



SW Bases

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A SW Base is a place where SW Discoveries and SW Voluntary Services can be organised. There are several ways in which to set up SW Bases, and National Scout Organizations can use all of them simultaneously and in a flexible way if they want to help as many young people as possible prepare and obtain the SW Award. Click on the map below to find the Scouts of the World Bases around the World!

How to use the map

- Click on the picture to open the map
- Double click on the map to Zoom-in
- Click and Drag the map to move
- Click any Icon to get Center description and link



[Scouts of the World Bases worldwide](#)

Permanent SW Bases

Many National Scout Organizations have large campsites or activity centres which can become permanent SW Bases provided that they are located not far from a place where some communities are facing problems related to environment, development or peace.

We can give some examples of existing Scout centres, which, according to their location, could easily become SW Bases, for example:

In Nairobi, Kenya, the Rowallan Scout centre, belonging to the Scout Association of Kenya, is located close to a very large shanty town where there are many street children. Kenyan Scouts have developed a very successful programme to work with street children. They have set up a dispensary and a training centre for street children in the Rowallan Scout centre and every year they invite Scouts from abroad (particularly British scouts) to come and support the street children programme. Therefore, the Rowallan Scout centre could immediately become a Scouts of the World Base; it is already in a position to organise on a regular basis SW Discoveries in the shanty town and voluntary services by inviting Rovers to come and work on the street children programme.

Temporary SW Bases

However, most of the time a National Scout Organization will not be able to set up more than 4 or 5 permanent SW Bases. This is not sufficient to allow a large number of young people to prepare and obtain the SW Award.

This is why it is necessary to complement the network of permanent SW Bases with temporary SW Bases.

A temporary SW Base can be opened for a limited period of time, during a specific operation. For example, near Marseilles, France, 'Scouts et Guides de France' organise every summer a large operation to prevent forest fires in Provence. Venture Scouts and Rovers from various countries are invited to camp there and take part in this operation in partnership with the 'Protection Civile' and firemen. A local centre, open every summer, is equipped to organise SW Discoveries in the Mediterranean forest environment and to provide Rovers with opportunities for voluntary services.

International Partnership and co-operation

The SW Award is aimed at helping young people to discover today's global issues and challenges and to acquire the motivation and skills to become citizens of the world. Therefore, it is essential that SW Bases develop partnerships and co-operation beyond the borders of their countries, in order to offer young people international experiences.

Thank to the international network of SW Bases, young people should have the opportunity to attend a SW Discovery and to do a SW Voluntary Service in another country or community.

Please refer to the SW Guidelines for more information on how to set up a SW Base.