World Scouting Draft Policy Summary Brief

Youth Programme

1. Introduction

World Scouting is updating the World Scout Youth Programme Policy to support the improvement of the quality, relevance, and impact of Scouting education provided through National Scout Organizations (NSOs).

Following consultations with NSO representatives from all five World Scouting Regions, WOSM Consultants, and volunteer experts, the policy review team developed an initial draft. This was further refined through cross-policy reviews, resulting in Draft 1.

This brief introduces the main proposed directions of the revised policy and guides NSOs, national teams, and other relevant stakeholders through the review and feedback process.

It aims to help readers:

- Understand the main proposed policy directions and their potential implications for NSOs.
- Review Draft 1 of the policy and assess its relevance, clarity, and applicability.
- Engage relevant national stakeholders in discussing the proposed changes.
- Provide feedback through the consultation form or by commenting directly on the policy draft.

The proposed directions are not yet final and may change based on the feedback received during the consultation process.

2. Main directions of the policy

The revised policy proposes ten main directions for NSOs to maintain, strengthen, improve, or develop as they adapt and implement the policy nationally. Directions representing significant changes or greater emphasis compared with the current policy are identified as **New** or **Strengthened**.

1. NSOs must ensure **alignment with the Fundamentals of Scouting.** Provide a Youth Programme aligned with the Purpose, Principles, and Scout Method, while adapting it to national and local contexts.

2. NSOs must develop **a coherent educational proposal**. Organise the Youth Programme around the integrated Why–How–What framework: educational purpose and objectives (Why), the Scout Method (How), and meaningful learning opportunities (What). **(Strengthened)**

3. NSOs should ensure **holistic development, the known areas of personal growth and educational competencies.** Support young people's holistic development and provide opportunities to build competencies that empower them to become active citizens and leaders who contribute positively to communities and society. ***(New)***

4. NSOs should place **young people at the centre.** Ensure young people are active participants, co-creators, leaders, and primary decision-makers in their educational experiences, with leadership progressively adapted to age and development. ***(Strengthened)***

5. NSOs should ensure **consistent application of the Scout Method.** Apply all elements of the Scout Method consistently and in a balanced way, with adults primarily facilitating and supporting young people's learning, development, and leadership.

6. NSOs should ensure **inclusive, safe, and meaningful learning.** Provide inclusive and safe learning environments that support young people's well-being, rights, and agency, while offering challenging, adventurous, and meaningful experiences. ***(Strengthened)***

7. NSOs should ensure **balanced and progressive learning opportunities.** Provide diverse, age-appropriate, and progressive opportunities responding to young people's needs, interests, aspirations, developmental stages, and contexts.

8. NSOs should establish **a continuous Youth Programme life cycle,** including processes for design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, review, and continuous improvement, informed by young people, evidence, feedback, and changing societal needs. ***(Strengthened)***

9. NSOs should establish **organisational capacity and support.** Maintain structures, qualified and supported adults, collaboration between Youth Programme, Youth Leadership, Adults in Scouting and Safeguarding functions, communication, capacity development, and implementation support.

10. NSOs should maintain **a relevant, future-oriented Youth Programme**. Systematically review and respond to emerging social, technological, environmental, economic, demographic, and educational trends while remaining grounded in the Fundamentals of Scouting.

3. What These Directions Mean for NSOs

The proposed policy directions highlight each NSO's responsibility to offer a relevant, consistent, and high-quality Youth Programme. They establish shared expectations while allowing NSOs to adapt the Youth Programme to their national and local contexts.

If the revised policy is approved and adopted, NSOs will be expected to consider these directions in their national Youth Programme through three main areas:

- **Policy alignment:** Review and, where necessary, update national Youth Programme policies, frameworks, and resources to align with the revised World Scout Youth Programme Policy, while

considering national and local contexts. For example, this may include strengthening competencies and approaching or reinforcing youth leadership throughout educational practice.

- **Organisational capacity:** Maintain or strengthen the structures, adult volunteer support, skills, coordination, and systems needed to implement and support a quality Youth Programme.
- **Monitoring and continuous improvement:** Establish or improve processes to monitor, evaluate, and regularly review the Youth Programme, using evidence and feedback from young people, adult volunteers, and other relevant stakeholders.
- These expectations should build on what NSOs already do well, helping them identify what should be maintained, strengthened, or further developed.

At this stage, NSOs are not expected to change their national policies or frameworks. The current priority is to review the proposed directions and provide feedback to inform the next version of the policy.

4. How to Participate in the Policy Review

NSOs, national teams, and other relevant stakeholders are invited to review Draft 1 of the World Scout Youth Programme Policy and contribute to its further development.

Step 1. Read the Policy Draft - Read Draft 1 of the World Scout Youth Programme Policy. Pay particular attention to the proposed policy directions, their explanation in the draft, and the expectations for NSOs.

[Read the World Scout Youth Programme Policy – Draft 1]

Step 2. Reflect on the Proposed Directions - As you review the draft, consider:

- **Relevance:** Do the proposed directions respond to the needs of young people and the realities of Scouting in your country?
- **Clarity:** Are the policy directions, concepts, and expectations clear and easy to understand?
- **Applicability:** Can the proposed directions be adapted and implemented within your national context?
- **Gaps and challenges:** Is anything missing, unclear, or difficult to apply? What additional guidance or support might be needed?
- **Areas to maintain or strengthen:** Which elements should be retained, improved, or further developed?

Step 3. Organise a Stakeholders Discussion - National teams are encouraged to organise a discussion session to review the proposed policy collectively and prepare consolidated feedback. Where possible, involve relevant stakeholders, including Youth Programme teams, youth representatives, Adults in Scouting teams, adult volunteers, and other national teams or groups involved in the development and implementation of the Youth Programme.

During the discussion, consider the proposed directions, identify areas of agreement or concern, and consolidate the main recommendations from your NSO. The objective is to provide a collective national perspective that reflects different experiences and realities within your organisation.

Step 4. Provide Your Feedback - There are two ways to contribute to the consultation process:

Option A. Submit feedback through the consultation form	**Option B. Comment directly on the Policy Draft**
National teams are encouraged to submit consolidated feedback following their discussion session. Individual stakeholders may also use the form to provide feedback. **[Access the Policy Consultation Feedback Form]**	This option is particularly useful for suggesting changes to specific sections, requesting clarification, or identifying wording that could be improved. **[Access Draft 1 to Provide Direct Comments]**

5. Your Contribution Matters

Your feedback will help ensure that the revised World Scout Youth Programme Policy is clear, relevant, practical, and applicable across different national contexts.

At this stage, the aim is not to assess how well NSOs are implementing the proposed directions, but to understand whether the policy provides appropriate guidance and expectations for the future.

By reviewing the draft, engaging in national discussions, and sharing your recommendations, you can contribute to strengthening the quality and relevance of Scouting education worldwide.

Deadline for submitting feedback: 11 January 2027.