



Scouting Is...

A global leading youth movement

MEETING REAL NEEDS

Scouts are involved in a vast number of issues facing the communities where they live. Scouts work with others in the community to achieve mutual objectives. They work with friends, neighbours, community leaders and other organisations. Many work on projects of bilateral cooperation between Scouts in developing and industrialised countries.

OPEN TO ALL

Scouting is open to all, regardless of race or creed, in accordance with the purpose, principles and method conceived by its founder Robert Baden-Powell.

FUN, WITH A PURPOSE

Through recreation, Scouting achieves its purpose to help young people develop physically, intellectually, socially and spiritually.

EDUCATION FOR LIFE

Scouting complements the school and the family, filling the needs not met by either. Scouting develops self-knowledge, the need to explore, to discover, to want to know. Scouts discover the world beyond the classroom, tapping the skills of others to learn, and passing that knowledge on to others.

Voluntary

Scouts and leaders must choose to join Scouting.

Non-partisan, Non-governmental

Scouting does not and must not represent any political party or organisation. Nonetheless, Scouts are encouraged to make a constructive contribution to their community, society and country.

Adult Involvement

- A chance to help young people.
- A way to improve the understanding between generations.
- In their service, adult leaders get valuable training and experience, adding to their personal development.

A MOVEMENT FOR YOUTH

Scouting is a Movement...on the move. Scouting is constantly evolving and adapting according to local conditions and serving according to local needs.

INTERNATIONAL

- There are recognised National Scout Organizations and branches in more than 156 countries.
- Scouting has never stopped growing since its founding in 1907.
- Today there are more than 28 million members- boys and girls.
- Scouting has doubled its membership in the last 20 years and much of its growth is in developing countries.

A METHOD

Making A Personal Commitment

- To a simple code of living: the Scout Promise and Law

Learning By Doing

- Active participation, with others.

Working In Small Groups

- In patrols to develop leadership, group skills, and individual responsibility.

Stimulating Programmes

- Progressive activities based on the interests of young people.
- Activities in contact with nature, a rich learning environment where simplicity, creativity, and discovery come together to provide adventure and challenge.

A CODE OF LIVING

A Spiritual Dimension

- A commitment to seek the spiritual value of life beyond the material world.

A Social Dimension

- Participating in the development of society, respecting the dignity of others and the integrity of the natural world. Promoting local, national and international peace, understanding and cooperation.

A Personal Dimension

- Developing a sense of personal responsibility and stimulating the desire for responsible self-expression.

SCOUTS ARE INVOLVED IN...

- Agriculture and food production
- Emergency and humanitarian aid
- Clean drinking water
- Literacy
- Renewable energies
- Street children
- The acquisition of life skills
- Professional training
- Sanitation
- Integration of people with disabilities
- Fighting against child labour
- Support for migrants and indigenous communities
- Prevention and fight against AIDS
- Drug prevention
- Child protection
- Rehabilitation of child soldiers
- Child and adolescent health

(See *PRESSPACK DOC N° 3*)

Contact

Richard Amalvy

Director, Communications & Media
World Scout Bureau
ramalvy@scout.org
Directline: + 41 22 705 10 21

Vanessa Von der Mühl

Unit Manager, Communications & Media
World Scout Bureau
vondi@scout.org
Directline: + 41 22 705 10 30

World Organization of the Scout Movement

Rue du Pré-Jérôme 5
PO Box 91
CH-1211 Geneva 4 Plainpalais, Switzerland
Tel: (+41 22) 705 10 10
Fax: (+41 22) 705 10 20
www.scout.org/media