

Olave Awards 2021-2023

The Olave Award is an international award to honour the memory of the World Chief Guide, Lady Olave Baden-Powell, and to keep alive her belief in the spirit of service.

The Olave Award provides an opportunity to highlight outstanding grassroots/local projects, and for Member Organisations to inspire and be inspired by each other's' stories. The award is presented by WAGGGS at World Conference to Girl Guide and Girl Scout groups that have created positive change in their community.

Each triennium there is a theme and Member Organisations are invited to nominate local projects that have contributed to this theme. For 2021-2023, the theme has been sustainability, in the widest sense, from sustainability of the environment to sustainability of the Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting Movement. We received over 20 nominations from local groups of all ages. It was a very difficult decision for our judges as every project was unique and made a huge positive impact in different ways.

We are delighted to announce the five Olave Award winners.

Olave Award Winners 2021-2023

The Wings Of Peace: Nature Based Solutions (India) *Kadiyali Open Unit of Karnataka State Bharat Scouts and Guides*



This project started in 2019 and has different strands, including planting 100,000 Tulsi Medicinal saplings, a Clean Air Campaign, a Seed Balls Campaign, Eco-Friendly Festival Celebrations and a cleanliness awareness drive on Plastic Pollution at Indian Railways.

Together with their local partners including Rotary International, the State Pollution Control Board, Tourism Departments and Coastal Guide, the projects have reached millions of people and led to positive change in the behaviours of the local communities to create a healthy environment. For example, the group has donated over 15,000 seed balls in the last two years, to help ease deforestation and has been praised by the State Department of Forestry as 'one of the successful innovations towards climate change'.

'In the blink of an eye' project (Ivory Coast) Ivory Coast Non-Religious Girl Guides Association Zephyr Group, part of the Fédération Ivoirienne du Scoutisme Féminin

This project focuses on extending the physical capacity of a centre that provides accommodation and vocational training for young girls who would otherwise be living on the streets. In the year 2022, Girl Guides helped to complete the construction of three new dormitories and more toilets, so that the centre can accommodate 70 more girls. This means even more girls will now be able to receive education in a safe space, without being interrupted, helping improve literacy levels in the area.

One of the Girl Guides who participated said: 'Participating in this project was totally in-line with my values and those of Girl Guiding and it gave me new views of the world that I hope will help me grow.'



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'Our Children are Your Children' project (Tunisia) Violet Brownies Troop, Manzel Taneem Unit, from Tunisia Scouts



This project focuses on improving facilities at a centre for people with special educational needs and raising awareness on this topic in their local community. The troop created an outdoor space for entertainment and decorated it with cartoon characters that children love. They also produced a video to tackle issues of bullying that were faced by the group. The troop hopes that, with more understanding and care, it will change stereotypes and society will be more accepting of young people with special educational needs.

The director of the education centre said - 'We appreciated this project because the centre is lacking resources that sometimes prevent us from outdoor activities for our children'.

Basket of Goodness project (Kuwait) Young Girls' Committee of the Kuwait Girl Guides Association

This project involved Brownies and Guides who collected donations from individuals and local institutions. With the donations, they purchased clothing supplies and food supplies and then distributed them to people-in-need during Ramadan, reaching 450 people in their community.

One of the people who benefited from the donations said 'I extend my sincere thanks to Kuwaiti Girl Guides Association for this valuable project that brought magic to my home and joy to my children'.



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Stay strong and Keep Going! Project (Ukraine) *Kyiv Guides from the Association of Ukrainian Guides*



Kyiv Guides took the initiative to respond to letters of support coming from different countries and to communicate with Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from all over the world. At the start, this group only met within their Ranger group but over time, they opened up the space to others. These connections and meetings through Girl Guiding are important as they help the girls to stay calm and feel part of the community.

The Chief Commissioner says '2023 was a difficult year in Ukraine. We helped the girls organize meetings, however, they themselves planned everything, communicated and consulted with their leaders. This is a very good influence on the younger generation.'

Olave Award Certificates of Recognition 2021-2023

Certificates of recognition were presented to all other projects that were nominated for the Olave Award as follows:

- School bag project, Young Women Committee, Kuwait Girl Guides Association
- My environment is my identity project, Environmental Development Team, Kuwait Girl Guides Association
- My school is my paradise project, Al Arije Brownies Group, Tunisian Scouts.
- SDG-13 Climate Action project, Kalpana Chawla Guide Company, Bharat Scouts and Guides
- Block Batik Training Project, Girl Guides Group of Barishal Govt. Girls' High School, Bangladesh Girl Guides Association • Education for everyone project, Rajshahi Region, Bangladesh Girl Guides Association
- Say no to Plastic, Save our Marine Pollution and Environment project, Ranger Unit at Rajshahi College, Bangladesh Girl **Guides Association**
- Serving the Local Community-Protecting Our Estuarine Wetlands project, Troop 32, Jia-Ding girl scouts, Kaohsiung city, **Girl Scouts of Taiwan**
- Octagon Camp project, Octagon Camp Committee, Irish Girl Guides
- Climate Justice project, Fast Fashion ECO-UNESCO, Ardagh Girl Guides and Viking Girl Guides, Co. Longford, Irish Girl Guides
- Safety Sisters project, Howth Senior Branch Unit, Council of Irish Guiding Associations (CIGA) Irish Girl Guide
- National Youth Participation Seminar Metamorphosis, Intergenerational team composed of members from different units, Girl Guide and Girl Scout Association of Costa Rica
- Project Sisu, Girl Guide and Girl Scout Association of Costa Rica
- Plastic Tide Turners Challenge (PTTC) Wave Makers, Skotisma Zazavavy Malagasy
- Velotegna project, Fanilon'l Madagasikara, unit in Vavatenina, Skotisma Zazavavy Malagasy

