

The Partnership between ILO/IPEC and the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM)

The World Organisation of the Scout Movement is a voluntary non-political educational movement for young people. Its purpose is to contribute to the global development of young people as individuals but also as responsible citizens and as members of their local and national communities. It aims to mobilise youth globally, empowering them, defending and promoting the rights of children, contributing to the humanisation of globalisation and preparing youth for good citizenship and governance. This happens through a value system based on the "Scout Promise and Law" to help build a better world where people are self-fulfilled as individuals and play a constructive role in society.

The shared vision of WOSM and ILO in pursuing social justice and peace and the empowerment of young people in bringing forward the social dimensions of globalisation are at the core of the collaboration between the two partners, which was formalised with the signing of MoU in December 2004. Since then, Scouts from the Arab States (Morocco, Yemen, Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon) have been trained in the SCREAM (Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media) methodology. The International Conference on Scouting and Child Labour held in Cairo in February 2005 provided the impetus for the beginning of collaborative activities on SCREAM between National Scout Organisations and IPEC field offices worldwide.

ILO/IPEC has participated in previous World Scout Jamborees, including the running of a child labour workshop during the 20th World Scout Jamboree in Thailand (28th December 2002 – 7th January 2003). At the upcoming World Scout Jamboree in the UK (27th July – 8th August 2007), ILO/IPEC will be participating in the Global Development activities. The educational method on which Scouting is based, is aimed at enabling young people to discover how they can actively take part in community life, focusing on the following issues: human rights, environment, health and peace. A plan outlining the strategy to participate in the Global Development activities is currently being developed based on the MoU between WOSM and ILO/IPEC.

KEY PROJECTS OF WOSM – ILO/IPEC

Kenya

Dagoretti for Kids (D For K) is a Scout Extension project, working with street children in a district of Nairobi. The project is run in partnership with the ILO office in Kenya.

The project has been undertaken with a target of improving the conditions of young people living and working on the streets of the Butchers Market area in the outskirts of Nairobi. The young people are provided with food and shelter at D For K, and are helped in entering into formal education (primary schooling is free in Kenya) after a brief period of rehabilitation. The kids are involved in Scout based activities on a daily basis as well as learning to take care of themselves.

Egypt

The Scout project in Alexandria targets a poor area of the city, working with children engaged in economic activities in the neighbourhood. The project aims to improve the conditions of families in Alexandria city. The project will now be supported by a National Level project based on SCREAM for all Scouts aged between 10-14 as a part of the "Gifts for Peace" project.

The project involves organising different courses for 2800 working boys and 800 working girls, once a week (during the weekend). These courses teach them how to protect themselves in their working places and personal safety and security regulations. There are also literacy classes for the 'drop outs'. The project also works with the parents of those in Child Labour and try to help them improve their living conditions. Another important element of the project is the attempt to work with the employers of young children, to try and improve the working conditions, understanding that eliminating child labour is a gradual process.

El Salvador

The Scout project "Semillas de Esperanza" (Seeds of Hope) is run in partnership with ILO and local government bodies.

This project, run by the Rover and Venture sections, offers working children (aged 10-18) opportunities to join youth groups and gain essential life skills through non-formal education, as well

as to attend camps and be able to interact with other children. Following the camps, groups are organised in their communities, involving the adults and educating them on the importance of children's rights and taking a stand against child labour. The children benefit from a support network provided by the Scouts, and they get to have a childhood - to play and interact with other young people even if this is only on the weekends.

Chile

The goal of this project is to improve the overall situation concerning children: poverty, inequality in economic distribution, poor living conditions and quality of education. In summary, it aims help with the personal development of children coming from poor communities. The project is run in partnership with the UN, UNESCO, ILO, UNICEF, OECD.

Scouts are involved in improving the standard of living for children and helping families to keep their children in Primary Education. Leisure and Formative Camps is an ongoing social project in cooperation with the government.

Jordan – The Scout Association of Jordan trained Scouts and parents using the ILO SCREAM manual as a resource and integrated it into the school curriculum. 65 scout leaders are involved in the project. The project is run in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and ILO/IPEC.

JOINT SEMINARS

ARAB Regional Workshop for Eliminating Child Labour (June 2003)

In line with the global concern on the issue of Child Labour, the Arab Scout Region organised the Arab Workshop for Eliminating Child Labour, which took place in the Cairo International Scout Centre from 20 to 25 June 2003. The Workshop was organised in co-operation with the various International Organisations namely, ILO and UNESCO. The aims of the workshop were to play a more effective role in the elimination of child labour and to help enable youths to cope with society. The Workshop was attended by representatives from National Scout Associations in Egypt (5), Jordan (4), Lebanon (4), Yemen (4), the ILO Office in Geneva (2), the ILO Office in Beirut (2), ILO Offices in the Arab countries, Morocco (5) and the ARO (4).

World Scout Seminar on Scouting and Child Labour (February 2005)

Cairo – Egypt (4-10/2/2005)

Content of the seminar included:

- Initiatives and projects in other Scout Regions regarding the social area of education and some of the tools that are used to support them. Examples of good practice from various non-European Associations in the field of social education.
- Potential partners for European Associations for interregional co-operation in the area of social education. Partnerships established for the work on social education in different Associations.
- Means for encouraging and supporting the local level in the field of social education.
- Training of leaders related to social education.
- Distribution and promotion of projects in the area of social education.
- Relevance of information and our participation
- Recommendations and suggestions

The following countries and Scout regions were represented:

Africa: Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, Swaziland, Sudan, Ivory Coast, Burundi, Togo; **Arab:** Egypt, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Libya, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia **Asia-Pacific:** Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan; **Interamerica:** Chile, Brazil; **Europe:** Czech Republic, Romania.

NEW PROJECTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ILO/IPEC are being developed in Pakistan, Zambia and Uganda

Contact

Richard Amalvy

Director, Media & Communication
World Scout Bureau
ramalvy@world.scout.org
Direct line: + 41 22 705 10 32

Vanessa Von der Mühl

Unit Manager, Communications & Media
World Scout Bureau
vondi@worldnet.scout.org
Direct line: + 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