



The Messengers of Peace Award

Resource Booklet 2

*Peace is defined as the **absence of disturbances** or being in a state of **tranquillity**. Peace also relates to a state of **harmony** in personal relations and the relations among people.*

Messengers of Peace Award

Dear Scouts and Scouters,

The Messengers of Peace Award is a programme initiative from World Scouting, which is open to all youth members of Scouting Ireland. It aims to promote world peace through the positive activities of young people. With scouts all over the world having the possibility of taking part, the Award enables thousands of actions which will help encourage peace, development, and social justice. Check out this video which explains what the Award is all about: youtu.be/9acT1dym9tE

The Award is very simple. All you need to do is to complete a community project which involves over ten hours of commitment from each youth member. It is international recognition for local action. The resources in this pack show how you can achieve the award in each section.

Messengers of Peace is part of the Better World Framework, which Scouting Ireland recently signed up to. Information on the Messengers of Peace Award, and the other parts of the Framework, the World Scout Environmental Programme and the Scouts of the World Award (Venture Scouts and Rover Scouts only), is available on scouts.ie.

Yours in Scouting,



David Shalloo

Chief Commissioner (Youth Programme)

Messengers of Peace

The Activity:

*Complete a Messengers of Peace
service project*



The Beaver Scout Trail

Bree: Help with the service project

Ruarc: Take on a specific job for the service project

Conn: Help choose and organise the service project

Whose talents can help with this activity?

Fionn: Understand that it is important that I am
considerate and help others

Spike: Be kind to others and don't do harm
Understand the ideas of right and wrong

Plan

Introduction

The Messengers of Peace Award aims to promote world peace through the positive activities of young people. Any Beaver Scout who has voluntarily invested more than 10 hours in a community service project is eligible for the award. This can be anything from running a fun day for the disadvantaged in your local community, to coordinating a book donation for a school in need.

Any community project that brings a positive change to an area - its health, environment, social circumstances, safety or addresses conflict – is a Messengers of Peace project. Since 2012, Scouts across the world have been sharing their community service initiatives online on scout.org. To date, more than 620,000,000 service hours have been registered in over 40,000 community service initiatives.

Requirements

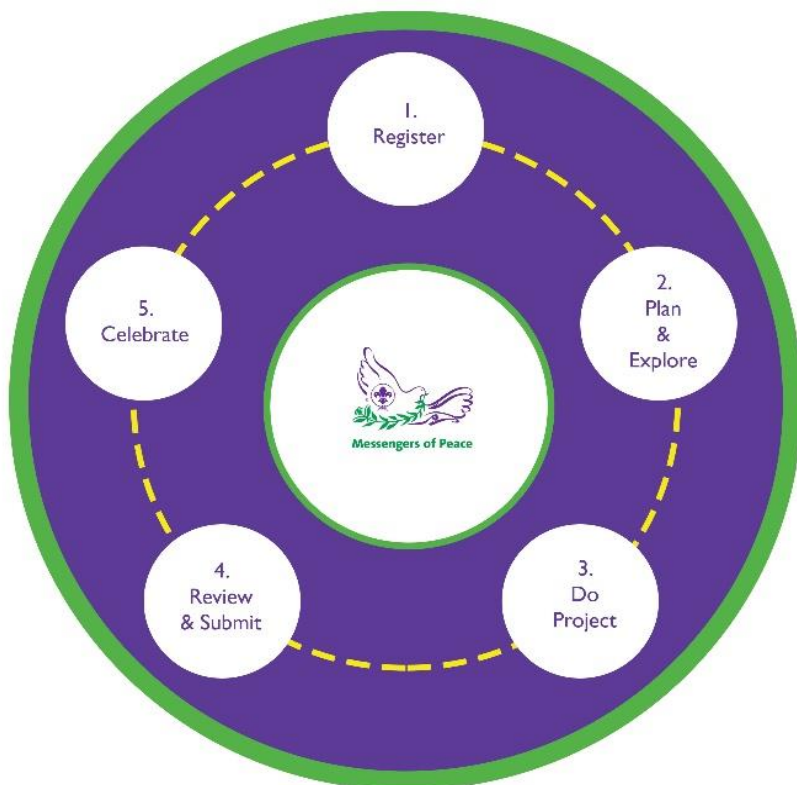
Complete a service project which involves at least 10 hours of effort. Your project should include the following:

- **Service to a community:** The project should address a need in the community.
- **Sustainable:** It should have a lasting impact
- **Personal Progression:** All of the Beaver Scouts should be involved in organising and doing the project.

Plan

Steps to getting the Award:

1. The Colony or each Lodge firstly registers by emailing betterworld@scouts.ie (include your Group details, numbers of Beaver Scouts participating, and your planned project).
2. Plan: Fionn helps us explore a community issue (meeting) and Spike shows us why it is important to help (meeting)
3. Do: Do your community project (day adventure)
4. Review: Spike helps you look at the difference you made and Fionn helps you celebrate (meeting). Submit an application.
5. Celebrate your achievement!



PLAN:

EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES

Activity 1: An Alternative Future

Aim: To empower Scouts to be agents of change, bridging the gap between their '*probable futures*' and their '*preferred futures*'.

Time: 40 minutes

SPICES: Social, Intellectual, Emotional

Sustainable Development Goals: All

Materials: Sample Chart, flipchart paper, markers.

Step 1: In lodges, draw a large 'V' on a flipchart.

Step 2: On the far side of the left line, write or draw in the main events that are likely to happen in the next 30 years. These can be either personal, local, national or global events and should include both positive and negative elements. This is the 'Probable Future'.

Step 3: Next, on the far side of the right-line of the 'V', draw or write their 'Preferred Future', i.e. what events you would like to see happen in the world during our lifetime.

Step 4: Finally, each group suggests how to 'Bridge the Gap' – this means things which will need to change in their personal lives, local communities, and in the world so that the Preferred Future can be reached.

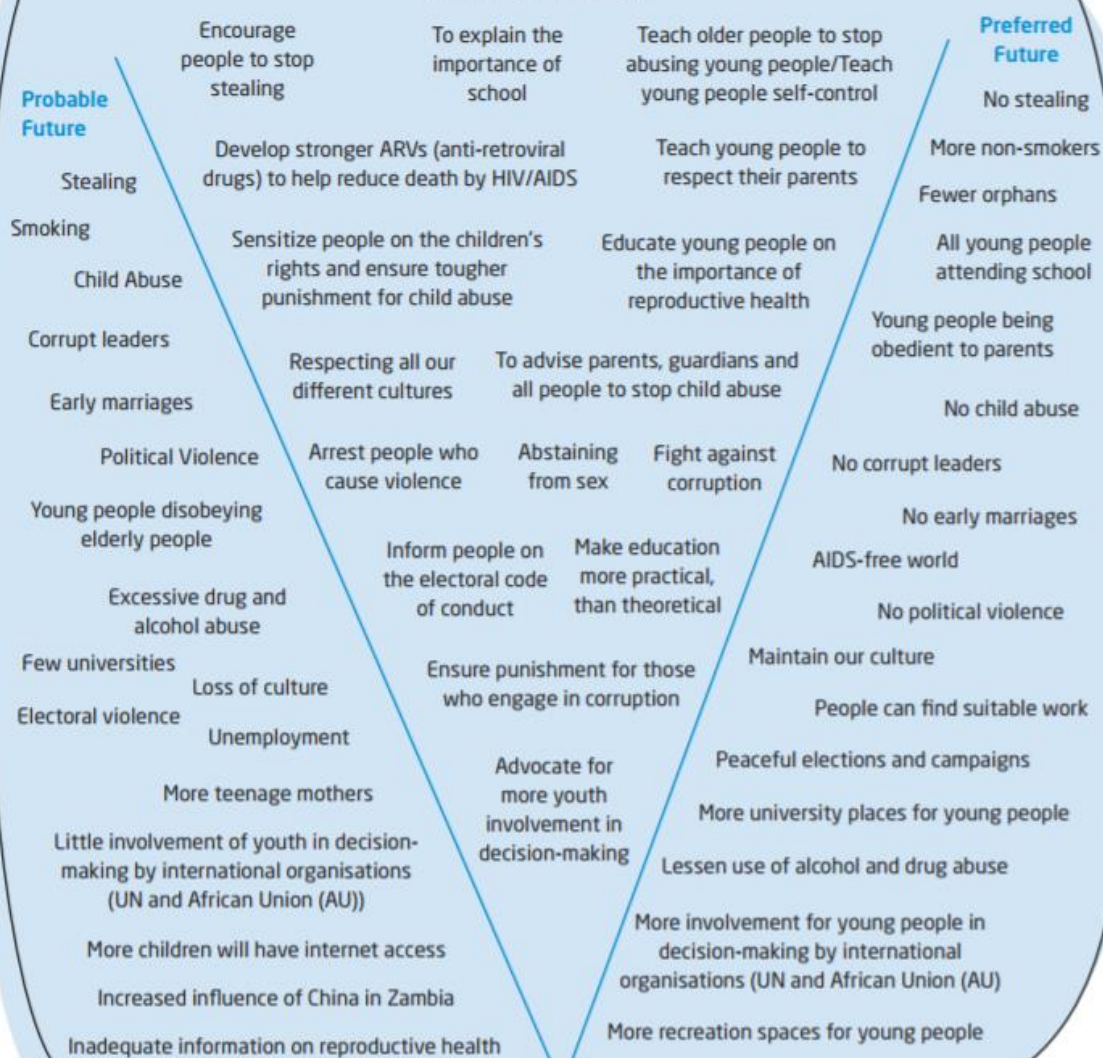
Step 5: Allow the lodges to look at each others' charts and give feedback.

Step 6: Reflect on how these charts can help your group to develop service projects.

See following page for '**Sample Chart**'

Responses from Zambian youth

What needs to happen





Appendix

- What are the Sustainable Development Goals?
- UN Declaration on a Culture of Peace
- What counts as a Messengers of Peace project?
- Section-Specific Objectives
- Five Steps to Becoming a Messenger of Peace
- 10 Principles of Peaceful Dialogue

What are the Sustainable Development Goals?

In 2015, countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Scouts from different countries, along with citizens from all around the world, had a particular and specific contribution in defining these goals.

Always bear these goals in mind when planning your projects. Ask yourselves...

- How many of the SDGs does our project cover?
- In what way is our project related to the goal?
- How does our project contribute to advancing this goal?

Click on the icons in the following link to find out more - <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>



UN Declaration on a Culture of Peace

On September 1999, the United Nations proclaimed Resolution 53/243 A. Declaration on a Culture of Peace to provide guidance for governments, international organizations, and civil society in promoting and strengthening a Culture of Peace. The Declaration of a Culture of Peace defines a Culture of Peace as a set of values, attitudes, traditions, modes of behaviour, and ways of life based on:

- Respect for life, ending of violence and promotion and practice of non-violence through education, dialogue and cooperation;
- Full respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law;
- Full respect for and promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- Commitment to peaceful settlement of conflicts;
- Efforts to meet the developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations;
- Respect for and promotion of the right to development;
- Respect for and promotion of equal rights and opportunities for women and men;
- Respect for and promotion of the right of everyone to freedom of expression, opinion and information;
- Adherence to the principles of freedom, justice, democracy, tolerance, solidarity, cooperation, pluralism, cultural diversity, dialogue and understanding at all levels of society and among nations; and fostered by an enabling national and international environment conducive to peace.

Participants in the Messengers of Peace programme should foster this culture of peace throughout their projects.

A lack of peace may arise from...

- **Lack of resources** resulting in poverty, hunger, poor health, limited education, limited access to water, no access to energy;
- **Lack of mutual understanding** among people that cause discrimination, conflicts due to religion, ethnicities, and gender;
- **Lack of information or understanding** resulting in erroneous use of resources and poor health conditions;
- **Poor or wrong use of resources**, leading to climate change, destruction of nature, conflicts due to limited resources, and irresponsible consumption.

Be sure to consider these things in the *exploration* stage and/or when *planning* your project.

As active citizens and with the support and participation of community members, Scouts can contribute small and big actions and initiatives, such as:

- **Raising awareness about a Culture of Peace and Dialogue**, introducing the concepts through activities, events, and Programmes enabling young people to acquire knowledge, develop specific skills, and practice them at a personal level and in interaction with others for mutual understanding.
- **Supporting youth and people and communities in need or affected by conflict, violence, or disasters** by undertaking community development actions to provide them access to better resources or improving their quality of life.
- **Supporting youth affected by conflict situations to become leaders of positive change** by including them in personal development activities.
- **Promoting the dissemination of information related to the correct use of resources**, specially advocating for the correct and sustainable use of environmental resources, economic growth, and youth employability.
- **Connecting with local Scouts and community members to exchange ideas and promote collaboration** among one another both at the national and international levels.

By engaging in and supporting any of these activities, Scouts contribute to building a Culture of Peace in their community. In many or most of the cases these actions will contribute directly or indirectly to achieving the SDGs. If we succeed, positive change and peace will become a natural part of our local culture and tradition.

What Counts as a Messengers of Peace Project?

Each Scout or Group can turn inspiration into action by choosing specific areas of work to develop their efforts for community development.

The Messenger of Peace Initiative recognizes the following areas of work:

- **Strengthening capacity** (e.g. projects for renewing an NSO's youth programme, or providing training for Adults in Scouting)
- **Inspiring Messengers of Peace** (e.g. projects related to spreading the Messenger of Peace network)

Special projects (including, but not limited to):

- **Support to youth in (post-)conflict zones** (e.g. projects related to supporting refugees)
- **Disaster response** (e.g. projects related to providing immediate support to disaster-affected communities, or projects related to preparing Scouts for disaster response)
- **Environment** (e.g. projects related to reforestation, or cleaning up a river bed)
- **Peace and culture of dialogue** (e.g. projects related to providing training to young people about peace and dialogue).

Messenger of Peace also recognizes that Scouts might select one or more of the SDGs as inspiration for the work in specific projects.

These actions could be organized as:

- **Community development actions:** tackling local issues, e.g.: improvement actions in local infrastructure, prevention, or conservation, building capacity for local communities based on shared development areas from the SDGs.
- **Training experiences** for young people, adults, Scouts, non-Scouts working together or independently;
- **Large Group gatherings** to raise awareness, disseminate a call of action, or develop capacity like youth events, special exhibitions, Scout camps, adult gatherings;
- **Informative, raising awareness or promotion** in local centres, education centres, governmental institutions, and other venues;

Section-Specific Objectives

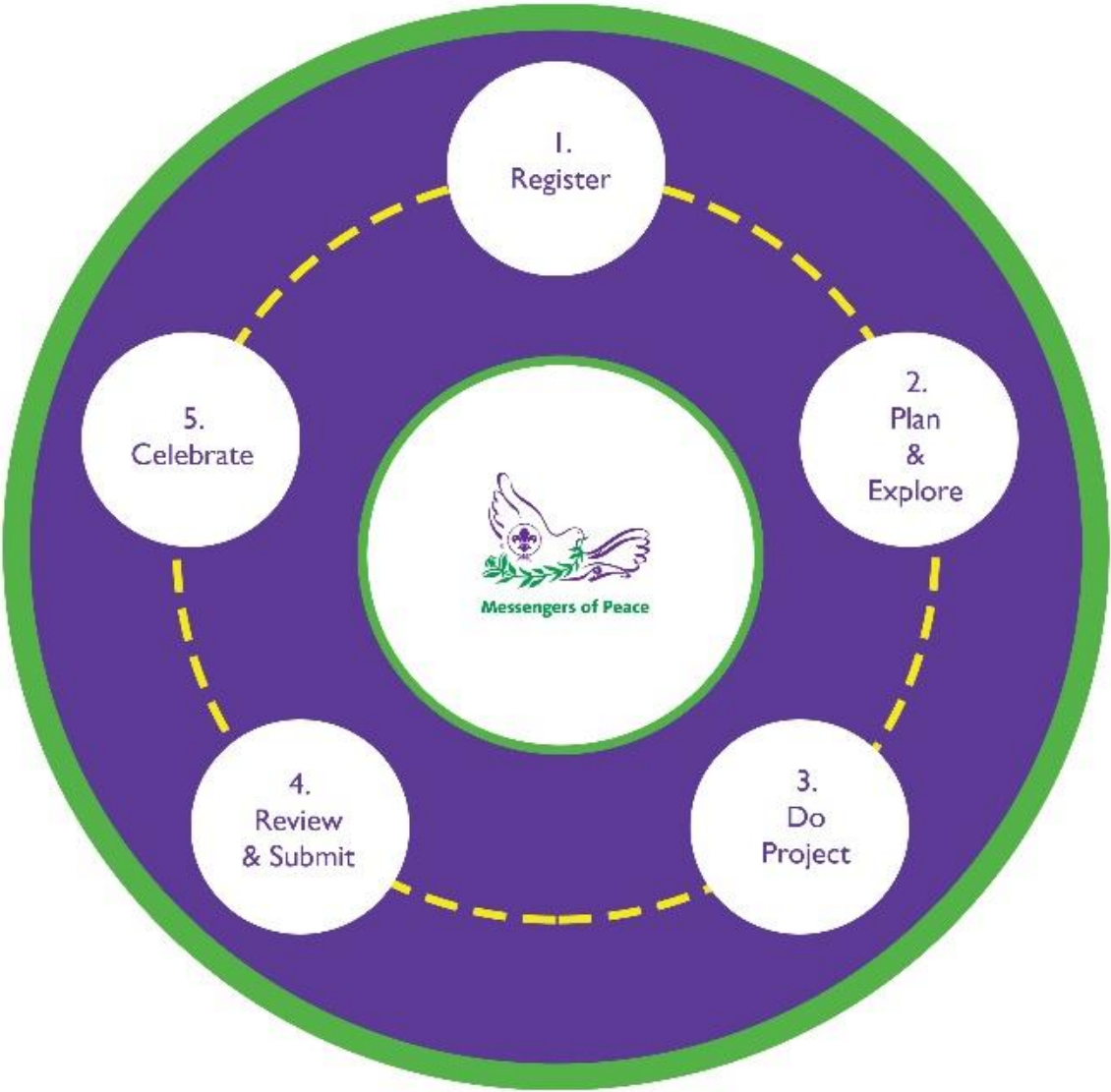
Personal:

- I respect other people's opinions.
- I say respectfully what I like and do not like.
- I respect my parents, leaders, teachers and the rules at home, school and in the colony.
- I share what I have with others.

Community:

- I take part in activities to help the ones in need.
- I offer help to my family and others, in my colony, or at school whenever it is needed
- I participate in community service activities with my colony.

Five Steps to Becoming a Messenger of Peace



Five Steps to Becoming a Messenger of Peace

1. Register & Plan: Explore and research local problems, people in action and good practices.

This is the moment to **identify** community needs, **contact** community members to **understand** what their interests are, gather information about your ideas, **explore** innovative and sustainable solutions already in place, and **imagine** the positive change you want to achieve.

What can Scouters do?

- Introduce them to the four steps to become a Messenger of Peace.
- Introduce them to the Global Network of Service via social media and scout.org.
- Introduce them to the SDGs and how to contribute to them.
- Encourage them to get in contact with community members and explore what could be a relevant issue to tackle.
- Identify objectives from personal progression and agree on them.

Five Steps to Becoming a Messenger of Peace (cont'd)

2. Plan & Explore: Identify your motivation and talents. Choose a field of action. Select useful knowledge, skills and ideas to apply.

In this step, Scouts will **focus** their attention on specific fields of action and concrete activities to achieve specific outcomes for positive change. It is the moment to **identify** what talents and skills they can offer and what new knowledge they need to acquire. It is the time to **plan** the resources they will need. During this step, Scouts should **contact** community members more closely to **define** common goals. It is also the time to find **partners** to join the effort, from local Scouts to the international community.

What can Scouters do?

- Support Scouts to analyse all the information gathered.
- Support Scouts to identify a specific field of action.
- Help Scouts to define the impact they want to achieve with the community development action.
- Provide support in the planning process: time, resources, budget, monitoring.
- Help Scouts to identify knowledge and skills they need to acquire to succeed in the project.
- Provide feedback on Scouts' personal progression.

Five Steps to Becoming a Messenger of Peace (cont'd)

3. Do: Plan your actions, execute, monitor, evaluate and report.

Time to ACT and get plans going. Scouts will finally get their hands on the activities and projects they have been planning.

What can Scouters do?

- Support Scouts in monitoring the plans and activities.
- Provide support to maintain good quality.
- Provide feedback on the progress of the project and activities.
- Recognise and encourage good practices.
- Evaluate the outcomes of the project.
- Celebrate and recognise efforts.
- Provide feedback on personal progression.

4/5. Review, Submit & Celebrate: Share what you did, your experiences, outcomes and lessons learned.

The 10 Principles of Peaceful Dialogue

1. Establishing the safe space
2. To agree that the main purpose of the dialogue is learning
3. Use of appropriate communication skills.
4. Set the proper ground rules
5. Take risk, surface feelings and confront perceptions with honesty
6. The relationship comes first
7. Gradually address the hard questions and gradually depart them
8. Do not quit or avoid the difficult issues
9. Expect to be changed: once participating in the dialogue, expect to be changed.
10. Bring the change to others