

SCOUTS GO SOLAR

NEWSLETTER JAN – AUG 2024



A collaboration between World Scouting and Solafrica





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SCOUTING DEVELOPMENT
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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

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

The Global Scouts Go Solar project (SGS) is an environmental partnership between the World Scouting and SOLAFRICA, a Swiss-based NGO, aimed at engaging and empowering young people to champion the adaptation of solar energy as a solution to protecting the climate and ensuring a sustainable energy supply. Solar energy among the renewable energy options is the most appropriate for the learning-by-doing scouting method, and very practical for community awareness. Scout leaders are trained to implement practices on solar energy in their contexts and champion the adaptation of the Scouts Go Solar Challenge in their NSO Youth Programmes. Since the first training in 2014, we have trained 120+ Scouts Go Solar Ambassadors, and this newsletter highlights the inspiring and impactful project they have been implementing in their NSO's.



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"Every roadshow, every solar-powered gadget made, and every conversation about renewable energy is a big win for the planet and a step closer to the Sustainable Development Goals. Keep up the incredible work, and let's keep making a difference!"

Ivy Murugi
Junior Manager, Earth
Tribe and Scouts Go
Solar.



Martin spreads knowledge about solar energy by training Solar Ambassadors in regional courses.

Project Manager Scouts go Solar,
Solafrica.



REGIONAL UPDATES

Africa

The 9th Africa Scout Jamboree held in Bungere National Scouts Camp, Gitega, Burundi, brought together over 700 young scouts for an educational and engaging camp, from the 2nd to the 11th August 2024 under the theme 'Safe Spaces, New Experiences'. The camp had an exciting program with both onsite and offsite activities, and Scouts Go Solar ran a space with challenges run by 3 Scout Go Solar Ambassadors. The scouts got to explore different concepts of solar energy through exciting games that helped them learn about the power of the sun, why renewable energy is a good option and how to practice safety when engaging in activities.

Interamerica

Last year in November, there was a regional solar training in Bolivia, where 14 scout leaders from 13 different countries were trained to become Solar Ambassadors. With the implementation of their solar projects, which are part of the training, they reached out to more than 200 people, doing 8 replicas for local communities and delivering 750 hours of volunteering service. Apart from that, 14 countries of the Interamerica Scout region reiterated their compromise to include Scouts Go Solar in their national programme.

[Read full story here.](#)

30+

**More than 30 countries
where scouts participated in
various Scout Go Solar
Activities in the year 2024.**

Asia-Pacific

This year's regional solar training took place in Thailand, from the 1st to the 5th of May, at the Vajiravudh Scout Camp near Bangkok. The 23 scout leaders from 11 Asian countries were trained in background knowledge about renewable energies and solar energy, practical skills on how to use it and turn it into an experience, but also about how to link Scouts Go Solar within the scouting structures. The participants also worked on project ideas on how to implement their new knowledge within their communities and scouting organizations. In the present and future newsletters, we will gladly inform you about the results of these activities and projects.

[Read full story here.](#)

Europe

There are more than 12'000 scouts from all over the world that visit the Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC) per year. During the summer season, a very popular part of the KISC programme is the Scouts Go Solar Workshop. This year, the workshop concept has been redesigned, extended, and updated to the most recent state of the activities. In order to pass on these updates and new activities, two trainers from Scouts Go Solar trained the group of KISC volunteers who are in charge of this workshop.

The 1st of August is considered to be the founding date of the Scout Movement. Every year on that day, the Kandersteg International Scout Centre organizes a special event. This time, it was an international camp with about 1700 scouts from more than 30 countries. At the Scouts Go Solar stand, which was part of the Global Goals Exhibition, the scouts were able to carry out several experiments and learn more about the project. Due to the unstable weather, it was necessary to have "sunny" and "rainy days activities" at hand.

Global

With the objective of fostering the exchange of ideas, connecting the different people involved, and supporting the National Scout Organisations to provide solid and comprehensive environmental education programmes, the Global Support Centre of WOSM organised a series of Earth Tribe Webinars in March. Apart from representatives from the different Scout Regions and the Global Support Centre of WOSM, many Solar Ambassadors were participating, as several of them are involved in the environmental education teams within their NSOs. It was interesting to hear experiences from very different contexts, and a good opportunity to spread the knowledge about Earth Tribe and Scouts Go Solar.

Once every three years, the national scout representatives of all the countries where there are scouts meet in one place, to decide in which direction the World Organisation of the Scout Movement should go in the next triennium. This time, it took place in Cairo, Egypt. Wouldn't that be an amazing opportunity to showcase Scouts Go Solar? There was a series of parallel workshops about very different topics, among them one called "Eco-Champions: Global Scout Environmental Initiatives". Panelists from different countries presented their best-practice examples and discussed them with the public, among them the project coordinator of SGS from Solafrica, Martin Wanner. Several countries showed a big interest in Scouts Go Solar and would like to include it in their national environmental programmes. It will be very interesting to see how this moves on.

SOLAR PROJECTS WORLDWIDE



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

1. Thailand

Did you know that in Thailand, Scouts Go Solar has its own scout troop? For the Scout March on the 1st of July, the solar team from Thailand, including the Solar Ambassadors Chansak Sanguankiattisuk and Phichainarong Suwanmayura, participated with a special Scouts go Solar troop, carrying yellow hats with the logo and their own flag for Scouts go Solar Thailand.



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2. Kenya

When the County Administration of Nyeri hosted the Tourism and Cultural Festival on the 21st and 22nd of June, the Kenya Scouts took part in an exhibition about various scouting elements and outdoor living techniques. The solar cooker that was exposed and used during the festival drew a lot of attention. Solar Ambassador Rhodah Ndegwa and her team explained to the interested public the principles behind solar cooking, its advantages, and the possibilities it offers in urban and rural areas. As Rhodah writes in her Facebook post: "Overall, the solar cooker demonstration at the Kenya Scouts' tent during the Nyeri tourism and cultural festival was a resounding success. It effectively combined elements of scouting tradition with modern, sustainable technologies, leaving a lasting impression on festival attendees and potentially inspiring more people to consider solar cooking as a viable option for their homes." [Watch Video here.](#)

3. Brazil

The year 2024 is very special for the Scouts of Brazil, as it marks 100 years of scouting in this country!

In order to celebrate this anniversary, there was a national Jamboree from the 13th to the 19th of July, where more than 6000 scouts from all over the country participated. Among them was a group of scout leaders who represented the SCENES Centre BASE Escoteira de Goiás and who were promoting Scouts Go Solar by offering fun activities and informative insights into the background of the project. As a recognition and souvenir of this unique event, the participants that have completed all the activities received a beautiful Scouts go Solar badge.

4. Nepal

The Nepal Scouts Day, which marks the founding of the scout movement in this country in 1952, was a perfect opportunity for the future Solar Ambassador Sabin Krishna Karmacharya and his team to set up a Scouts Go Solar stand for the scouts of all ages that participated in the festivities. Solar art, a Copenhagen solar cooker, a solar car, and a solar fan were only some of the experiments and gadgets that were presented. The biggest attention received the solar beep, challenging from cub scouts up to adults.

5. Portugal

Preparing pizza, pasta, and cakes only with the power of the sun? And doing this one day after the other? That's exactly what happened at the Viana do Castelo Regional Camp in the high north of Portugal. From the 28th of July to the 2nd of August, the Portuguese Solar Ambassadors Daniela Casimiro, David Paulos, and their team showcased the solar cooking to about 750 young scouts, letting them try it out in practice and challenging them to discover the power of the sun.

6. Kenya

Once a year, scout groups from all over Kenya meet at the Rowallan Scout Camp in Nairobi to participate in the national scout competition. The Solar Ambassador Rhodah Ndegwa set up a stand to conduct solar education sessions as part of the event. And as she writes, it was a full success: "We are thrilled to see such a strong interest in renewable energy among the youth and are confident that these sessions have inspired future Solar Ambassadors".





B. Capacity Building Workshops



1. Philippines

One more or less common type of parabolic solar cooker is made from an old satellite dish, covered with mirror foil. What is much less common is the model that the ULAP Scouting Unit and Minds that Matters have tried out as part of their "Summer Camp Master the Element", from the 3rd to the 6th of June: Also a satellite dish, but instead of a mirror foil, they covered it with many small mirrors, like a mosaic.

2. Mexico

The elaboration of sunglasses was one of the main activities in the Scouts Go Solar workshop that the Scouts group of Rogers Hall organized on the 20th of January. These sunglasses turned out to be very useful during the implementation of other solar experiments later on.

3. Kenya

On the 17th of February, the Solar Ambassador JuliTech Wambugu used the opportunity to train scout leaders from different schools to show them what Scouts Go Solar is all about. They will now be able to replicate some of the contents with their own scout groups.

4. Ivory Coast

On the 22nd of June, the Solar Ambassador Clavaire Kouakou Koffi organized, together with his team and an international climate advisor, a Solar Forum for young scouts. The goal of the event was to raise awareness and introduce young scouts to the crucial importance of renewable energies. The hands-on part of the workshop included the construction of solar cookers and sunglasses, but also the operation of a solar suitcase.

5. Thailand

300 rovers scouts of the Panitchayakan Rajdamnern Technological College attended the solar workshop on the 20th and 21st of January at the Suea Pa Scout Camp in the Pak Chong District in Central Thailand. The two Solar Ambassadors Chansak Sanguankiattisuk and Phichainarong Suwanmayura were invited to deliver this workshop, which gave the participants the opportunity to get to know and try out experiments like solar art, solar cooking, water sterilization, solar car racing, and building of sundials. It was quite fascinating for the scout youth when they had the chance to assemble and solder their own solar lamps.

6. Taiwan

An amazing way of using the sunlight for art was part of the solar workshop that the new Solar Ambassador Thu Thuy Thien organized with her scout group: the so-called "Sun Print", or "cyanotype", as the technical name is. A technique that was discovered more than 200 years ago, and that has been replaced by more modern ones later on. Nevertheless, it still produces great pieces of art. But how does it work? First, they painted one side of a piece of paper with a special color. Then, they put different kinds of templates (for example letters, logos, etc.) on top of it. As a next step, they put their sheets of paper with the templates in a place with a lot of sunlight. And – surprise! – after about 10 minutes, the uncovered areas became blue, and the covered ones remained white! After rinsing the excess color with some water, the pieces of art remained as they were, no matter if there was more sunshine or not. [Watch video here.](#)



7. Kenya

In March, the Solar Ambassador Rhodah Ndegwa was invited to the Kilifi Scout Centre in the South-Eastern part of Kenya, where she participated in Patrol Leader Training. The 35 patrol leaders from selected schools within Kilifi County learned more about the basics of Scouts Go Solar and entered into an exciting and engaging debate about the advantages of solar energy.

8. Namibia

What would happen if the sun suddenly disappeared? What would change, what would be lost? With these questions, the Solar Ambassador Emilazer Michael started his solar workshop for the 1st Tsumeb Scout Group, from the North of Namibia, on the 5th of April. Afterward, they moved on to the technical side, learning more about direct and alternative current, the functioning of a solar panel, and the necessary safety measures when handling solar panels. One week later, they had a second workshop, focusing on the topic of solar cooking. Also here, they received safety instructions on the use of solar cookers and then were able to build their own cookers from tin foil, glue, boxes, wire, and wooden sticks. No doubt that they also wanted to test it in practice, so it was time for a Solar Sausage Barbeque.

Only one day after his first workshop, the Solar Ambassador Emilazer Michael organized a second one, this time for the 4th Tsumeb Scout Group. Apart from building sunglasses, the main activity consisted in identifying the electricity consumption of household devices. In heated discussions, they elaborated strategies on how to reduce overall consumption by up to 90%, which was an important eye-opener for many of the participants.



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10. Malaysia

At the end of May, the new Solar Ambassador Kelvin Lau organized solar fun activities for a group of cub scouts. Once they realized how the connection between the sunlight, the mirrors, and the solar-powered cars works, they started racing with their solar cars like formula 1 pilots.



11. Cameroon

The Scouts Go Solar Challenge was introduced to the Bafoussam region, in the Eastern part of Cameroon, when the Solar Ambassador Cathy Nyake, the person in charge of the programme, and the regional team organized a workshop for about 45 scouts from cub scouts up to rovers, coming from different parts of the region. In the first phase, they collected and prepared the necessary materials for the construction. After a theoretical input, they started building solar cookers, sunglasses, and a mixed circuit with a solar beep and a solar lamp, which was definitely their highlight.



Through **2,720,244,454** service hours, millions of young people worldwide are creating a better, more peaceful and sustainable world.





12. Switzerland

In April, the Mexican Solar Ambassador Alexis Aiheser Ramírez Cruz returned to the place where he had been trained two years earlier: The Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland. Nevertheless, this time, he brought along a group of 33 scouts of different ages from three provinces in Mexico. As two of the trainers of Scouts Go Solar joined them during their stay at the KISC, they took advantage of the opportunity and implemented a Scouts Go Solar workshop for the group. As it was snowing outside, they had to stick to the “rainy days” activities. Nevertheless, the scouts liked it a lot, especially the Solar Mario experiment.

13. Honduras

Inspired by the sun god in Maya culture, the two Solar Ambassadors Obek Falck and Laura Cárcamo called their solar workshop “Kinich Ahau”. Being the first Scouts Go Solar workshop on a national level in Honduras, 28 scout leaders and 3 non-scouts from different regions took part. With the slogan “Transforming sunrays into energy: One step closer to a sustainable future!”, they set the basis for a broad replication of the contents and activities of Scouts go Solar in Honduras, highlighting the practical uses of solar energy in everyday life.

14. Thailand

A very special Scouts Go Solar workshop took place on the 27th of January in the Sri Sangwan School in the Pak Kret District, close to Bangkok. The Solar Ambassador Chansak Sanguankiattisuk, the new Solar Ambassadors Phichainarong Suwanmayura and Chairat Leejoy and their team organized a workshop for 122 scouts with special needs. Everyone was highly motivated to learn more about the benefits of solar energy, to build sunglasses and solar cookers, and to try them out afterwards.



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15. Ecuador



Over a time-lapse of five weeks, the cub scouts from the Grupo 5 Ángel Robusti Basso of Cuenca, in the southern part of Ecuador, did Scouts go Solar activities. Under the lead of the Solar Ambassador Samantha Flores Vélez, they tried out activities like the grasshopper race, writing their names by using solar art, building and decorating their own sunglasses, etc. For this last activity, they were so motivated that it took even two afternoons to finalize the sunglasses, each one of them being a unique piece of art. Towards the end of August, the Solar Ambassador Samantha Flores Vélez and her team also organized a Scouts Go Solar workshop for a group of young scouts, where they spoke, among many other topics, about the different types of energy.

16. Thailand



Regarding the number of participants, the Scouts Go Solar workshop at the Secondary Demonstration School of the Srinakharinwirot University Prasarnmit in Bangkok reached a next level. A total of 449 scouts and 30 scout leaders were part of this workshop, delivered by the Solar Ambassador Chansak Sanguankiattisuk, the new Solar Ambassadors Phichainarong Suwanmayura and Leejoy Chairat and their team, on the 7th of January. Working in smaller groups, the scouts were able to build their own solar cookers, assemble solar lamps, create solar art and much more.

17. Malaysia

In Malaysia, the Scouts go Solar Challenge is not yet officially part of the national scout programme about the environment. Therefore, the two new Solar Ambassadors Kelvin Lao and Manivannan Rethinam (better known as Dr. Mani) started with a pilot training about Scouts go Solar, to see how it can be aligned with the existing badge system. Among the activities for the participants was the construction of sunglasses, the building and testing of solar cookers, the grasshopper race and others. No doubt, the highlight was the assembling of different solar-powered devices, such as toy cars, helicopters, moon rovers and fans.



18. Thailand

Under the motto of “9 Once Again, Volunteers Honoring the King”, more than 500 scouts from all nine Triam Udom Suksa Nomklao schools participated in a scout camp on Vahjiravudh Scout Camp in the Chonburi Province, close to Bangkok. Lasting from the 23rd to the 25th of July, the camp included different activities about Scouts Go Solar, conservation of the environment, and others. The Scouts Go Solar part was led by the new Solar Ambassador.

It was in mid-June when 300 scouts and scout leaders from 21 schools gathered at the Chinoroswittayalai School in Bangkok for the 1st Royal Volunteer Scout Gathering of this service area. Under the title of “Scouts Life Skills, Environmentally Friendly”, the team Thailand joined forces (among them the Solar Ambassador Chansak and the new Solar Ambassadors Phichainarong and Chairat) to deliver a solar workshop with a wide range of different activities. What do you think, would you be able to solve a solar beep, by moving the ring all along the letters SGS?



19. Mexico

The Earth Tribe Challenges have only recently been officially included in the Educational Programme of Mexico. Therefore, it is very important to share this knowledge with the scout leaders across the country. The Solar Ambassador Neshly Arlette Rubalcava Llamas took part in the actualization course for the province of Aguascalientes, taking place from the 29th to the 30th of June, presenting to the adult leaders the contents and activities of Earth Tribe and Scouts go Solar.

20. Seychelles

Creativity is one of the big characteristics of the workshops led by the Solar Ambassador Emma Dodin. By the end of August, the rainy and windy season had already started, and she went for indoor activities for a group of cubs and scouts. Among the activities were circle games and also a song that mentions the different advantages of solar energy.



21. Ivory Coast

The scouts of the region Abidjan South wanted to know more about solar energy. That's why they invited the Solar Ambassador Clavaire Kouakou Koffi to this year's edition of the Camp Anouanè, taking place from the 9th to 18th of August in Aboisso. Together with another trainer, he explained them the crucial importance of renewable energies, especially solar, and how they can be used in everyday life.

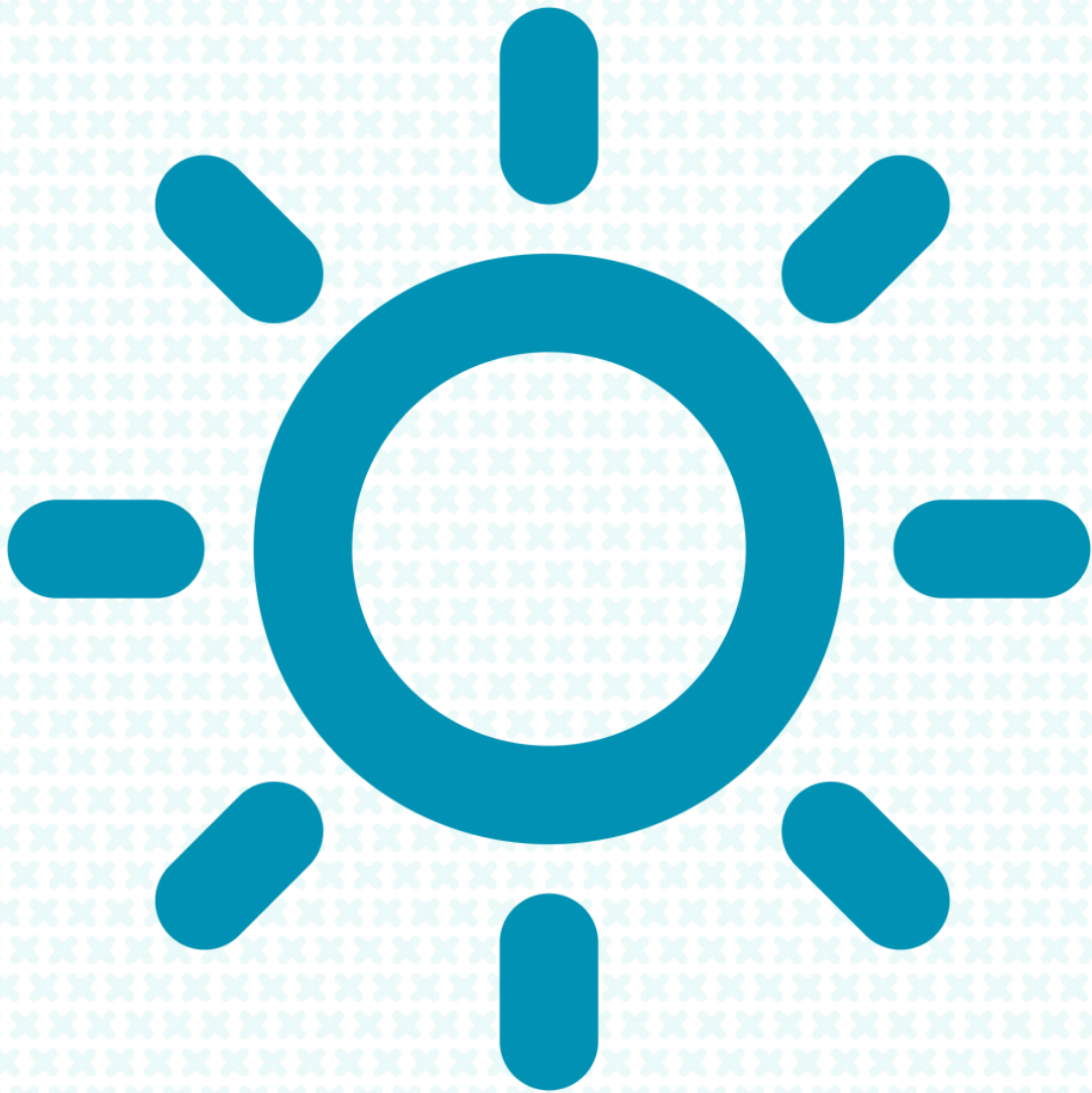
22. Namibia

On the 23rd of September, the Solar Ambassador Emilazer Michael implemented a solar workshop for the 1st Ongwediva Rover crew, in the high North of the country. By entering deeply into the topics of electricity, parallel and serial connections, direct and alternating current, etc., he showed them the scientific background behind solar energy. Nevertheless, he also made a clear connection to everyday life, showing how much money they could save on electricity if they installed solar systems at their homes, apart from the positive impact on the carbon footprint and a step forward regarding a sustainable energy supply.

Another solar workshop that the Solar Ambassador Emilazer Michael organized at the 11th Ongeama PLTC was part of the patrol leaders training course for the Combretum region. His main objectives were to educate scouts about renewable energy, to encourage teamwork and independent skills about Scouts Go Solar, to increase environmental awareness, and to encourage young people to make use of renewable energy. With a mix of theoretical and practical units, he trained a group of 11 patrol leaders. He emphasizes that the adult leaders were amazed by the SGS games, which are fun and educational at the same time.



C. Advocacy Efforts



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1. Chad

"Green Entrepreneurship as central part of sustainable development" was the title of a 7-days training course that the Solar Ambassador Frédéric Mora and his scout group of the N'Djaména Sud district organised in cooperation with the local municipality. The formation touched three main topics: the upcycling of plastic waste into pavement material, innovative solutions for biological fertilizers in agriculture and solar energy for a sustainable energy supply.

2. Thailand

The 13th of January was the National Children's Day in Thailand. The perfect opportunity for the Solar Ambassador Chansak and his team to set up a big Solar Roadshow for scouts and non-scouts of all ages. Exploring the big variety of solar gadgets was not only for the kids a great experience, but also for the members of the high-level delegation of the NSO and the Regional Scout Organisation there were interesting things to explore.



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D. Virtual Engagements

1. USA/Bahamas/Belize

How can you train scout leaders from another country in Scouts go Solar? If it's nearby, you can travel there. Or bring them to your country. But if it's not that near or travelling is too expensive, an online training might be the solution. That's what the Solar Ambassador Meghan Pierson did. In order to introduce the Scouts go Solar Challenge to the Bahamas and Belize, she organised an online training with scout leaders from these countries. In three sessions, they received inputs about technical background, solar cooking, project ideas, tips for implementation etc. Thanks to an digital adaption, it was even possible to play the Energy Card Game, analysing the electricity consumption of household devices and discussing measures how to reduce it.



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E. Site Visits and Tours

1. Portugal

Thanks to the partnership with another scout organization called Fraternidade Nuno Álvares, the Environmental Team of the Portuguese Corpo Nacional de Escutas got a guided tour through the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. The technical background information and training they received there helped them get a deeper understanding of the matter, but also to adapt and expand their solar activities for the Go Solar 2024 summer season.

2. Egypt

The site visit at an enormous solar farm in the Wadi el Natroun valley in the northern part of Egypt was the highlight of a four-day solar training for a group of 18 Egyptian scouts. The activity started with theoretical and practical sessions about Scouts Go Solar, including the construction of sunglasses, small solar cars, and a solar drilling machine, but also some background knowledge about solar energy, the greenhouse effect, and the benefits and risks of sunlight. On the 3rd of February, the time came to travel the 150km out to the Wadi el Natroun valley, to visit the solar park of the Egyptian company Karm Solar, where the participants and leaders were able to see in real life, how solar energy is produced at very large scale.



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F. Solar Camps

1. Chad

An Easter Camp about solar energy and geolocation was organised by the Solar Ambassador Frédéric Mora and his team, taking place from the 1st to 3rd of April. The 68 pioneers and leaders that participated in this camp in Massakory, capital of the Hadjer Lamia region in the South-West of the country, were briefed about the scouting programme for the SDGs and various updates on the Youth Programme. Apart from this, they tried out several solar gadgets and experiments, and used solar lamps to have light at the venue.

2. Chile

In the city of Viña del Mar in the central part of Chile, the Solar Ambassador Alex Balboa Cerna organised a pilot solar camp for rovers of two local scout groups. In the rather technical training, the 15 participants learned a lot about the background of solar energy, but also the uses in everyday life. One practical use-case they explored is a hydrological garden for salad and other plants, where a solar pump is used to provide the necessary oxygen in the water.

3. Kenya

On the first weekend in February, the Solar Ambassador JuliTech Wambugu travelled to the Gasharage Primary School in the Muranga County, central Kenya, for a solar camp with local scouts. With the rover scouts, he made an introduction to Scouts go Solar and Earth Tribe, advocacy and the SDGs. In the practical part, they turned an old barrel into a portable air condition, fully powered by solar. Later on, he did another workshop for the younger age groups, focusing on the different uses of sunlight in everyday life, showcasing the elements of a solar system and, last but not least, playing several solar games. As JuliTech mentions: "I love how renewal energy is transforming how we see and think of the sun. Lets go solar!"

4. Ivory Coast

In preparation of a bigger solar advocacy event that he is planning, the Solar Ambassador Clavaire Kouakou Koffi set up a "mini solar camp", as he calls it. In this camp, scouts from very young up to adults had the opportunity to learn more about solar energy, build and test a solar cooker and discuss about the benefits and risks of solar energy.



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G. Community Engagements

1. Portugal

On the 31st of May, it was Children's Day in Portugal. A perfect opportunity for the Solar Ambassadors Daniela Casimiro, David Paulho, their team and their partners from Fraternidade Nuno Álvares to set up a workshop about solar energy as part of the Anadia Environment, Health and Well-being fair. At their stand in a park, they used different types of solar ovens and cookers to prepare what their public – scout and non-scout kids – loved most: pizza, muffins and cakes, just with the power of the sun.



2. Kenya

At the Rowallan Scout Camp in Nairobi, the Climate Action Kids Festival was taking place in February. Among the many activities on site, the scouts and climate action advocates were able to see how using sunlight can be a way to take care of our environment. To quote one of the advocates: "The challenges we are facing today will pass, a clean planet we have tomorrow, let's not give up". On the 5th of June, the World Environment Day, the Solar Ambassador JuliTech Wambugu organized a SGS workshop for his working colleagues from the firefighter's department. He explained them that protecting the environment is not only about planting trees, but also about renewable energies. During the workshop, an interesting debate about the benefits of carbon credit and the different ways of using renewable energies started.

3. Zimbabwe

The Ruwa Scout Park in the Mashonaland Province, in north-eastern Zimbabwe, was equipped with a solar water pump. The Solar Team of Zimbabwe (among them the Solar Ambassadors Paddington Johannes, Sydney Mayerwa and Gwinyai Mandipira) combined this moment with an in-depth training about solar water pumping. This training aimed to equip the participants with the knowledge and skills necessary for utilizing solar energy in water pumping applications, thereby promoting sustainable and eco-friendly practices within their communities. As an added bonus , the training provided an opportunity to install real water pump that is going to facilitate the provision of safe drinking water at Ruwa Scout Park.

4. Seychelles

A group of kids identified with behavioural problems in the community were the participants in a Scouts go Solar workshop organised by the Solar Ambassador Emma Dodin. After a short introduction to the concepts of renewable energies and solar energy, she focused on creative and hands-on activities. For example by letting the kids re-design the Scouts go Solar logo or by creating and performing a solar rap song.



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5. Chile

In the city of Viña del Mar, in the central part of Chile, there was a very special celebration of the "Day of the Patrimony": About 30 foundations and NGOs and 20 schools were involved in organizing an event about the environment. Among them the two National Scout Organisations of Chile, who offered activities about Scouts Go Solar under the lead of the Solar Ambassador Alex Balboa Cerna.



6. France

Have you ever dreamed of eating fresh pizza or cookies that are still warm from the oven while being in a scout camp? The Solar Ambassador Léo Batier and his team made it possible, by constructing a big solar oven made of metal and mirrors. It took them an entire week to build it, solder it and put it in place, but afterwards, they invited scouts and non-scouts to prepare their bread, brioches, pizzas and much more, combining it with a workshop about the benefits of solar energy. As they would say in France: "Bon appetit!"

H. Long-term Implementation Efforts



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1. Brunei Darussalam

From the 4th to the 7th of August, the Malaysian Solar Ambassador Dr. Mustaffa Ibrahim implemented, together with another solar trainer, a Scouts Go Solar training for scout leaders from Brunei, consisting of theoretical units and hands-on experiences. The Chief Scout Commissioner of Brunei was very pleased about this knowledge transfer and underlined the importance of learning about solar energy not only for reducing the carbon footprint of the country, but also for promoting economic opportunities regarding green technology.

[Read story here](#)

2. Kenya

In the first quarter of this year, the Solar Ambassador Rhodah Ndegwa started the construction of a solar workshop building at the Kaiyaba Scout Camp. The building is powered by a solar system and serves to offer solar workshops to scout and non-scout groups that visit the campsite. During the construction phase, many older scouts were participating as volunteer builders, to turn the idea of this solar workshop into reality.

3. Mexico

Solar Ambassador Neshly Arlette Rubalcava Llamas was pushing forward the inclusion of the Earth Tribe Challenges in the educational programme of her National Scout Organisation. In order to do so, the Challenges were aligned to the existing structures, the necessary documents elaborated and the information disseminated among the young scouts and the adult leaders. In the National Youth Forum with about 400 scouts and the meeting of the National Scout Team, both with representatives from all the provinces of Mexico, Neshly and the Better World Framework team of Mexico (among them the Solar Ambassador Alexis Aiheser Ramírez Cruz) presented the new concept and informed about how it can be put into practise.





4. El Salvador

Based on the existing materials and experiments, the Solar Ambassador Carlos Alvayero has elaborated a new educative booklet for primary schools, to get young kids interested in the topic of solar energy and renewable energies. He approaches the field with theoretical input in a language that is easy to understand, combined with playful activities like crossword puzzles, coloring pictures, etc. The booklet will be tested in five schools, and after the evaluation of the results, the idea is to upscale it to national level.

5. Dominican Republic

In order to spread the content and activities of Scouts Go Solar across the country, the Solar Ambassador Leobardo Núñez Gómez organized a training for 17 scout leaders of 9 scout groups, coming from different parts of the country. The first workshop was about Earth Tribe in general, the second one was about Scouts Go Solar, renewable energies, uses, and dangers of the sunlight. To conclude this solar training, he organized an on-site workshop on the 14th and 15th of August in the National Scout Office in Santiago, where the participants learned how to build and use solar ovens, among many other things. As recognition for their engagement, they received a badge and will now replicate in their regions what they have learned.

6. Switzerland

Sometimes it's not that easy to have all the solar experiments at hand, especially if you want to implement a Scouts Go Solar workshop for the first time or you want to do a bigger roadshow. To lower this barrier, the team of Scouts Go Solar Switzerland has implemented a system of borrowing these materials, together with the instructions, etc., for scouts and other groups in Switzerland. To make this offer commonly known, they published an article in the January edition of the Swiss Scout Magazine "Sarasani".



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The Scouts Go Solar Educational
Challenge is part of the Earth
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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.
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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

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