

SCOUTS GO SOLAR

NEWSLETTER 2 EDITION 2024



A collaboration between World Scouting and Solafrica





© World Scout Bureau Inc.

MEMBER SUPPORT

February 2025

World Scout Bureau - Africa Support Centre
Rowallan National Scout Camp Opp. ASK Jamhuri
Showground

P. O. Box 63070 - 00200. Nairobi, Kenya.

Tel: (+254 20) 245 09 85 Mobile: (+254 738) 945 346
africa@scout.org www.scout.org

Reproduction is authorized to National Scout
Organizations and Associations which are
members of World Scouting. Credit for the source
must be given.



The Scouts Go Solar Educational Challenge is
part of the Earth Tribe Initiative supported by
SOLAFRICA

INTRODUCTION

Scouts worldwide are championing renewable energy through various initiatives that promote environmental awareness and action. Scouts Go Solar is an educational challenge within the Earth Tribe initiative, focusing on mainstreaming renewable energy, particularly harnessing solar energy as a sustainable resource. This challenge equips young individuals with knowledge and practical skills in renewable energy, empowering them to adopt green practices and become Solar Ambassadors in their communities. By participating in such activities, scouts actively contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). The Earth Tribe initiative, which includes challenges like Scouts Go Solar, unites young environmental leaders globally, reinforcing Scouting's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable development.

A horizontal row of many small, green, right-pointing chevrons.

CONTENT

- Regional Updates
- Solar Projects Worldwide
 - A. Scouts Go Solar Exhibitions at Regional, National, and International events.
 - B. Capacity-Building Workshops
 - C. Advocacy Efforts
 - D. Virtual Engagements
 - E. Solar Camps
 - F. Community Engagements
 - G. Upcoming Events

REGIONAL UPDATES

Asia-Pacific

This year's regional solar training took place in Thailand, from the 1st to 5th of May, at the Vajiravudh Scout Camp near Bangkok. The 23 scout leaders from 11 Asian countries that have been trained there have been busy implementing their solar projects since then. On the 13th of November, there has been a mid-term meeting with the participants and trainers, to see what has been going on and whether the projects are on track. Many of the implemented activities are presented further below in this newsletter.

Global:

Have you heard about World Scouting's [Climate Impact Strategy](#) and the [World Triennial Plan 2024-2027](#) launched at the 43rd World Scout Conference held in Cairo, Egypt? Scouts Go Solar is a key contributor to both, driving climate action through awareness on renewable energies and skill-building. By equipping young people with practical green skills, Scouts Go Solar Challenge as part of the Earth Tribe Initiative continues to foster sustainable living habits, encourages a reduction in the reliance on fossil fuels, and supports the Movement's goal of achieving climate neutrality by 2033. Scouts Go Solar Ambassadors continue to advocate for practices that aid in the reduction of carbon emissions, a part of the priorities for World Scouting being to avoid and reduce carbon footprints. As part of the Triennial Plan's focus on youth-led environmental action, Scouts Go Solar will continue to empower NSOs through the SGS Ambassadors to integrate the Scouts Go Solar Challenge to their Youth Programme, as the challenge offers a hands-on approach that ensures young people are not only learning about sustainability, but also leading the transition towards a greener future.

SOLAR PROJECTS WORLDWIDE



A. Scouts Go Solar Exhibitions at Regional, National and International events

1. Thailand

At the Vajiravudh campsite in Central Thailand, there was a special event that took place from the 21st - 25th of November, called INDABA. This describes a gathering of scout leaders from different places, in this case from all over Thailand, but also including 14 from Vietnam, 14 from Malaysia and one from Myanmar. The more than 2000 scout leaders were able to get updates and in-depth training on existing and new scouting initiatives and activities, among them Scouts Go Solar. The Solar Ambassadors Phichainarong Suwanmayura, Chairat Leejoy, Chansak Sanguankiattisuk and their Scouts Go Solar team offered a broad range of nine different stations, so there was something for everyone. This event also offered a platform for scout leaders to get inspired on how to integrate new activities in the local programmes and exchanging experiences with others.





2. Malaysia

The scouts from Selangor state in Western Malaysia hosted their interstate Jamboree "Korobori 2024" in mid-September. About 1700 scouts from the states of Selangor, Johor, Negeri Sembilan, Perlis and Perak joined this big camp. The Solar Ambassador Jimmy Teh Chee Giap and his team took lead in ensuring the presence of engagements on Scouts Go Solar, by setting up their Solar Roadshow. Besides the "classical" experiments, they also included newer ones like the solenoid, as well as wind and hydro turbines.

3. Kenya

The Kaiyaba Scout Centre in Nyeri County, Central Kenya, hosted the 17th Eastern Africa Zonal Scouts Youth Forum on the 11th of December 2024. Programme activities were centred around panels discussions on topics such as renewable energies. As the Solar Ambassador Rhodah Ndegwa mentions: "The event provided an excellent platform for young scouts to exchange knowledge and share experiences on renewable energy solutions, tailored to the needs and realities of their respective countries."



4. Hong Kong

In the last week of December, over 4000 scouts from Hong Kong, mainland China and Macao came together in Zhuhai, in southern China, for the Hong Kong Scout Jamboree. Under the motto of “We@Future”, they were able to join many different outdoor and other activities. Part of the programme included the Scouts Go Solar Challenge, within the Earth Tribe exhibition space. Participants learnt how a simple solar system works, by soldering their own solar lanterns.



6. Thailand

Between the 10th and 13th of December, another big scout event was held at the Vajiravudh Scout Camp in central Thailand. This was the 29th Suankularb Scout Jamboree, with 4300 young scouts from 11 schools and about 700 scout leaders and staff gathering at this campsite. A perfect opportunity presented itself for the Solar Ambassadors and the Scouts Go Solar team from Thailand to showcase their activities, done through a solar village where the kids and youth experienced the power of the sun! Solar Art, solar car racing, solar water disinfection and solar cooking are only a small selection of the activities that were offered. A lot of people to deal with, but the team did a great job and the kids and their scout leaders had an informative and enjoyable experience.



5. Philippines



Solar Roadshows, which are a special kind of solar workshop, are very common in the Asia-Pacific region. Working with different stations and small groups of participants rotating, it allows the participants to experience more of the respective experiments. Sir Bernz, the “father of the Solar Roadshows” and Janne Mari Asunción, both Solar Ambassadors for the Philippines, organised such a roadshow during the 14th National Rover Moot in July. A whole selection of solar gadgets and solar cookers, but also other activities like colours of the sun, solar art and building sunglasses were part of the programme for the more than 2000 scouts who participated in this workshop. And, of course, another Asian speciality was included: The Solar Sumo, where the players use mirrors to focus the sunlight on solar-powered bugs, so their bug can push the rivals out of the ring.





7. Mexico

The Gathering of Scout Art and Expression (Encuentro de Expresión y Arte Scout) is an annual event held in Mexico, with the Meztitla Scout Centre in the South of Mexico City hosting this year. The programme includes different competitions, workshops and special events, and the Solar Ambassador Neshly Rubalcava Llamas and her team had an opportunity to showcase the Scouts Go Solar Challenge and several of its activities, including solar art and solar beep. Around 200 scouts from different age groups and regions of the country took part in these workshops.

8. Malaysia

As 2024 came to an end, the Scouts of Malaysia held their 14th Malaysia Jamboree and the 8th IUMS Peace Camp at the Millenium Park in Kuala Kubu Bahru, in the Selangor province. More than 3500 scouts from Malaysia and 26 other countries gathered for this seven-days-camp. The Solar Ambassador Jimmy Teh Chee Giap and his team offered various activities on Scouts Go Solar. Particularly interesting was their model of a sundial that involved using a paper circle like in a wristwatch and a stick in the middle.



9. Venezuela

The National Scout Association of Venezuela hosted a National Jamboree this year. Among the broad range of activities, availed for participants, was a Scouts Go Solar stand run by the Solar Ambassador Gabriel Dávila. Their main activity was the Energy Card Game, which involves analysing the energy consumption of household devices and thinking about measures on how one can reduce the consumption in everyday life. On top of this, they engaged participants in a conversation on the very different uses of sunlight.



10. Worldwide



Every year in October, the Jamboree on the Air / on the Internet (JOTA-JOTI) brings together scouts from all over the world, without having to leave their physical locations. JOTA-JOTI is World Scouting's largest event in the year, and always a highlight owing to its huge virtual engagements with scouts across the globe. This time, Scouts Go Solar was represented in three online sessions, that included static activities such as an online memory game and a do-it-yourself activity about building a sundial. With this year's JOTA-JOTI Theme being "Scouts for a Greener World", our first webinar was a conversation on the topic "Scouts Go Solar and the Green Skills in Scouting". The Solar Ambassadors Carol Phillips from Singapore and Alex Balboa from Chile answered to questions from Solafrika's project coordinator Martin Wanner about what green skills can be obtained by engaging in the Scouts Go Solar Challenge, how they can be used in everyday life, and why they are important. The second session was all about "Scouts Go Solar in the Asia-Pacific Region", moderated by Arjay Francisco-Cameros from the World Scout Bureau Asia-Pacific Office, where Solar Ambassadors from India (Karthik Ramachandra), Australia (Nikketah Cuneo) and the Philippines (Janne Mari Asuncion and Sir Bernz) shared best practices from their countries and very different experiences. Last but not least, there was the hands-on session about "Secrets of the Sun – Sundial and Solar Compass". The Solar Ambassador Cristina Obae from Romania and the solar expert Mitch Götz from Mexico explained how a sundial and a solar compass work and gave real-time instructions, so the participants were able to build their own sundials while watching the session.

The online sessions were a big success, with 633 interested scouts from different countries participating live and probably quite some more who watched the recording afterwards.

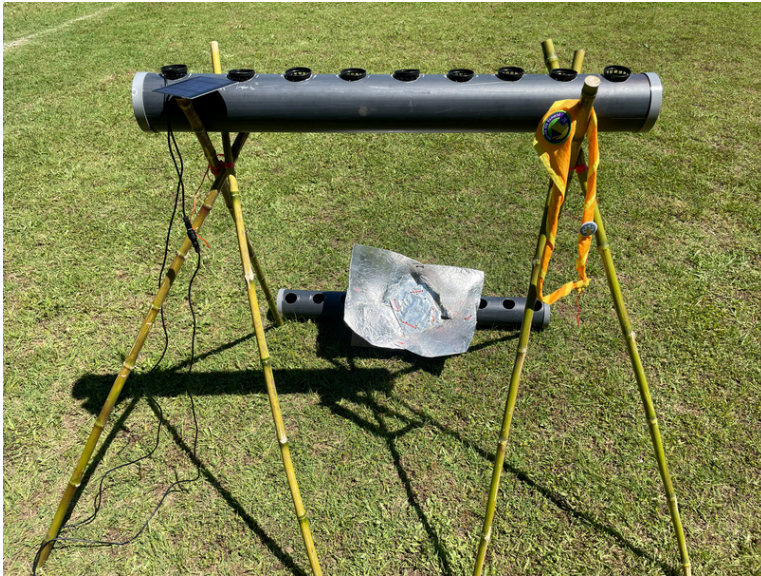




B. Capacity Building Workshops

1. Chile

At the national camp for 15- to 17-year-old scouts in Machalí, in Central Chile, Scouts Go Solar was a fixed component of the programme. Out of the 450 young people from all part of the country who participated in the three-days camp, about 80 were part of the Scouts Go Solar workshop. They learnt how to build and use a Copenhagen solar cooker, discussed about the Energy Card Game and measures to reduce the energy consumption at home, and, as the speciality of the Solar Ambassador Alex Balboa and his team, about the solar hydroculture for plants. In earlier workshops, they had already experimented with solar water pumps and hydroculture. And in the meantime, they have improved the concept and elaborated a more sophisticated version of it, with a plastic pipe and a solar pump, to be able to put oxygen into the water and keep the nutrients moving. Let's see where this process of solar innovation will lead us to.



2. Malaysia

While JOTA-JOTI was taking place online and on the radio, there were several activities going on on-site as well. In Malaysia, there were 6 different stands, with Scouts go Solar the most interactive and popular, according to people who were there. Organized by the districts Seputih/Lembah Pantai and Bukit Bintang, about 400 scouts from Kuala Lumpur and surroundings took part in these activities. The Solar Ambassador Jimmy Tee Chee Giap and his team offered stations with colours of the sun, solar art, solar cooking and solar care races. Apart from that, also a new experiment that shows how a wind turbine can turn wind into electricity.



3. Taiwan

At the same time, during JOTA/JOTI, the new Solar Ambassadors from the Scouts of China organised a Scouts Go Solar workshop at Hsinchu City. Benson Chiu Yi-Ching, Hsiao-Fen Cheng, Yun-Chen Chang and Chun-Yuan Cheng worked together to offer a wide range of activities to the approximately 100 scouts and 60 non-scouts from Taipei City, New Taipei City, Taichung City, Miaoli County, Changhua County and Hsinchu City. Apart from background information about solar energy and its uses, the scouts were able to try out solar boat races, creative drawings about solar topics, connecting an electrical circuit, and many other activities. The most amazing thing was to have a mobile solar system on site, which powered the laptop they used to participate in the online activities of the JOTA/JOTI and to meet scout friends from all over the world!

<https://www.facebook.com/SunFunScouts/videos/8819811431372763/?rdid=6YO7tamvu6HMiMy5>
<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1B4fFPQ1gX/>

4. Ivory Coast

On the second day of JOTA/JOTI, the 19th of October, the very active Solar Ambassador Clavaire Arnold Kouakou Koffi took the chance to combine the online events of JOTA/JOTI with on-site activities about the SDGs and renewable energies. Scouts from very different age groups were participating and having a great time by exchanging their knowledge and experiences with scouts from other countries.



5. Bangladesh

In the city of Chittagong, in the southern part of Bangladesh, the two new Solar Ambassadors Amena Mustary Twoaseen and Jannatul Ferdous Sayma conducted a Scouts Go Solar workshop for 30 rover scouts from different schools in that region. With fun and interactive solar-related games and experiments, they shared their knowledge about Scouts Go Solar and highlighted the importance of renewable energies. But it went much further than that, as they mentioned: "It was inspiring to see everyone come together, not just to earn badges, but to contribute to a brighter, greener tomorrow."
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1972482299925559>



6. Benin

For several months, the scouts from the "La Renaissance" clan of the Lokossa University Centre have been working on the topics of solar panel installation and programming. On the 27th of December, to close the training course and this year's activities, they presented their invention: A solar-powered prototype of an automated system to protect clothes hanging on a clothesline from the rain. As soon as the system registers the first drop of rain, it automatically moves the clothesline to a dry place. And when the sun comes back again, the clothes are re-exposed to dry in the sunlight. Such creative inventions are also part of Scouts Go Solar Challenge, as they include promoting sustainable and innovative solutions using solar energy.



7. Bolivia

Under the title of “Cub scouts towards the sun”, a group of Bolivian cub scouts and their leader started a series of solar workshops that lasted a period of one month. Using visualisations and practical examples, the leader explained to the cubs how solar energy works and why it is important for the environmental sustainability. After receiving this background, the cubs were more than ready to try the power of the sun out in practise, by engaging in activities such as solar art and others.

8. Ivory Coast

To make sure that the participants are ready for the upcoming Solar Camp in Ivory Coast (planned for 2025), the Solar Ambassador Clavaire Arnold Kouakou Koffi organised a briefing session on the 29th of December. During this workshop, he presented to the participants the different Earth Tribe Challenges and facilitated a discussion around the Sustainable Development Goals.



9. Brazil

From June to August, a scout group from Brazil engaged in a series of solar activities. Thanks to the support from the international climate protection network Planeteer Alliance, the group was able to conduct several activities on solar energy, including one where the young scouts turned pizza boxes into solar cookers, and experienced the effect of different colours to the absorption of heat, among others.



10. Vietnam

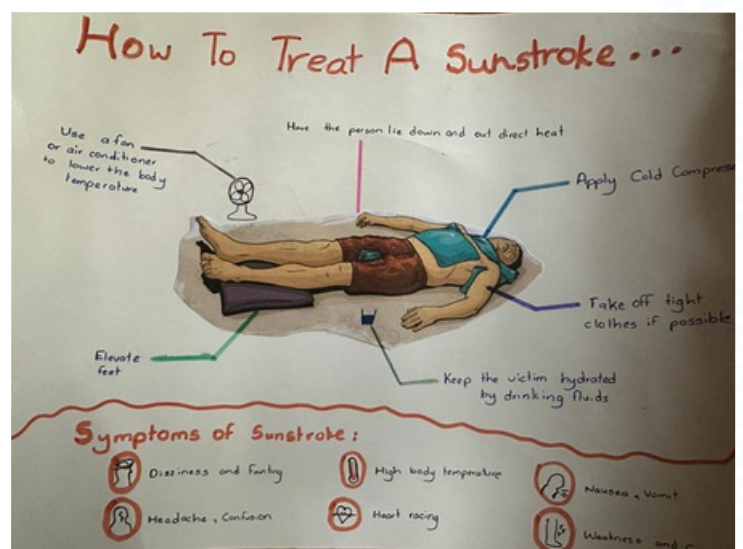
The new team of Solar Ambassadors for Vietnam, Thu Thuy Thien Nguyen and Tue Quang Nguyen organised in the last few months a series of solar workshops. The first one took place in Ho Chi Minh City, on the 19th of May, where a group of 60 scouts, supported by 20 adults, passed through seven different stations, and at the end of each station, received a hint where they would find the next one. A very particular station was the so called game show, where the teams took turns to choose a question to answer. For every right answer, they received points and were able to move forward on the scoreboard. If the answer was wrong, the other teams had the chance to challenge and score. There were also some exciting “special effects” on the scoreboard: In the best case, winning some extra points or stealing from others, or, in the worst case, losing them all.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1Dk5VcVS8m/>



11. Sri Lanka

In the beginning of the year, the leaders of a scout group in the Gampaha District, in the south-western part of the country, organized a workshop for the Scouts Go Solar Challenge. The scouts did not only talk about the different uses of the sunlight, but also its dangers. Whereas they learnt how to prepare a protective liquid for sun burns on the basis of aloe vera! They were really enthusiastic about this Challenge, as they wrote: “Together, let's harness the power of the sun to create a more sustainable world for future generations. Let's go solar and shine a light on a brighter, cleaner future. Together, we can make a difference—one ray of sunshine at a time”.



12. Costa Rica

How many people know about solar energy but don't (know how to) use it in everyday life? For example using electrical tumble dryers when the sun can do the same job, for free and without CO2-emissions? A group of scouts took this as point of departure to reflect on alternative ways of doing everyday tasks, but in a way that is more environment-friendly. As a practical activity, they built and used solar box cookers. But this was not the end, because afterwards, they discussed about ways how they can share their insights with other people and become part of the change in their communities.



13. Taiwan

The new Solar Ambassadors from Taiwan, Benson Chiu Yi-Ching, Hsiao-Fen Cheng, Yun-Chen Chang and Chun-Yuan Cheng, have big plans in mind: For next year, they want to implement a nationwide workshop about Scouts Go Solar and to do a Train-the-trainers. In order to have a team that can manage all this, they started with a training session for about 20 staff members who will be able to support them in delivering these activities.

14. Hong Kong

As part of an Earth Tribe Leader Course, more than 50 scout leaders had the chance to understand and explore the Scouts Go Solar Challenge experiments, where they also learnt more about the other Earth Tribe Challenges.



15. Seychelles



To close an active year of Scouts Go Solar activities, the Solar Ambassador Emma Dodin implemented three sensitisation workshops for new scouts. As it was rainy season, she planned it all for indoors. The Energy Card Game and the discussions about the electricity consumption of household devices were the main topic of these workshops. And to turn these learnings into something concrete, the young scouts designed beautiful posters to raise awareness among other people, as well.

16. Vietnam

Another big activity of the two new Solar Ambassadors Thu Thuy Thien Nguyen and Tue Quang Nguyen was implemented during the Vietnam Cub Scout South Area Councils, where cub scout groups from different parts of the counties came together. Under the title of “Cub Scouts Go Green with Solar Energy”, the Solar Ambassadors toured from Ho Chi Minh City to Bien Hoa City and Ba Ria Vung Tau City, doing full-day workshops for a total of 251 cub scouts from about 20 scout groups. At each station, they received a stamp which brought them one step closer to the final treasure, their certificate of completion. Among the activities were the cyanotype printing, an interactive quiz game, but also a solar boat racing. Assembling solar-powered boats and letting them race against each other was big fun!

17. Bangladesh

In various rover scout meetings on district level, the new Solar Ambassador Biraj Paul Chowdhury conducted Scouts Go Solar workshops, to share his knowledge about renewable energies and the different uses of solar power in everyday life. These include a meeting held at the Deputy Commissioner's Office where he reached out to 120 rover scouts from different scout groups, and another instance where he worked with another 160 rovers during the Golden Jubilee District Camp.



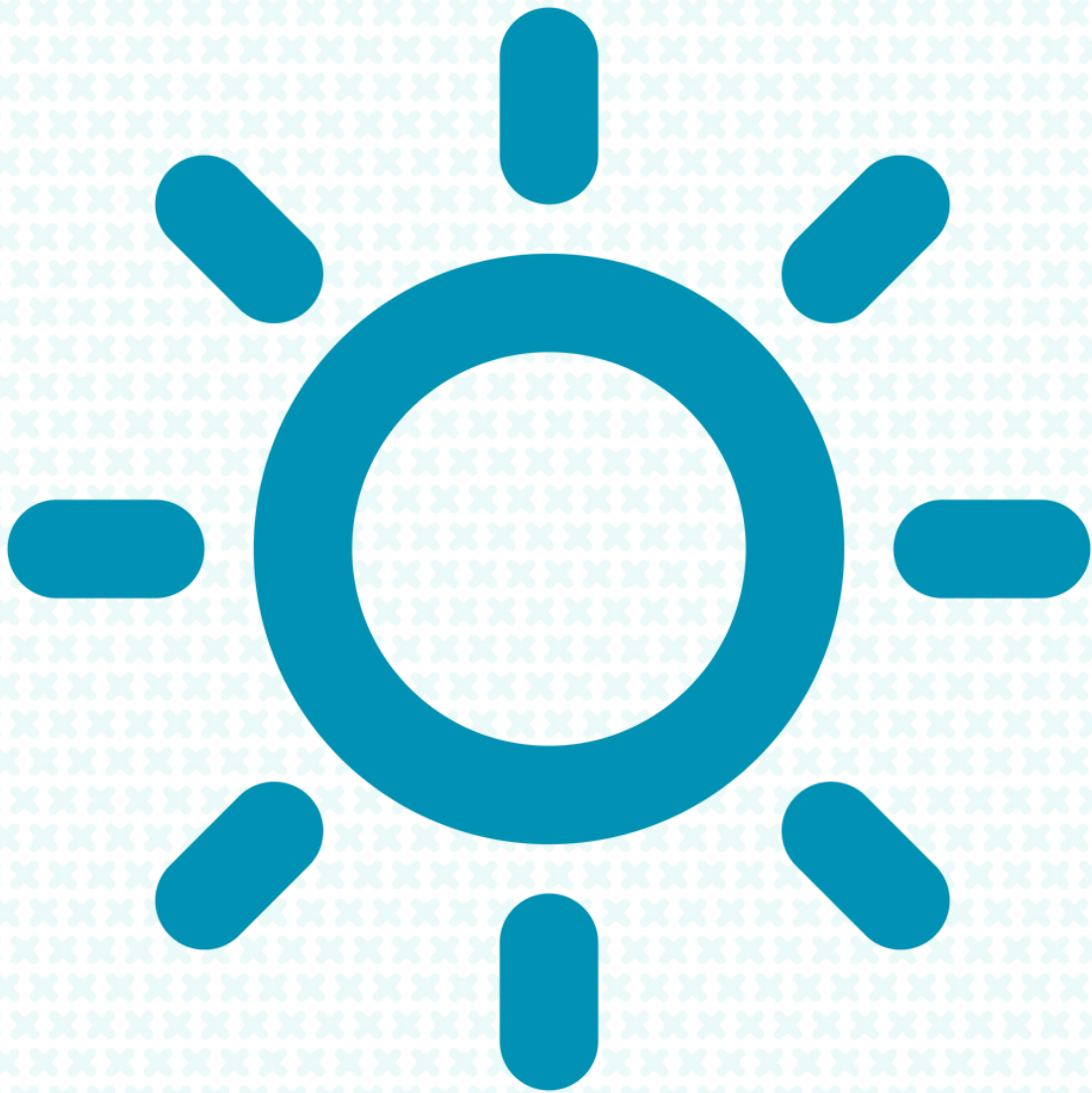
18. Mexico

Many different scout groups in Mexico have been implementing the Scouts Go Solar activities and putting into practise small solar projects. Not only to earn the Scouts Go Solar badge, but also to learn more about the advantages of solar energy and how it can be used in everyday life. Here a selection of the posts and reports:

- <https://sdgs.scout.org/project/dale-al-sol-aprende-y-aprovecha-su-energia-1>
- <https://sdgs.scout.org/project/scout-go-solar-manada-kenneshy-grupo-159-cuh-cdmx>
- <https://sdgs.scout.org/project/go-solar-comunidad-samurai>
- <https://sdgs.scout.org/project/gosolar-annia-g27>
- <https://sdgs.scout.org/project/go-solar-adjidaumo>
- <https://sdgs.scout.org/post/scouts-go-solar-parte-1>
- <https://sdgs.scout.org/post/scouts-go-solar-parte-2>
- <https://sdgs.scout.org/post/scouts-go-solar-parte-3>



C. Advocacy Efforts



1. Costa Rica

Did you know that sometimes even the universe can support you in scouting? Or how would you interpret the approach of a scout group from Costa Rica in taking advantage of the solar eclipse in October to talk to school kids about what would happen if the sun would not only disappear for a couple of minutes, but forever? Apart from talking about different types of solar eclipses, they treated topics like the advantages and risks of UV rays, the renewable energies and the reduction of the energy consumption. As a souvenir, each participant left a handprint on a white blanket, as a commitment that they will lend a hand for fighting climate change.



3. Bangladesh

In the framework of the “Renewable Energy Week”, a campaign organised by the Change Initiative, SEECTO Bangladesh and other organisations, the new Solar Ambassador Amena Mustary Twoaseen facilitated a Scouts Go Solar workshop for a group of 50 girl scouts at the Alim Uddin High School in Dhaka, Central Bangladesh. She presented the Scouts Go Solar Challenge, sharing some background knowledge, as well as fun games using the energy of the sun. The practical activities helped a lot to make complex concepts like solar energy easier to understand. Amena sums up the event, saying that the workshop “engaged participants in awareness about renewable energy, teamwork, and creativity while inspiring them to learn about sustainability without the boring way.”



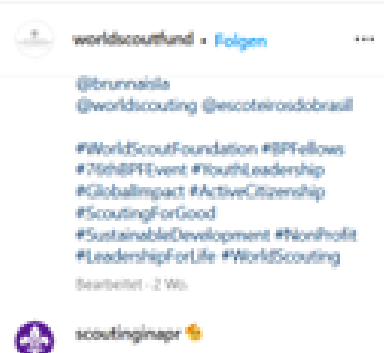
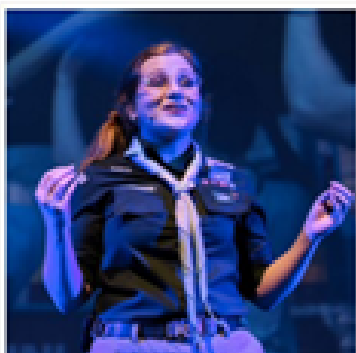
2. Brazil

Did you know that apart from the active scouts, there are several networks that support scouting through other means? One of these is the World Baden-Powell Fellowship. Once a year, the World Scout Foundation organises a meeting for the “fellows” from all over the world, this time in Rio de Janeiro. A part of the programme included a seminar on the “Impact of Scouting”, where three young scout leaders presented their experiences and the big impact that scouting has had and continues to have on global humanitarian efforts, youth empowerment and sustainable development. One of these three scout leaders who had this honour was the Solar Ambassador Obek Falck from Honduras, talking about Climate Action, Earth Tribe, and the Scouts Go Solar Challenge.

Instagram

Anmelden

Registrieren





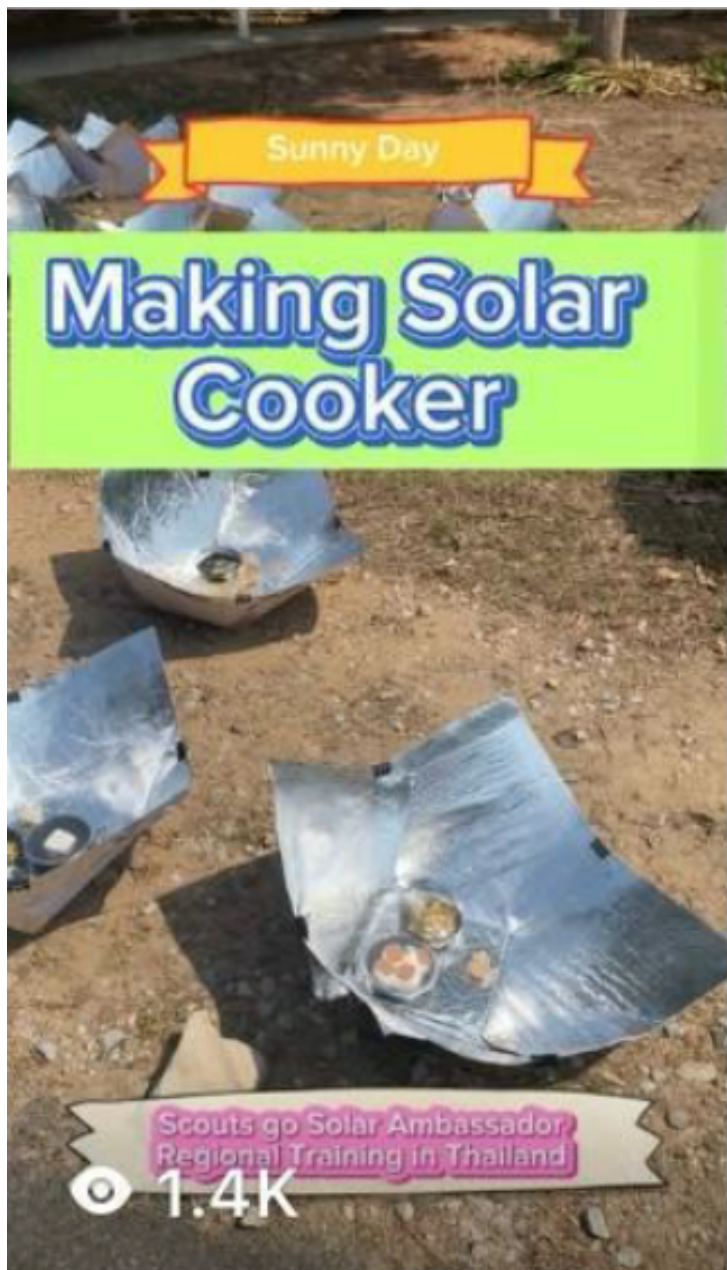
D. Virtual Engagements



1. Bangladesh

Many young people prefer watching videos to reading long texts. So how can you get their attention and wake up their interest for renewable energies? By elaborating short videos for Social Media, for example. This is what the new Solar Ambassador Amena Mustary Twoaseen did, by making a reel about a workshop she conducted with her colleague, the new Solar Ambassador Jannatul Ferdous Sayma, and by producing a step-by-step video tutorial on how to build your own Copenhagen solar cooker.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1AJUoDLSGy/>



E. Solar Camps



1. Vietnam

At the end of June, the two Solar Ambassadors Thu Thuy Thien Nguyen and Tue Quang Nguyen set up what they call the “Au Lac Go Solar – Summer Camp” for 80 cub scouts and 30 scout leaders, rovers and volunteers. During the two-day camp and one more activity done later on, they organised their solar roadshow with different stations. This time, each station was creatively dedicated to one letter of the word S O L A R. With the dangers of the sun, solar art, building sunglasses, solar cooking and – most of all – assembling and racing with solar cars. Like this, the cub scouts had a lot of fun and the organisers learnt many things about the background of solar energy, but also how to pass it on in nice, playful activities.



2. Bangladesh

In an annual group camp on the 16th of December, Scouts Go Solar was highlighted as a main topic. The 48 cub scouts and 32 scouts learned not only about the importance of renewable energies and how to use them, but also on the importance of reducing the energy consumption. Apart from this, they were introduced to the magic of solar art, the functioning of a solar cooker and the funny solar-powered grasshoppers activity.

G.Community Engagements



1. Kenya

What can be an innovative way of getting young people interested in issues that go beyond the individual perspective and affect the whole community? A movie night! The rover crew Huipalas invited two other rover crews and non-scout friends to this event, where they showed different short films and documentaries about young people in crime, changes for a better community and also about protecting the environment. One video was about Scouts Go Solar and the importance of renewable energies. After the movies, there was time to discuss and share opinions about the different topics.



2. Bangladesh

The Youth Climate Action Networking Lab was an event co-organised by the Global Platform Bangladesh and ActionAid Bangladesh, gathering 60 leaders from different youth groups from all the 60 districts of the country. About half of the participants were scouts, with the rest being members of other youth organisations. Together, they will be able to share their knowledge with a projected 30'000 local youth from their organisations. The new Solar Ambassador Amena Mustary Twoaseen was one of the trainers and delivered two sessions about the Sustainable Development Goals, the importance of renewable energies and the contents and methods of Scouts Go Solar. The goal of the event was "to empower young changemakers with the tools and understanding necessary to advocate for climate action and sustainability within their communities", and Amena made sure that they got a clear idea how renewable energies can play their part.



3. Kenya

The newly built solar workshop at the Kaiyaba Scout Centre in Nyeri, Central Kenya, has in the last couple of months hosted several workshops about solar energy. The camp warden and Solar Ambassador, Rhodah Ndegwa, organised different events not only for visiting scout groups, but also for people from the surrounding villages and towns. Rhodah mentions: "The solar workshop hall at Kaiyaba has become a hub for solar awareness events, bringing together community members to learn about clean energy solutions. Additionally, the initiative addresses climate change by planting trees and hosting activities that engage children in understanding the importance of environmental conservation."



4. Bangladesh

The new Solar Ambassador Biraj Paul Chowdhury had the plan to conduct a series of Scouts Go Solar workshops in different schools and colleges in Bangladesh. To do so, he needed to build up a team of trainers. In several sessions, he trained a group of rover scouts to become the "Solar Power Team", with which he moved from one school to another, delivering workshops to a total of 96 scout and about 520 non-scout students. The idea behind these interactive workshops was "allowing the participants to gain in-depth knowledge about solar energy through enjoyable activities and games".



A young man with dark skin is climbing a thick rope outdoors. He is wearing a white short-sleeved polo shirt with blue trim on the sleeves and a yellow scarf with red and blue accents. He is smiling and looking down at the rope. In the background, there are green trees and a building with a green roof. To the right, another person wearing a green beanie and a patterned shirt is partially visible. A large red semi-circle with a purple wavy line is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

H. Long-term Implementation Efforts

1. Hong Kong

When the two new Solar Ambassadors for Hong Kong, Alexander Chan and Glory Ling, came back from their Solar Ambassadors training in Thailand, they decided to give Scouts Go Solar a big push and set up a numerous team of SGS trainers within their NSO. A total of 24 scout leaders from different parts of the country joined the first official SGS training, which consisted in three online sessions and a weekend on-site. Counting with the background knowledge from the online sessions, they were able to build some more complex solar experiments when being on site, such as more complex electrical circuits, a solar record player and also the famous Solar Mario.



2. Indonesia

Under the title “Mentari”, the two new Solar Ambassadors for Indonesia, Rica Zarima and Satrio Bimo Wiguna, started a programme to get the Scouts Go Solar initiative integrated in the structures of their National Scout Organisation. They began with a two-pronged approach: On one hand, socializing the contents and methods of Scouts Go Solar with scouts from different regions of the country, using webinars, virtual discussions and social media campaigns as well as on-site activities with scout groups and during the regional Scout Forums. Through this, they have already reached about 2500 scouts and 500 non-scouts from different parts of Indonesia. On the other hand, they are coordinating with the representatives of the NSO, working on the alignment of this initiative with the existing structures, organisational policies and strategic goals. For this, a working group has been established and the relevant NSO commission is drafting a guideline book that includes Scouts Go Solar. It’s still a way to go until SGS will be fully implemented in Indonesia, but it’s on the right track and moving forward, thanks to the support, enthusiasm and engagement of the people involved.

3. Vietnam

The Scouts for SDG’s Initiatives, which Scouts Go Solar is a component of, was an integral part of the programme availed during the National Venture Crew Leader Camp in the beginning of August in Vietnam. Contrary to other activities, participants did not “just” engage in the solar roadshow and have fun, but engaged in quite a thrill to complete all the phases of this activity. Before the camp, the 120 participants joined an online session, took an online quiz, wrote a short essay and implemented small projects as a team or as individuals. For the second part, done on site, they were given small tasks which once fulfilled, they received the material for the main activity of the corresponding station, for example to do cyanotype printing, assembling a solar car, or building a solar cooker. Even if some things were a little challenging, they had a lot of fun and learnt many new things, not only about solar energy, but also skills such as collaboration and teamwork.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BmyByUybs/>



4. Taiwan

Sometimes it might be difficult for scouts and scout leaders to have access to the educational materials, as many of them are in English. How much easier is it if you have them available in your own language, adapted to your own context? That's why the new Solar Ambassadors from Taiwan, Benson Chiu Yi-Ching, Hsiao-Fen Cheng, Yun-Chen Chang and Chun-Yuan Cheng, translated the Scouts Go Solar Handbook to Chinese! At the moment, the people in charge at the NSO are doing the revision, and afterwards it will be made available. If you are interested to translate the materials to your own language, please get in touch with us for guidance through the contacts at the end of this newsletter!

Upcoming events:

1. Africa Scouts Day in Madagascar, with SGS stand: 13th to 16th of March
2. Virtual celebration of Earth Tribe's 5th Anniversary: 5th of June
3. Annual Regional Scouts Go Solar Ambassadors Training for the Arab region: July 2025 in Egypt
4. World Scout Moot in Portugal: 27th of July to 3rd of August
5. JOTA/JOTI: 17th to 19th October

Be sure to look out for a Scouts Go Solar Stand at your Regional and Global Events 🌟





The Scouts Go Solar Educational
Challenge is part of the Earth
Tribe Initiative supported by
Solafrica

Bollwerk 35, 3011 Berne, Switzerland
(+41) 31 312 83 31
www.solafrica.ch/en

Have you done a solar activity and would like to see it published in the next Scouts Go Solar Newsletter? Do you have questions about the project? Get in touch with us!

For World Scouting: Ivy Murugi, Junior Manager Earth Tribe and Scouts Go Solar,
ivy.murugi@scout.org

For Solafrica: Martin Wanner, Project Manager Scouts Go Solar,
martin.wanner@solafrica.ch

Compiled by: Martin Wanner & Ivy Murugi.
Review & Editing: Bonface Maina, Morris Mwendwa & Nelson Opany.
Photos: World Scout Bureau Inc. Compilation and photos shared by the
Solar Ambassadors and scout leaders who have implemented the activities.
Layout & Design: Bonface Maina.



© World Bureau Inc.
MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT
February 2025

World Scout Bureau - Africa Support Centre Nairobi
Rowallan National Scout Camp Opp. ASK Jamhuri Showground
P. O. Box 63070 - 00200. Nairobi, Kenya. Tel: (+254 20) 245 09 85
Mobile: (+254 738) 945 346 africa@scout.org www.scout.org

Reproduction is authorized to National Scout Organizations and
Associations which are members of World Scouting. Credit for the
source must be given.

