

# BETTER WORLD PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Better World Programme facilitates a Scout's contribution to their community, country, and world, through their own self-development. It encourages Scouts to be active and engaged in their communities by undertaking activities and projects, then sharing them with others. The general idea behind the Better World Programme is the focus on thinking globally and acting locally.

The 8 Better World badges are:

- *Conservation*
- *Climate Change*
- *Oceans*
- *Sustainable Choices*
- *Messengers of Peace*
- *Global Citizenship*
- *Community*
- *Equality*

The programmes all follow the same non-prescriptive structure:

1. Experience
2. Act
3. Share

**Experience** investigates the topic, increasing the Scout's knowledge through activities across a range of focus areas.

**Act** is a call to action, where the Scout identifies where action is needed, and actively participates in or creates a project that will help address at least one of the issues.

**Share** is to share the Scout's knowledge and project with others, thereby inspiring further change.

The activities help them learn about and experience the topic, the project is about doing something that will contribute to the community. A youth member may earn the same badge as many times as they like, so long as they undertake a different project each time.

Badges can be completed by individuals or in teams, and youth members can take either a *Participate, Assist, or Lead* role.

Youth members should undertake Plan>Do>Review throughout the planning and completion of the entire badge.

## **RESOURCES**

The aim of these badges is to allow youth members to explore and carry out a project in an area that is of interest to them. While each badge has an activity pack with a range of suitable activities for each focus area, these are non-prescriptive and youth members are free to do any activity of their choice, including ones they come up with themselves.

There is also a project guide as an ideas bank of things that would enable them to take action on a topic/issue, but again youth members are welcome to choose or create their own. Due to the nature of the content, there are a few activities that are doubled-up across the different badges. Scouts should make sure they choose different activities for the different badges.

Each badge also comes with an information pack with background information on the topic to help them and their leaders to facilitate their learning.

There is also a separate resource available on how best to **Share** projects and reflect on your impact and new knowledge.

## ***PLANNING***

Before embarking on their project, youth members should create and outline a plan for the area in which they plan to investigate. This might be done in conjunction with a leader, especially in younger sections. Youth members should document their learning throughout the completion of their badge in whatever format they prefer (written, photos, blog, drawings etc), which will make it easier for them to collate and review their learning at the end of the badge.

## ***ASSESSMENT***

As the Better World Framework aims to be less prescriptive than much of the current awards scheme, so will the assessment be. Instead of a set of boxes the youth member must tick off, assessment is more focused on showing that they have learned something about a specific area and used that knowledge to create a positive difference in their community. This should be peer-reviewed wherever possible.

## ***LINK TO WOSM***

The Better World Programme is primarily based off WOSM's Better World Framework and its association with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), which are referenced in each badge. It also relates to WOSM's new Earth Tribe Alliance badges. Many of these WOSM badges have been adapted to suit a local New Zealand context.

## ***SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)***

The Better World Framework is designed to closely align with the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations in 2015.



### **KEY LINKS**

WOSM:

[Contributing to the SDGs with the Better World Framework](#)  
[Guidelines for aligning a Youth Programme with education for the Sustainable Development Goals](#)  
<https://sdgs.scout.org/>

UNESCO:

[Education for SDGs - Learning Objectives](#)

SCOUTS New Zealand:

[Youth Development Policy](#)

Colmar Brunton:

[Better Futures Report](#)