

# Strategic Priority 2

Adolescents – supporting their transition to adulthood



The World Organization of the Scout Movement



## Global Development Village Caravan – Mongolia

PROMISING PRACTICES

### The Results

Health messages have been taken to the regional provinces in Mongolia using the concept of the Global Development Village (GDV) and using a caravan to take the messages into the community. In 1998, approximately 7,000 children, young people and adults took part in the activities and in 1999 the number rose to approximately 10,000, spread over the eight provinces.



The Mongolian Global Development Village Caravan – at an event

In 2001, the Mongolian Scout Association held its 2nd National Jamboree to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Scout Movement in Mongolia, and the Global Development Village was a central aspect of the camp. During the celebrations over 1,500 Mongolian Scouts visited the village, 500 local children and over 100 foreign Scouts from Korea, Taiwan, USA, Australia, Germany, Singapore, Denmark, Namibia, Japan, Hong Kong and Uganda also visited the GDV.

### The Reasons

The Scout Association in Mongolia began as recently as 1991, with 39 Scouts making their Promise. The Scout Association now has over 8,000 members and in ten years over 56,000 Scouts have passed through its ranks. Scouts from Mongolia attended the 17th World Scout Jamboree in Korea in 1991, experienced the Global Development Village and recognised the potential of the Global Development Village to take important health messages into the local communities in Mongolia.

Mongolia is a vast country with a population of around 2.6 million, many of whom have a nomadic way of life. In recent years there has been increased urbanisation and industrial growth but this has resulted in environmental problems such as pollution and deforestation. The delicate relationship between the people and their environment is breaking down.

The Scouts recognised that people's knowledge of health issues is very low, particularly in the rural areas. There is also a lack of awareness of the relationship between health and the environment. The vulnerability of children and young people and the need to educate the younger generation to change attitudes in the future was also recognised.

The Mongolian Scout Association decided they could use the Global Development Village concept to take health and environment messages into the local communities. As Mongolia is such a vast country without a very developed infrastructure, it was important to physically take the messages to the people - hence the idea of the Global Development Village Caravan.

### The Methods

During the 1st National Scout Jamboree in 1996, the Mongolian President, Mr.P.Orchibat, opened the Global Development Village and was the first person to experience the activities, followed by around 100 guests. This was an important public relations exercise.



Mongolia: The Scout Association of Mongolia

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The Mongolian Scout Association is a relatively new association and it recognised that to achieve its goals it would need to work in partnership with others. The Mongolian government designated 1998 as 'Youth Year' so the Scouts teamed up with the Ministry of Health and Unicef, and Rover Scouts took the health messages to about 7,000 children and young people in the provinces. They covered a total of 4,500 km over a period of three months.

The following year the Mongolian Rover Scouts teamed up with Australian Rover Scouts to take the Global Development Village Caravan and the important health messages to 5 western and 3 eastern provinces. They travelled 3,900 km and reached more than 10,000 people in the process.

## Our Learning

The concept of the Global Development Village is an important tool for the development of the Mongolian Scout Association. It has provided programme activities for the Rover Scouts, an opportunity for the Rover Scouts to undertake projects, which have real responsibility and make a significant contribution to the community and the country.



Rover Scouts run activities to help young people to explore issues

The range of topics that have been included in the Global Development Village at the Jamborees include:-

- Acute Respiratory Infections
- Adolescent Reproductive Health
- Body-building
- Environment

- Human Rights
- Iodine Deficiency Disorders
- Nutrition
- Oral Rehydration Salts
- Prevention of HIV/AIDS
- Rights of the Child
- Scouts against Tobacco and Alcohol.



A team of Rover Scouts in Mongolia

It has been an excellent public relations exercise for the Scout Association in Mongolia, enabling us to develop and work in partnerships with other agencies. At the second National Jamboree, representatives attended from the government, the National Committee for Children and non-governmental organisations, Unicef, UNFPA and Save the Children.

It has also helped to establish the credibility of the Mongolian Scout Association in a very short time, which can be seen by the partnerships formed with other associations and the representatives from other associations who have joined in the two National Jamborees.

## Our Future Plans

The Scout Association of Mongolia Community Development Team is planning to organize the Global Development Village Caravan regularly through the rural areas:

1. To train our volunteer trainers in training which are organized from different professional organizations.
2. The Scout Association of Mongolia sent a project proposal to the General Association of the Scouts of China to organize Global Development Village Caravan through the railway stations and Southern borders like Zamiin-Uud.
3. The Scout Association of Mongolia and KFUM-Spejderne i Danmark are going to have a five-year partnership starting from August 2002. In the framework of the partnership it has been planned to organize the Global Development Village Caravan jointly with the Rover Scouts of Denmark.

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