



For immediate release

WOSM and UNCTAD to promote entrepreneurship skills among Scouts

19 December 2014, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: The World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which serves to equip and empower young Scouts to consider self-employment as a viable and rewarding career path.

To achieve this aim, WOSM and UNCTAD will develop a pilot entrepreneurship educational programme by adapting the Empretec methodology of the “Entrepreneurship Training Workshop” (ETW) of the Empretec programme. The Empretec methodology was developed by David McClelland at Harvard University in 1988 and is based on the finding that everyone has an inner motivation to improve.

As the Empretec programme operates on the belief that entrepreneurship can help eradicate poverty, it is a welcome addition to the wide range of educational tools utilised to fulfil WOSM’s mission of nurturing self-fulfilled individuals who will play constructive roles in society. Currently, two thirds of WOSM’s network of 40 million Scouts live in developing countries.

The programme has a proven track record in assisting fledgling businesses to grow and has been selected by some governments to develop curricula for primary and secondary schools. It is implemented through its 30 national centres in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. To date, the programme has assisted more than 340,000 people, helping them to grow and expand their businesses.

“The collaboration with UNCTAD will definitely assist us in strengthening the capacity of young people to face the challenges of tomorrow. It will help enable them to improve their socio-economic status which will have positive impact on their local communities, thus helping to create a better world,” said WOSM’s Secretary General, Scott Teare.

This programme is one of the strategies deployed to tackle the issue of youth unemployment, a growing global concern amid today’s volatile labour markets. Apart from bringing out the economic and innovation potential of young people and improving their financial standing, entrepreneurship stimulates job creation, enhances employability and provides growth opportunities.

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About World Scouting

Scouting is one of the world's leading educational youth movements, engaging millions of young people around the world to be active citizens to create positive changes in the communities they live in. Since 1907!

Founded by Lord Baden-Powell, the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) is a confederation of 161 National Scout Organizations in a network of over 40 million members, including some 7 million volunteers.

Over the past 24 months since 2012, some 10 million young people whom King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia and King Carl Gustaf of Sweden have recognised as "Messengers of Peace" have contributed more than 600,000,000 service hours to some 6 million community projects around the world.

As it has been doing for more than a century - creating a better world - it continues to do so, and even better with many Messengers of Peace across the globe.

For more on World Scouting, visit scout.org