

YOUTH agents of change

12 August International Youth Day



Brief for MOs

How to get involved in International Youth Day 2015



World Association
of Girl Guides
and Girl Scouts

Each year on 12 August International Youth Day is celebrated globally. This year the theme is “Youth Civic Engagement”.

International Youth Day puts young people in the spotlight as agents of change and recognises their essential role in shaping the future. This year we will be celebrating the contribution girls and young women make to their communities, countries and the world.

To achieve sustainable development young people need to be involved in decision making, implementation and monitoring. Yet opportunities, for young women especially, to be involved politically, economically and socially in their communities, countries and on a global level are few and far between.

International Youth Day is an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of civic engagement of girls and young women and their impact when they are involved.

Our work on the Millennium Development Goals

International Youth Day gives us all the chance to celebrate our contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), as the world’s largest voluntary movement dedicated to girls and young women!

Before the MDGs expire at the end of the year let’s take this chance to share stories from across our movement and celebrate the work of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. By showcasing what our members have achieved for the MDGs we can highlight how important it is for girls and young women to be involved in the Sustainable Development Goals, which will be adopted in September 2015 to replace the MDGs.

On International Youth Day we will raise awareness of the impact of girls and young women as volunteers on the ground and as agents of change.

Youth in action: 12 stories of change

Look out for 12 stories of change from Member Organisations in the five WAGGGS regions!

Youth in action: 12 stories of change will start Tuesday 11 August and continue for 24 hours. Every 2 hours a story will be released on WAGGGS’ Twitter and Facebook. You can also read all 12 stories on WAGGGS’ website. Youth in Action: 12 stories of change will finish Wednesday 12 August at 12 noon BST (UK time) with a release of some exciting findings from our research on the Global Action Theme, showing how girls and young women helped to deliver the MDGs.

Call to action: I told my story to...

We're asking you to tell your story; share what you have done for the MDGs with people in your community and country!

You could tell your story to your school, your teacher, at an assembly, with your community, your friends, your workplace, your local council, your Government!

Help raise awareness that young people make an essential contribution to the MDGs! Share who you have told your story to on social media using the hashtags #Itoldmystoryto and #YouthDay and tag @waggs_world.

Sample tweet: [#Itoldmystoryto](#) my school assembly! My Guide Unit collected donated food & clothes for local homeless charity [#MDG1](#) [@waggs_world](#) [#YouthDay](#)

Everything you need to get started

Check WAGGGS' website to get the resources and keep an eye on WAGGGS' Facebook and Twitter

- GAT Badge curriculum – activity pack on the MDGs.
<http://www.waggs.org/en/resources/document/view/20082>
- MDG+10 report – how girls and young women are taking action on the MDGs.
<http://www.waggs.org/en/resources/document/view/22188>
- Be the Change – Community Action Programme.
<http://www.waggs.org/en/resources/document/view/25247>
- MDGs Take Action Backpack
<http://www.waggs.org/en/gatrelaunch>
- Take Action Backpack – focusing on MDGs 4 and 5.
<http://www.waggs.org/en/resources/document/view/3384>
- action/2015 Youth International Youth Day Action Guide
<http://action2015.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/International-Youth-Day-Action-Guide.pdf>
- United Nations Toolkit to celebrate International Youth Day.
<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/documents/youth/IYD2015/ToolkitIYD2015.pdf>
- Infographics – use these to raise awareness that more work is needed on all the MDGs.
<http://waggs.org/en/Internationaldays/InternationalYouthDay/Infographics>
- Facebook and Twitter banner – why not help raise awareness by changing your Facebook and Twitter profiles?
<http://waggs.org/en/grab/25966/1/iyd-banner-fb-en.jpg>
<http://waggs.org/en/grab/25967/1/iyd-banners-twitter-en.jpg>
- Social media toolkit – Join the online conversation about International Youth Day.
<http://waggs.org/en/grab/25965/1/2social-media-kit.pdf>

International Youth Day – what you can expect

This is what you can expect from the week leading up to International Youth Day:

