sugar fields and back home. bottom: Other working children - homework while running a café - selling goods in the market - and freedom from abuse with the Scouts.



Kids exposed to long working hours in the mangroves - the Scouts help them find their childhood.

FRANCE

*Scouts et Guides de France*

## Scouting for all

The Scouting for All programme aims to offer Scouting in inner-city and urban areas where young people face difficult social, economic and family situations.

At present the programme involves around 2,000 children and young adults. Some 40 local projects have been developed and 20 Scout groups have been set up in innercity areas. The main activities are:

- Street activities and games for children organized with a clear structure and rules, and designed to fill in free time in a constructive way.
- Camps giving children from urban disadvantaged background the possibility to go away during holidays and camp in the countryside.
- Classic Scout groups (for young people aged 8 to 14) in inner-city areas, meeting on Saturday afternoons, organizing day outings, weekend camps and mini-camps during holidays.

FRANCE

*Les Eclaireuses et Eclaireurs de France*

## The peace caravan

Scouts have led an adventure for peace and human rights through Europe and Africa. Their goal was to make people aware of the issues of north-south relations and of peace education.

During the summer of 2007 two peace convoys, one leaving from France, and the other crossing West Africa, met up in Dakar, Senegal and held an international conference on peace education. During their journey they organized shows, games, and exhibitions to make people aware of development issues and to promote peace education through Scouting.

About 200 Scouts left France on Scouting's Sunrise, 1 August 2007 at 08:00. They travelled through Spain, Morocco, Mauritania and Senegal. Another 200 Scouts left Benin and travelled through Togo, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Senegal.

Senegalese Scouts then organized the Francophone Forum for Peace in Dakar. This conference was an excellent opportunity to debate, take part in workshops on peace education, present projects, exchange good practices, develop inter cultural skills and raise awareness of global issues.

GEORGIA *sakartvelows skautri modzraobis organizatsia*

## Youth empowerment

Scouts are supporting an important initiative in their country called CIP: Community Investment Programme. It is designed to assist the two communities of Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kvemo-Kartli, through which a huge gas and oil pipeline is being constructed. Scouts are leading activities for young people related to youth empowerment, leadership, conflict management, nature and the environment.

GERMANY

*Ring deutscher Pfadfinderverbände*

## Helping others

*Deutsche Pfadfinderschaft Sankt Georg*

Scouts are supporting projects abroad including in Israel and Palestine, and in the Great Lakes region of Africa. They aim to show that peace is possible, even under difficult circumstances, and that Scouting can make a difference and help to build a peaceful world. Every year, the Scouts are also assisting in the transportation of the Peace light of Bethlehem and distributing this to local communities.

*Verband Christlicher Pfadfinderinnen und Pfadfinder*

Scouts have taken part in a project called 100PRO whereby each local Scout group identifies an issue to tackle in their community (environmental or social) and takes action to make a difference. The Scouts presented their projects at their national camp in 2006, and completed training to be 'project experts for peace'. They further developed these projects in 2007 and shared the results as part of their Centenary of Scouting celebrations.

*Bund der Pfadfinderinnen un Pfadfinder*

Scouts are working on a project called Sichtwechsel to learn about and promote the cultural and religious diversity in Germany. The Scouts are encouraged to learn about other cultures and build contacts with immigrant communities in Germany.

GHANA

*The Ghana Scout Association*

### Pick-up – don't drop

Scouts in ten regions of Ghana are working with young people to clean up their communities and encouraging people not to drop their rubbish on the streets.

Scouts are taking the initiative to recruit other young people to join them for rubbish pick-up projects. Their work attracts positive neighbourhood attention, and opens doors to distributing information about rubbish disposal and recycling. The involvement of non-Scout young people also spreads the awareness of Scouting and develops enthusiasm to join, thereby bringing more benefits for the young people, their families and communities.

### Supporting street children

Scouts are inviting street children to join Scouting and learn skills that can lead to gainful employment and better opportunities in life.

One of the most successful projects has been to train these new Scouts in the traditional skills of making batik and tie-dye fabrics. These brightly-coloured designs are finding a growing market locally and are also exported abroad. In Scouting the children find a supportive, positive environment where they enjoy constructive recreation and learn values and life skills. This rehabilitation often makes it possible to re-unite children with their families. Former street children who have become Scouts also make effective leaders who return to the streets and try to help many children who still live there.

The Scout training helps older adolescents learn how to set up a small business, and Scouting can help identify seed-money to get started. There is follow-up support to monitor their progress.

Managing this project is good experience for traditional Scouts and leaders. Their aim is not only to help children who face a very uncertain future, but also to help the community by reducing juvenile delinquency, crime and drug problems.

GREECE

*Soma Hellinon Proskopon*

### Find out - think - act

Scouts are helping children of immigrants better integrate into society by getting to know them, identifying and learning to understand the problems they face and by helping them integrate better in their schools and in the community.

There are three stages: find out, think and act.

During the first phase Scouts identify immigrant groups, contact immigrant associations and find out more about their countries and cultures of origin. This often includes learning about their music, dance, ethnic dress, traditional games, art and religions.

In the think phase, Scouts discuss and analyse the problems faced by immigrants in Greece. Scouts are learning the meaning of xenophobia, they are thinking about the issues in their hometowns and whether Greek immigrants in the past faced similar difficulties in other countries.

Finally, Scouts take action by playing games with the children and offering tutoring to those who face difficulties in school. They help with computer lessons, learning Greek, developing CVs and filling in forms needed in daily life.

One example of their work took place in March 2007 in Heraklion, on the island of Crete. Children were able to experience a multi-cultural journey via different traditional games and art from all over the world. The event was attended by many members of the Greek Parliament and supported by UNICEF Greece, several embassies and the Latin Countries Association of Greece.

Georgia



GUINEA

National Scout Association of Guinea

## Blood for life

Scouts are supporting a national campaign to encourage the population to donate blood to save lives, as well as participating in research to increase the efficiency of the Ignace Deen blood Transfusion Centre. The Scouts are organizing street theatre in public areas to raise awareness of the need for blood for emergency surgery, childbirth and severe anaemia, and Scout groups are running the collection of blood on weekends. They aimed to collect 30,000 pouches of blood over a five-month campaign.

GUYANA

The Scout Association of Guyana

## Scout power for peace

Scouts are working to combat bullying, reduce violent behaviour in young people and promote SMAC (Spreading the Message to Avoid Conflict).

Scouts of all ages are working with officials of the Guyana Red Cross to learn about the effects of bullying and to explore alternatives for handling confrontational situations. Scout leaders and older Scouts are being trained to visit schools to speak to students on bullying and how to deal with conflict.

Scouts have distributed 2,000 leaflets to secondary school age children in the cities of Georgetown and Linden.

HAITI

Scouts d'Haiti

## Fighting prejudice

Scouts have launched a major campaign to fight prejudice in Haitian society, notably against in the creole language, against ethnic groups, HIV positive people, social class and skin colour. Some 40,000 Scouts are being trained to spread a message of tolerance to the local population. They aim to organize 1,500 gatherings to bring together around 370,000 people.

To reach an even larger audience of around 2 million, the Scouts are using the news media to disseminate their message of tolerance and peace.

HONG KONG

The Scout Association of Hong Kong

## Finding hope and inspiration - in prison!

**See the photos and story on page 28.**

## Environmental sustainability

Scouts are working to promote environmental sustainability and an understanding of the planet in which we live. Some examples:

- The Hong Kong Observatory offers a meteorological course for Scouts and their families.
- Scout regions and districts are conducting Environmental Protection Ambassador courses.
- Scouts are working on environmental projects, for example, constructing environment-friendly rest rooms, tree planting work and the Roots to Shoots programme.

Greece



Hong Kong



Guinea



## Social equality

Scouts in Hong Kong are working to promote social equality and the integration of immigrant groups.

There are many immigrants in Hong Kong, especially from mainland China and other Asian countries. When they arrive in Hong Kong, these immigrants sometimes encounter problems integrating. Scouts are working to encourage acceptance and a better understanding of immigrants. Joining Scouting is also one way to help adults and children integrate.

## Supporting special needs

Hong Kong Scouts are also working to raise awareness about disabilities and support the integration of children with special needs into Scouting.

There is still a great deal of discrimination and misconception when dealing with people with disabilities. Integrated Scout groups have been established for both able-bodied Scouts and Scouts with disabilities. A disability awareness programme is being produced for all Scouts together with a systematic programme for integrating young people with special needs.

## ICELAND

### *Bandalag íslenskra Skáta*

## Building projects between native Icelanders and immigrants

Scouts are working with the immigrant community living on the island, learning about the situation that they face and taking action to help integrate them into Icelandic society.

Iceland is an island situated in the North Atlantic ocean with a population of less than 300,000 inhabitants. The number of foreign citizens living in Iceland has risen dramatically in recent years and is now 4.5 percent of all inhabitants.

Icelandic teenagers have an increasingly negative opinion of immigrants, according to a survey conducted by the Red Cross.

Scouts are being helped to explore the situation locally and are taking positive action to support immigrants.

## INDIA

### *The Bharat Scouts and Guides*

## Our Gifts for Peace

Scouts are working on a Gifts for Peace project based on the positive Gandhian concept of Sarva Dharma Sambhav (equal respect for all religions) in order to address two key issues in society: conflict in communities and religious intolerance.

India's social structure and cultural patterns are characterised by great diversity. Communal harmony is a challenge.

Scouts are working on a range of activities, building on the work they have already achieved. They are:

- Promoting the basic unity of religions.
- Providing more opportunities for interaction among the followers of different faiths.
- Establishing a forum of leaders of various communities.
- Helping to make neighbourhoods more involved on a social level.
- Organizing year-round activities.
- Promoting peace through initiatives such as a peace postcard activity, street plays, corner or Mohallas meetings, joint celebrations of festivals and discourses on different faiths.

Scouts in India have already demonstrated their commitment to building harmony in their communities through their regular Scout programme and through specific services, for example, helping out at the scene of riots, running service camps and providing support for disaster relief, giving help to all in need irrespective of caste, colour or creed.

## Indonesia



## INDONESIA

### *Gerakan Pramuka*

#### Let's help rebuild Aceh

Scouts from throughout the vast country of Indonesia are helping to rebuild Aceh following the December 2004 Tsunami which caused tremendous damage and casualties. They were on the scene from the first moment, and in growing numbers the following days and weeks to provide emergency services such as removing bodies.

Key activities over the last couple of years have included:

- Planting 15,000 mangrove trees on the beaches to stabilise the coastline and provide refuge for newly hatched fish.
- Reconstructing two fishponds and rebuilding the only fish auction facility in the area, giving fishermen a place to sell their catch.
- Installing three deep wells and training people how to make water safe for drinking.
- Building nine playgrounds for children to play and interact again.
- Building nine libraries and raising money to replace books and train new staff.

Much of this work was made possible by generous support, financial and material, from Scouts around the world. Indeed, it is a kind of worldwide Gift for Peace in an area known until recently for conflict and rebellion.

## IRELAND

### *Scouting Ireland*

#### Gifts for Peace

(Bronnranas de Ghrá na Síochána)

Scouts in Ireland are working to promote peace at local, national and international level, breaking down barriers between divided communities, encouraging exchange and supporting others in need of assistance.

Ireland has experienced conflict between communities for over 30 years. Scouting however, has been working throughout to break down the barriers through cross-community and cross-border initiatives. There have been joint initiatives, joint training courses and youth exchange programmes.

A peace programme on citizenship has been developed to help Scouts understand their own community, learn about stereotypes and prejudice and accept diversity.

#### **1. Peace at a local level - Good Deed Primers**

Every Scout in Ireland was given ten Scouting Ireland Good Deed Primers (vouchers) and was asked to pass on one every day over a ten-day period. They aimed to reach a significant proportion of the population.

#### **2. Peace at a national level - ScoutLink**

ScoutLink is a peace education programme which has operated successfully in Northern Ireland and the counties in Ireland close to the border.

#### **3. Peace at an international level - Be Prepared – The Wider World project**

Scouts in Ireland wanted to reach out to do good deeds for people in other countries as well as their own. They decided that this could be best realised by providing funding to non-governmental organizations that are working directly with people in need. Key initiatives include: emergency aid packs including Aqua Boxes, mosquito nets for prevention of malaria, fishing nets – for fisherman who have lost their means to make a living.

## ITALY

### *Federazione Italiana dello Scouting*

#### Peace march

Scouts and Guides in Italy took action to promote peace to a national and international audience by participating in a 20 kilometre Peace March from Perugia to Assisi in 2007. Prior to the March there was a three day event called "United Nations of Youth", to debate and exchange information with young people from different life experiences and backgrounds.

The March is an event which has been taking place every two years since 1961. Scouts and Guides from all Associations in Italy help with the organization of the March and the three-day "UN of Youth" event. The Peace March reunites over 200,000 people, 10,000 of whom are Scouts and Guides, participating either as individuals or as Scout groups.

JAPAN

*Scout Association of Japan*

### Promoting peace

Scouts are promoting peace by organizing peace education activities for children, adolescents and adults. The young children and adolescents are taking part in interactive peace education activities on a website, and the adults are attending various peace training activities.

Scouts have formed a task force and are making use of communication technologies to create a virtual community for peace.

The activities for adolescents are taken from the Scouts of the World programme, which means that Scouts are required to participate in an adventure on the theme of peace which lasts several days. They are also completing service projects in their communities, for example, working to protect the environment and cleaning the streets.

JORDAN

*The Jordanian Association for Boy Scouts and Girl Guides*

### Raising global awareness

Scouts are raising the global awareness of younger members. They hosted the 5th Arab Gathering for Cub Scouts attended by participants from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen. Global development village workshops were held for around 200 young Scouts and Guides on topics such as children's rights, the environment, Arabic language and culture, robotics and technology, health, faith and traffic safety education. The event was organized by Cub Scout leaders all aged under 25.

Jordan



KENYA

*The Kenya Scouts Association*

### Trees for peace

Scouts are planting ten million trees in designated areas. Every Scout is planting and caring for at least 36 trees.

They have started by creating tree nurseries. As the seedlings become large enough, the trees will be planted over a three-year period in water catchment areas, semi-arid regions, recreation areas, institutions, and homes. The project will improve the environment for people and wildlife. It will increase water volume for domestic consumption, reduce human to human, and human to wildlife conflict, and reduce poverty.

The Kenyan Scouts are also involved in a public awareness programme to promote tree planting and care.

KOREA, REPUBLIC OF

*Korea Scout Association*

### Peace, friendship and harmony

Scouts in South Korea are working to build peace, friendship and harmony.

There are four key projects:

- Peace Trekking: Scouts are organizing an international trek around the demilitarised zone which divides the Korean peninsula into North and South and is the visible legacy of the Korean war. They wish to highlight peace, friendship and goodwill towards the North Koreans. (There is no Scouting in North Korea.)
- Green Land Makers is the name of the project to plant seedlings that will grow to become a forest of peace trees.
- Umbrella Sharers is a Scout initiative to deliver a message of peace from the far south to the far north of the two Koreas.
- School Keepers is a Scout project aiming to combat violence and discrimination in schools and promote a culture of peace among young people.

## Finding hope and inspiration - in prison Hong Kong

Teenager Lau Sing Fung was sent to a detention centre in Hong Kong ten months ago. One of over 100 detainees, he was caught trafficking dangerous drugs, and sentenced to a maximum of 36 months. Lau Sing expected to find the horrors of an adult prison – depression, abuse by other detainees and a downward spiral into further crime. Thanks to a unique programme operated in the detention centre by Hong Kong Scouting, Lau Sing has found hope and inspiration for the first time in his life.

Most of the Centre's daily routine is tough and strictly regulated. Detainees follow formal education classes in the afternoons and tough physical exercise in the morning. After serving three months, all detainees are given the choice to volunteer for the Centre's Scout troop.

"We usually have about 30 members," says businessman Herman Hui, a volunteer Scout Leader in the Centre (and former Chairman of the World Scout Committee). "Scouting exposes these young men to new role models from different parts of Hong Kong society. We insist on a high level of discipline within the troop but we also build up a close relationship between the external leaders and the Scouts themselves, so that they learn there is another way."

Music is quite a tradition in Hong Kong Scouting, and in the Centre the troop specialises in Chinese drums. "The results are amazing," explains Herman. "The group develops a real cohesion, and the music is great!"

The Scout detainees are allowed to leave the Centre once a week for work experience organized by Scout leaders. This helps them find work more easily when they are finished serving their time. They also join the local Scouts when they leave, thus aiding follow-up support.

Proudly, Herman says: "In our 20 years of running this programme, we have had an impressive track record with many Scout detainees released early for good behaviour and none re-offending."

Lau Sing doesn't know how much longer he will have to serve in the Centre, but now he has a goal in life, thanks to the Scout programme. He is in contact with the parents he rejected years ago. "Through Scouting, I learned how difficult I have been for my parents, I am so ashamed of what I have done to them, and want to make it up. In the troop I have learned to respect others and follow the rules. Now I think carefully before acting and I'm better in dealing with peer pressure. Scouting has changed my vision of my life – now I know I'm OK!"





The rhythm of Chinese drums builds cohesion, discipline and hope among new "Scouts in prison".



Scouting and the prison authorities in Hong Kong have built a successful partnership!



Life for Lau Sing in prison - Scouting brings hope and a future.

*KUWAIT*

*Kuwait Boy Scouts Association*

## Solidarity for peace

Kuwait Scouts have developed various projects as their Gifts for Peace. They want to reach out to those in need, both in Kuwait and in other countries.

Projects include:

- Hosting a patrol of Scouts from Sudan to participate in their national camp in January 2007.
- Raising money for Scouting in Arab countries to
  - Build a Scout centre in southern Sudan
  - Provide clothes and tents
  - Help Scouts run health awareness campaigns.
- School materials: At the end of each school year, from 2005 to 2007, Scouts collected books and sent them to girls and boys in Arab countries.
- Pilgrimage (Hajj): Each year Kuwait Scouts host Muslim Scout leaders who cannot speak Arabic and help them to make their pilgrimage.
- Health awareness campaign in Benin: Kuwait Scouts developed a good partnership with Benin Scouts and ran a health awareness campaign in Benin in 2006.
- Spectacles: Scouts are collecting used eyeglasses and sending them to people in Africa.

*LEBANON*

*Fédération du Scoutisme Libanais*

## Rebirth of the Phoenix

Scouts in Lebanon are coordinating the Rebirth of the Phoenix project, bringing together Rover Scouts and leaders from around the world to assist in the rebuilding of southern Lebanon after the conflict, distributing relief, developing health campaigns and providing educational programmes for families and children.

There are two stages to the project. The first, running up to July 2007, concentrated on the collection of funds and then the purchasing and distributing of medical supplies, disinfectants and recreational kits for children.

The second stage took place in July and August 2007, when Scouts participated in special community service camps in southern Lebanon.

*LESOTHO*

*Lesotho Scouts Association*

## Tree planting for peace

Scouts are planting 110,000 trees every year from 2006 to 2015 in an effort to prevent soil erosion and to provide fire wood and timber for other uses.

Scouts are involved in the project transporting the seedlings, digging holes, planting and caring for the trees. They made special use of the Centenary celebrations in 2007 to highlight their concern for the environment and to make a positive impact. The Scouts are working in partnership with the Department of Forestry in Lesotho.

*LIBERIA*

*Boy Scouts of Liberia*

## Restoring the peaceful days

Scouts are working to restore lasting peace in their country following 14 years of a brutal civil war.

The civil crisis in Liberia ended in 2003, but the war left serious divisions in the community, particularly in the adolescent and young adult age groups.

The Liberia Scout Association is the largest youth organization in the country and it has embarked on a project which it has called Restoring the Peaceful Days.

Through a six-week anger management course Scouts will be able to understand how to prevent conflict, learn the importance of dialogue and negotiation and how to manage anger at a personal level. They will share these messages within their homes, communities and with their classmates.

Sporting activities are a unifying force in Liberia so these are also organized to help bring groups together.

LIECHTENSTEIN

*Pfadfinder und Pfadfinderinnen  
Liechtensteins*

### Inter cultural learning

Liechtenstein Scouts ran a special programme during their summer camp in 2006 to promote inter cultural understanding. They invited local foreign organizations to attend and present their countries and cultures. These organizations each had a stall for Scouts to visit and try out activities, such as singing and dancing. A wide variety of food from different countries provided opportunities to discover new recipes and flavours.

LUXEMBOURG

*Fédération Nationale des Eclaireurs et  
Eclaireuses du Luxembourg*

### Living together with our differences

Scouts and Guides are helping young people from different cultures to live and learn together through inter cultural workshops, camps and exchanges for different age groups, in collaboration with Scouts from other countries.

- 18-26 year olds have been working with young Palestinians, and Israelis of the same age and a joint camp took place in Luxembourg in the summer of 2006.
- 15-18 year olds have been working with Scouts in Cape Verde and a joint camp took place in Cape Verde in the summer of 2005.
- 11-15 year olds have been working with young immigrants living in Luxembourg and took part in a summer camp with them in the summer of 2006.
- The youngest Scouts have participated in inter cultural workshops.

Lebanon



Madagascar



Luxembourg



LUXEMBOURG

*Lëtzebuenger Guiden a Scouten*

### Building bridges

Scouts and Guides in Luxembourg have contributed to inter-religious reconciliation through the restoration of a mosque in Stolac, Bosnia and Herzégovina. They are also running a series of activities to promote reconciliation in a mixed religious environment through workshops and discussions on the theme of peaceful coexistence. In order to sustain this project Scouts are renovating a house in Stolac to host such exchanges in the future.

MADAGASCAR

*Firaisan'ny Skotisma eto Madagasikara*

### Civic involvement of Scouts for peace

Scouts are raising awareness of health and environmental problems and taking action to make a difference. Their project, Civic Involvement of Scouts for Peace, has several parts, mainly working in cities in the centre-eastern part of the country to help develop the region.

A road show helped to raise funds to buy medicine for the Moramanga hospital. A community service project for new Scout leaders included repairing the toilets of Ambatolaona Hospital, and a tree planting campaign is also under way.

A Scout mobile communication group helps to make young people aware of environmental problems via documentaries. The Madagascar Scouts have also created Scout units specialised in spreading information about HIV/AIDS.

*MALAWI*

*Scout Association of Malawi*

## Building hope in the homeless

Scouts are working to improve the health and living conditions of children living on the streets. Young people are being helped to develop life skills to build their self confidence and self esteem. Thirty young people are being trained initially and then will reach out to others through peer education and support systems.

Scouts are building on their work in recent years to introduce HIV/AIDS awareness to young people in Scouting. This work has been supported by UNICEF, Banca Intesa (Italy) and NORAD through the Norwegian Scouts and Guides.

Through their work they hope to:

- Reduce alcohol and drug abuse among young people.
- Reduce sexually transmitted diseases among young people.
- Enable more young people on the streets to take responsibility for their own development and help others do the same.

*MALAYSIA*

*Persekutuan Pengakap Malaysia*

## Scouts prostar

Scouts are working to create awareness among young people of the dangers of HIV/AIDS and they are learning how to stay healthy as well as to understand the issues faced by those who have contracted HIV/AIDS.

Working with the Ministry of Health, Scouts have developed three new proficiency badges on HIV/AIDS awareness and are passing on important messages to their parents, brothers and sisters, friends and peers.

*MALTA*

*The Scout Association of Malta*

## Stop trafficking in human beings

Scouts are working to combat racism and xenophobia, to understand the issues faced by irregular immigrants, to promote human rights and the need to fight organized crime responsible for human trafficking. Key aspects include:

- A poster competition: Children, Scouts and non-Scouts, have drawn posters on the theme: "Gifts for Peace: The Plight of Irregular Immigrants". All the posters were exhibited. Scouts have painted the winning posters as murals in prominent locations, with the help of professional street artists.
- A programme of activities highlighted human rights and the need to fight organized crime responsible for human trafficking.
- Scouting is being introduced in detention centres. Malta has several detention centres where irregular immigrants, including children, are housed.
- Television spot: Scouts plan to produce a ten-second television spot targeted at young people, to highlight the Scouts' fight against human trafficking.

*MAURITANIA*

*Association des Scouts et Guides de Mauritanie*

## Building better lives

Scouts in Mauritania are working in partnership with Scouts from France to enrich their Scout programme to serve more young people, and to implement community development projects together. They are also raising awareness amongst young people aged 17-25 about the dangers and realities of clandestine immigration and the necessity to increase their skills for better employment opportunities.

*MAURITIUS*

*The Mauritius Scout Association*

## Bringing back smiles to vulnerable children

Scouts are reaching out to help disadvantaged young people in order to bring smiles back to their faces. They help children who have been marginalised from society to acquire life-skills, develop self-respect and re-integrate into society.

Mauritius has experienced considerable progress in a variety of social and economic fields. The number of children in institutions such as shelters and rehabilitation centres and even on the streets is increasing every year. Often these children fall prey to drugs and abuse.

Scouts are working on: literacy, conflict resolution, peace education, substance abuse prevention, HIV/AIDS awareness, violence against children, child-to-child mentoring, global development villages and integration camps.

Youth members are involved in all stages of the projects; from the needs assessment stage, through to the planning, budgeting, implementation and evaluation.

*MEXICO* *Asociación de Scouts de México, A.C.*

### Helping others

Mexican Scouts are developing projects to help underprivileged groups in their communities, especially street children, ethnic minorities, the elderly, children with cancer and children with HIV/AIDS.

Each Scout group in Mexico is identifying an underprivileged group in its community and creating at least one project to help the people concerned. The groups are then reporting the results of their actions to be published on the Scout website and in their national magazine.

### Promoting recycling

Scouts are helping people by collecting aluminium cans and breaking world records!

In 2007, for the eighth year in a row, thousands of Scouts travelled to the central plaza of Mexico City to create a gigantic fleur-de-lys (the emblem of World Scouting) using aluminium cans. Scouts collect these cans throughout the year and spend two days to shape the design. In 2007 they broke the record by collecting 1,614,583 cans. These were sold for 298,000 pesos (USD 28,000) which they have given to charities.

Scouts are dedicated to protecting the environment and take recycling to a new level. They also demonstrate what Scouts can achieve when working as a team.

*MOLDOVA, Rep. of*

*Organizatia Nationala A  
Scutilor Din Moldova*

### Improving the environment

Scouts are working on a range of environmental and outreach projects .

Kagul district Scouts have assisted in the reconstruction of a potable water system that covers three kilometres and serves 136 households. They have initiated tree-planting projects on 152 hectares, cleaned six springs and 27 wells. To provide fun and educational activities for more local children, the Moldovan Scouts have run seven camps for over 400 young people, 250 of whom are getting involved in Scouting.

*MOZAMBIQUE* *Liga dos Escuteiros de Moçambique*

### Making room: education for a culture of peace

Scouts are fighting youth violence by finding safe areas and activities for young people so that they can play and learn during weekends. It is hoped that this will contribute to reducing the number of deaths of young people which increase on weekends.

Scouts are working with the government and local authorities to open schools during weekends, so that young people have a place to socialise and are offered a range of activities such as sport, music, classic and African dance, poetry and computer literacy.

### Working to eradicate leprosy

Scouts in Mozambique are fighting leprosy and supporting the initiative to eradicate it entirely in their country. They have developed awareness campaigns, they are training specialised Scout patrols and are helping the people affected.

There are about 20,000 people with leprosy in Mozambique and Scouts are committed to helping them heal and live in dignity. A leprosy manual for Scouts has been created so that all necessary information is available. The core of the programme is the creation of specialised Scout patrols which can assist people with leprosy to get to health centres. They conduct surveys in the field and provide medication. They also teach people to look for early symptoms so they can be treated quickly. When this happens, they do not develop the disfigurement that is such a social stigma.

## "It was scary at first." Sweden

Swedes pride themselves in the openness of their society, in their neutrality in times of conflict, and their acceptance of those who are different.

However in recent years Sweden's renowned social services have been stretched, unemployment has increased, and more "new Swedes" have arrived looking to build new lives. The welcome for newcomers has cooled a little and tolerance is being tested.

Sweden's Scouts, who have a proud tradition of international assistance in other countries, decided to look at home for their latest project. They came up with a programme of inclusion and integration which they hope will reach many new ethnic communities throughout the country.

Vitalij arrived in Sweden from Russia to live with his sister. "It was scary at first," he says. "Our apartment was really nice, but I didn't speak any Swedish and I felt like an outsider. Then I was invited to join the Scouts when one of the leaders came to my school – everything changed! The first week I met Jacob – we're now best friends – and because he's Swedish he helps me to fit in!

Then I met The King of Sweden who presented me with my Scout scarf. My mother back in Russia is really proud – she thinks that I'm a real Swede now!"

Cecilia Elving works with a new Scout group linked to one of Stockholm's mosques. "Parents are really pleased," she says, "because in Scouting they have found a group where their sons and daughters can be safe and their culture will be respected. They trust us, and so they see Scouting as a bridge to their new country."

Baden-Powell Fellows Per Taube and Magnus Birke, who sponsor the programme, are pleased with the initial results. They have been successful in encouraging other B-P Fellows – including His Majesty the King – to help too. "We've opened up to a few new communities, and learned so much from the families we're working with," says Per. "There is much more to do. We've got to expand to other cities, and we've got to adapt our approach as we go along. We are building strong bridges between the 'older Swedes' and their new neighbours – and it's working!"





*top left: Vitalij and Jacob, new friends through Scouting, prepare for a meeting with their King. bottom centre: B-P Fellows Magnus and Per are proud of the success of this programme.*

*NAMIBIA*

*Scouts of Namibia*

## Combating domestic violence and the abuse of women and children

Scouts are responding to the issue of domestic violence by training leaders and running projects for Scouts. The aim is to help all Scouts understand domestic violence and have at least one practical method of dealing with violence in their own lives.

Domestic violence is widespread in Namibia. In 2002 the Namibian government made domestic violence illegal. It still occurs amongst the rich and poor and in all ethnic groups. Most Namibians do not know the extent of domestic violence and child abuse and when they do hear of someone being abused they do not know what action to take.

Scouts aim to help to break this cycle of domestic violence.

*NEPAL*

*Nepal Scouts*

## Place the displaced

Scouts are working to improve the living conditions for displaced people living in Kholapur who have fled the violence in western Nepal.

Conditions there are miserable and this project is a mixture of practical assistance and an educational programme. The main elements of the project are to run an awareness campaign on health, hygiene and education; to make the surroundings more hygienic by building public toilets and improving the supply of drinking water. Scouts are also hoping to set up a Scout group in Kholapur.

*NETHERLANDS*

*Scouting Nederland*

## Scouting – freedom to communicate

(Vrijheid in herdenken)

Scouts are working to create awareness in young people of the meaning of freedom and remembrance, and to understand that freedom cannot be taken for granted and that this should be commemorated.

Every year in Amsterdam there is a national remembrance ceremony to commemorate those who fell in the Second World War and in UN missions since. Queen Beatrix places a wreath on the cenotaph - a national memorial. This ceremony is attended by thousands of people and is broadcast on national television.

For many years, some 80 Scouts have had the task of handing the wreaths to the Queen. At exactly the same moment hundreds of other Scouts, together with city mayors and representatives of local organizations, carry out the same duties at remembrance ceremonies.

This project aims to involve Scouts in the activities, not only in the ceremonial part, but more importantly in increasing the awareness of young people of the meaning of freedom and remembrance. As part of the preparations for their participation, Scouts visit museums and meet with people who survived concentration camps, and also with people who have been involved in UN peace-keeping missions.

Scouts have developed a game and software package to support groups organizing projects around the themes of freedom, peace and tolerance.

*NEW ZEALAND*

*Scouting New Zealand*

## Scouting 4 Healthy Confident Young People

Scouts are promoting health education for a range of serious issues facing young people today. They are raising awareness of skin cancer and educating young people to combat obesity, psychological abuse, physical abuse, substance abuse and the growing problem of youth suicide.

For their Gifts for Peace, Scouts chose from a range of projects in their "Scouting 4 Healthy Confident Young People" programme.

Kea Scouts (aged 6 and 7) are learning about child obesity and the Sun Smart Programme, which promotes the "slip slop slap" message for using sun cream.

The adolescent Venture and Rover Scouts are working with the Yellow Ribbon Organization on youth suicide prevention.

All Scouts from ages 6 to 25 are learning about bullying, discrimination, sexual health, psychological and substance abuse. They are also working with an organization in New Zealand called 5+ a Day to help children make healthy food choices.

NICARAGUA

*Asociación de Scouts de Nicaragua*

### Scouting for marginalised young people

Scouts are helping young people in the most impoverished areas of their country with their personal development, supporting them to stay out of child labour and finish their formal education.

The goal is, through the Scout method and non-formal education, to offer a place for personal and group development and growth, as well as to encourage social volunteering. This helps young people to develop resilient personalities and to stay away from social problems.

NIGER

*Association des Scouts du Niger*

### Training for conflict resolution

Scouts in Niger are training young people in peace education and conflict resolution. They explore what peace and conflict means to each individual and to various groups; they learn different ways of negotiating when faced with conflict, skills for discussion and the peaceful resolution of conflict. They use drama and the arts (plays, songs and sketches) to share their learning with other participants. The training courses include young people from different cultural and religious backgrounds, and aim to strengthen local community spirit and cooperation.

NORWAY

*The Guides and Scouts of Norway*

### Peace patchwork

Scouts and Guides are contributing to a culture of peace and creating awareness of peace issues through the creation of an enormous peace wall-hanging composed of the thoughts and wishes of young people in Norway.

The Scouts and Guides looked for a project that could include all of their young people. They ended up making a 24 square metre patchwork quilt, on which more than 600 Norwegian Scout patrols each contributed one decorated patch. Through this, 5,000 Scouts reveal their personal wishes for the future.

The Scouts and Guides also believe that awareness and knowledge of other cultures are major contributors to peace. Therefore, all units were asked to undertake research on another country or culture.

OMAN

*The National Organization for Scouts & Guides*

### Peer education for peace

The Omani Scouts are working with young people aged 12 to 20 on their peer education project which aims to:

- Raise young people's awareness about health problems.
- Develop young people's knowledge, skills and attitudes so that they are able to protect themselves from dangers that they face (for example: HIV/AIDS, drugs, smoking, and violence).
- Give young people the skills to be able to educate their friends and relatives about these issues.
- Support the Ministry of Health to combat these problems.

PAKISTAN

*Pakistan Boy Scouts Association*

### Life smiles again

Scouts are helping the communities affected by the massive earthquake on 8 October 2005. The activities of Scouts in the affected areas include vaccinations, organizing community meetings, distributing cleaning materials and radio sets.

When the earthquake hit, Scouts were some of the first on the scene to assist their communities. They were able to support the emergency teams on site and worked in close cooperation with UNICEF. Scouts are continuing to work on health education projects in the affected areas.

PANAMA

*Asociación Nacional de Scouts de Panamá*

### Investing in the environment

Scouts are building a centre for Scouts, Guides and other young people to introduce them to living in natural surroundings and to provide educational opportunities for structured courses on forestry, eco-tourism, hiking and camping.

The centre is near Panama City within the watershed area of the Panama Canal. It has a network of trails containing historical, biological, and environmental elements. It includes a teaching and research centre for eco-tourism and will educate visitors on the environmental importance of the canal watershed.

It is the first permanent centre for supporting the youth programme and adult training needs of the Asociación Nacional de Scouts de Panamá.

PERU

*Asociación de Scouts del Perú*

## With the eyes of the heart

Scouts in two local groups in Peru, the San Boria 209 and the 211 Commas Scouts from the Luis Braille School for the Blind, are working together and learning from each other. The blind children come from very poor circumstances, and so the San Boria 209 group has raised some funds to assist them and their families. However, their partnership is very much two-sided and the 211 Commas Scouts from the Luis Braille School for the Blind are helping the San Boria Scouts to discover a very different way of looking at the world.

POLAND

*Zwiazek Harcerstwa Polskiego*

## One World, One Promise

Scouts have developed a project along the theme of Scouting's Centenary: One World One Promise. The Scouts are working on three key modules: unity, world, and promise. Each Scout group identifies ways to take action to make a difference in their communities.

The theme of unity reflects the mission of Scouting and its commitment to peace in the world. The world module is about gaining awareness of global problems and challenges, seeing how they might have an effect locally and how Scouts can take action to make a difference. The last theme, the promise, is about self-development, making each Scout a better Scout, helping them become active members of their communities.

The Polish Scouts also held a national Jamboree for about 10,000 young people in August 2007 near the city of Kielce. The theme of this event was also One World One Promise and built on the Gifts for Peace work. During the camp Scouts celebrated the Centenary of Scouting and launched the 100th anniversary celebrations of Scouting and Guiding in Poland.

PORTUGAL

*Federação Escutista de Portugal*

## Integrating immigrants

Scouts are working to promote the social integration of immigrant communities through partnerships and new communications channels.

They have held informal activities as well as a national camp in cooperation with ACIME (the High Committee for Immigration and Ethnic Minorities) for 200 Scouts and non-Scouts as part of the National Diversity Week celebrations. The Scouts hope to build respect, gain a better understanding of the issue and challenge preconceptions.

## Christmas is about sharing

Scouts in Sertã Portugal are making sure that Christmas is a time of joy for all by providing food and gifts to families in need. They rely on the generosity of their community to help them collect the items that will be distributed just before Christmas. Boxes are placed in supermarkets, as are leaflets explaining the goals of the campaign. Scouts collect the boxes on a regular basis.

ROMANIA

*Cercetasli Româiei*

## Gifts for Peace, Gifts for People

- Scouts in the area of Dolj in Romania are working to support disadvantaged children from a village affected by floods in the summer of 2005. They are rebuilding the local school and playground and providing classroom material. They are also setting up Cub and Scout units for young people in the village. They have raised funds by organizing shows and selling handicraft. And they have launched *How to make the world better* and *Defeat the floods* campaigns.

- Scouts in the Targu-Jiu area of Romania are helping the inhabitants of a village heavily affected by floods, where many houses were destroyed. The Rovers are helping to clean up and repaint nine houses and rebuild wooden bridges. Younger Scouts are running activities for the children of the village.

## A chance for the future

In the Virgil Onitiu Brasov prison there are 300 inmates under the age of 18. Scouts are helping them to prepare for their release and re-integration into society. Using the Scout method, along with training and advice from psychologists, they are helping the young people to acquire social skills, cope with stress and frustration, solve conflicts without violence, and take responsibilities. At the same time Scouts are organizing an awareness campaign to help change the public's perception of prisoners.

*RUSSIAN FEDERATION*

*Russian Association of Scouts/Navigators*

## Solidarity for disadvantaged children

Scouts are developing projects to support children who have been orphaned, have disabilities or are street children. These projects help to improve the quality of life for the children and help Scouts to challenge the stereotypes they have of these groups of disadvantaged young people.

Social problems in Russia have resulted in many children and young people living in institutions or on the streets. In each district Scouts choose their own special project according to local needs. There is direct contact between Scouts and those they are helping. They are to plan and take part in activities together, including trips and excursions.

The projects also involve Scouts in taking action to improve the environment where the children live. This includes providing toys, clothes and medicines or helping to improve the neighbourhoods through clean-ups and planting.

Portugal



Russia



Peru



*RWANDA*

*Association des Scouts du Rwanda*

## Extending Scouting to vulnerable and marginalised young people

See also page 11.

Scouts are reaching out to young people living in harsh conditions. The project aims to integrate young people into Scout activities who, because of their health, their living conditions or their past, experience insecurity and marginalisation. It also aims to help to make the community aware of the need to integrate and take care of people living in difficult conditions.

Target groups include: former child soldiers, street children, young girls (who are under represented in decision making bodies), prisoners (there are currently more than 70,000 inmates in the country and Scouting exists in all the country's prisons), the handicapped, orphans in general and HIV/AIDS orphans in particular.

Scouts are identifying people who fall into the categories mentioned above. They are making contact and organizing support activities for them.

Thanks to this project, Scouts are becoming more aware of the realities faced by some people and are more open to interaction with them. Young people who live in situations of insecurity and social marginalisation are finding a place to blossom in Scouting. Many can learn a trade in Scout Centres. Activities build self confidence and increase their participation in decision-making.

## “A new challenge for our Scouts!” South Africa

“Some years ago our greatest challenge in South African Scouting was to combat bigotry and discrimination. I am proud to say that Scouting here is now open to all communities and growing in numbers,” says Garnet de la Hunt, the former Chief Scout - and former chairman of the World Scout Committee - who worked tirelessly to make the transformation of South African Scouting a reality.

“I am excited by a new challenge that our Scouts have taken on. They have identified a different kind of discrimination which has crept into our society - and they are tackling this with the same energy that we used against racial discrimination,” says Garnet proudly.

“HIV/AIDS has hit our country very hard - there are millions of AIDS orphans abandoned, and shunned by their communities. South African Scouts have adopted this challenge as their Gift for Peace, reaching out to those who have been marginalised.

Olebongeng is 19 years old. When he lost an uncle to AIDS in June last year he persuaded his friends in the Mafikeng Scout Group to tackle discrimination. Working with the Loman Aneng orphanage, the Scouts re-integrate these kids back into the

community, they camp together at the local game reserve, and have started an income generation programme.

In Cape Town, 12-year-old Scout Bianca Davis has persuaded her family to foster little Sharon, whose mother fell sick with AIDS and couldn't manage any more. Bianca's parents are so proud. Their daughter has been able to make a difference to the lives of many children through her Scouting, and one particularly lucky girl will benefit from a caring big sister. And near Cape Town six boys, who are all HIV-positive and have experienced discrimination, have joined the 1st Belhar Troop. These new Scouts are fully integrated and happy to be treated as equals.

“When people ask us why we hug these orphans, or play games with them, we say they're just our mates,” explains Olebongeng. “It's OK to play with them, you can't catch AIDS from a smile, a hug or a handshake! We don't like when our classmates make jokes about kids like this - these kids are now our friends and we don't like it when classmates call them names!”

Garnet reflects: “Scouting changes lives, and I am sure that these fine young men and women will, in the years to come, leave the world a little better than they found it!”





Scout Bianca with her new foster sister Sharon - the future is bright for young South Africa with leaders like these!



"You can't catch AIDS from a smile, a hug or a handshake!"



"These kids are now our friends and we don't like it when classmates call them names."

*SAINT VINCENT and THE GRENADINES*

*The Scout Association of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines*

### Coping with this age of plastics

Scouts are educating people about the uses of plastics and possibilities for recycling. They aim to make their island cleaner and help reduce the pollution of plastic.

They are working hard to reduce the use of plastics, encourage the reuse of plastic bags and the recycling of all the waste that can be transformed and reused.

They started their project with an awareness and information campaign in newspapers and on the radio. Scout groups are working in their communities, including schools, to convince people to change their habits. In addition, they are taking part in clean-up projects.

*SAUDI ARABIA*

*Saudi Arabian Boy Scouts Association*

### Promoting cultural exchange and understanding

**See photos and story page 4.**

*SENEGAL*

*Eclaireurs du Sénégal*

### Taking care of daaras children

Scouts in Senegal, in collaboration with religious schools (daaras), are working to improve the living conditions of the young students (talibés) who sometimes beg for food and live in the streets resulting in poor diet, hygiene and health problems.

Young children are entrusted by their parents to daaras to learn about the Koran. However, the families do not always support their children financially and the daaras have limited means.

When these children go out to find food and money in the streets of Senegal, they sometimes go to Scout centres, which welcome them, care for them, and give them opportunities to try a whole range of activities. The main need that they have expressed is that of learning to read, write and speak French, the language of Senegal. (In the daaras they use only Arabic.)

Scouts are welcoming and integrating the talibés into their groups. They are building dormitories and latrines in the daaras, installing drinking water and creating a health record for each student. They have collected clothes and found sponsorship for aspects of the project.

The Scouts have taught 110 talibés job skills, such as auto mechanics, building trades, cultivation, boiler making, tailoring, and hair cutting. 110 Koranic teachers, two per daara, were trained. All in all, 55 daaras will profit from the project, which means about 5,500 talibés between 5 and 13 years of age will benefit.

St. Vincent and The Grenadines



Pakistan



Sudan



## SEYCHELLES

### *Seychelles Scout Association*

#### Working on peace

Scouts are promoting peace through community education and activities for children, and developing projects for young people to learn about peace and the promotion of human rights. Scouts are also developing a special gift for their country - a peace park - to serve as a reminder of the need for continued effort to bring about peace.

The country may be small, but its size has not spared it from problems facing society, especially those facing young people such as bullying, petty crime, violence in the home, substance abuse and delinquency.

Scouts talked to officials and collected information to evaluate the problem areas. They then designed projects to address these problems, making them the focus point of many of their special activities. These activities address peace issues, the problems of society as well as finding a means of bringing the people of a nation together.

Their peace park is a gift to the Seychelles people and a culmination of the centenary of Scouting activities. The park reflects Scouts' work to care for and protect the environment. It provides a space where people can meet or find solitude.

This project has received the support of the President of the Seychelles, who is also the Patron of the Scout Association.

Seychelles



## SIERRA LEONE

### *Sierra Leone Scouts Association*

#### Rehabilitation and re-integration of child soldiers and street children into society

Scouts are supporting the rehabilitation and re-education of former child soldiers and other marginalised young people who have been left with few opportunities in life after a ten-year civil war.

During the civil war in Sierra Leone (1991-2000), many children and young people between the ages of 3 and 18 were abducted by different factions and exploited as child soldiers, cheap labour and sex slaves.

##### **The first attempt to help**

The Sierra Leone Scouts Association, through the support of UNICEF, established a Child Ex-combatant Rehabilitation Centre in 1995 at the Scout training camp in Grafton, a vast expanse of woodland about 16 km outside the capital city. It could house up to 60 boys and girls at a time for re-education using the Scout Method to influence a positive change in the lives of these traumatised children. It was considered to be a model programme of its type.

In 1997 Scouts were ordered to leave the campsite and it became a base for first rebel, then government troops during another period of civil war. When Scouts regained access, the site had been looted and destroyed.

##### **Then a new beginning**

Scouts are re-establishing the rehabilitation and vocational centre for the marginalised children as their Gift for Peace. As well as receiving a balanced diet, clothes, decent living conditions and health care, they are taught basic literacy before being re-integrated into the formal school system.

They are able to learn vocational skills such as tailoring, carpentry, soap making, gara tie dying, building construction, agriculture and food production. These skills will help them become re-integrated into their communities as self-sufficient individuals.

SINGAPORE

*The Singapore Scout Association*

### A daily good turn – kindness all year round

The 10,000 Scouts in Singapore are rising to the challenge of doing a good turn every day. They recognise that small acts of goodwill can contribute to building peace and that no gesture is too small.

Each Scout has been challenged to do a good turn daily and to become an agent of change in society. As a reminder of this challenge Scouts have been given red silicon wristbands, embossed with the name of the project: A Good Turn a Day – Kindness all Year Round.

If 10,000 Scouts do a good turn to help one person each of the 365 days of the year, this amounts to just over 3.5 million good turns. Scouts hope that doing a good turn will become contagious and other members of the community follow the example of Scouting and share acts of kindness.

SLOVAKIA

*Slovensky scouting*

### Scouting in the Roma community

Scouts are helping to integrate the Roma minority through the establishment of special Scout groups and a whole educational programme tailored to the needs of this community. The programme was started in 2000 and now involves over 600 children and young people in 11 Scout groups. The integration of Roma youth is a long-term process focusing on five areas: education and training, employment assistance, breaking barriers in society, the meaningful spending of free time and prevention of drug abuse.

The Scouts do not just provide activities for the Roma children, but they show respect and interest for their culture. Highlighting the Roma culture and language is one of the activities which allows the children to improve their image of themselves and their community.

SLOVENIA

*Zveza tabornikov Slovenije*

### Swimming for peace

Scouts in Slovenia and Croatia are working together to build peace in their region and especially in the border areas between their two countries. They organized swimming for peace in the Piran Gulf which shares the coastlines of both countries.

Years of tension and conflict have existed in this area of the Adriatic. Scouts decided that swimming is one way to bring people closer together in this border area. Almost 50 people swam between Kanegra, Croatia and Seca, Slovenia, a distance of 2.5 km. About 200 other people joined in the event as staff and participants.

News media were very interested in the activity, and reports were made on three television news programmes, five radio broadcasts and in eight newspaper stories. This has put Scouting into a very good light and they plan to do it again.

SOUTH AFRICA

*South African Scout Association*

### A new challenge for our Scouts!

***See photos and story on page 42.***

### Environmental education camps for impoverished youth

Scouts in South Africa are teaching environmental education to young people from poverty-stricken rural areas. The young people attend, free of charge, a two-day environmental camp at the Mafikeng Scout Centre, which conducts the SCENE programme. (Centre of Excellence for Nature and the Environment). Since 2002, over 9,000 young people have gone through the programme.

The goal is to offer participants an exciting experience, while at the same time teaching them practical environmental skills which they can use in daily life. Participants are encouraged to return home and initiate a small project, such as food gardening or recycling.

The SCENE programme includes

- Conservation and respect for the environment
- Team work and negotiation skills
- Climate change
- Communication skills
- Leadership and assertiveness
- Problem solving and decision making
- HIV/AIDS awareness.

Follow-up interviews with school officials showed that 80 percent of the young people who attended the camps thereafter implemented environmental projects or activities at school, such as recycling, food gardening, waste management and can collection for recycling. One of the participating schools, Mailakgang Primary, entered a national competition and won a prize of R80,000 (USD 9,659) for environmental work.

*SPAIN*

*ASDE - Scouts de España*

## Stop social violence

Scouts are fighting social violence by creating four video games which promote tolerance and care. They focus on four main issues: gender violence, domestic violence against women, peer violence (bullying, teasing) and homophobic violence. Some 14,000 copies of these games have been distributed throughout the country by members in all associations of the Scout federation.

The games are available in Spanish, Catalan and English. An educational guide accompanies the games. The Scouts play the games and the leaders lead group discussions and debates.

*SPAIN*

*Movimiento Scout Católico*

## 2007 Trans-Pyrenean Jamboree: AquaJam

Scouts from the region of Aragon in Spain are working with French Scouts from Midi-Pyrénées on issues related to water and sustainable development. They took part in over 35 local projects in the two areas in early August 2007. The 2,000 Scouts then came together at a Trans-Pyrenean AquaJam to participate in workshops and forums on water, sustainable development and inter cultural exchange.

*SUDAN*

*Sudan Boy Scouts Association*

## Helping refugees

Since the beginning of the Darfur crisis in July 2003, Scouts in Darfur communities have been working to support people living in Internally Displaced People's camps. The Scouts have erected and managed camps and distributed food and relief. They promote health education, including running health campaigns for malaria control and polio vaccinations.

Scouts rebuild schools, clean places of worship and plant trees in the camps. They organize sports activities, conduct activities to further peace education, health education and awareness of HIV/AIDS in particular. The Sudanese Scouts are working in partnership with the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), the Africa Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS), WHO, UNICEF, local and international organizations and the national authorities.

*SWAZILAND*

*Swaziland Boy Scouts Association*

## Thirst for life

Scouts are working to support HIV/AIDS orphaned and vulnerable children through a project called Thirst For Life. They are helping them to develop interpersonal and life skills through Scouting and are meeting the needs of their communities by building a Centenary Centre to provide clean water for the inhabitants and to cultivate vegetables.

Thirst For Life aims to provide children with relevant life skills, including agricultural and business skills. Scouts have planted crops of sweet potatoes and beans in the arable land around the Centenary centre. The project provides water and sanitation for the local people and a site where Scouts from Swaziland and abroad can camp and train. The site has already been used for a camp for HIV/AIDS orphans where the children had the opportunity to sleep in tents, a first experience for many of them.

Scouts are still raising funding for the project and have strong partnerships with Scouts in the County of Avon, United Kingdom, and also in the United States. They aim to make this centre a lasting asset for Scouts and the community.

# Rebuilding communities, rebuilding trust

United States of America

While the world's news media swarmed over the devastation left by hurricane Katrina, communities tried their best to salvage what they could of their homes and their dignities.

Rhonda is an amazing Scout leader in Troop 458, in Thibodaux, one of the poorest and worst affected areas in New Orleans. She explains: "In our neighbourhood, almost every family was hit by this disaster. Our Scouts – many who lost everything themselves – just couldn't wait to get going. They helped establish a distribution warehouse in the school, distributing for the government and the Red Cross. Our kids worked all hours to help people worse off than themselves."

"When they were done with distribution, we formed clean-up teams and helped people to mop up and begin again. All along, Scouts joined us from all over the country. It sends a shiver down my spine to think of how hard all these Scouts worked side by side."

Rhonda adds: "In the days after Katrina, fingers were pointed, old prejudices were rekindled and things were said which I never thought would ever be said in this city. But when I see the way rich and poor, black and white, locals and visitors worked together, I tell you the last months have done more to build

community spirit than I would ever have imagined. I'm proud that our Scouts had an important role to play in all this. They've done more than help needy people – they've healed so many wounds!"

Joe and his Scout clean-up team were sent to one of the worst affected streets in the neighbourhood. That's where his grandmother lived! "Like others we had helped, she was really glad to see us. She explained that her neighbours were happy to see Scouts arriving - we were welcome because they believed we were trustworthy. I hadn't realised how frightened people were. They saw looting – even shooting - and didn't know who to trust anymore. Sifting through the mud and debris we pulled out a soaked photo album."

"She looked surprised. I think it was a treasure she never expected to see again. She opened it to a picture of me as a child and gave me a hug. The room got real quiet. Everyone felt they were part of this very personal moment. That's when I realised we were not just shoveling mud and helping people rebuild their lives, we were also rebuilding trust. I'm really proud of what we've done. I'll remember this for the rest of my life!"





Joe's "Gran" hugs her grandson - who, along with his fellow Scouts from Troop 458, is a hero in New Orleans!

SWEDEN

Svenska Scoutrådet

## It was scary at first

**See photos and story on page 36.**

### Open to all

Scouts and Guides are working on a project called Open to All which aims to integrate ethnic, cultural, religious and social minorities into the Swedish Guide and Scout Movement and to make everyone feel equally welcome and accepted. Scouts aim to promote understanding and acceptance between young people from different backgrounds and combat discrimination and violence between different groups.

The vast majority of Swedish Scouts come from traditional Swedish middle class homes, although 20 percent of the Swedish population was either born abroad or has at least one parent who was born abroad. The Scouts and Guides hope that by 2015 their membership will mirror the general population of Sweden, with 30,000 new Guides and Scouts in new groups and Scouting in 100 new locations.

The programme focuses on activities facilitating recruitment for diversity and activities facilitating attitude changes.

All Scout units are being provided with information on cultural, ethnic and religious diversity. This includes games and exercises so their leaders can work against discrimination and racism with their Scouts. Scout groups are being offered a manual and professional help on how to recruit for diversity. At a regional level, boards and course instructors will be offered diversity training.

Sweden



Tanzania



Switzerland



SWITZERLAND

Mouvement Scout de Suisse

## Scouts and Guides as peace makers

Scouts and Guides of all ages are active as peace makers in their own communities. Each Scout district is helping its members to identify local needs and develop the skills to respond to these needs.

This Gifts for Peace project is helping Scouts and Guides respond to local situations and work on various themes, specifically:

- Bullying – in and out of schools
- Conflict resolution – between families and friends
- Children's rights
- Assertiveness
- Fair Play – in sports and in Scouting
- Integration – living in harmony in a multi-cultural society
- Social freedom – class differences
- Environmental awareness, as a prerequisite of freedom
- Working with other non-governmental organizations
- An understanding of violence against children

Through participating in these projects, Scouts and Guides are being encouraged to be more socially responsible and to realise that they can take action to make an impact on their family, school, Scout group or community.

TANZANIA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF

Tanzania Scouts  
Association

### Great eastern zonal safari

Scouts in Tanzania and neighbouring countries are raising awareness of key issues such as drug abuse, HIV/AIDS, sustainable environmental development and peace education. They planned a 15 day journey from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania to Nairobi, Kenya and as they travelled they ran activities on these key global issues for young people.

The journey had four aims:

- To educate and spread drug abuse reduction knowledge to young people.
- To spread awareness of HIV/AIDS prevention.
- To promote the importance of sustainable development and to involve more people in tree-planting.
- To foster peace and friendship in East African countries.

Nearly 300 leaders have been trained in the drug abuse programme and HIV/AIDS awareness.

In addition to the Safari, and as part of the association's life skills programme, several workshops on peace education have been held for leaders, and educational activities for peace-making have been held in refugee camps in several districts of Tanzania to combat tribal and ethnic hatred and negative attitudes.

The project demonstrates the active role that Scouts in Tanzania play to support their communities, their role as an educational movement and their contribution to society through education.

THAILAND *The National Scout Organization of Thailand*

### Knowing your neighbours

Scouts are reaching out to young people in neighbouring countries, to find out more about their cultures, and are getting to know them via joint camps. For example, young people from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam – where Scouting is little-known – were welcomed at the Asia-Pacific Scout Jamboree in 2005 to discover more about Scouting.

TOGO

*Association Scoute du Togo*

### Peace and reconstruction

Scouts are taking part in the rebuilding and renovation of public buildings in each major city of the country.

Togo has experienced troubles which have caused the loss of many lives and damage to many buildings after the presidential election of 2005. Scouts are taking part in the reconstruction and renovation of these buildings. Some funds have been raised, but the main task has been to take an active part in the construction work. This project has benefited the Togolese population and helped Scouting's visibility and image.

TURKEY

*Turkiye Izcilik Federasyonu*

### Promoting a culture of peace

Scouts are promoting a Culture of Peace by making people aware of UNESCO's 2000 Manifesto and the United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth.

Scouts are running awareness campaigns and interactive exhibitions on: peace education, sustainable development and environmental education, human development and rights, democracy and democratic participation and citizenship, tolerance and solidarity, global partnership, gender equality, free flow of information, action against violence, health and juvenile delinquency.

UGANDA

*The Uganda Scouts Association*

### Music, dance and drama for peace

Scouts are giving hope to people in the war-affected region of the north where there has been civil war for over 15 years. Many people now live in displaced peoples' camps as they live in fear of being attacked by rebels. In those camps Scouts are working with young people to write, prepare and perform music, dance and drama shows on the topic of peace. They want to bring joy to those who have lost so much, and contribute to restoring peace.

Some of these camps are in the Gulu District of Uganda where Scouts have undertaken to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS. This builds on their years of work throughout Uganda through peer education.

## Building on past experience – looking to the future

Scouts are focusing on a wide range of projects, including anti-bullying, leadership development for people from socially deprived areas, developing global awareness and international partnerships, tackling social exclusion amongst young people, developing Scouting in ethnic minority communities and producing cultural awareness training.

### Anti-bullying

An anti-bullying policy has been adopted and all members are being helped to understand bullying and to develop skills to combat it. With personal skills young people are able to challenge bullying and create a culture of peace within their peer groups.

### Leadership development

A Leadership Development programme is being offered to young people from socially deprived areas.

### International partnerships

For many years Scouting, locally and nationally, has developed partnerships with Scouting all over the world. These partnerships are being increased so that more Scouts, agencies and organizations can be involved. Scouts locally are being encouraged to understand issues facing young people in the world today. GAPP, a peer education project on global issues, is being expanded.

### Overcoming social exclusion

Scouts currently have two projects using the Scout Method to provide young people, mostly school dropouts, with vocational training which will help them to find suitable employment.

### Recruiting ethnic minority communities

Local Scout groups and districts are being encouraged to recruit young people from black and other ethnic minority communities to join Scouting. Cultural awareness training is helping leaders to understand cultural and religious differences in their communities. Older Scouts and leaders are being encouraged to explore their response to the Equal Opportunities Policy which also includes topics such as gender, age and sexual orientation.

## Scouts for trees

Scouts in Great Britain have teamed up with the Woodland Trust and planted 100,000 trees during 2007, the Centenary of Scouting, and as part of the Trees for All campaign.

Scouts from all age groups took part. Its aim was to engage young people with nature and spark an interest in the environment.

## Overcoming barriers in Northern Ireland

**See photos and story on page 12.**

## Rebuilding communities, rebuilding trust

**See photos and story on page 50.**

## Good Turn for America

Scouts are giving their time and energy to provide food and shelter for those in need and to teach their peers about healthy living. Service is a core value of Scouting and the Boy Scouts of America have been helping communities since their creation. They decided to focus on food and shelter issues because 17.8 percent of children in the United States live in poverty, and because their living conditions affect their performance in school.

Scouts, through their Good Turn for America programme, are focusing on supporting issues connected to food, shelter and good health habits. Scouts can record their service hours and to inform people of what they have done on the project's website. As of early 2008, more than 6.9 million service hours had been given by Scouts to their community. They have teamed up with the most respected governmental and non-governmental organizations, including the American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity and the Department of Health and Human Services, to help people in need.

One extraordinary example of the type of service is the cleaning up of houses affected by hurricane Katrina. Many had been flooded and filled with mud and debris. Scouts were trusted by the population, at a time when looting was widespread, and were able to provide hope and help rebuild trust in a community which badly needed it.

URUGUAY

*Movimiento Scout del Uruguay*

**A shelter for everyone**

Scouts are working to provide housing for homeless and poor people in Uruguay. They organized a mega rock concert to raise funds to enable Uruguayan Scouts to build these houses as their Gift for Peace.

The Rovers - older Scouts - are also holding work camps to build the houses in places agreed with the non-governmental organization Un Techno Para Uruguay (A roof for Uruguay). Younger Scouts are helping raise money and learning more about the situation facing the many homeless people in their country.

ZAMBIA

*Zambia Scouts Association*

**Helping more young people**

Scouts in Zambia are working to reach out to more young people and adults in their communities. They want to be able to provide recreation and education for more young people, and better training and life skills for adults.

ZIMBABWE

*The Scout Association of Zimbabwe*

**Fighting drug abuse, alcohol abuse and HIV/AIDS**

Scouts are working to spread awareness of the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, and the link from this abuse to HIV/AIDS, which is a huge problem in their country.

Scouts have therefore embarked on an ambitious out-reach programme concentrating on:

- Working with other organizations to support existing youth education programmes.
- Carrying out community service projects related to drugs and health promotion.
- Health promotion at school open days, trade fairs and other community events.

A key technique is the use of peer education as this is a strong influence in risk-reduction behaviour. Scouts who are trained as peer health promoters can have a strong, positive influence on their friends and classmates and often gain long-term benefits from their experiences. These include an on-going commitment to responsible behaviour in reproductive health, leadership skills and personal development.

Thailand



United Kingdom



United States



### *SOUTH EAST EUROPE*

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia (including Kosovo), Slovenia and Turkey.

## **The Hajde project: apathy to action**

The European Scout Region conducted a youth project in South East Europe from 2005 to 2007.

Hajde is one of rare words with the same meaning in all languages of South East Europe. It means "let's go". It is a call for action, a motivation to do something.

The project itself was a call to young people to move from apathy to action, towards combining efforts to build a better future for their societies and themselves.

The geographical area of the project comprised approximately 60 million people and stretched across 11 countries.

The project was run by Scouts, but was open to everyone who wanted to participate. Past experience has shown this to be a successful formula.

Key programme areas included:

- Reaching out: programmes for young people, voluntary work, and youth activism.
- Young leaders: youth information, youth participation, and capacity building.
- Youth policy: partnerships, policy development, resources for youth work.
- Awareness-raising: promotions and campaigns, needs of young people

## For more information...

The challenge is now to build on the Gifts for Peace, to further develop and integrate peace education into the Scout programme for the benefit of more young people, their families and communities worldwide. Several resources are available to help with this work.

### **The Gifts for Peace website**

A project database and website have been developed to share the Gifts for Peace online. The web pages also contain links to educational resources and to information gathered from long-standing peace projects in the 'Learning from Projects' area.  
<http://www.scout.org/giftsforpeace>

### **ScoutPAX**

ScoutPAX is an educational resource to support the planning and implementation of the Gifts for Peace. It contains basic information on the Gifts for Peace concept, how to plan projects, and includes activities, information on topical social issues and games to further develop life skills.  
<http://worldnet.scout.org/scoutpax>

### **Scouts of the World Award**

The Scouts of the World Award helps national Scout organizations revitalise the programme of senior sections (15-26 years of age), and focuses on the active discovery of issues related to environment, development and peace.  
<http://www.scout.org/sow>

### **Building Peace Together**

As a contribution to the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2000-2010), the World Organization of the Scout Movement developed *Building Peace Together*, a rich resource kit containing 12 workshops on global development issues. These workshops have been conducted and refined in successive Global Development Villages at World Scout Jamborees and other events.  
<http://www.scout.org>

### **Violence against children**

The United Nations Secretary General's *Study on Violence against Children*, with support from the World Organization of the Scout Movement, has developed two resources to use with young people aged 12-18 to help them to learn about and take action against violence:

1. Our Right to Be Protected from Violence - Activities for learning and taking action for children and young people.
2. United Nations Secretary General's Study on Violence against Children - Adapted for Children and Young People.

<http://www.unviolencestudy.org/>

56	ALBANIA	The Hajde project: apathy to action	14	COLUMBIA	Columbia without landmines
6	ALGERIA	Camping for solidarity	11	CONGO, D.R. of	Amahoro Amani
6	ANGOLA	Combating the cholera epidemic	15	COSTA RICA	Hope for the future
6	ARGENTINA	The right to play (Por el Derecho a Jugar)	15	COTE d'IVOIRE	Peace messengers
6	AUSTRALIA	Sister cities project	15	CROATIA	Small steps: big impact for peace
7	AUSTRIA	Better integration of migrants	56		The Hajde project: apathy to action
7	AZERBAIJAN	Youth participation through action	15	CYPRUS	100 Scout peace parks
8	BAHAMAS	Integration of Haitians into Scouting	15	CZECH REPUBLIC	Let's build a school in Africa!
8	BANGLADESH	Solace for needy young people	16	DENMARK	Building schools in Uganda
8	BARBADOS	Preparing young people	16	ECUADOR	Murals of peace
8	BELGIUM	Happiness and toys for holidays	16	EGYPT	Supporting children's rights
		Scouting for disadvantaged young people	18	EL SALVADOR	Give me back my childhood!
9	BENIN	Mobilising for the UN Millennium Development Goals	17	ESTONIA	Reaching out
9	BOLIVIA	Let's save lives	17	ETHIOPIA	Let's save our indigenous trees
56	BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA	The Hajde project: apathy to action	17	FINLAND	Peace education (Rauhanrakentaja)
9	BOTSWANA	Adolescent sexual and reproductive health education	17	FRANCE	Flame of hope
10	BRAZIL	Let's disarm our children!			Scouting for all
10	BULGARIA	A friend by my side			The peace caravan
56		The Hajde project: apathy to action	22	GEORGIA	Youth empowerment
11	BURUNDI	Amahoro Amani	22	GERMANY	Helping others
10	CANADA	Reducing racism	23	GHANA	Pickup - don't drop
14	CHAD	Supporting vocational training			Supporting street children
14	CHILE	Centenary: time for integration	23	GREECE	Find out - think - act
14	SCOUTS OF CHINA	Bridging the digital divide	56		The Hajde project: apathy to action
			24	GUINEA	Blood for life
			24	GUYANA	Scout power for peace
			24	HAITI	Fighting prejudice

28	HONG KONG	Finding hope and inspiration - in prison!	34	MALAYSIA	Scouts prostar
24		Scouts in action: environmental sustainability	34	MALTA	Stop trafficking in human beings
25		Scouts in action: social equality	34	MAURITANIA	Building better lives
25		Scouts in action: supporting special needs	34	MAURITIUS	Bringing back a smile to vulnerable children
3		Quotation: Justice Patrick Chan, Permanent Judge, Court of Final Appeal	35	MEXICO	Recycling for peace Helping others
25	ICELAND	Building projects between native Icelanders and immigrants	35	MOLDOVA	Improving the environment
25	INDIA	Our Gifts for Peace	56	MONTENEGRO	The Hajde project: apathy to action
26	INDONESIA	Let's help rebuild Aceh	35	MOZAMBIQUE	Education for a culture of peace Working to eradicate leprosy
26	IRELAND	Bronnranas de Ghrá na Síochána	38	NAMIBIA	Combating domestic violence and the abuse of women and children
3		Quotation: John Hume, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate	38	NEPAL	Place the displaced
26	ITALY	Peace march	38	NETHERLANDS	Scouting – freedom to communicate (Vrijheid in herdenken)
27	JAPAN	Promoting peace	38	NEW ZEALAND	Scouting 4 Healthy Confident Young People
27	KENYA	Trees for peace	39	NICARAGUA	Scouting for marginalised young people
27	KOREA, REP. of	Peace, friendship and harmony	39	NIGER	Training for conflict resolution
32	KUWAIT	Solidarity for peace	39	NORWAY	Peace patchwork
32	LEBANON	Rebirth of the phoenix	39	OMAN	Peer education for peace
32	LESOTHO	Tree planting for peace	39	PAKISTAN	Life smiles again
32	LIBERIA	Restoring peaceful days	39	PANAMA	Investing in the environment
33	LIECHTENSTEIN	Inter cultural learning	40	PERU	With the eyes of the heart
33	LUXEMBOURG	Living together with our differences Building bridges	40	POLAND	One World, One Promise
56	MACEDONIA, FYR	The Hajde project: apathy to action	40	PORTUGAL	Integrating immigrants Christmas is about sharing
33	MADAGASCAR	Civic involvement of Scouts for peace			
34	MALAWI	Building hope in the homeless			

40	ROMANIA	Gifts for Peace, Gifts for People A chance for the future	49	SPAIN	Stop social violence Trans-Pyrenean Jamboree: AquaJam
56		The Hajde project: apathy to action	49	SUDAN	Helping refugees
41	RUSSIAN FED.	Solidarity for disadvantaged children	49	SWAZILAND	Thirst for life
41	RWANDA	Extending Scouting to vulnerable and marginalised young people	36	SWEDEN	It was scary at first
11		Amahoro Amani	52		Open to all
46	SAINT VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	Coping with this age of plastics	2		Quotation: HM the King of Sweden
4	SAUDI ARABIA	Welcome to the land of peace!	52	SWITZERLAND	Scouts and Guides as peacemakers
2		Quotation: HM the King of Saudi Arabia	53	TANZANIA, UNITED REP. of	Great eastern zonal safari
56	SERBIA	The Hajde project: apathy to action	53	THAILAND	Knowing your neighbours
46	SENEGAL	Taking care of daaras children	53	TOGO	Peace and reconstruction
47	SEYCHELLES	Working on peace	53	TURKEY	Promoting a culture of peace
47	SIERRA LEONE	Rehabilitation and re-integration of child soldiers and street children into society	56		The Hajde project: apathy to action
48	SINGAPORE	A good turn each day – kindness all year round	53	UGANDA	Music, dance and drama for peace
48	SLOVAKIA	Scouting in the Roma community	54	UNITED KINGDOM	Building on past experience, looking to the future
48	SLOVENIA	Swimming for peace			Scouts for trees
56		The Hajde project: apathy to action	12		Overcoming the barriers in Northern Ireland
42	SOUTH AFRICA	A new challenge for our Scouts!	50	UNITED STATES	Rebuilding communities, rebuilding trust
48		Environmental education camps for impoverished youth	54		Good Turn for America
3		Quotation: Nelson Mandela, Former President of South Africa, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate	55	URUGUAY	A shelter for everyone
			55	ZAMBIA	Helping more young people
			55	ZIMBABWE	Fighting drug abuse, alcohol abuse and HIV/AIDS



#### **Field reports for featured stories**

*El Salvador*  
Cynthia Marquez

*Hong Kong*  
Annabel Chan  
Ophelia C. L. Chan  
William Cheung

*Northern Ireland*  
Paul Browne  
Mike Loder  
Sinclair Trotter

*South Africa*  
Theo Mothlabane  
Luke Van Der Laan  
Brian February

*Saudi Arabia*  
Dr. Abdullah Al Fahad  
Dr. Abdullah Al-Obeid  
Dr. Abdullah O. Nasseef

*Sweden*  
Cecilia Elving  
Elisabeth Karlsson  
Alexandra Dannelöv

*USA*  
Eric Moore  
Ronda Bridier  
Norma Bilello

With appreciation to all Scout associations which provided stories and pictures of their Gifts for Peace.

#### **Editorial and translation**

Helen Burgess  
Mark A. Clayton  
Andrew Corrie  
John Geoghegan  
Nicola Gooderson  
David McAdam  
Hany Abdul Monem  
Mathieu Pouret  
Rania Taher  
David Wanstall  
Anne Whiteford

#### **French edition**

Jacqueline Paschoud  
Chantal Payot  
David Wanstall  
Saïd Zian

#### **Design and Production**

Mark A. Clayton  
Nicola Gooderson  
Colm Kavanagh  
Anna-Maria Vignuda

#### **Photographs\***

Yoshi Shimizu  
[www.yoshi-shimizu.com](http://www.yoshi-shimizu.com)  
\*all photos with featured stories

Copyright 2008  
World Scout Foundation, and  
the World Scout Bureau, Inc.  
Geneva, Switzerland  
All rights reserved



World Scout Foundation  
1 rue de la Navigation, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland  
P.O. Box 2116, 1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland  
Tel: (41 22) 705 10 90 - Fax: (+41 22) 705 10 99  
worldfoundation@world.scout.org

[www.scout.org/foundation](http://www.scout.org/foundation)



World Scout Bureau  
5 rue du Pré-Jérôme, 1205 Geneva, Switzerland  
P.O.Box 91, 1211 Geneva 4 Plainpalais, Switzerland  
Tel: (41 22) 705 10 10 - Fax: (41 22) 705 10 20  
worldbureau@scout.org

[www.scout.org](http://www.scout.org)