



MARCH 2011

What's New

Support services to NSOs take a new turn

Starting this first week of March, the Asia Pacific Region is launching a new approach to provide direct services to NSOs in the form of consultancy work with key leaders of Scout associations.

First to embark on this undertaking is Pakistan Boy Scouts Association (PBSA) for a week of internal consultancy together with the desk officer from the APR office. Before the visit, focal areas have been identified by the PBSA and these are the drafting of a National Adult Resources Policy, developing a concept for a Global Development Village, and creating operational procedures for a documentation centre.

The introduction of consultancy visit has been derived from Committee NSO Visit (CNV) recommendations and later a Regional Scout Committee decision to provide more tailor-made support that address the actual, vital and critical needs of NSOs directly. After the success of the first cycle of CNV missions to 17 NSOs in the last three years, the real challenge now is to translate intentions into actions and start the work. The consultancy visit is the first stage of this process for NSOs to analyze and assess their needs and provide solutions.

Scouting in Pakistan, through the leadership of Chief Commissioner Lt Gen (Retd) Syed Parwez Shahid, has been gearing up with essential areas of operation being invigorated. In a span of three weeks, three tailor-made events were organized in Pakistan with regional support, starting with the first workshop on building management capabilities which is also the first in the region, the course for leader trainers for 39 Assistant Leader Trainers after a dry spell of eight years, and this new intervention called consultancy visit.

Scouting reunites three brothers in Kabul

It was a usual Scout investiture ceremony on 12th February in Kabul, Afghanistan, where 33 girls were being invested. This was the newest group of children who have completed their membership badge among the five Scout troops run by PARSА in five different orphanages across Kabul. Out of these five Scout troops, three troops consist of boys and two troops consist of girls with a total of 160 orphaned children. Reports say that there are over 13,000 orphans across the country.

PARSA is a non-government organization that initiated Scouting in an orphanage in Ghor province, now expanding and gaining popularity in different parts of the country.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2011

Consultancy visit

1-7 March
Pakistan

Committee NSO Visit

14-16 March
Cambodia

2nd Preparatory meeting

17 March
Bangladesh

SAARC Camp

21-26 March
Bhutan

World Scout Committee Meeting

25-27 March
Geneva

WSJ HOC meeting

1-3 April
Sweden

Management Sub-Committee Meeting

13-14 April
Taiwan

Regional Scout Committee Meeting

16-17 April
Philippines

Committee NSO Visit

23-25 April
Nepal

Committee NSO Visit

28-30 April
Bhutan

Strategic Planning Workshop

30 Apr – 4 May
Fiji

Committee NSO Visit

5-7 May
Polynesia

Back at the ceremony, two orphaned brothers, Mahboob Shah, 17, and Mahmood Shah, 15, met unexpectedly after being separated for about ten years. The two instantly recognized each other when the children were asked to introduce themselves at the ceremony. To triple their excitement, Mahboob and Mahmood found out that another young boy named Miskeen, almost 12 years old, is their youngest brother.

When the two elder brothers were separated, the youngest brother was left under the care of his grandmother who passed away recently. Now the orphanage is their new home.

PARSA Executive Director, Ms Marnie Hartung Gustavson, who is relating their story said, "it was a very touching moment to see them back together as a family".

Veteran Pakistani Scouter honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award

On Founder's Day, the 22nd of February, Pakistan Boy Scouts Association honoured one of their greatest Scouters by bestowing him the Lifetime Achievement Award. His name is Kurushid Abbas Gardezi who is now 84 years old living in Multan city in Punjab Province. Gardezi holds the distinction of being the first to hoist the Pakistan flag outside the country right after the declaration of independence.

When the independence of Pakistan was announced on 13th August, Gardezi with his scout Iqbal Qureshi stitched the Pakistan flag overnight using his own white shirt and a green turban.

The flag was raised at the Jamboree arena in the morning of 14th August 1947 at the 6th World Scout Jamboree in Moisson, France. Then Commonwealth Chief Scout Lord Rowallan, together with over 20,000 Scouts in attendance, watched the raising of the flag.

To reach the Jamboree, the combined contingent from India traveled from Bombay by ship that took them 18 days to reach England via the Suez Canal and finally to France. Although two national flags of India and Pakistan were hoisted at the Jamboree, the contingents traveled back as a group on their return journey to Bombay. When the Pakistan contingent reached Karachi, the founder of Pakistan Quaid-e-Azam met the contingent and said these unforgettable words "WELL DONE BOYS".

Today the PBSA honours some of their outstanding Chief Commissioners with the same Lifetime Achievement Award. Among them are well known personalities in scouting at national and regional level, Syed Ghous Ali Shah, Parvaez Shah Ali Jillani and Justice Sheikh Mohammed Zahoorul Haque. A number of other key scout leaders who rendered long services to Scouting were also honoured at the same function.

The Federal Minister of Information and Broadcasting Dr. Fardous Ashiq Awar presented the awards. Speaking from her experience as an active participant in youth activities from her college days, she assured government support to the work of NGOs, including the Scouts. "Being partners in enhancing the potential of youth is very

Executive Directors Team Extended meeting

16-21 May

Committee NSO Visit

27-29 May
Singapore

APR Seminar on Environmental Education & Biodiversity

4-7 June
Indonesia

NSOT centenary Celebration

1 July
Thailand

28th APR Scout Jamboree

11-17 July
Taiwan

22nd World Scout Jamboree

27 July – 7 August
Sweden

APR Management Meeting

25-27 August
Manila

APR Workshop on Effective National Adult Resources Committee & National Training System

16-19 September
Japan

Fundraising & Partnerships Seminar

22-26 September
Korea

Launch of Messengers for Peace Global project

26 September
Saudi Arabia

World Scout Committee Meeting

30 September – 2
October, Geneva

Ticket to Life workshop

11-14 October
Manila

important", she said.

Among the guests at the ceremony were the Chief Administrator of Islamabad City Mr. Tariiq Pirzada as Chief Commissioner of the Islamabad Scouts.

WOSM and WAGGS jointly review Bharat Scouts & Guides long-term plan

The Bharat Scouts and Guides (BSG), India is one of the National Scout Organizations that started long range planning since 2002, having the first Strategic Planning Workshop that produced a ten-year plan from 2002-2013. Since then, The Bharat Scouts and Guides reviewed and monitored the plan regularly.

Recently BSG had its third series of strategic planning review. In the five-day workshop, participants from over 17 states shared their achievements and challenges in the triennium with their counterparts at the national headquarters. Together they prepared the blueprint of their plan for the next three years.

Regional Scout Committee Meeting
15-16 October

JOTA/JOTI
15-16 October

Executive Directors' Team Meeting
28 November – 1 December
Geneva

For more info visit
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Taking the opportunity, Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed presented two laptop computers to the Bharat Scouts and Guides on behalf of Mr Shinya Mizuta, Chairman APR Scouting Profile Sub-committee, who personally donated laptops and Xboxes to many NSOs in the region.

This workshop is a joint undertaking of WOSM and WAGGGS. Both organizations were represented with the presence of BSG National Commissioner Mr Lalit Mohan Jain, WOSM APR Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed, WAGGGS APR Vice Chairperson Ms. Normala Binti Baharuddin, Chief Commissioner Shyamal Kumar Biswas, APR Director Admin and Finance S. Prassanna and WAGGGS Resource Pool Ms. Nirmala Bhakre.

Scouts Australia wins 2010 Savewater Award

Scouts Australia has been named as the winner of the 2010 savewater! Awards Community Groups section, for the '100 Year Water Tank Project.' The award was accepted by National Chairman David Jones, at a gala awards ceremony in Sydney late last year.

The savewater! awards® are a prestigious event to recognise and reward businesses, governments, schools, local communities and individuals who excel in water conservation and efficiency.

The winners of the 2010 awards were selected from over 1200 applicants from around Australia and internationally. The applicants were then narrowed down to just forty finalists and seven winners of the various sections. Winners were chosen on the basis of the water-saving project itself and the overall water savings achieved.

The Water Tank Project involved the installation of a 5000 litre tank on almost every Scout Hall in Australia – a total of 1097 Scout Halls. Each tank was connected to the toilets, thereby saving valuable potable water. This unique, geographically challenging, project was completed on time, on budget and without incident with all of the original objectives behind the project more than exceeded. In simple terms, this means that over 5.4 million litres are presently stored on those sites. In addition, a further 140 larger water tanks were installed on Scout campsites, storing another 5.2 million litres of water.

Following on from the success of the Water Tank Project, the next project to be undertaken by Scouts Australia is the proposed Solar Panel Project, which will see solar panels installed on every Scout Hall in Australia. This will make Scouts Australia the first National Scout Organisation to have Scout Halls self-sufficient in both water and energy.

Also supporting Scouts Australia is former swimming champion and five time Olympic gold medallist Ian Thorpe OAM. "It feels to me as though we have a great opportunity to lead the world here and to show that we are doing something in this area that is significant," Ian said. "It can be a small step towards a sustainable future. It's an extension of what the kids learn about their responsibility to protect the environment." -- Lyndall Brown, APR Honorary Correspondent, Scouts Australia

Message of Quaid-e-Azam still relevant

At the opening of the workshop on Building Management Capabilities held in Islamabad on 18-21 February, PBSA Chief Commissioner S.P. Shahid revived the powerful message of the first Chief Scout of Pakistan Mohammed Ali Jinnah delivered at his investiture in 1947.

The message is about the vital role of scouting in the character formation of youth, befriending all, helping other people at all times, and subordinating personal interest to the welfare of others for the attainment of universal brotherhood.

The Chief Commissioner said, "Scouting is as relevant today as it was 64 years ago", in his address to provincial representatives attending the workshop. He reiterated his plan to involve the corporate sector for the growth of scouting and to work with colleges and universities in establishing open Scout groups across the country. Currently Pakistan has over half a million members.

Provincial associations sent 27 participants to the workshop with one participant from Bangladesh. This is the first ever APR workshop using the title Building Management Capabilities with the support of Asia-Pacific Regional office.

The four-day workshop was held at the Global Development Village at the national headquarters of PBSA in Islamabad. Three important aspects of management were covered – basic management principles and theories, organizational structure, and human resources development. These were identified as the key areas that could bring change to Scouting in Pakistan.

Woodbadge holders in Kabul receive the precious two-beads

After the absence of Scouting in Afghanistan for over two decades, the first batch of participants who completed their woodbadge training finally received their beads and scarves. The five recipients are Ahmad Mubeen Muradi, Abdul Jalil Salimy, Jawadullah Omary, Safi Ahmad Khir Andesh, and Muhammad Hashem Amiry who were among the 17 who qualified in 2006. They were all smiles when they accepted the insignias of their achievement.

The five will now assist PARSA in running the Scout troops in different orphanages in Kabul. Other remaining 12 wood badge participants are waiting for their turn to receive the beads after completing all requirements by this coming July.

In his third visit to Kabul from 11th to 15th February 2011, Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed addressed the investiture ceremony. He talked about the global dimension of Scouting in the presence of government officials, ISAF and other organizations.

Later in the day, a delegation comprised of the Regional Director, PARSA Executive Director Ms Marnie Hartung Gustavson, Major Daniel Williams, and Col. William Wenger - met with the Deputy Minister of Education Mr Mohammad Sediq Patman to discuss the need to form a national Scout association in Afghanistan. The deputy minister replied positively and expressed his interest to see Scouting spread around the country. He shared his plan to establish eight Scout zones with training centres and had in fact deputed a staff to work for Scouting.

Operation One World to sponsor 55 children from the Asia-Pacific

Selection is almost over in 14 countries for participants of the 22nd World Scout Jamboree under the Operation One World (OOW), courtesy of the Swedish Guide and Scouts Council. A criteria has been set for the selection of participants. As of now, a total of 55 participants are being chosen from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Countries having the Ticket to Life program were encouraged to choose their OOW participant from among their groups of underprivileged children, and as result, seven out of the 55 are from the Ticket to Life.

From the streets of Manila to the green fields of Kristianstad

Short but significant was the visit of Korea Scout Association President Dr Kang Young Joong to one of the Scout troops of Ticket to Life (TTL) in Manila last month. Upon learning that Operation One World will send one Scout from the TTL to the world jamboree in Sweden, he offered to sponsor one more Scout from Manila to take part in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Scout Association of Maldives New Leaders

The Scout Association of Maldives announces the composition of its new Executive Committee. Chief Commissioner Mohamed Nazeef and Deputy Chief Commissioner Ibrahim Zameer are continuing in their current positions, and the new International Commissioner is Abdullah Saeed.

The Chief Commissioner appointed 12 other Scouting personalities to 12 positions such as Commissioner for Administration, Programme, Adult Resources, PR and Marketing, Organizational Development, among others.

The photos speak – Volunteering inspires!

It's the ninth consecutive year of the Asia-Pacific Scout Photo Contest, and this year's contest builds on the theme 'volunteering'. More than 100 entries from ten countries came up to the challenge of conveying what words cannot express fully --- the gift of time, spirit, enthusiasm, and commitment that volunteers devote to Scouting and to their communities.

A panel of professional and leading photographers in Manila pre-selected the best 15 photos, which have been sent to Japan for the final selection of winners by renowned photographers. The Scout Association of Japan has solely and generously sponsored this annual regional contest since 2001.

What's Ongoing

Committee NSO Visit

Who Key leaders of National Scout Organization, Regional Scout Committee
When 14-16 March
Where Cambodia

2nd Preparatory meeting

Who Host Organizing Committee, Regional Scout Committee
When 17 March
Where Dhaka, Bangladesh

SAARC Camp

Who Rovers, male and female, from South Asian Nations
When 21-26 March
Where Thimpu, Bhutan

What's Upcoming

APR Management Sub-Committee Meeting

Who Members of APR Management Sub-Committee
When 13-14 April
Where Scouts of China, Taiwan

Regional Scout Committee Meeting

Who AP Regional Scout Committee, APR Sub-Committee Chairmen,
Regional Consultants
When 16-17 April
Where Manila, Philippines

Committee NSO Visit

Who Regional Scout Committee, key leaders of Nepal Scouts
When 23-25 April
Where Kathmandu, Nepal

Committee NSO Visit

Who Regional Scout Committee, key leaders of Bhutan Scouts Association
When 28-30 April
Where Bhutan

Be Prepared

Environment and Bio-diversity workshop

Who Volunteers and key leaders who are involved in environmental protection
When 4-7 June 2011
Where Indonesia

28th Asia Pacific Regional Scout Jamboree

Who Young people both male and female aged 12 to 17 years old.
International Service Team should be above 18 years old and ideally not above
45 years old
When 11-17 July 2011
Where Chengcing Lake, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, ROC