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SCOUTS OF THE WORLD AWARD PROGRAMME GUIDELINES



SCOUTS
Creating a Better World

Youth Programme



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Creating a Better World

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Youth Program
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Programme Guidelines
Scouts of the World Award

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Third Edition, October 2015

This document is primarily addressed to young people wishing to pursue the Scouts of the World Award. It gives guidelines on what the programme is and how it works. An Implementation Manual addressed to National Scout Organizations (and Associations) complements these Guidelines and explains how the Scouts of the World Award Programme can be implemented as an element of the Senior Sections Programme. To seek further support, share feedback, and ask questions related to the Scouts of the World Award Programme, contact the World Scout Bureau at educationalmethods@scout.org

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SCOUTS OF THE WORLD AWARD PROGRAMME GUIDELINES



"THE REAL WAY TO GET HAPPINESS IS
BY GIVING OUT HAPPINESS TO OTHER
PEOPLE. TRY AND LEAVE THIS WORLD
A LITTLE BETTER THAN YOU FOUND
IT."

~ ROBERT BADEN-POWELL, LAST
MESSAGE (1941)



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“MY BELIEF IS THAT WE WERE PUT
IN THIS WORLD OF WONDERS AND
BEAUTY WITH A SPECIAL ABILITY TO
APPRECIATE THEM, IN SOME CASES
TO HAVE THE FUN OF TAKING A HAND
IN DEVELOPING THEM, AND ALSO IN
BEING ABLE TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE
INSTEAD OF OVERREACHING THEM AND,
THROUGH IT ALL TO ENJOY LIFE –
THAT IS, TO BE HAPPY.”

BADEN-POWELL



The Scouts of the World Award challenges all young people, Scouts and non-Scouts, to think about global issues and act upon them in their local community. It is the only award for young people provided by World Scouting. As part of the learning experience, you can gain the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to help solve global issues at local level. The award requires a commitment from you to make your community a better place. On completion, you will be part of a network that provides inspiration to others to take action.



“TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW YOU WILL BE MORE DISAPPOINTED BY THE THINGS YOU DIDN’T DO THAN BY THE ONES YOU DID DO. SO THROW OFF THE BOWLINES. SAIL AWAY FROM THE SAFE HARBOR. CATCH THE TRADE WINDS IN YOUR SAILS. EXPLORE. DREAM. DISCOVER.”

MARK TWAIN



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Introduction

Many successful efforts have been made to integrate international solidarity, peace, environmental, and sustainable development educations into our Scout programmes. We are actively and constructively working to Create a Better World. However, these efforts need to be intensified.

When the United Nations (UN) and Scouting work together

In September 2000, building on a decade of major UN conferences and summits, world leaders came together at the UN Headquarters in New York to adopt the United Nations Millennium Declaration. This declaration committed their nations to a new global partnership intended to reduce extreme poverty. It set out a series of eight, time-bound targets – the millennium development goals (MDGs) – with a deadline of 2015. The MDGs form a blueprint agreed to by all the world’s countries and all the world’s leading development institutions.

The Millennium Declaration refers to six universal values that are also those of Scouting: freedom, equality (of individuals and nations), solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature, and shared responsibility. In 2004, appreciative of its partnership with the UN, the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) signed an agreement with the UN to contribute actively to the MDG campaign. The Scouts of the World Award (SW Award) was launched to encourage thousands of Scouts and non-Scouts to adopt world citizenship. It offers an educational framework to understand a global challenge and run a voluntary service, long-term development project to act on this challenge at local level. While the purpose of the award fundamentally remains educational, it also seeks to impact society. We will constantly monitor the new, post-2015 UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) and continuously aim to actively address them year after year along with other local and international developmental goals.

For more information on the UN-WOSM partnership, have a look at scout.org/un

Fields for Action

From the MDGs, WOSM chose three areas to focus on with the SW Award: development, peace, and the environment. These three fields for action frame the projects run by Scouts and non-Scouts pursuing the SW Award.

Development – change, growth, or improvement over a period of time.

Today, the concept of a development approach tends to over-emphasise short-term priorities at the expense of the long-term development of communities and countries. Health, education, respect for human rights, and the sustainable use of natural resources are as important as economic growth when it comes to development matters. World citizens must work together to solve issues arising in these fields. (More complementary resources on development issues are available p.33)

Peace – a situation in which there is no war between countries or groups.

So much can and must be done to build a culture of peace, to fight against prejudices and racism, to mediate tense situations and resolve conflict, to promote intercultural understanding, and to create dialogue. As world citizens, Scouts and non-Scouts can take action for peace in their communities and abroad. (More complementary resources on peace issues are available p.33)

Environment – the natural world including land, water, air, plants, and animals especially considered as something that is affected by human activity.

Climate change is expected to hit developing countries the hardest. Its effects are rising temperatures, changes in precipitation patterns, rising sea levels, and more frequent weather-related disasters. Addressing climate change requires unprecedented global cooperation across borders. (More complementary resources on environmental issues are available p.33)

When addressing these challenges, social, economic, political, environmental, technological, and cultural trends have to be taken into account. Educational values have also changed. No educational programme focusing exclusively on national history and culture can claim to prepare young people to play an active role in an increasingly interdependent world. No educational programme based on competition and individualism can claim to prepare young people for the cooperative efforts needed to tackle global issues. Scouting should prepare you to face these challenges.

Did you know...

Global food production is generally adequate to meet human nutritional needs, but problems with distribution and waste mean that some 800 million people remain undernourished. In general, without a transition to more resource-efficient and less toxic farming methods, it will be difficult to meet world food needs in the future without increasing agriculture's environmental burden.

Global energy use, which has increased nearly 70% since 1971, is projected to increase at more than 2% annually.

Acid rain is a growing problem in Asia, with sulphur dioxide emissions expected to triple if current trends continue.

About one-half of the forests that covered the Earth are gone. Each year, another 16 million hectares disappear. The World Resources Institute estimates that only about 22% of the world's (old growth) original forest cover remains 'intact' - most of this is in three large areas: the Canadian and Alaskan boreal forest, the boreal forest of Russia, and the tropical forest of the northwestern Amazon Basin and the Guyana Shield.



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Scouts of the World Award Programme

Who is it for?

The SW Award is designed for you, if you are between the age of 15 and 26, regardless of whether or not you are a Scout. This is the age range in which you are preparing to carry out adult roles and find your place in society. The programme offers you the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills, and values needed to become a world citizen: someone who can play an active role in making the world a better place, starting with your local community.

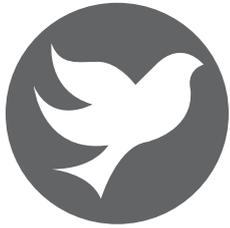
What are the aims of the SW Award Programme?

- To encourage your stronger involvement in the development of society by giving you the knowledge, skills, motivation, and opportunities to face today's global challenges.
- To recognise and promote your voluntary service project in the fields of development, peace, and the environment. These take the form of long-term development projects (with a long-term vision) run individually or by a team.
- To encourage National Scout Organizations (NSOs) to develop more educational opportunities to become world citizens. These initiatives will open up new fields of action and provide genuine responsibility, through partnerships with other key players in civil society. They will reinforce community service and international cooperation.

How does it work?

The SW Award Programme is simple and flexible with a clear educational process.

1. First, you need to contact your NSO SW Award National Coordinator who will help you start to explore one or more of the global challenges facing today's world. These challenges relate to one or more of the fields for action: development, peace, and/or the environment. This initial phase of exploration – **SW Award Discovery** – lasts for a few days. It will usually be conducted on an SW Award Base or another appropriate site with a team of other young people. At the end of the SW Discovery, you will have begun to explore the challenges and will have started to draft your project to tackle the issue(s) at stake in your chosen community.
2. After completing the SW Discovery, you will be given an SW Award Passport to keep track of the work you are doing. You will then further plan and run the **SW Award Voluntary Service** you started planning during the SW Discovery. Your project may evolve and change over its planning process, so the first draft you made during your Discovery is not binding. This project usually lasts around two weeks (a minimum of 80 working hours).
3. Once your project is done, you will first evaluate it alone (or as part of a team) and then with the SW Award Tutor (a member of the SW Award Team who followed your project from the beginning).
4. If your experience fits the criteria set for the **SW Award**, the SW Award National Coordinator will grant you membership of the **SW Award Network**. You will need to submit a brief report on your project to the SW Award Network on scout.org
5. Finally, on joining the Network, you will now be awarded the SW Award. You will receive the SW Award badge and/or pin and the SW Award certificate. You can also continue to contribute further to the development of the SW Award Programme and its causes. Congrats!



Now that you understand where the SW Award Programme comes from, its goals and its components, we will explain each stage of the educational process in more detail. We will also have a look at the structures that support its implementation.

"THE AIM OF DEVELOPMENT IS THE COMPLETE FULFILMENT OF MAN, IN ALL THE RICHNESS OF HIS OR HER PERSONALITY, THE COMPLEXITY OF HIS OR HER FORMS OF EXPRESSION AND HIS OR HER VARIOUS COMMITMENTS - AS INDIVIDUAL, MEMBER OF A FAMILY AND OF A COMMUNITY, CITIZEN AND PRODUCER, INVENTOR OF TECHNIQUES AND CREATIVE DREAMER."

"LEARNING: THE TREASURE WITHIN", REPORT TO UNESCO OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON EDUCATION FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, 1996.



The Scouts of the World Award

The SW Award consists of three components:

1. The SW Award Discovery (Exploring and Responding)
2. The SW Award Voluntary Service (Taking Action)
3. The SW Award Network (Just the Beginning)

The SW Award is granted to individuals who have successfully accomplished an SW Discovery, an SW Voluntary Service, and joined the SW Award Network.

Did you know...

According to the 2014 WOSM census, the Senior Sections (Venturers and Rovers) together reached a membership of about 5 million young people. Can you imagine what the impact of our Movement could be if only 10% of that membership 500,000 would leave Scouting every year with the capacity and the desire to be active and responsible citizens of the world? Every year, a new wave of 500,000 young people would join their elders in promoting development projects in our communities. This new wave would represent 500,000 new ambassadors of international understanding, solidarity, and citizenship. In the years to come, Scouting's credibility as a non-formal educational movement will depend on its capacity to bring forth from its ranks tens of thousands of young men and women with the knowledge, skills, and motivation to play an active role in society. They will bring about change at local, national, and world level in order to create a more open, fair, peaceful, and environmentally sustainable society. This is the vision of the SW Award. And you can be part of it.

The SW Award Discovery

The SW Discovery is the first stage in the process of the SW Award Programme. It will give you an opportunity to explore and discover an issue faced by your local community. This issue must be related to a challenge faced globally. It may be related to one or more areas: development and/or peace and/or the environment. Once you understand the challenge, you can respond to what you have discovered. You then research and see how it impacts you and your community. Finally, once you've acquired the relevant skills during our training workshops, you can start planning a service project designed to address this challenge. The SW Discovery is an adventure that lasts a few days (a minimum of 21 working hours).

Objectives

At the end of an SW Discovery, you will have:

- Become familiar with the stages of the SW Award Programme (Discovery > Voluntary Service > Network > Award).
- Actively understood the entire context of a local situation where a community is facing issues related to development, peace, and/or the environment.
- Developed a feeling of empathy and personal commitment regarding these issues.
- Set up a personal plan of action in order to play an efficient role in increasing awareness and helping communities facing such issues.
- Started to plan your service project (SW Voluntary Service).

Layout

An SW Discovery lasts a few days (a minimum of 21 working hours). It focuses on one or several issues related to development, peace, and/or the environment. Here are some examples of what you might encounter:

Exploring

In the first step of the SW Discovery, you will explore a specific issue related to development, peace and/or the environment. By interacting with the local community you will begin to understand its complexities. The question you will try to answer is: What is this about? Here are a few examples:

- **Development:** Visit a slum. Observe the poor living conditions and interact with the community.
- **Peace:** Meet a community suffering from prejudice and racism. Discuss with the elders how this affects the community.
- **Environment:** Hike in a forest threatened by pollution or deforestation with a ranger who can educate you further.

Responding

In the second step of the SW Discovery, you will respond to what you have experienced during the exploration phase. You will then process all the collected information, and digest, debate, and understand the causes and the consequences of the issue at stake. Then, you will be able to respond and develop your answer(s) based on a feeling of personal commitment towards the issue. The question at stake is now: What does it mean for me?

Even if it is recommended to observe the objectives and the structures of the programme, your NSO is free to adapt the programme and the sessions to its own situation. An SW Discovery can be longer and vary according to the habits of your NSO, and the objectives it has set.





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Some examples of what your NSO might include in its SW Discovery:

- Welcome and ice-breaker games
- An opportunity to explore your specifically chosen subject with an expert in the field
- Skills workshops
- An exhibition to show each other what has been learnt
- Personal plans and evaluations to reflect on the SW Discovery phase.

In terms of resources, an SW Discovery can take place on an SW Award Base – a place where you can join an SW Discovery – or another appropriate site. There are permanent bases and temporary bases set up for specific events targeting young people aged 15–26. All SW Award Bases are run by NSOs. SW Discoveries do not only involve trainers, they also involve community leaders and/or experts on the issues discovered. The Implementation Manual addressed to NSOs is much more complete regarding these matters. You will find more information also on SW Award Bases on p.23.

Summary

- Attend an SW Discovery, which can take place in a registered permanent or temporary SW Award Base or another appropriate site.
- Validate your SW Discovery by achieving the objectives described earlier and having these achievements assessed.
- Use your SW Award Passport to keep record of your experiences in preparing for the SW Award. Completing the passport stages will lead you towards the SW Award itself.



The SW Voluntary Service

You have completed your SW Discovery. Now you need to do a period of voluntary service in order to contribute to solving a problem related to development, peace, or the environment. An SW Voluntary Service is a period of personal commitment where you develop a long-term (a minimum of 80 working hours) community project. This voluntary service should be developed in a field of action corresponding to the main theme of the SW Discovery which you have followed. While your project will most certainly address a specific local issue, bear in mind that you are contributing to tackling a global challenge.

Objectives

An SW Voluntary Service is meant to:

- Transform your commitment into action moving towards active world citizenship.
- Reinforce your project management skills as well as your knowledge of project dynamics.
- Contribute to solving a specific issue related to development, peace, or the environment while increasing the awareness of the local community regarding this issue.
- Create an opportunity for Scouting to reinforce its capacity as a social agent, as well as to develop its partnerships with other organisations and community leaders.

Layout

Your SW Voluntary Service will focus on the project that you have started to plan at the end of your SW Discovery (or related to what you have already drafted). If you have changed your mind, it should remain close to the issues you have discovered anyway. It can take place in your home country or abroad. Its duration usually lasts around two weeks (a minimum of 80 working hours). This duration is thought to be the minimum time required for the SW Voluntary Service to bear fruit, both in terms of impact on the field and in terms of a learning experience for you. If you are short on time or your project doesn't require 80 hours, then discuss this with the adult leader accompanying you throughout the SW Award process. At the end of the day, what matters is that it remains a significant project with a significant commitment from you.

An SW Voluntary Service can take two forms:

1. Planning and implementing a project with a team of friends.
 Example: A team of Rovers develops a campaign in their university to prevent drug abuse.
2. Working to support an existing project launched by the Scout Movement or another organization.
 Example: A sub-project with our partner UNESCO World Heritage within one of the designated projects by World Heritage Volunteers.

In terms of preparation, it is recommended that start to prepare your SW Voluntary Service at the end of your SW Discovery. You will most certainly need time to plan your project before being able to run it. This is especially true if you work within a team on a new project. Take whatever time you need to develop your project, to communicate it, and, if necessary, to raise the funds you need to carry it out. The knowledge and skills needed to do this planning work are similar to those needed for any other project:

These Guidelines are not a Project Management Toolkit. A lot of resources on project management already exist in and outside Scouting. Have a look at the complementary resources on p.34 if you want some more information.



Summary

To be recognised as an SW Voluntary Service, a service project should respect the following criteria:

A voluntary action commitment

This implies that you have made the decision to run this project without influence and without receiving any remuneration except for the reimbursement of your potential travel costs and accommodation and food expenditure from donor.

A concrete and individual action

The passive accompaniment of a team during a project is not recognised as a voluntary service. An active and responsible contribution is required. Your SW Voluntary Service must determine that you have shown initiative, taken on responsibilities, and made a regular commitment over a substantial period of time.

A project that fits into the Scouts of the World educational process

Your project should be in line with the SW Award Programme and these Guidelines. For instance, your project should ideally tackle the same issue addressed during your SW Discovery. You cannot participate in an SW Discovery focusing on peace matters and then afterwards run an SW Voluntary Service focusing on a strictly environmental issue.

A significant duration

Usually, your voluntary service will correspond to a period of two weeks (a minimum of 80 working hours). If this is not possible, this period can be served in one stretch or in several bursts. For example: working fulltime for two weeks or for seven full weekends over a period of 2–3 months. Depending on your project and your availability, this period of commitment remains flexible.



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A real service to the community

Your voluntary service should really be a community service (i.e., an action for the benefit of a community). An SW Voluntary Service cannot be a period of work motivated by private interests, such as being an intern in a company. Moreover, bear in mind that your project should be a long-term and sustainable one. Ensuring some sort of follow-up once you have left the project is very important. To this extent, follow-up can be done via the SW Award Network, via other awardees looking for their own SW Voluntary Service, or the work of a partner organisation with which you developed your own project.

Make a difference

Your voluntary service should contribute to making a difference in the field of development, peace, or the environment. It should aim at a real positive effect for improving the conditions of life of a community or for preventing a threat. Here again, follow-up matters.

A training experience

Your voluntary service should be an opportunity for developing/implementing personal skills. The evaluation of your voluntary service should show that you have acquired a new capacity to serve the community. This could be in terms of knowledge and/or skills and/or attitudes, motivations and values. You could say that the SW Award adventure is first and foremost an educational one, not a humanitarian one.

These criteria will be used to evaluate your SW Voluntary Service as well. However, NSOs may add more elements to the evaluation when appropriate. Your voluntary service will be evaluated on the basis of a detailed report made by you, accompanied by a testimony from those who have benefited from your action (community leaders or NGO leaders).

If all these criteria are met, your SW Award Passport will be signed by your SW Award Programme Coordinator (or the SW Award Base Director, the SW Award accompanying adult leader, or an NSO official) at the end of your SW Voluntary Service. To get the SW Award, it is necessary to successfully complete an SW Discovery and an SW Voluntary Service, and then to join the SW Award Network.

Did you know ...

Rovers from Australia travelled to East Timor. They had identified that a local primary school in the capital, Dili, needed a sanitation block. They got in contact with local contractors and won a tender to start building in conjunction with the local Timorese Rovers. Today they continue this project with their support of the 'Dollars for Dili' campaign.

In conjunction with the World Wide Fund for Nature – Malaysia (WWF-Malaysia) Rovers from Singapore identified a need to focus on turtle conservation. By visiting the breeding grounds in Terengganu Setiu in Malaysia they were able to give first-hand help and also create awareness of the importance of Wildlife conservation between local and Scouting communities involved. They send Rovers to Malaysia each year to continue this work.

“AN INDIVIDUAL HAS NOT STARTED LIVING UNTIL HE CAN RISE ABOVE THE NARROW CONFINES OF HIS INDIVIDUALISTIC CONCERNS TO THE BROADER CONCERNS OF ALL HUMANITY.”

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



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The SW Award Network

Once you have finished the SW Discovery and the SW Voluntary Service, you need to report on your project so you can join the SW Award Network. And that’s just the beginning. You can then be part of a network of young people committed to making a difference in their local, national, and international communities. How empowering is that? Only together can we be the change we want to see in the world. Together with Messengers of Peace and the World Scout Environment Programmes, we can make a difference. The SW Award Network, will put you in touch with hundreds of people sharing the same energy. Through this network, you will further discover the global dimension of the Scout Movement.

Objectives

Like any other network, the SW Award Network will work if it is useful. Its usefulness remains its key objective. The objectives of the SW Award Network can be divided into two different categories of focus: an SW Award Programme focus and a Better World focus. The potential scope of actions initiated through the Network cannot be exhaustively presented in any document.

An SW Award Programme focus

Every member of the SW Award Network has received or will receive the SW Award through a process of discovery and voluntary service addressing an issue related to development, peace, and/or the environment. To give back to the programme, the SW Award Network is also meant to explicitly strengthen the SW Award Programme. For instance, SW Award Network members can:

- Encourage and support young people willing to embark on the SW Award journey.
- Become tutors or trainers in SW Discoveries.
- Create or support an SW Award Base in order to run SW Discoveries, provide young people with opportunities for SW Voluntary Services, build partnerships with other NSOs, and deliver SW Awards.
- Ensure the follow-up of SW Voluntary Services once the awardees finish their mission.

A Better World focus

Every member of the SW Award Network has actively been through a programme aimed at educating towards world citizenship. Being a world citizen does not mean running one single project and that’s it. The SW Award Network is a place where new projects can be initiated; a place where awardees can continue being involved.



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For instance, the SW Award Network can:

- Encourage and run projects in the fields of development, peace, and the environment and support the UN post-2015 agenda and SDG campaigns. These projects might be carried out by Scout organisations or not.
- Build and support partnerships with specialised NGOs in order to increase the expertise of the Scout Movement in the fields of development, peace, and the environment.
- Develop friendship and solidarity among all Scouts and young people around the world while encouraging support between SW Award Network members and others.

Layout

To become a member of the SW Award Network, you must have completed the SW Discovery and an SW Voluntary Service. You can then join the Network by creating an account on scout.org and report the details of your project to WOSM. After that you can join the Scouts of the World Award - Network (Official Group) Facebook group. It is a closed Facebook group addressed to awardees only. Your SW Award Programme Coordinator can add you to this closed group. To aid communication, there is a Facebook page that is open to everyone so they can be kept up to date with the programme.

The SW Award Network requires energy to remain alive and active. NSOs are strongly encouraged to incentivise its activities, support partnership opportunities, and give substance to the awardees by proposing projects ideas. The SW Award Network can be utilised to run long-term development projects or do some follow-up of past SW Voluntary Services.

Summary

The SW Award Network is open to young people who have obtained the SW Award. While its scope of action is very large, its contributions should remain closely linked to the SW Award Programme or to issues related to development, peace, and the environment. The objectives presented above might help. Members of the SW Award Network should not consider themselves an elite but as agents at the beginning of their journey to contributing to building a better world.



The SW Award

Once you have completed both an SW Discovery and an SW Voluntary Service and joined the Network, you may now receive the SW Award. Congratulations! It is the only award by WOSM for young people! This challenging award acknowledges your efforts and your learning experience. It also recognises you as an active world citizen capable of understanding global challenges and contributing locally to the improvement of our world. Think global, act local! You now know what it takes to act for development, peace, and the environment. You will continue caring and taking action to create a better world.

To grant you the SW Award, the team in charge of evaluating your overall SW experience will assess the following general criteria:

- Your personal involvement in the SW Discovery and your SW Voluntary Service.
- Your ability to analyse issues of development, peace, or environment; and the challenges they represent for the future of society at local, national, and world level.
- The knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values you have acquired as well as your state of preparation to continue to work on development, peace, or environmental matters.
- Your motivation to make a difference in serving the community and in contributing to making the world a better place.

They will most certainly base their evaluation on your SW Award Passport, reports you may have written, and/or testimonies from people who worked with you during the process (trainers, community and NGO leaders, Scouts, etc.). Do not worry. The SW Award remains very achievable as long as you follow the process. Moreover, the main outcome we are trying to reach with the SW Award is to give you an opportunity to be an active world citizen. At the end of the day, this is the only definition that is important.



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The SW Award Badge and Logo Description

SW Award Badge

The World Scout Emblem is a symbol of belonging to the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). It consists of a field of royal purple bearing the white fleur-de-lys surrounded by a white rope in a circle and a central reef knot at the bottom. It is an essential element of the brand identity of the Scout Movement. The World Scout Emblem has been included in the design of the SW Award Badge because this Award is recognized at world level and endorsed by WOSM. The World Scout Emblem is an international registered trademark and its legal use and reproduction is strictly controlled. The Scouts of the World Award is therefore also subject to the same conditions of non-commercial and commercial use. All enquiries should be addressed to the World Scout Bureau.

The three red circles that surround the World Scout Emblem represent the three areas of action of the SW Award: development, peace, and the environment. These three fields of action frame the projects run by Scouts and non-Scouts pursuing the SW Award.

Development – change, growth, or improvement over a period of time – is represented by the Vesica Pisces. Two equal-sized circles are drawn so that the circumference of each penetrates the centre point of the other. The Vesica Pisces is the almond-shaped area where the two overlap. It is a geometrical description of harmonic proportions and the basis of the flower of life.

Peace – a situation in which there is no war between countries or groups – is represented by a dove. A white dove is used in a variety of settings as a symbol of love and peace or as a messenger.

Environment – the natural world, including land, water, air, plants, and animals – especially considered as something that is affected by human activity – is represented by a tree branch. It is a universal symbol of the environment and can be recognised and associated with little or no explanation.

The world map, as the background of the badge, represents the actions that young people are taking worldwide in the three chosen fields as part of their SW Award. It also represents that this award is world-recognised, the highest award that a Scout can receive.

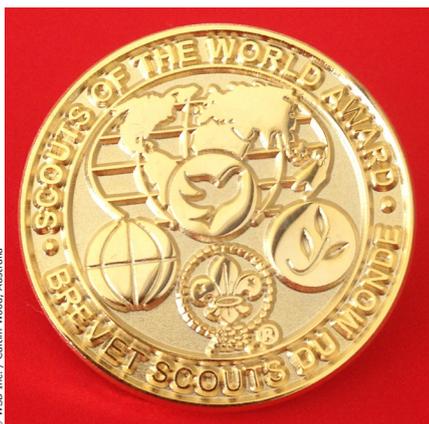
Around the edge of the badge is the additional element of the name of the SW Award Programme in both official languages: English and French. There are other variations of languages that can be applied. Please contact educationalmethods@scout.org to have it adapted to your language.

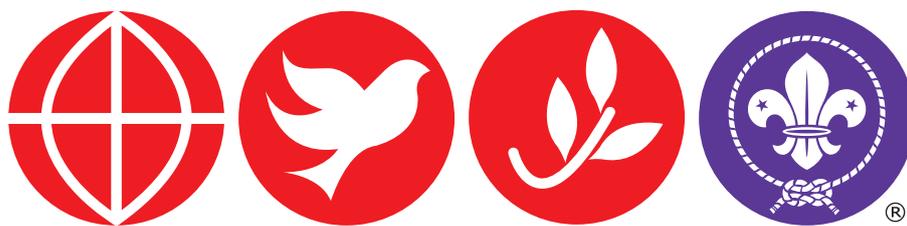
SW Award Pin

This badge has also been adapted into a gold pin for Awardees to wear if they are not a Scout or want to continue wearing the award on a different uniform when they become a leader or move on from Scouting.

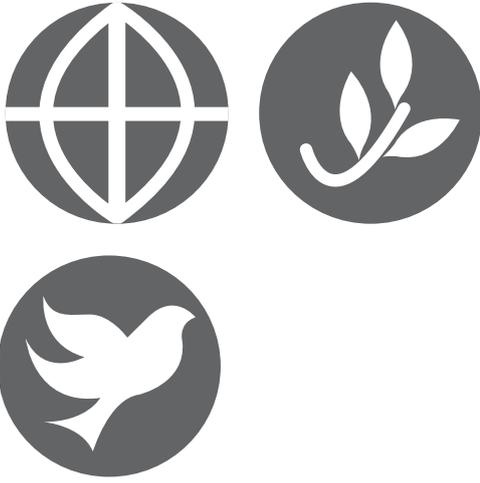
SW Award Logo

The logo depicts the three elements of the SW Award – development, peace and the environment – and the World Scout Emblem equally in one row. Below is the word Scouts with the additional element of the name of the SW Award Programme in both official languages: English and French.





scouts
of the world - du monde



SW AWARD PROJECT - PEACE

Rafael Carvalho Simões, a Portugal Scout, completed a team project called Monitoring of older people living alone for his SW Award.

The project aimed to combat social exclusion and loneliness of old age by meeting with the elderly, and helping them in whatever way necessary, for example, cleaning the house or going shopping with them. Along with this, they would attend the Eucharist every Saturday at the Hospital John Chrysostom. There they met with patients (mostly elderly), and also spent time with them, playing music to some, talking and listening to others.

During this volunteer activity, they had many experiences that were not always easy. Unfortunately when they were volunteering, two people died in the hospital. This project took time, and they were all busy with their student lives and part-time jobs, but it was worth taking a little time to be with these people who thought themselves alone, with no one to talk to, no one to tell their life stories, or share their experience in more complicated times. Rafael intends to continue this project, even though it is over.

He had this to say: "During the two years we worked on this project, we all grew as people, as Scouts, and it was and is a spectacular experience. The SW Award not only teaches you how to serve, it also teaches you how to grow."



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“THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN LIFE IS NOT TO CAPITALISE ON YOUR SUCCESSES; ANY FOOL CAN DO THAT. THE REALLY IMPORTANT THING IS TO PROFIT FROM YOUR MISTAKES.”

WILLIAM BOLITHO



Support Structures

The SW Award Programme is easy to integrate within an existing Senior Age Section(s) Programme. However, a few support structures still need to be developed. More details on these structures can be found in the Implementation Manual.

SW Award Bases

SW Award Bases are where SW Discoveries take place and continuous support of the SW Award Programme happens. There is extreme flexibility when it comes to developing them; they can take a lot of different shapes and should rely on what already exists.

What are SW Award Bases?

SW Award Bases are committed to

1. Promoting the SW Award Programme and its award.
2. Organising SW Discoveries.
3. Offering opportunities for SW Voluntary Services.
4. Organising exchanges with other SW Award Bases in order to swap ideas and experiences. They can develop youth exchanges as well, given their capacity to receive young people from other regions or other countries and to send young people to other SW Award Bases.
5. Granting the SW Award.

The SW Award contributes to achieving world citizenship. Thanks to the international network of SW Award Bases, you could have the opportunity to attend an SW Discovery and do your SW Voluntary Service in two different countries or communities.

There are two different styles of SW Award Bases:

Permanent SW Award Bases

Around the world, there are thousands of Scout centres and campsites. Ideally centres and campsites can become permanent SW Award Bases provided that they are located not too far from a place where some communities are facing problems related to development, peace, or the environment. This way, they are able to organise SW Discoveries. The main advantage of such permanent SW Award Bases is that they are generally well-equipped and experienced.

Temporary SW Award Bases

Temporary SW Award Bases may also be created during international, national, or local events targeting young people aged 15 to 26. Senior Scouts involved in local community projects may also share their experiences with other young people by creating an SW Award Base.



SW Award Voluntary Service Example

In Geneva, Switzerland, Rovers became aware large number of homeless people. They converted an old bus into a mobile restaurant and several nights a week they go around the city to deliver food and comfort to people in need. These Rovers could invite young people from other cities or countries to share their experience for a few days and organise an SW Discovery or an SW Voluntary Service for/with them. This project working with homeless people could become an SW Award Base.



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SW Award Partnerships

The SW Award Partnership is further detailed in the Implementation Manual, but we shall give you a brief explanation of what it is and what it does. As a matter of fact, it is very relevant to know about its development when pursuing the SW Award.

What is SW Award Partnership?

The SW Award Partnership is a network of organisations willing to help each other in implementing the SW Award Programme. Each NSO is free to develop partnerships with other NSOs or another non-Scout institution that can help in the process. The management of the SW Award Partnership is not top-down; it grows from initiatives taken by NSOs. The World Scout Bureau helps in establishing contacts and reaching agreements if necessary. In this regard, WOSM currently has strong partnerships with the Duke of Edinburgh Award and UNESCO's World Heritage Section. More partnerships may develop in the future. Refer to SW Award pages on scout.org to find more information.

The SW Award Partnership has the following mission:

- Facilitate contacts and exchanges of experiences and resources between NSOs engaged in the SW Award Programme.
- Organise cooperation and exchanges between the various SW Award Bases in order to provide you, the young person with a broader range of SW Discoveries and SW Voluntary Services.
- Support the SW Award Network at international level.

What does the SW Award Partnership do?

The SW Award Partnership can cover various topics, including exchanging ideas and resources on the SW Award Programme, exchanging trainers, twinning SW Award Bases, organising youth exchanges, developing partnerships with specialised NGOs and governmental agencies working on the UN post-2015 agenda and SDGs, as well as helping each other in fundraising efforts.

Developing Partnerships to benefit all

The Arab Scout Region and the Africa Scout Region have strong partnerships with UNICEF and UNAIDS, among others, on the prevention of HIV/AIDS. In these regions, Scouting is considered by these agencies to be a reliable and effective partner. Many NSOs from Europe, Eurasia, or Asia-Pacific Scout Regions could be more active on HIV/AIDS prevention. However, in these regions, UN agencies or specialised NGOs often do not believe that Scouting could accomplish something in this area. Sharing information on projects and partnerships could help the Scout Movement to acquire more credibility all over the world. The SW Award Partnership can help achieve this result.

Better World Framework through World Scout Programmes

The Scout Movement has a commitment to 'creating a better world'. This is literally community involvement through Scouting. So society benefits from the Scout Movement by empowering young people as responsible and committed citizens. Scouting should identify opportunities, both within Scouting itself and externally, for young people and adult volunteers to be active in society.

WOSM has worked for many years on finding possible tools that could enhance possibilities for young people to contribute to the positive development of their communities, including opportunities for volunteering, internships, community service, and partnership projects with other NGOs. At a certain point in Scouting history, it became clear that we needed to work on something more appealing for young people to contribute to community development. It was finally found in the World Scout Programmes: the Scouts of the World Award, the World Scout Environment Programme, and Messengers of Peace.

The purpose of this section is to highlight the link between these programmes to the big idea of creating a better world. The three World Scout Programmes aim to motivate the active citizen inside all young people, Scout or non-Scout, and inspire them to action. This is how World Scout Programmes are working together in a general framework to create a better world in a global network of service, just as BP envisioned in the early days of the Movement.

To show how all three programmes are benefiting from each other, you could do one single project that jointly recognises one or more of the programmes using the criteria of each programme as a guideline. The World Scout Programmes are like a basket of fruit; you may prefer to eat one favourite kind of fruit, or you may like to eat all different kinds ... it is up to you.

For more information on the other World Scout Programmes and the Better World Framework, please go to scout.org.



“LIFE IS LIKE A TAXI. THE METER
JUST KEEPS TICKING WHETHER YOU
ARE GETTING SOMEWHERE OR JUST
STANDING STILL.”

LOU ERICKSON



© WSB Inc. / Alison Millward, Scouts Australia

Implementing the SW Award Programme

These Guidelines are primarily addressed to young people aged 15–26 who are in the process of pursuing the SW Award. It details what the programme is and how it works, and more information can be found in the Implementation Manual.⁸ The Implementation Manual is addressed to national officers and people in charge of the SW Award Programme. It is more detailed and forms a framework for NSOs to adapt the programme nationally.

Do not hesitate to contact the World Scout Bureau with questions or comments regarding this publication. Any ideas to improve them further are very welcome. As our world changes quickly, they will be updated regularly to remain relevant. (Contact: educationalmethods@scout.org).

In the meantime, bear in mind that these Guidelines are meant to remain broad enough for everyone. The SW Award Programme should also be adapted by your NSO to your specific situation, and integrated accordingly into your programmes. We encourage you to make good use of the SW Award Partnership as well as the SW Award Network.



SW AWARD PROJECT-ENVIRONMENT

The Save Our Shores project was the first Scout of the World Voluntary Service in Malaysia and fully conducted by Rover Scouts from Penang State, Malaysia.

The project aimed to plant more mangrove trees to increase and strengthen the existing mangrove forest, to clean out the rubbish trapped inside the forest, and to assist the Penang Inland Fisherman Welfare Association (PIFWA) in collecting data from the activities performed for their studies and analysis. Besides hands-on work, this project also

involved young Scouts (Pengakap Muda & Pengakap Ramaja) to expose them to the importance of conserving the mangrove forest and experience tree planting.

A total of 1200 mangrove trees were planted through two major planting events and a few smaller ones. Both major planting events were supported by the Penang State Government and iM4U (Malaysia's Leading Youth Volunteer Community) and had full coverage in a local newspaper.

In future, the current Save Our Shores team members will cooperate with PIFWA to promote such activities both to the public and to private corporates to get their attention to continue support for mangrove forest conservation.





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Frequently asked Questions

Q. Why does the SW Award Programme advocate the notion of an 'Award'?

A. Adolescents and young adults need society to acknowledge their capabilities and competences. Granting a young person the SW Award is a way of showing that they have acquired the knowledge, skills, attitudes, motivations, and values needed to become a real world citizen. This, in turn, should be acknowledged by universities, private companies, social organizations, and public authorities.

Q. Doesn't the notion of an 'Award' imply competition or elitism?

A. No. The only competitive aspect of the SW Award is competition with oneself. All young people who join the programme and have experiences which meet the criteria explained in these Guidelines will receive the SW Award.

Q. Are Messengers of Peace and the World Scout Environment Programme competing with the SW Award Programme?

A. They are all linked because they are all World Programmes contributing to a Better World through a service dimension. But they don't compete with each other. However, the SW Award is unique because it embraces three fields of action (development, peace, and the environment); it has a strong element of world citizenship (discovering global issues and acting locally); it is the only Award proposed by World Scouting for young members of Scouting and non-Scouts (aged 15–26); and, finally, it is particularly strong in educational terms (with a complete project approach comprehending needs identification, project planning, partnerships, project implementation, evaluation, valorisation and networking, and acquisition of knowledge, skills and attitudes).

Q. Why is the SW Award reserved for young people aged 15–26?

A. Post-teenagers and young adults face the difficult challenge of preparing for their integration into adult life as active, responsible citizens. Nowadays, this means understanding the major international challenges that include fair and sustainable development, peace-building, and smart environmental management. In order to fulfil its mission, Scouting has to help young people to realise the importance of these issues and to identify opportunities open to them.

Q. If I start my SW Discovery when I'm 26 can I still complete my SW Voluntary Service after that and be awarded the SW Award?

A. No. You must have completed all parts of the SW Award and have all parts signed off before your 26th birthday. In some exceptional situations, the award ceremony may happen after your 26th birthday.

Q. Can I wear my SW Award badge on my Scout uniform after I am 26 years old?

A. This is a decision for the NSO to make according to the policy. We encourage that there should be an exception made as it is the only award WOSM offers to young people and it is something that they should be proud of.

Q. Do I need to pay for the SW Award badge and certificate?

A. This is a decision for the NSO to make. Please talk to your SW Award Coordinator for further details in relation to your NSO.

Q. Where does the SW Award badge go on my uniform?

A. This will depend on your NSO's Uniform policy. Please check with your NSO's SW Award National Coordinator if you are unsure of the placement.

Q. If I do my SW Discovery in one country and my SW Voluntary Service in another, which NSO will I receive my SW Award from?

A. It is up to the NSOs involved and to you. If both NSOs involved have adopted the SW Award then it would be up to you to decide if you have a preference and what the NSOs policy is. Sometimes, however, only one of the NSOs might have adopted the award and it would then have to be awarded by that NSO.

Q. Are the criteria for obtaining the SW Award realistic?

A. Currently, around the world, there are young people working on their SW Awards some are just 15 and others verging on 26. Experience during the last few years has shown that the SW Award is not only attractive to young people, but also that the quality of the projects they are running is indeed creating a better world. The project that you choose to complete is designed to challenge you and build on your skill level. The SW Award is designed to be adapted for you to reach your full potential not to eliminate you before you even begin.



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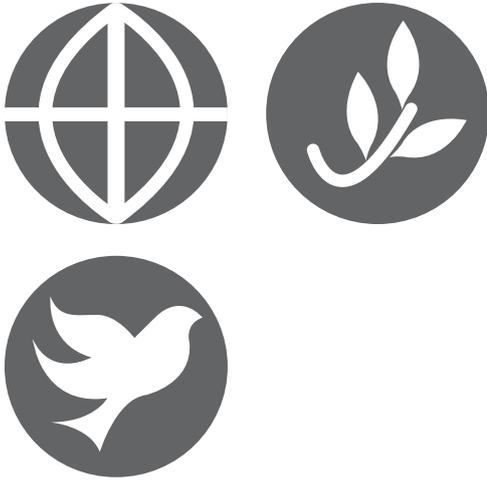
“THERE ARE ONLY TWO WAYS TO
LIVE YOUR LIFE. ONE IS AS
THOUGH NOTHING IS A MIRACLE.
THE OTHER IS AS THOUGH
EVERYTHING IS A MIRACLE.”

ALBERT EINSTEIN



© WSB, Inc. / Jean-Pierre Poutreau





SW AWARD PROJECT-DEVELOPMENT

Rebecca Churchill, a UK Scout, completed her SW Award team project in Bulera, Mityana, Uganda.

The aim of the project was to prevent flooding in the local school and improve the classrooms to create a better learning environment for the children, and to enable them attend school all year, and not just when they could access it.

Rebecca's team encouraged the local villagers, teachers, and children to help with the project, so they could take pride in what had been achieved and would

know how to fix any problems that might arise in the future. Nathan, a local builder with a wide range of building knowledge and who spoke English, helped with all the projects.

There were three main classrooms in a block which could not be used due to flooding in the rainy season. They initially had to prepare the rooms for the work they wanted to do by filling in numerous holes in the walls before they could start painting; the building was old and the children had been picking at the wall. They painted solidly for a

few days. Then the three classrooms were decorated according to the three themes they had decided on: the nursery rhyme – Hey Diddle Diddle; primary knowledge; and a Scouting theme, as the local Scout Group used the school as their Scout hut on Wednesday afternoons.



© WSB Inc. / Rebecca Churchill, UK Scout Association

“THE SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS WE
FACE CANNOT BE SOLVED AT THE
SAME LEVEL OF THINKING WE WERE
AT WHEN WE CREATED THEM.”

ALBERT EINSTEIN



Sources and Complementary Resources

Sources mentioned in the Guidelines

World Food Program website, 10 hunger facts for 2014 (December 2013)

www.wfp.org/stories/10-hunger-facts-2014

World Health Organization website, 10 facts on violence prevention (January 2014)

www.who.int/features/factfiles/violence/violence_facts/en

World Bank website, Data on Climate Change (2014)

www.data.worldbank.org/topic/climate-change

Water.org website, Water facts (2014)

www.water.org/water-crisis/water-facts/water

United Nations website, Information on the MDGs and Beyond 2015 (2014)

www.un.org/millenniumgoals/bkgd.shtml

United Nations website, Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform (2014)

www.sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300

United Nations, High-level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda website (2014)

www.post2015hlp.org

WOSM, Scouts of the World Award – Implementation Manual (2015)

www.scout.org/SWAwardManual

WOSM, SCENES Guidelines (April 2009)

www.scout.org/http%3A//issuu.com/worldscouting/docs/scenes_guidelines_en_col

“SCOUTING SEEKS TO BE RELEVANT TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE VARIOUS SOCIO-CULTURAL ENVIRONMENTS IN WHICH THEY GROW UP, AND TO CONTINUOUSLY ADJUST TO MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD. AS A MOVEMENT, THIS IS ONE OF OUR GREATEST CHALLENGES: CONTINUOUSLY ADJUSTING SO AS TO BE EVEN MORE RELEVANT TO YOUNG PEOPLE’S ASPIRATIONS AND NEEDS WHILE REMAINING FAITHFUL TO SCOUTING’S PURPOSE, PRINCIPLES AND METHOD.”



© WSB Inc. / Abdelrhman Sameh, Egypt Scouts

Complementary resources

On development issues:

www.un.org/en/sections/what-we-do/promote-sustainable-development/index.html

On peace issues:

www.un.org/en/sections/what-we-do/maintain-international-peace-and-security/index.html

On environmental issues:

www.unep.org/

On the UN post-2015 agenda and SDGs:

www.sustainabledevelopment.un.org

On project management:

www.projectmanagement.com/

On training:

www.managementhelp.org/training/





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Creating a Better World

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