



The National Scout Youth Programme Policy of The Scout Association of Maldives has been endorsed and approved by the National Scout Council on its 2024/01 Meeting held on 10th March 2024.

The formulation of the National Scout Youth Programme Policy of The Scout Association of Maldives was undertaken by the Youth Programme Committee 2021-2024 of the Scout Association of Maldives. The committee consisted of the following Members:

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Over a period of more than 12 months, numerous stakeholder meetings involving various organs of the Association, Adult Members, and Youth Members were conducted to develop the policy. The Scout Association of Maldives expresses gratitude and recognition for the support and assistance extended to the Youth Programme Committee by all stakeholders.

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Key terminologies and definitions

Youth: The word 'Youth' in Scouting refers to all boys and girls involved in the Educational Programme within the Movement.

Youth Member: A young person who has completed their Membership award and belongs to a youth age section in a registered Scout Group of the Scout Association of Maldives and benefits from the Youth Programme offered by the Scout Association of Maldives.

Young People: Refers to the membership or the active youth member.

Age Sections: Age Sections are divisions within Scouting made according to age range and different stages of personal development.

Adults: Are volunteers responsible for Youth Programme development or implementation; responsible for supporting other adults; or responsible for supporting organization structures.

Youth Leaders: are Youth Members, who are supporting the development and delivery of the Youth Programme to younger age-sections or are involved in supporting other adults or organizational structures. In this case "leader" is related to the role they play on behalf of the organization.

Youth Participation: is a process that ensures young people are consulted and given the opportunity to contribute to the decisions that affect their lives.

Youth Involvement: is a capacity-building process, based on enabling young people to actively share responsibility with adults for making decisions that affect their lives, and the lives of others in their community.

Youth Engagement: is the meaningful participation and sustained involvement of young people in an action in which they use their time, intelligence, talents, skills, and abilities for making a positive change in their own and the life of others, which results from strong connections to a particular idea, person, activity, place, or outcome.

Youth Empowerment: is the attitudinal, structural, and cultural process whereby young people gain the ability, authority, and agency to make decisions and implement change in their own lives and the lives of other people, including young people and adults.

Scout Unit: Age Sections are organized in small teams (Six, Patrol, Crew etc). Several such teams form a Scout Unit (Pack, Troop, Group) managed by Sectional Youth Councils supported by Adults.

Scout Group: A Scouting community referred to as a "Scout Group", with a Youth Programme offered to one or more age section, registered with The Scout Association of Maldives.

Nationally Governed Scout Youth Programme: Developed and owned by The Scout Association of Maldives as its National Scout Youth Programme

1. Introduction

The Scout Movement is a voluntary non-political educational movement for young people open to all without distinction of gender, origin, race, or creed, in accordance with the purpose, principles, and method conceived by the founder.

The purpose of the Scout movement is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens, and as members of their local, national, and international communities.

The Scout Movement is based on the following principles:

- **Duty to Allah:** Adherence to spiritual principles, loyalty to the religion that express them, and acceptance of the duties resulting therefrom.
- **Duty to others:** Loyalty to one's country in harmony with the promotion of local, national, and international peace, understanding and cooperation.
Participation in the development of society with recognition and respect for the dignity of humanity and the integrity of the natural world.
- **Duty to self:** Responsibility for the development of oneself.

Scouting education enables young people to be self-fulfilled, inspired, action-oriented, and committed to a life of purpose. Scouting is rooted in the transformative ideals of equality, inclusivity, mutual respect, sustainability, harmony, and optimism for the future.

Scouting is based on the concept of self-education. This implies that each young person is considered as a unique individual from the outset, has the potential to develop in all dimensions and to take responsibility for one's own development. Implicit in self-education is the fact that it is based on the concept of "education from within", as opposed to "instruction from without". The young person is the primary actor in the educational process – i.e., the young people's "educator" is primarily themselves.

The Scout Method is the structured framework which is designed to guide and encourage each young person along this path of personal growth. That self-education is also progressive. The Scout Method is intended to help each young person to use and develop their capacities, interests, and experience of life thus far; to stimulate the discovery and development of new capacities and interests; to help them find constructive ways of meeting needs at different stages of development, and to open doors to further stages at their own individual pace. Importantly, self-education can happen individually or within group settings.

1.1. Why is the Youth Programme important?

Scouting is an educational movement for and of young people based upon the Fundamentals of Scouting: its purpose, principles, and method. The cause of Scouting is Education for Life, where the Youth Programme is the main medium through which young people are educated for life. Hence the Youth Programme is the central element of Scouting, the vehicle through which the purpose of Scouting is achieved. Without the Youth Programme, there is no Scouting.

Given the above, all other functions in a National Scout Organization (NSO) merely support the implementation of the Youth Programme; for example, management structures, adult training, communication teams, financial resources. This does not mean that adults working with the Youth Programme are the most important people in Scouting: it means that all adults in Scouting should work together to implement an effective Youth Programme.

1.2. Target Audience

This policy targets all stakeholders working in and or supporting the Youth Programme at all levels in The Scout Association of Maldives.

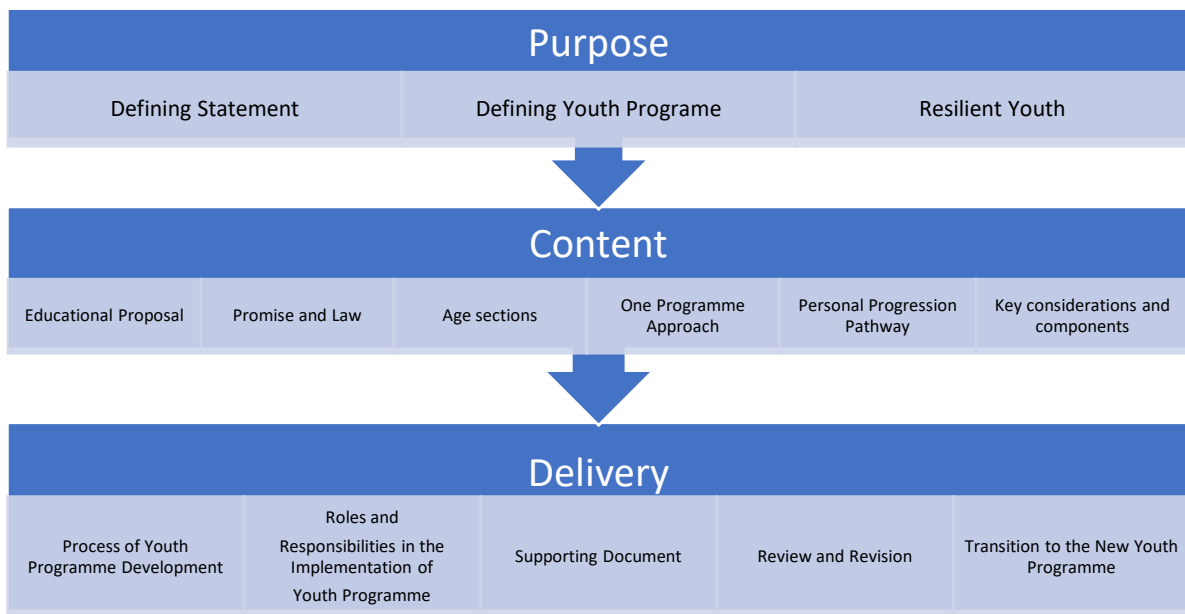
2. The Policy

2.1. Defining statement

The National Scout Youth Programme Policy of the Scout Association of Maldives outlines and guides the purpose, content, and delivery of the Nationally Governed Youth Programme. This Policy shall therefore be the foundational document defining all aspects of the Youth Programme.

Aspects outlined in this document shall hereafter be the Policy of The Scout Association of Maldives in all matters related to the NSO's Nationally Governed Youth Programme.

The Scout Association of Maldives fully supports and acknowledges the World Scout Youth Programme Policy. The Scout Association of Maldives officially adopted the World Scout Youth Programme Policy on its 2022/07 Meeting held on 22nd September 2022.

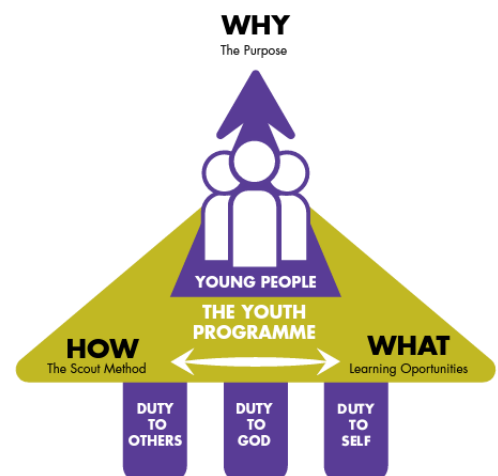


3. THE PURPOSE

3.1. Definition of the Youth Programme.

Youth Programme in Scouting is the totality of the learning opportunities from which young people can benefit (What), created to achieve the purpose of Scouting (Why) and experienced through the Scout method (How).

- Why: the purpose of Scouting and its Educational Objectives
 - Scouts as Empowered individuals – areas of personal growth
 - Scouts as Active Citizens – creating positive change in their communities.
- What: All learning opportunities in Scouting from which Young People can benefit
- How: Using the Scout Method



3.2. Why?

The purpose of scouting and its educational objectives

"The Youth Programme is the means through which Scouting contributes to the empowerment of autonomous individuals and the holistic development of active global citizens for the community."– World Scout Youth Programme Policy

The Scout Youth Programme exists to help develop young people in the Areas of Personal Growth¹, to develop them as active citizens involved in their local, national, and global communities. The Youth Program aims to develop young people in the following areas: Spiritual, Physical, Intellectual, Emotional and Social where all of these areas help the individual's Character development.

1. **Social Development:** refers to belonging to a group, one's relationship with others, and understanding the difference between people in small groups of peers, as well issues of diversity and inclusion in larger communities.
2. **Physical Development:** refers to one's understanding of their body, including active care for health, wellbeing, and the pursuit of physical skills and fitness.
3. **Intellectual Development:** refers to one's ability to think, plan, innovate, review and be creative, applying information, knowledge, and skills in new and different circumstances.
4. **Character Development:** refers to the pursuit of personal best, It includes positive attitude, responsibility, respect and trying beyond what benefits the self. It encapsulates all areas of personal growth.
5. **Emotional Development:** refers to the need for understanding of one's own emotions and the emotions of others. It includes awareness of how a person is feeling, expressing emotions in a positive manner, as well as respecting and supporting the emotional needs of others.
6. **Spiritual Development:** refers to the development of a person's beliefs regarding their purpose in life, connection to others, place in the world around them, while respecting the spiritual choices of others.

3.3. What?

All learning opportunities in scouting from which young people can benefit.

"The Youth Programme encompasses all learning opportunities that young people in Scouting encounter: camping and outdoor activities, community service and community development projects, achieving progressive goals or standards symbolized by proficiency badges, games, ceremonies, patrol and troop life, etc. Learning opportunities are the instances in which young people have the potential to gather and process knowledge, to develop attitudes and skills that will help develop their individual character. The Youth Programme is therefore not about the activities per se, but rather about the learning opportunities that activities can offer within Scouting fundamentals and shared values."– World Scout Youth Programme Policy

Getting involved in what Scouting has to offer means that children, adolescents, and young adults are engaged in.

- A diversified and inclusive program
- A variety of activities that challenge all abilities and is personal.
- A program that is values based
- An environment with a focus on non-formal learning opportunities and playing.
- An experience that has well defined outcomes for individual development
- Opportunities to have a voice, be independent, and be well supported.

We achieve this through a diverse programme of activities that are fun, adventurous, challenging, and inclusive.

¹ The Areas of Personal Growth (AoPG) are commonly referred to as the Social, Physical, Intellectual, Character, Emotional and Spiritual growth (SPICES).

3.4. How?

Using the scout method

"Scouting is based on the concept of self-education. This acknowledges that each youth member is a unique individual who should take responsibility for their own development. The young person is the primary actor in the educational process. The Scout Method is the structured framework, which is designed to guide and encourage each young person along this path of personal growth." – World Scout Youth Programme Policy

The learning process is achieved through a unique method of delivery. Scouting uses a particular educational method through which youth develop and learn. It is the Scout Method that makes Scouting truly unique.

The Scout Method is made up of eight (8) elements. No one element of the Method is more important than another, and different elements will feature more prominently through different activities and experiences.

The Method should be featured in all that we do, and its use should be made apparent to both adults and youth. It's important that Scouts are aware of how Scouting is contributing to their development.

The 8 elements of the Scout Method are as follows;

1. **Promise and Law:** a personal voluntary commitment to a set of shared values, which is the foundation of everything a Scout does, and a Scout wants to be. The Promise and Law are central to the Scout Method.
2. **Community involvement:** active exploration and commitment to communities and the wider world, fostering greater appreciation and understanding between people.
3. **Learning by doing:** the use of practical actions (real life experiences) and reflection(s) to facilitate ongoing learning and development.
4. **Nature and the Outdoors:** Learning opportunities in the outdoors which encourage a better understanding of and a relation with the wider environment.
5. **Patrol System (team system):** the use of small teams as a way to participate in collaborative learning, with the aim of developing effective teamwork, inter-personal skills, leadership as well as building a sense of responsibility and belonging.
6. **Personal progression:** a progressive learning journey focused on motivating and challenging an individual to continually develop, through a wide variety of learning opportunities.
7. **Symbolic Framework:** a unifying structure of themes and symbols to facilitate learning and the development of a unique identity as a Scout.
8. **Youth Leading, Adults supporting:** Scouting, as a youth movement, addresses its educational proposal to young people. It is a Movement of and for young people, supported by adults; it is not a Movement for young people managed by adults on their behalf. Scouting offers the potential for a learning community of young people and adults, working together in a partnership of enthusiasm and experience.

3.5. Key Principles of the Youth Programme

The Youth Programme should:

- **Have young people at its center:** The Youth Programme should be created by young people, not for them. This means that the development and implementation of the programme is based on the active participation of young people, as they are the main agents of their self-development.
- **Be about education:** Scouting is a non-formal educational movement. NSOs should offer a Youth Programme that provides, in a progressive way, the opportunity for young people to fully grow as individuals and be introduced to the real world. It should also help them in their search for their significant life skills. All that we do in Scouting should carry an educational value according to a successful development and implementation life cycle.
- **Develop active citizens:** The Programme should create learning opportunities for young people to become active citizens of their communities and to be responsible and committed leaders of today and tomorrow (cooperative followers). It should empower them to be autonomous decision-makers inside Scouting from the unit level to the institutional level, and outside Scouting in society. The Youth Programme is the crucible that transforms young people into active citizens, first in Scouting and then in the community.

- **Be locally adapted and globally united:** While Scouting Fundamentals (purpose, principles, and method) are universal and have remained constant over the years, The Scout Association of Maldives has the flexibility to develop their own cultural interpretation of these fundamentals without changing the core elements or principles. The Youth Programme should maintain a careful balance between fixed values and variable factors.
- **Be up-to-date and relevant:** A Youth Programme should be the product of a constant reflection of educational practices and developed continuously in relation to the fundamentals of Scouting (purpose, principles, and method). It should consider the cultural, social, political, and economic dimensions in society, and should reflect and meet the needs and interests of young people, both today and in the near future.
- **Be open to all:** The Youth Programme should meet the needs of all young people. The programme must be designed with the necessary flexibility to adapt to each society's culture, society, economy, race, religious diversity, and gender. It should also include people with disabilities.
- **Be attractive, challenging, and meaningful:** The Youth Programme should be fun with purpose; it should challenge the abilities of young people and be directed to their interests. What we provide in Scouting is a learning opportunity for young people, facilitated by adults and created by a cooperative process between adults and young people. These learning opportunities are not random activities; they should sit in a structured educational framework that will lead to a meaningful and fulfilling experience for young people.

3.6. Resilient Youth an empowered citizen – ultimate goal of the Scout Youth Programme

The Nationally Governed Scout Youth Programme of The Scout Association of Maldives must be designed and implemented on the principle that the Young Person is at its center, and that the final objective and result of the participation in Scouting allows the making of a Resilient Youth who is an empowered autonomous individual who is an active global citizen.

Resilient Youth – meaning.

A Resilient Youth is one who is prepared for life, has the ability, and is equipped to confront, bounce back, and adapt from setbacks, and is empowered, autonomous and meaningfully contribute to the development of the community and the world they live in. A Resilient Youth is also one who is compassionate, promotes inclusiveness, respects diversity, environmentally conscious, self-reliant, tolerant and one who embodies humanitarian values.

4. THE CONTENT

4.1. The Educational Proposal

An Educational Proposal Document shall be developed by the Scout Association of Maldives which shall express the set of ideas and fundamental definitions that constitutes its purpose and identity, specifying its educational intention and the ways this intention will be carried out.

The Educational Proposal is an explicit and concise document that provides internal and external guidance on what The Scout Association of Maldives offers to young people in the society. It shall enable The Scout Association of Maldives to explain to the community how The Scout Association of Maldives meets the educational needs of young people, in accordance with the mission, purpose, principles, and methods of the Movement.

The Educational Proposal should:

- clearly define the purpose around which The Scout Association of Maldives's Youth Programme will be built, giving meaning, identity, and integrity to the proposal,
- establish an overarching framework of reference to guide the educational decision-making within the scope of The Scout Association of Maldives. This also impacts the generation of the adult management model and institutional management,
- call on the responsible adults to commit themselves to the Educational Proposal and to cooperate with the achievement of the institutional objectives,
- visualize and anticipate a desired situation, proposing explicit objectives to be achieved.

- establish an ideal point of reference that can guide the definition of the objectives of the educational process,
- pursue the improvement of the quality of the Educational Proposal, offering a frame of reference for continuously reviewing the Youth Programme resulting in fewer complete overhauls,
- present the Scout Movement and the educational purpose of The Scout Association of Maldives to the community in general and to other stakeholders, expressing how The Scout Association of Maldives is responding to the demands and needs of the youth and the community it serves, according to the mission, purpose, principles, and method of Scouting.

4.2. Age Sections

Unlike traditional schooling, which separates children based on the same age, Scouting, in recognition that children do not all learn in the same way and at the same time, adapts its programme to a number of age groups corresponding to different stages of a young person’s development: childhood, puberty, adolescence, youth.

The Scout Youth Programme is broken down into five (5) sections. This:

- Helps cater to the changing developmental needs of youth.
- Promotes personal progression.
- Ensures young people are at the center; and
- Builds a supportive program environment.

Not everything in the program is limited to these sections, or to the local area. In fact, taking part in activities beyond the "home" Unit is encouraged to help youth broaden their horizons, particularly from adolescence.

4.3. Age – Section breakdown

Stages of Development	Section	Age group
Childhood	Pre-Cub	5 – 8 years
Pre-Adolescence	Cub Scout	8 – 12 years
Early-Adolescence	Scout	12 – 15 years
Adolescence	Explorer	15 – 18 years
Youth	Rover	18 – 25 years

This policy acknowledges the individuality of each young person in their pursuit of personal growth goals. It permits youth members to either remain in an age group for an additional year or advance to the next age group one year earlier, subject to discussion with their Leaders and Parents. The final decision will be made by the Scout Leader following consultation.

4.4. The Promise and Law

The Scout promise is a pledge that every young person makes before a group of peers when he or she chooses to join the Movement. By making the Scout promise, the young person acknowledges that he or she is familiar with the Scout law and makes a personal commitment to do his or her best to live according to this code of living.

Through the promise, the young person accepts Scouting’s invitation to develop by making a voluntary decision to accept the Scout law and to assume the responsibility of that decision through personal effort. Making the promise is the first symbolic step in the process of self-education.

The fact of promising to “do one’s best” refers to making a personal effort to the extent of the young person’s capacity. From an educational perspective, the effort is as important as the achievement of the objective. The effort is a personal one, and progress can only be evaluated in terms of how the young person was before. By making the promise in front of peers, the young person makes his or her commitment public. This not only makes the personal commitment “official”, but it also symbolizes a social commitment to the others in the group. By their presence, the others in the group show that they accept him or her as a member.

4.4.1. Promise by Age Section:

Pre-Cub Section [Pledge]	I Promise to do my best, To do my duty to Allah, and To share, learn and be helpful.
Cub Scout Section	I Promise to do my best, To do my duty to Allah and the Country, To obey the Cub Scout law, and To do a good deed every day.
Scout Section Explorer Section Rover Scout Section	On my Honor, I Promise that I will do my best, To do my duty to Allah and the Country, To help other people at all times, and To obey the Scout Law.

4.4.2. Law by Age Section

Pre-Cub Section	<i>A Pre-Cub:</i> Loves Allah, Cares, Respects, and Will do their best
Cub Scout Section	<i>A Cub-Scout;</i> Obeys Akela, Makes him/herself useful, and keeps trying to do better
Scout Section Explorer Section Rover Scout Section	<i>A Scout/Explorer/Rovers must respect and obey the following Scout Law;</i> A Scout's honor is to be Trusted, A Scout is Loyal, A Scout's duty is to be Useful and Help others, A Scout is a Friend to all and a Brother/Sister to every other Scout, A Scout is Courteous, A Scout is Environment Friendly, A Scout obeys orders of his/her Parents, Patrol Leader, or Scout Leader, A Scout smiles and whistle under all difficulties, A Scout is Thrifty, and A Scout is Clean in Thought, Word and Deed

4.5. One Programme Approach

The National Scout Youth Programme of The Scout Association of the Maldives must make sure that each age group of scouting delivers the programme in a consistent manner with the goal of promoting young people's physical, intellectual, character, emotional, social, and spiritual development so they can realize their full potential and, as responsible citizens, improve society. The main goal of the programme is to help achieve the final educational objectives outlined in the educational proposal, which is operated according to the Scout Method, the Plan, Do, and Review model and the concept of group life.

4.5.1. Plan, Do and Review Model

To ensure that all scouting activities are consistently improving, fun, challenging, adventurous and inclusive, involving young people at all levels of programme planning and delivery is essential. This sets the basis for the role of youth leading, and adults supporting. This process may differ from section to section, however in the delivery of the Youth Programme the key object shall be to involve youth meaningfully in the whole process.

4.5.2. Personal Progression Pathways

Every Youth Member joining an Age Section Programme offered by The Scout Association of Maldives is required to join the section after completion of the Membership Award. Each age section shall offer Challenge Awards, Activity and Skills Badges and a Sectional Award.

A. Membership Award

When joining an age section through The Scout Association of Maldives' Youth Programme, each youth member is required to complete an induction to the age section. This includes joining a Scout Unit, becoming a member of a Team, and understanding the age section's Promise and Law. This process should not be difficult for the young person, but rather a smooth transition into the Scout Unit.

B. Section Challenge awards:

Sectional Challenges are designed to provide youth members with a fun, challenging, and meaningful self-paced progression toward achieving age-specific SPICES, allowing for the promotion of differentiated learning (tailoring to meet individual needs). The focus areas for each of these challenge badges must be outlined in the Educational Proposal. Following the One- Program approach, all age sections, with the exception of Pre-Cub, must provide the same challenge areas with progressive and age-relevant personal progression objectives.

C. Activity and Skills Badges:

Each age section shall provide opportunities for youth members to introduce new abilities and skills that will aid in their personal development. These badges should also introduce youth members to WOSM-initiated programs and badges relevant to age groups approved by the Scout Association of Maldives' Youth Programme Committee.

D. Section Award:

Sectional Awards are given to Youth Members at each age section (with the exception of the Pre-Cub Section) to help them progress through the Scout Youth Programme. Sectional Awards are a way for each young person who participates in the sectional youth program to demonstrate their achievement of sectional objectives.

E. Move up Award:

The Move up Award's purpose is to introduce the young person to the next age section and to help ease the transition to the new section. The Award is also used to show a Youth Member's completion and/or participation in previous age sections while participating in the Scout Movement as a Youth Member.

A separate document outlining the personal progression pathways for each Age Section shall be developed as a supporting document prescribed by this Policy.

4.6. Key Considerations and Components of the Nationally Governed Youth Programme

Group Life	Team System in Age Sections	Sectional Youth Councils	Youth Leading, Adult Supporting Scout Units	Nature and Outdoors
Community involvement and engagement	Scouting Events and Opportunities	Programme Planning at Scout Units	Individual Youth Self-Assessment	The Scout Uniform

4.6.1. Group Life

A key element of the one programme approach and the Plan, Do and Review model is ensuring a holistic group life experience is provided through the Youth Programme.

Group Life refers to everything that is experienced, within the teams and the unit as a whole, as a result of operating as a mini society composed of the young people and adults. A sense of group life is essential for the harmonious development of young people. While young people have a natural tendency to form groups of friends, and even though this tendency is reflected in the team system, a sense of group life does not automatically exist in Scouting.

Fostering a sense of group life involves promoting constructive group dynamics (the interaction and relationships that develop between the young people and between the young people and adults). It also involves making use of opportunities for young people to interact (amongst themselves and with the support of adults) in the wide variety of situations which occur naturally in the course of their time in Scouting. When a true sense of group life develops, the group as a whole consider the needs and interests of each person, and each person contributes towards the well-being of the group.

A Guide on Implementing Group Life in Scout Units shall be developed as a supporting document prescribed by this Policy.

4.6.2. Team System in Age Sections

In order to foster effective teamwork, interpersonal skills, leadership, and a sense of responsibility and belonging, collaborative learning should be maximized while also taking into account the Scout Method's Team System (Patrol System) element. Age Sections must be organized into small teams, with several of these teams coming together to form a Scout Unit that is overseen by Sectional Youth Councils with adult support. An organized social structure and democratic self-governance system based on the Scout Law should result from this.

Age Section	Unit	Team
Pre- Cub Section	Colony [20 Pre- Cubs form a Colony]	<i>Adult lead programme</i>
Cub Scout Section	Pack [4 Six form a Pack]	Six [6 Cub Scouts form a Six]
Scout Section	Troop [4 Patrols form a Troop]	Patrol [8 Scouts form a Patrol]
Explorer Section	Club [4 Explorer Squads form a Club]	Squad [8 Explorers form a Squad]
Rover Section	Crew	<i>Rovers organize themselves into task teams</i>

4.6.3. Sectional Youth Council

Promoting and modeling youth participation, involvement, engagement, and empowerment at a group level is the main goal of Sectional Youth Councils. In the overall Group or Unit Programme Planning Cycle, appropriate levels of Youth Leadership, such as Sixers Council, Patrol Leaders Council, Explorer Squad Council, and Rover Crew Council, shall be practiced in each age section. This is derived from the Scout Method element, Youth Leading, Adults Supporting.

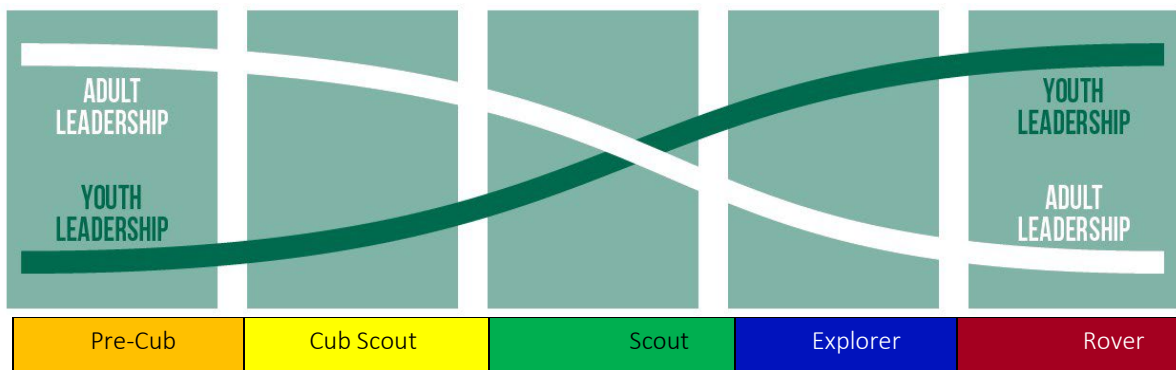
A Guide of Sectional Youth Councils shall be developed as a supporting document prescribed by this Policy.

4.6.4. Youth Leading, Adult Supporting in Scout Unit

The degree of the adult-youth leadership sharing model determines the level of youth involvement in the planning and directing of self-learning within the Scout Unit. The scouting team system is not meant to be a means for adult leaders to give the young people instructions that they can then carry out. It is also not intended to be a means for young people to simply express their wishes and anticipate having everything prepared for them by their adult leader. It is meant to be a partnership built on communication and cooperation between the young people and their adult mentors.

Although they are not team members, the adult leader (and any adult assistants) are a part of the Scout unit. The Scout Unit's adults play a specific role in assisting the youth in exercising and developing their capacity for autonomy, solidarity, responsibility, and commitment while assisting each youth in achieving his or her educational objectives.

4.6.5. Adult-Youth leadership sharing model:



4.6.6. Youth Leadership Roles in Age Sections

The following minimum leadership roles² shall be taken up by Youth Members within the Scout Unit. Uniform Patches indicating the leadership roles shall be made available for youth members by The Scout Association of Maldives.

Section	Unit	Team
Pre-Cub	Adult led section	
Cub Scout	Senior Sixer	Sixer
	Assistant Senior Sixer	Assistant Sixer
Scout	Senior Patrol Leader	Patrol Leader
	Assistant Senior Patrol Leader	Assistant Patrol Leader
Explorer	Senior Squad Leader	Squad Lead
	Assistant Senior Club Leader	Assistant Squad Lead
Rover	Crew Leader	Task Team Lead
	Assistant Crew Leader	Assistant Task Team Lead

4.6.7. Nature and Outdoors

The vast opportunities that the natural world presents for a young person's development are referred to as nature and outdoors as a component of the Scout Method. The Scout Method can be applied in the perfect environment when considering how contact with nature benefits the holistic development of all areas of development.

² Other leadership roles and opportunities that can be taken up by the Youth Members in their Scout Units and Teams – and not limited only to these – can be Scribe, Social Media Coordinator, Administrator, Entertainer, Quarter Master, Project Master, First Aider, Health and Wellbeing coordinator, Librarian, Camp Warden, Treasurer, Personal Progression Coordinator, etc.

Contact with nature is a crucial component of scouting, even though it is acknowledged that it may not always be practical for all activities to take place outside. A simple yet intense experience is provided by a Scout camp in the outdoors. The use of nature in Scouting is evidently not intended to shut young people off from the world in which they live. It is simply intended to help them to discover a world that they may not otherwise have thought to explore, to look beyond material values, to enrich their experience of life in a way that can serve them in everyday life to think through what is essential and what is really unimportant.

Nature can be the setting for many kinds of activities - even when the primary educational objective of the activity is not directly related to nature. In such cases, whatever the primary educational objective, an underlying objective is simply to help young people to feel comfortable with being in nature. On another level, use can be made of a natural setting for all kinds of physically challenging activities, personal and collective survival activities, such as orienteering, learning the basics of camping skills, hikes, etc. Nature can thus help to make young people more conscious of their capacities and their need to progress - through testing their physical limits, their resourcefulness, their capacity to deal with difficulties and avoid danger, to cooperate as a team, etc. This Policy encourages to maximize implementation of the nationally governed youth programme utilizing education through nature.

A Guide on Nature, Camping and Outdoors shall be developed as a supporting document prescribed by this Policy.

4.6.8. Community involvement and engagement

The term “community” refers to a social unit whose members have something in common. A Scout’s community includes those within Scouting or outside Scouting (e.g., family, school, and nation), and it could be local or international in nature. The emphasis on community involvement highlights:

- The shared values and principles of Scouting. The application of The Scout Method happens mostly within the local community context. It becomes an important vehicle for increasing one’s awareness on global challenges and initiatives, for joining global action, and for assimilating/developing global shared values.
- The influence of the community and societies where Scouts come from in their personal development process. Activities and the cycle of action and reflection enables young people to develop a deeper understanding of themselves while having a meaningful contribution to the overall objectives of the community they live in.

Community engagement equally allows Scouts to experience and work with people from different diversities. Therefore, working with and within the community enables Scouts to increase their inter-cultural understanding, appreciate inter-generational issues that come into play, and get more involved in the community in other scopes of their lives.

Every learning opportunity the Scout undertakes should wherever possible be linked to how it could be used within the community. When a Scout learns to tie a new knot like the bowline, it should be linked on how it could be applied to saving a life. Even when a Scout experiences a learning opportunity that may appear only to benefit oneself (e.g., a sports activity), one should also reflect how such a learning opportunity could benefit the community (e.g., a fit and healthy Scout would be well-placed to serve the community better).

4.6.9. Scouting Events for Young People

While the Programme Planning Cycle at the Unit Level provides opportunity for the Youth Member to design their Programme, The Scout Association of Maldives shall regularly provide young people to take part in organized National Scouting Events. In addition to nationally organized events, The Scout Association of Maldives shall facilitate and provide meaningful opportunities for young people to take part in international, regional, and sub-regional Scouting Events.

4.6.10. Flagship National Scouting Events by Age Sections:

Age Section	National Events	Frequency
Pre-Cub	National Pre-Cub Meet	Once every year
Cub Scout	National Cub Rally	Once every year
	National Cuboree	Once every 3 years
Scout	National Scout Craft Camp	Once every 2 years
	National Scout Jamboree ³	Once every 4 years
Explorer	National Explorer Camp	Once every 2 years
	National Rover Gathering	Once every year
Rover	National Scout Youth Forum ⁴	Once every year
	National Rover Moot	Once every 4 years

In addition to these sectional events, The Scout Association of Maldives shall periodically provide new and exciting scouting events for Youth Members that are fun, adventurous, challenging, inclusive and meaningful.

Scouts should also be provided the opportunity to take part in age relevant international events, organized by WOSM, other NSOs and regional and sub-regional scouting organizations. These events include international scout gatherings, exchange programmes, jamborees, forums, camps, meets, cuborees etc.

4.6.11. Programme Planning at Scout Units

In Scouting, planning is done as a collaboration between youth and adults with the goal of developing a Unit Programme that includes ideas from the entire Unit, while also supporting the personal progression of all Unit Members. The Unit Council including the sectional youth council creates the Unit Programme, which is supported along the way by adults.

The programme of a Scout Unit is formed by a series of programme cycles. A programme cycle can last for any period of time but generally not longer than 4 months or quarter of theyear.

A Guide to support Programme Cycle planning shall be developed as a supporting document prescribed by this Policy. The following steps should be considered in carrying out Programme Planning at Unit Level.

4.6.12. Individual Youth Self-Assessment

Every Youth Member belonging to age sections Cub Scout and above shall do a periodic self-assessment in consultation with the Adult Leader supporting the Scout Unit. This Self-Assessment shall include; a review of the Personal Progression, participation in Group Life and meaningful opportunities for growth. Based on this assessment a personal development plan of action should be prepared and regularly reviewed. Ideally this assessment should be carried out twice a year.

A Youth Self-Assessment guidance tool shall be developed as a supporting document prescribed by this Policy.

³ The National Scout Jamboree is a flagship event for Youth Members from both the Scout and Explorer Section – for young people aged between 12 – 18year old.

⁴ The National Scout Youth Forum in an institutional aspect governed separately from the Youth Programme, however, as the NSYF involves an educational aspect, this event is included among the flagships events for the Rover Section.

4.6.13. The Scout Uniform

Scouts wear a uniform during their meetings and activities depending on where they're going and what they're doing. The Scout Uniform is the most recognizable aspect of Scouting. Wearing a uniform, gives youth members a sense of identify and belonging. Each part of the Scout Uniform shall hold value and importance to the Scout, it is a representation of him/herself, ones identify and contains information (as badges) about a Scouts skills and achievements, including Age Section identity, Leadership roles, Challenge Awards, Activity and Skills Badges, Sectional Award and Journey Awards – Moving up Awards. The Uniform is complete with a Scout Scarf representing the Youth Members belonging to a Scout Group.

The Scout Uniform worn by Youth Members shall not be a ceremonial attire but must be one that allows the young person to engage in fun, challenging and meaningful activities offered by the Scout Youth Programme comfortably and flexibly.

Badge and Award placement on the Scout Uniform for Youth Members shall be approved and endorsed by the Youth Programme Committee of The Scout Association of Maldives.

5. THE DELIVERY

5.1. Process of Youth Programme Development

The nationally governed Youth Programme of the Scout Association of Maldives shall be evaluated regular. The following process shall be carried out in the development of the Scout Youth Programme in the Maldives.

- Reflection on the purpose, principles, and method of Scouting
- Analysis of recent trends in the needs and interests of young people, as well as the society in which they live.
- Consideration of the aims, objectives, and priorities of the NSO
- Evaluation of practical experience with the current Youth Programme
- Revision based on the reflections, analysis, considerations, and Evaluation.

This Policy strongly recommends regular and systematic programme development to ensure these programmes remain up-to-date and in tune with the interests of young people, while remaining faithful to the fundamentals of Scouting, which are timeless and universal. This reflects the unity of Scouting. The diversity and flexibility of the Youth Programme is required to respond to a wide variety of social, economic, and other situations.

A major review should be carried out at least every 5–10 years. Ideally, such a review should consider current academic and practical research by formal and non-formal education experts and institutions, as well as the views of young people, to ensure a valid and relevant review.

Regular interim reviews every 3–5 years are also recommended to allow for periodic adjustments to the Youth Programme.

When developing its Youth Programme, The Scout Association of Maldives should consider many other areas in addition to the content of the Programme, as such:

- The Youth Programme should be organized into different age sections based on the development stages of young people. The content of the programme should be age appropriate.
- When reviewing the Programme, The Scout Association of Maldives should also review adult training schemes to ensure that the Youth Programme is implemented appropriately.
- The Scout Association of Maldives should establish an infrastructure to support the implementation, monitoring, and further development of the Programme.
- They should also ensure that they have sufficiently qualified and active adults with the relevant knowledge and skills.

5.2. Roles and Responsibilities in the implementation of the Youth Programme

Facilitator: creates the right circumstances for young people to gain positive learning experiences through their Scout life. This role is linked more to the implementation of the programme. These include Sectional Leaders, Assistant leaders and others involved in the direct delivery of the Youth Programme in Scout Groups.

Developer: evaluates, analyses, and designs the programme according to young people's needs, considering any new trends that arise. This role is generally practiced by the Youth Programme teams that develop the programme at any level. These include Institutional structures within the Scout Association of Maldives such as

the Youth Programme Committee, Youth Programme development team, Youth Programme Commissioner.

Supporter: assists the development and implementation of the Youth Programme. It includes a wide span of adults in Scouting who may be volunteers or professionals working in the field of the Youth Programme or elsewhere (e.g., in Adult Support).

5.3. Youth Programme Implementation Structures at the Scout Association of Maldives

5.3.1. Youth Programme Committee

The Youth Programme Committee of The Scout Association of Maldives shall be the primary institutional structure responsible for the overall, development, monitoring, evaluation, and review of the nationally government Youth Programme. The committee shall include competent individuals, experienced in youth programme development, educational experts, and specialists with strong understanding of the characteristics of Scouting. The Youth Programme Committee shall report periodically to the National Scout Council of The Scout Association of Maldives. The National Commissioner for Youth Programme shall be a permanent member of the Youth Programme Committee.

5.3.2. National Commissioner for Youth Programme

The National Commissioner for Youth Programme shall be a permanent position at the Scout Executive Committee of The Scout Association of Maldives, providing day-to-day institutional support to Scout Groups on the implementation of the Youth Programme in the country. Reporting directly to the Chief Commissioner of the Scout Association and working in close collaboration with the Youth Programme Committee.

5.3.3. Youth Programme Sectional Teams

Youth Programme Sectional Teams can be formed by the Youth Programme Committee in order to support development sectional resource materials, guidance documents and tool kits to strengthen sectional youth programme content. Such teams shall work closely with the National Commissioner for Youth Programme. Such teams shall be provided a Terms of Reference with clear scope of work from the Youth Programme Committee. These teams shall report to the Youth Programme Committee of The Scout Association of Maldives.

5.3.4. Educational Methods Working Group

The Educational Methods Working Group shall be formed as collaboration with the Youth Programme Committee and the Adults in Scouting Committee of The Scout Association of Maldives. Other relevant institutional committees and teams (i.e., Youth Programme Sectional Teams and the National Training Team) can be part of this working group. This working group shall work towards harmonizing the Youth Programme elements and the Adults in Scouting elements that is co-dependent on each other to meaningfully implement the nationally governed Youth Programme of The Scout Association of Maldives.

5.4. Monitoring Framework for the implementation of the National Scout Youth Programme

A monitoring framework for the implementation of the National Scout Youth Programme shall be developed by the Youth Programme Committee of The Scout Association of Maldives. The framework shall ensure that data and information is collected from all Scout Units across the country to understand how young people are progressing in their personal progression pathways and how they are meaningfully and actively engaging with their communities.

Regular consultation and monitoring visits shall be conducted by the Sectional Youth Programme Teams and the Youth Programme Committee to understand challenges, needs and gaps in the implementation of the National Youth Programme.

5.5. Supporting Documents

With the adoption of this Policy by the National Scout Assembly of the Scout Association of Maldives, the Youth Programme Committee is required to develop, and the National Scout Council should endorse the following documents:

Supporting Document	Development Responsibility	Deadline
The Scouting's Educational Proposal – "Resilient Youth" – National Scout Youth Programme	Youth Programme Committee	Within 6 months from adoption of the Policy.
Sectional Progressive Schemes (along with Proficiency Badge Syllabus)	Youth Programme Committee / Sectional Programme Teams	Within 6 months from adoption of the Policy.
Guide to Implementing Group life in Scout Units	Youth Programme Committee / Sectional Programme Teams	Within 12 months from adoption of the Policy.
Guide on Sectional Youth Councils	Youth Programme Committee / Sectional Programme Teams	Within 12 months from adoption of the Policy.
Guide on Nature, Camping and Outdoors	Youth Programme Committee / Sectional Programme Teams	Within 12 months from adoption of the Policy.
Guidance Tool to carry out Youth Self-Assessment	Youth Programme Committee / Sectional Programme Teams	Within 12 months from adoption of the Policy.
Guide to Programme Planning at Scout Unit	Youth Programme Committee	Within 12 months from adoption of the Policy.

All such documents shall be developed in consultation with necessary organs and relevant members of The Scout Association of Maldives.

5.6. Review and Revision of the Policy

Periodic review and revision shall be made to this policy by the Youth Programme Committee of the Scout Association of Maldives, through a participatory process and any revisions to the policy shall be endorsed by the National Scout Assembly of the Scout Association of Maldives.

5.7. Addressing other matters regarding the National Scout Youth Programme

Any other matter that is not prescribed in this Policy or additional documents prescribed by this Policy shall be deliberated by the Youth Programme Committee and if an endorsement is required or a change in any of the prescribed documents, such matters shall be deliberated through the Youth Programme Committee to the National Scout Council of The Scout Association of Maldives.

5.8. The transition to the New Scout Youth Programme

With the approval and adoption of this Policy, necessary supporting documents prescribed by this Policy shall be developed and rolled out within the timeframe allocated in this Policy. With the inception of the new Youth Programme, Youth Members joining age sections will be required to start following the new Youth Programme. Those Youth Members continuing the existing programme at the time of the roll out of the new programme can continue to proceed with the exiting programme, this provides an opportunity for the Youth Member to choose between following the programme they have initiated or transit to the new programme.

5.9. Building Capacity among Adults to implement the New Scout Youth Programme

With the adoption of the Policy, and before the complete roll out of the new Scout Youth Programme, the Youth Programme Committee and the Sectional Youth Programme Teams shall work with the Adult Support Committee and the National Training Team to orient all existing Adult leaders on the new Youth Programme, as well as develop relevant training modules that shall be incorporated into the National Training Scheme of The Scout Association of Maldives. This process shall be a collaborated effort of the Educational Methods Working Group jointly led by the Youth Programme Committee and the Adult Support Committee of The Scout Association of Maldives.