

# Scouting and United Nations

## Relations, Partnerships and Initiatives

*A guide for National Scout Organisations*

## A guide to the guide

### How to work with a UN agency on an existing or a new project

#### 1. Who to work with

What issue do you want to work on? Health, Education, Environment, etc. Once you have identified the topic, go through the list of UN agencies and programmes which is in the guide. There is a short description of each agency which should allow you to identify the adequate partner.

#### 2. Do we have a partnership agreement?

Check in the Appendixes of the guide if WOSM has a partnership agreement with the particular agency. If so, mention it when you contact the agency.

#### 3. Best practices

Read about the work which has already been done with this agency in the chapter entitled Working Together, in the Regional level section. You will find examples of best practices that you could implement in your country, or that you could use as examples when contacting the agency. If you find an existing project which you think would be interesting to implement in your country, contact the NSO which launched it and ask the person who was in charge to send you detailed information about the project. When you receive the necessary information, identify the changes that need to be made in order to adapt the project to your country.

#### 4. First contact

There is a list of NGO liaison officers in the appendix of the guide. Find the liaison officer of the relevant agency and send an email asking for the contact details of the office of the agency in your country. Then contact the country officer about your project, explaining briefly what Scouting is, what your project is about, what the UN agency could do, the estimated costs, etc. If possible, ask to meet and speak about the project.

#### 5. Keep us informed

Twice a year, you will receive an update report on partnerships from the World Scout Bureau. At the end of this report, you will find the name of the project officer in the WSB working on external relations. Please send an email to this person to let him/her know that you are working with a UN agency. He/she can then use this information to help other NSOs launch projects with the UN agency, can publicise it as a good practice or can use it as an example of cooperation during meetings with officials of the agency at the world level.

## **Practical example**

### **How to use the "Scouts of the World" (SW) Programme with this guide**

#### **Setting up a Scouts of the World Discovery (Work between the NSOs and the UN agencies)**

To implement the Scouts of the World Programme, NSOs have to set up SW Discoveries to help Rovers get informed about the Millennium Development Goals and global issues. The SW Discoveries have to be focused on Peace, Environment or Development.

Once you have decided what the exact theme of your SW Discovery will be, check the list of UN agencies to see which one deals with this issue. For example, if your topic is environment, the relevant agency is the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

You then check in the guide and discover that we have a Memorandum of Understanding with this agency. This should help you, so do not forget to mention it when you make the first contact.

Have a look at the work which has been done at the global, but especially at the regional and national level in cooperation with UNEP. This might give you ideas for some voluntary services.

Go to the list of NGO liaison officers in the guide and write an email or ring the UNEP NGO liaison officer, explaining your project, asking for a national contact if the programme has an office in your country. Explain clearly how the agency can help, for example by providing information, material or by sending an expert/instructor to your SW Discovery.

#### **Setting up a Scouts of the World Voluntary Service (Work between the young people and the UN agencies)**

After having accomplished a SW Discovery, a young person wanting to obtain the SW Award has to do a period of voluntary service to contribute to solving a problem related to the Millennium Development Goals.

A SW Voluntary Service can take two forms: (1) assistance to a project already developed by an organization or a UN agency (Scout Association, youth centre, NGO, etc); (2) development of a specific project with a team of friends.

Depending on the SW Voluntary Service, a young person can need the advice or support of one or several UN agencies. For example a Rover who decides to do his SW Voluntary Service in a refugee camp setting up a workshop in order to inform people about their rights as refugees, or contacting their families in other countries, will need the help and authorization of the UNHCR (High Commissioner for Refugees) to know how to proceed and how to work with refugees in the field.

Once your partnership is working or if you need support, send an email to the project officers in charge of external relations (see UN team in the guide) and the Scouts of the World Programme (Andrés Morales: amorales@world.scout.org) at the World Scout Bureau.

For more information about the Scouts of the World Programme: [www.youthoftheworld.net](http://www.youthoftheworld.net)