



SCOUTS OF THE WORLD AWARD

FACT SHEET



Frequently Asked Questions - FAQs

1. What is the Scouts of the World Award?

This international initiative has been launched in order to encourage a stronger involvement of young adults in the development of society by giving them the skills and opportunities to face the challenges and problems in the world.

It concerns global citizenship-preparation for young adults and emphasises three core-themes demanding understanding, skills and knowledge, for life on a small planet: Peace, Environment, and Development.

2. Who can apply for the Scouts of the World Award?

The Scouts of the World Award is aimed at young adults aged 15-26 years old, members and non members of Scouting. This is an age at which young adults are preparing to carry out adult roles and find their place in society. The programme offers them the opportunity to acquire the values, knowledge and skills to become citizens of the world, i.e. people who are able to play an active role in "making the world a better place" in which to live – starting with their local communities. This means helping to create a place in which each person's identity and dignity is recognised and respected, and in which everyone is able to live life to the full in a healthy and natural environment, without being threatened by injustice, intolerance or violence.

3. How to get the Scouts of the World Award?

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

1. Contact the National Scout Organization and ask for information on the SW Award, inquire where to accomplish a SW Discovery and how to register it.
2. Register and accomplish a SW Discovery in order to acquire more SW knowledge and skills and prepare a SW Voluntary Service.
3. Do a SW Voluntary Service either individually or within a team project.
4. Complete an evaluation process and record his/her experience in the SW Passport, and send it to a SW Base or to the Provincial/National Headquarters.

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

4. Why does the Scouts of the World advocate the notion of "Award"?

Adolescents and young adults need society to acknowledge their capabilities and competences. Granting a young adult the Scouts of the World Award is a way of showing that he or she has acquired the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to become a real "world citizen". This should be acknowledged by universities, private companies, social organisations and public authorities.

"WHY WORRY ABOUT INDIVIDUAL TRAINING? BECAUSE IT IS THE ONLY WAY BY WHICH YOU CAN EDUCATE. YOU CAN INSTRUCT ANY NUMBER OF BOYS, A THOUSAND AT A TIME, IF YOU HAVE A LOUD VOICE AND ATTRACTIVE METHODS OR DISCIPLINARY MEANS. BUT THAT IS NOT EDUCATION"

BADEN-POWELL

5. Doesn't the notion of "Award" imply competition or certain elitism?

Certainly not. The only competitive aspect of the Scouts of the World Award is competition with oneself. All young adults who join in the programme and have experiences which meet the set criteria will receive the award.

6. Can an association adopt the Scouts of the World Award to replace its Senior Scout Programme?

The Scouts of the World Award cannot replace a Senior Scout Programme. It is merely a complement to such a programme, adding elements relating to social development and to preparing for world citizenship. The international dimension of the SW Award makes the Senior Scout Programme more attractive to young adults.

7. Which benefits can a National Scout Organization gain from the Scouts of the World Award?

By offering opportunities for young adults to contribute to the development of society, Scouts of the World provides a NSO with ready-to-use elements to enrich its Senior Scout Programme. Moreover, it enables NSO to set its programme within a global context and to develop rewarding exchanges with other NGOs, United Nations bodies, NSOs and WOSM bodies. Through the SW Partnership, NSOs can share their contacts, and help each other to develop projects and carry out successful fundraising youth projects.

8. Isn't the SW Award complicated to implement?

For young adults, the SW Award only comprises three elements: active participation on the SW Discovery, completion of their projects within the SW Voluntary Services and the evaluation process. The normal structure of the senior age section can easily provide the support needed to complete these elements, since WOSM provides all the necessary documentation.

9. Have NSOs been involved in the process of developing the Scouts of the World Award or has it been imposed on them from above?

The SW Award has been developed by an international network involving several National Scout Organizations and representatives from various Regions. Each national association which is interested in the SW Award can join the network to contribute to the development and evaluation of the SW Award. The programme is not fixed once and for all, but will evolve gradually and be enriched through everybody's experience and contributions.

10. Since the programme is implemented by each NSO, does it really have an international and global dimension?

At world level the World Scout Bureau, with the support of young adults, is responsible for evaluating the programme on an on-going basis, based on reports, ideas, comments and feedback from National Scout Organizations and the Regions, and for suggesting improvements and developments to be presented to the network of partner NSOs. This evaluation and support system ensures that the programme's international criteria are maintained and developed. In addition the SW Partnership and the SW Network encourage and support international cooperation, which takes the concrete form of planning SW Discoveries and international voluntary service opportunities. The Scouts of the World Award will also be presented at regional and world events, such as Jamborees and Moots.

11. Why is the Scouts of the World Award reserved for young adults aged 15 - 26?

Post-adolescents 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 which include environmental protection, sustainable development and peace-building. In order to fulfill its mission, Scouting has to help young adults in particular to realise the importance of these issues for their futures and to identify opportunities for action open to them.

12. How can the Scouts of the World Award be adapted to the different age section systems used by NSOs?

Most NSOs set age 15 as the limit between young adolescents (the Scout section) on the one hand and post-adolescents and young adults (the Venture Scout and Rover sections) on the other hand. Some NSOs only have one age section after age 15 (Rovers), whereas others have two (e.g. Venture Scouts from 15-18 and Rovers from 18-22). The Scouts of the World Award is designed for young adults over 15 in general, whether or not they are members of the Scout Movement.

13. How can the Scouts of the World Award be integrated into NSOs' existing Senior Scout Programmes?

The SW Award is designed in such a way that it does not compete with NSOs programmes. The elements which it comprises (SW Discovery and SW Voluntary Services) can easily be integrated into existing programmes to complement the aspect of "social education, citizenship education" with the international dimension.

14. Doesn't the SW Award focus excessively on the individual dimension at the expense of the collective dimension?

In Scouting, there is collective action but personal progression. In fact, as Baden-Powell explicitly stated, there is no real education which is not individual. The SW Award is granted to individuals. This is because the real issue at stake is to increase the Movement's ability to motivate tens of thousands of young adults each year and provide them with the necessary competences to meet the key challenges in the world today: environmental protection, community development and lasting peace. As a result, the Movement should receive greater public recognition for its achievements.

The quality of a Scouts of the World project undertaken by a team of young adults could be acknowledge by giving it a Scouts of the World label. Nevertheless, what really counts for a Scouts of the World Award is the personal contribution made by each young adult to achieving this project, indeed this cannot be done alone and the help from their peers is needed.

15. Are the criteria set for obtaining the Scouts of the World Award realistic?

Currently, around the world, there are young adults working on their SW Awards! Experiences during last years has shown that the SW Award is not only attractive to young adults, but the quality of the projects are creating, indeed, a better world. Check out the SW Award website for news, best practices and young adults' histories. www.scoutsoftheworld.net

16. Why the Scouts of the World Award is important in Scouting?

The Scouts of the World Award is a key part to achieve the objectives on the Rover Scout Section.

It attracts, empowers and engages youth in action of world importance. That action is based upon universal values - freedom, tolerance, equality, equality, respect for nature, shared responsibility - respected in any culture and enshrined in the UN's Millennium Declaration. Scouting has promoted those same values for more than 100 years.

It affords rare opportunities for young adults to work in multi-cultural international teams. It makes Scouting more attractive as a mechanism for young adults to join an international network and make a difference in their communities at the local, national and international level.

17. The Scouts of the World Network & Partnership

The SW Network and the SW Partnership are concrete opportunities to involve young adults in the development of society and provide them with real social responsibilities. It makes the Scout Movement more appealing to adolescents and young adults because many of them may want to stay in Scouting or to join Scouting to be

part of a network of young adults committed to making a difference in their local, national and international communities. Furthermore, young adults that are part of the SW Network may become more aware of the global dimension of the Scout Movement.

In brief, the SW Network can make Scouting more attractive to adolescents and young adults because it provides them with the opportunity to enter into the real adventure of today's world: protecting the environment, working for development, challenging ethnic and nationalistic prejudices and building peace within and between the communities; in one thought, contributing to making the world a better place.

18. How is this achievable?

By using the global network of the Scout Movement as an educational tool for adolescents and young adults.

More concretely, National Scout Organizations could develop partnerships with other NSOs in other countries or Regions in order to facilitate youth exchanges and open opportunities for young people to commit themselves in international co-operation projects. This is a fantastic field of action for young adults preparing for the SW Award or having received the SW Award.

In order to realise such projects, NSOs could organise a distribution of roles between their International Department and their Rover National Team. The International Department could organise partnerships with other NSOs abroad in order to identify and support relevant development projects (inside the country or abroad). The Rover National Team could use the opportunity of the SW Network and mobilize Rovers for working on these projects.



19. Where can I get the "Scouts of the World Award" Badges and Certificates from?

The "Scouts of the World Award" Badges and Certificates are made available to the official representative of a National Scout Organization that has been appointed in the Scouts of the World Agreement. The Agreement is available from the World Scout Bureau and online at www.scoutsoftheworld.net with two options: Pack 1 (non-commercial use) or Pack 2 (commercial use). The "Scouts of the World Award" Badges and Certificates can then be purchased from the World Scout Store for distribution within the National Scout Organization. The "Scouts of the World Award" Badges and Certificates are not available for purchase by individuals so as to help ensure the Scouts of the World Award remain as a recognisable symbol of a Scouts discovery of issues on environment, development or peace and an achievement by our youth members.

20. Where can I get the Scouts of the World Kits from?

Scouts of the World Award Kits can be downloaded from the World Scouting Website at: www.scout.org/scoutsoftheworld They can also be purchased in hard copy from the World Scout Store: www.worldscoutshop.org The Kits have been developed to help National Scout Organizations to implement the SW Award within their Rover Scout Programme.

21. Can we translate the content of the Scouts of the World Award Guidelines to our own language?

Yes, National Scout Organizations are encouraged to translate the content of the Scouts of the World Award Guidelines into their own local language to assist in the content being of use to their Scouts. Please inform the World Scout Bureau if you intend to translate the contents to help ensure consistency of content and to support other Scouts who may have an interest in the resources of another language. The contents of the SW Award Guidelines is already being translated into additional languages and will be made available online from the World Scouting Website when they are complete.

22. Can we reproduce the content of the Scouts of the World Award Kits ourselves?

The content of the kit can be reproduced by National Scout Organizations that sign the Scouts of the World Award Agreement Pack 1 (non-commercial) or Pack 2 (commercial use). An Identity Guide is available to support consistent use and presentation of the Scouts of the World logo and documentation.

23. Can we make other merchandise with the Scouts of the World logo?

National Scout Organizations that sign the Agreement are welcome to produce other merchandise that supports the implementation of the Scouts of the World Award. Please consider the environmental impacts of any products that use the Scouts of the World Award logo and inform the World Scout Bureau to support the dissemination of useful materials to other Scouts. If being produced without profit, this relates to Pack 1 and if developing materials for commercial use, please contact the World Scout Bureau.

24. How does the World Scout Environment Badge and Scouts of the World Award relate to each other?

The Scouts of the World Award encourages a stronger involvement of Rovers in the development of society, concerning global citizenship preparation of young adults and emphasises three core-themes: Peace, Environment and Development. The framework for environment education in Scouting and the World Scout Environment Badge can support the environmental curriculum of a Scouts of the World Discovery, though there are additional skills and experiences that would be expected of a Scout undertaking the Scouts of the World Award that are not covered within the World Scout Environment Badge.

25. Who can I contact for more information about the Scouts of the World Award?

If you have further questions or require more information about the Scouts of the World Award, please contact:

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