



World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

Celebrating 100 years of changing lives

Between 2010 and 2012, the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and its members will celebrate 100 years of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting; we are celebrating **100 years of changing lives**.

In 2010 the theme for our celebrations is Plant; in 2011 the theme for our celebrations is Grow; and in 2012 the theme for our celebrations is Share.

Our messages ...

For 100 years,

we have planted Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting in diverse communities around the world ...

- We are a growing worldwide movement, providing opportunities in education, self development, adventure and leadership to girls and young women in 145 countries
- Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting has always been open to all
- Girl Guides and Girl Scouts reach out in rural areas and among minority groups
- Girl Guides and Girl Scouts assist communities through natural disasters, conflict situations and civil unrest

we have planted the seeds of change in the world...

- Girl Guides and Girl Scouts speak out and make a difference about issues they care about to build a better world
- Girl Guides and Girl Scouts engage in projects which build a better world – for example, on peace, the environment, children's rights, HIV and AIDS, poverty and hunger

we have planted opportunities for girls and young women to grow as responsible global citizens

- Girls and young women realize their potential as responsible citizens through Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting
- Girls and young women become leaders and decision makers through Girl Guide and Girl Scout programmes and opportunities





World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

Our projects ...

Planting Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting in diverse communities around the world...

The Europe Region has joined with the European Youth Foundation to promote Diversity, Human Rights and Participation among young people living in Europe today. One of the outcomes is a Diversity Toolkit (<http://europe.wagggsworld.org/en/home>)

The WAGGGS Africa Region produced an educational tool for its Member Organizations to tailor their programmes for young women living in rural areas.

With the support of UPS, Girl Guiding has expanded to new communities in Mexico. For example, girls who live in orphanages can now join a Girl Guide troop instead of just being the beneficiaries of a community service project. Also in Mexico, by reducing the minimum uniform standard to a simple scarf, girls from lower income groups have been able to participate fully.

In Brazil, Guiding has grown by focusing on literacy, vegetable gardening, healthy eating and school discipline in both urban and rural settings. By involving children and their parents in Guiding activities, the Association has made a greater impact on the community.

Planting the seeds of change in the world...

Creating Peace Worldwide 1992-1996

During the four year initiative, nearly half a million peace packs were produced and distributed to young people in areas of conflict. The peace packs contained school supplies and personal items for refugee children. The Girl Scouts of Japan sent 125,000 packs to Afghan refugees and to children returning to Afghanistan following the conflict in the early 1990s.

The Associazione Guide e Scouts Cattolici Italiani (ACESCI) in Italy sent 20,000 peace packs to refugees of the civil war in Angola. Girl Guides in Kenya made peace packs containing books, clothes, shoes and hats for refugee children living in Kenya.

Girl Guides in the UK produced 50,000 packs for the Ivory Coast which were collected via the international retail chain the Body Shop.

Building World Citizenship 1996-2002

The Building World Citizenship initiative addressed global citizenship, with more than 95 Member Organizations taking part in projects on different themes including Health, Environment, Education, and Culture and Heritage.

The Girl Guides branch of the Scouts Tunisiens ran an educational project on Sexual and Reproductive Health for Young People with the support of a local Non-Governmental Organization. It was estimated that more than 10,000 teenagers attended the educational sessions and workshops which addressed sexual and reproductive health and sexually transmitted diseases.

The Asociación de Guías de Colombia's "Our Mountain" project in the region of Mainzales taught Girl Guides the importance of fighting for a clean and safe environment. They helped to clean up the mountainside and ran an anti-litter campaign.

WAGGGS joined with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to launch the WAGGGS/FAO Nutrition Award which was presented to outstanding projects run by WAGGGS' Member Organizations.

Our projects ...

Our Rights, Our Responsibilities 2002-2008

The aim of the Our Rights, Our Responsibilities theme was to raise awareness about basic human rights and to help girls and young women to take active and positive responsibilities for claiming those rights, not just for themselves but also for others.

115 Member Organizations completed projects under the Our Rights, Our Responsibilities theme which addressed issues such as the Right to be Me, the Right to be Happy, the Right to Live in Peace, and the Right to Work Together.

As part of the Right to be Me theme, Girl Guides of Canada/Guides du Canada has promoted healthy relationships and prevented bullying through its initiative, 'Girls United Challenge.'

Under the Right to Work Together theme, the Lebanese Girl Scouts held a 'Building Bridges' workshop in 2008 where 45 members from all over the world joined forces to work towards a common vision to build bridges between different cultures.

Global Action Theme, girls worldwide say "together we can change our world" 2008-2015

The Global Action Theme (GAT) is an educational programme implemented by WAGGGS to help its members learn about the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and to take action through projects and advocacy. The theme encourages girls, young women and members of all ages to make a personal commitment to change the world around them. It also affirms WAGGGS' commitment to the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals.

Planting opportunities for girls and young women to grow as responsible global citizens

Each year more than 50 young women from around the world participate in the Juliette Low Seminar, a unique leadership training event.

The four World Centres run regular seminars and events on leadership, life skills and advocacy as well as on issues such as HIV/AIDS, the situation for refugees, health and environmental sustainability.

WAGGGS has launched a global leadership programme with the assistance of leading educational institutions such as Exeter University. The WAGGGS' Leadership Development Programme consists of 8 modules, each covering a topic area that enhances leadership skills and personal growth and which can support national Girl Guide and Girl Scout associations.

Girl Guides and Girl Scouts are the voice of girls and young women at international advocacy events such as the HIV AIDS conference, the Commission on the Status of Women and COP 15, the UN conference on climate change. They lobby country delegations, speak at panel events and address the floor of the United Nations.





World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

Our supporters ...

Planting Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting in diverse communities around the world...

"Our partnership with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts is bringing hope and transformation to communities around the world by leveraging the global volunteer movement to engage and empower young women and girls to make a difference in the world."

Eduardo Martinez, Director, Programmes and Corporate Relations, The UPS Foundation

"Guiding is a great leveller and through it I met different people from different backgrounds. The human qualities that Guiding taught me became part of my life. I learned to be generous, to live in peace and help others. Through Guiding and community service, I learned about the realities of Mexico and it gave me a passion to help my country." Margarita Zavala, First Lady of Mexico

"Twenty years ago I was living on the streets. One day a group of women in uniform came to talk to me about an opportunity to have some training in tailoring and cooking at a Centre near where I lived. I joined when I was 18 and not only were we offered training in tailoring and cooking but also an opportunity to be a Girl Guide, to learn about health issues, rights and responsibilities and also business skills. I now have six sewing machines, six employees and the opportunity to offer good education to my five year old son."

Merciana, Africa Region

Planting the seeds of change in the world...

"I commend the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts for its commitment to the fight against HIV and AIDS. Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting plays a vital role in breaking the silence around HIV and AIDS through its work in local communities. Projects taking place around the world have helped girls and young women to gain the knowledge and the skills to fight AIDS and to end discrimination. WAGGGS' unique peer education programme means that this cumulative experience has made a difference to the lives of thousands of girls and young women."

Stephen Lewis, Board Chair, Stephen Lewis Foundation, former UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa

"My role as a Guide has always been to be a leader to change the world, somebody that gives everything so the next generations realize that all together we can achieve so much more."

Monica, Girl Guide from Peru

"Working with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts has enabled the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization to reach young people with its messages on food security, hunger and the environment. Through our successful joint initiatives, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts worldwide have taken positive action in the fight against hunger."

Alexander Mueller, Assistant Director-General Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)

Planting opportunities for girls and young women to grow as responsible global citizens

"Girl Guiding has given me the confidence to make my own decisions, which has helped my personal and professional life to improve greatly. It is very important to develop leadership skills in women as they are the very foundation that society is built on." Ruchira, Girl Guide from Sri Lanka.

"Without a doubt, I owe my success to the education, training and support I received from the Girl Guides, particularly the courageous Guiding women who, while black people were being controlled and repressed, encouraged and helped me to be strong and assertive, inspired me to help others and gave me the courage to overcome all obstacles to triumph in the end." Isabella Direko, Former Premier of Free State Province, South Africa



World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

Facts and Figures ...

- The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts is the world's largest international voluntary organization for girls and young women, with a membership of 10 million in 145 countries.
- There are more than 1.5 million adult WAGGGS volunteers in the world, most of whom are leaders of Girl Guide and Girl Scout groups.
- WAGGGS reaches an estimate of more than 50 million people worldwide through its members and their families and friends.
- The lives of an estimated **250 million** girls and young women have been transformed through their Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting experience over the past 100 years

Questions and Answers ...

What are we celebrating in 2010?

It was a group of girls who first **planted** the idea of Girl Guiding in the mind of founder, Robert Baden-Powell, at a Crystal Palace Scout Rally in 1909. The Guide Movement formally began in the UK in 1910. Since then Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting has been planted in the lives of millions of girls and young women. We are celebrating 100 years of changing lives starting in 2010 and finishing in 2012.

Why are we celebrating for three years?

Between 1910 and 1912 Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting took off around the world, starting in the United Kingdom.

In 1909 several girls demanded a place for girls at the Crystal Palace Boy Scout Rally. These girls were, in fact, the very first advocates for the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts - speaking out and challenging the norms and gender conventions of the time.

As a result, Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scouting Movement, decided that girls and young women should belong to a Movement with its own name and a programme designed for them. This was the birth of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting. Girl Guiding began in the United Kingdom in 1909 and the Movement was founded in the UK the following year.

In 1912, Girl Scouting was introduced to the United States of America. By then the Movement had grown in many countries around the world:

Founded in 1910: Canada, Denmark, Finland, New Zealand, Poland, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom

Founded in 1911: Australia, Bangladesh (then part of India), India, Ireland, Netherlands, Pakistan (then part of India).

Founded in 1912: Cyprus, Italy, Norway, United States of America, Zimbabwe

Questions and Answers ...

How will we celebrate?

A Celebration Day will take place every year on 10 April, the 100th day of the year. Each year will have a theme: **Plant (2010) , Grow (2011) and Share (2012)**.

Celebration activities will incorporate four elements: **Good deed, International, Party, 100**.

Girl Guides and Girl Scouts across the world will take part in one or more activities on 10 April.

In each year of the centenary there will be a forum for girls and young women which will address the UN Millennium Development Goals which are eight specific goals that aim to combat extreme poverty across the world. Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from each Member Organization will meet together to create a shared vision for a better world; they will collectively create a declaration with recommendations on how national governments, civil society and WAGGGS and its members can help to create that better world; and they will make a personal commitment to bring about change in their own communities and in their countries.

The first Young Women's World Forum takes place in the UK, the second will take place simultaneously in the WAGGGS' World Centres (Mexico, India, UK, and Switzerland) and the third in the USA.

In 2010 the regions will celebrate the centenary at their Regional Conferences, attended by representatives from each Member Organization.

In 2011, national representatives from all Member Organizations will meet at the 34th WAGGGS World Conference in Scotland, UK, for a global celebration. They will be joined by WAGGGS' external partners from the UN and leading NGOs.

Member Organizations will celebrate the centenary of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting through local and national events taking place throughout the three years.

