



THE KENYA SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

EXTENSION SCOUTING PROGRAMME (ESP)

POLICY

MARCH 2016

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Contents

1.0	BACKGROUND: THE KENYA SCOUTS ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL PROPOSAL	2
1.1	INTRODUCTION TO EXTENSION SCOUTING PROGRAMME.....	3
1.2	Who is a Child in Difficult Circumstances?.....	4
1.3	Where to Find Children in Difficult Circumstances.....	4
1.4	Some Characteristics of Children in Difficult Circumstances.....	4
1.5	The Objectives of the ESP Programme.....	5
2.0	The Responsibilities of Kenya Scouts Association Headquarters.....	5
2.1	How the Association will work on Extension Scout Programme	5
2.2	What Extension Scouting Programme is:-	6
2.3	What Extension Scouting Programme is not:.....	6
3.0	ESP Stakeholders.....	7
3.1	Working With Other Stakeholders.....	7
3.2	Conflicts of Interest in ESP.....	9
4.0	Guiding Principles of the ESP Policy	9
	Appendix: MARRAKECH CHARTER.....	9

1.0 BACKGROUND: THE KENYA SCOUTS ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL PROPOSAL

Kenya Scouts Association (KSA) is a registered member of the World Organization of the Scouts Movement (WOSM). It is a voluntary, non-political and educational Movement for young people open to all without distinction of origin, race, gender, creed or ethnic/tribal background in accordance with the purpose, principles and method as conceived by the founders as stated below;

a) Purpose

To contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual, social, and character potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national, regional and international communities.

b) Principles

- Duty to God

Adherence to spiritual principles. Loyalty to the religion that expresses them and acceptance of duties resulting there from.

- Duty to others

Loyalty to our country in harmony with the promotion of local, national, regional and international peace, understanding and co-operation/integration.

Participation in the development of society with recognition and respect for the dignity of ones fellow man and for the integrity of nature.

- Duty to self

Responsibility of oneself; realization of ones right to develop, learn and grow, learning to assert oneself, make ones decision, set aims and identify the necessary steps to achieve ones full potentiality.

c) Method

It is a system of progressive self-education that should be applied to all sections, taking into account the socio-cultural environment of the young people.

The Scout method is applied in the following ways:-

- i. Law and promise.
- ii. Learning by doing.
- iii. Membership of small groups (patrol system) requiring adult guidance, progressive discovery and acceptance of responsibility and training towards self-governance directed towards the development of competence, self-reliance, honesty and leadership skill objectives.
- iv. Progressive and stimulating programs (progressive scheme) consisting of varied activities based on one's own interest including games, useful skills and service to community, all taking place largely in an outdoor setting.
- v. Symbolic framework or symbolic background where the scouts relate to their socio-cultural background in order to have a programmed that has a national touch.
- vi. Relationship between adults and young people where leaders have the responsibility to keep an eye on the young ones especially the Sungura, as they are delicate majority.

- vii. Life in nature, it is not just animals, trees, rivers etc for scouts. Nature is a club where one can enjoy themselves, a laboratory where one feels closer to God and can worship Him in one's own way.

KSA VISION

Creating a better world.

KSA MISSION

Educating young people to play a constructive role in the society.

This is achieved by:-

- i. Involving the youth throughout their formative years in a non-formal educational process.
- ii. Using a specific method that makes each individual the principle agent in ones development as a self-reliant, supportive, responsible and committed person.
- iii. Assisting them to establish value system based upon spiritual, social, and personal principles as expressed in the scouts law and promise.

1.1 INTRODUCTION TO EXTENSION SCOUTING PROGRAMME

The Kenya Scouts Association has developed a Nationwide Programme to reach out to Children in Difficult circumstances (C.E.D.C) known as the Extension Scouting Programme (E.S.P). The Association has realized that active and successful Scouting in Kenya is highly regarded and valued by the community in which it operates and more so where the children in the unit come from difficult backgrounds.

There are many tens of thousands of Kenyan children who fit into this category by one definition or another. Observations have shown that fully integrating a Kenyan child from a difficult background into the Scout Movement complete with uniform can be a transformational experience for the child.

Research and observations have revealed that fully integration of a Kenyan child from difficult background into Scout movement complete with scout uniform can be a transformational experience for the child.

This policy for the Extension Scouting Programme is designed to provide a framework for addressing and guiding all those who will be involved in the programme.

The aims of the Extension Scouting Programme Policy are to:

- i. Provide clear guidelines to prevent any misunderstanding,
- ii. Ensure that this policy is accessible and can realistically be implemented and
- iii. Provide clear guidelines to follow in the events of any misunderstanding between the stakeholders.

NOTE:

The Policy is consistent with the Fundamental Principles of Scouting and the Marrakech Charter on partnership in Scouting.

1.2 Who is a Child in Difficult Circumstances?

A child especially in difficult circumstances (C. E. D.C) is defined as every young person between the ages 6 – 17 years in Kenya Scouts Association. However in some very special circumstances, the programme will cater for those youth between 18 and 30 years. The young person may be found in but not limited to the following circumstances: -

1. Victims of conflicts and calamity (e.g. refugees)
2. Abused and exploited (e.g. child labor)
3. Challenged children – physically and mentally
4. Victims of drugs and delinquency
5. Children living in the streets
6. Abandoned and neglected children.
7. Orphans and vulnerable children (O.V.Cs)

1.3 Where to Find Children in Difficult Circumstances.

Children in difficult circumstances may be found in but not limited to the following places: -

- ❖ Children's homes
- ❖ Special education institutions
- ❖ The streets
- ❖ Refugee camps
- ❖ Broken homes
- ❖ Homes of people living with HIV and AIDS
- ❖ Approved schools
- ❖ Borstal institutions
- ❖ Normal schools
- ❖ Rescue centres.

1.4 Some Characteristics of Children in Difficult Circumstances.

The characteristics may include but not be limited to the following: -

- ❖ They can hardly meet the basic needs of life survival (i.e. food, shelter and clothing)
- ❖ School dropouts.
- ❖ Delinquency behavior
- ❖ Drug abusers
- ❖ Illness such as HIV and AIDS
- ❖ Involvement in commercial sex
- ❖ Involved in child labour
- ❖ Truancy

1.5 The Objectives of the ESP Programme

The objectives of the Extension Scout Programme are to:-

1. Extend the offer of Scouting to those children in difficult circumstances who might otherwise not get the opportunity. Through their interaction with Scouting, to enhance their life skills and prepare them to be better citizens and lead a more normal life than might otherwise have been the case.
2. Re-unite children when and where possible with their parents, families, relatives or well-wishers. This will be coordinated through the Scout Leaders who will have been trained to handle the Scout and re-unite them.
3. Bring the children together for joint Scouts activities with other Scouts. This will make them not feel alienated from other young people. Through this integration exercise, Scouts will take part in Local Association, Provincial, National and International Scout Activities.
4. Make the Children especially in difficult circumstances have a sense of ownership and belonging through Scouting.

2.0 The Responsibilities of Kenya Scouts Association Headquarters.

The responsibilities include the following:-

1. Through the Local Association, identify suitable volunteer leaders and train them fully in Scouting skills and specifically how to work with children especially in difficult circumstances and encourage and support them in running active and successful ESP Units.
2. Set and expect high standards from ESP Unit leaders.
3. Raise sufficient funds from partners at home and foreign countries to supplement what the ESP units raise locally to make the provision of Scouting available to those who could not otherwise afford it, and to provide training at an acceptable cost to the ESP unit leaders.
4. Integrate the children who come from difficult circumstances with all of Kenya Scouts as fully as possible.
5. Network with other organizations involved in caring and or protecting children in difficult circumstances.

2.1 How the Association will work on Extension Scout Programme

- ❖ Through the Scouts Local Association, establish a list of committed Scout Leaders who either hold Wood badge or express a real intent to train to earn one.
- ❖ Work with the Scout Leaders, through the Scout Local Association, as a team to develop their skills, improve their programme planning and execution, learn from each other and plan joint Scouts activities and or events.

- ❖ Establish types of relationship that the leaders will have with children especially in difficult circumstances;-
- i. Those possibly a large group with whom they interact on an irregular and unplanned basis.
- ii. From within that larger group, establish by keeping attendance records, which of them is committed to joining a Scout unit on an ongoing basis.
- iii. Once a child has demonstrated commitment to Scouting by attending meetings regularly and achieved the requirements to be invested as a Scout, provide him/her at ESP expense with a new and complete set of uniform with all the badges and pay his/her registration fee. These children will then be enrolled /invested as Scouts. The process will be done on an individual basis and not as a unit and to start with there might be only a few Scouts in a unit. We hope that this will encourage other children to join Scouting.
- iv. Encourage and support the Scout Leaders to run full Scouting badge education programme for their Scouts. The Leaders should run a Scout Programme that offers lasting and sustainable change and development for the child rather than chasing to get high numbers for whom they are unable to offer a full Scout Programme.
- v. Run a fundraising programme to cover the cost of providing Scouting to children who cannot otherwise afford it. If money is given to a unit for self-help project and which the Association is not keen at doing, it will be on the strict understanding that all the benefits of the projects are used to develop the Scout and not for other purposes. Full accounting records will need to be kept to show all the income and expenditure of any Scouting project. The Association will not tolerate any abuse or use of funds for other purposes by the leaders. Leaders who violate this principle will be disciplined by the Association, with recommendations from the Scout Local Association and the laid down procedures of the Association's Policy Organization and Rules (P. O. R)

2.2 What Extension Scouting Programme is:-

Extension Scouting Programme is a Youth Education Programme of KSA with a unique Scout Programme that has worked over the years. We should focus on this because it is what we know about and it works.

2.3 What Extension Scouting Programme is not:

Extension Scouting Programme is not:-

- An NGO or charity, which provides housing, food and medical support on an ongoing basis. The programme will not lead self-help Programmes, the benefits of which are to feed and or house the children on a regular and ongoing basis. The Association will be happy to work with partners who are providing such support.
- A source of funds for school fees, school uniform or books.

- An Adult training centre, which provides training for work skills like needle work and tailoring. The Association will be happy for any of its sites and facilities to be used for those purposes provided all the arrangements are made satisfactorily.
- An employer. The Association will not pay wages. Scouting is a voluntary organization.

3.0 ESP Stakeholders

ESP stakeholders shall include the following but will not be limited to:-

- ❖ Scouts and Scout Leaders.
- ❖ Parents, families and guardians.
- ❖ District and Local Governments authorities.
- ❖ Scout Local Associations.
- ❖ Children's homes and Day Care Centres
- ❖ Local and Foreign partners.
- ❖ Education Officers, Head teachers and their Boards.

3.1 Working With Other Stakeholders.

The ESP will work with other stakeholders in the following ways.

1. Scouts and Scout Leaders

The scouts are the main stakeholders in this Programme. The Scouts will be expected to go through the Youth Programme of KSA and earn badges.

The Scout Leaders will be adults who are mature and balanced, free to motivate others and generate commitments and able to realize that they are responsible for an educational task that should benefit young people. The Leaders must be trained or willing to be trained to the highest levels in Scouting. While working with Children in difficult circumstances the Scout leaders MUST uphold high morals and adhere to the Children's Act to respect the children's rights. Any cases of child abuse will lead to serious disciplinary actions against the Scout leader including a civil suit.

2. Parents, families and guardians.

One of the programme aims is helping and encouraging whatever parental, family and guardian support network that exists at the child's home. The programme will therefore want to re-unite families where this is appropriate and get the child's life as much as back to normal as possible. Parents, families and guardians are too expected to respect children's rights as envisaged in the Children's Act of the laws of Kenya.

3. District and Local Government Authorities.

The Programme acknowledges where there is a good, open and constructive working relationship with District and Local Government officials, the benefits to the children are much greater. The

Association will therefore seek engagement and involvement in all that ESP is doing with District and Local Government, through the Scout Local Association.

4. Scout Local Association.

ESP is a fully integrated part of the Kenya Scouts Association. ESP units must be a normal part of the Scout Local Association and not something separate or special. ESP units must therefore play a full and normal part in the Scout Local Association. The Area Commissioner must be fully aware of all ESP units and their activities. All reports of the ESP units must be done through the Local Association.

5. Children's Homes and Day Care Centres.

A Successful Scout Unit at a Children's Home or Day Care centre is a great help to that centre. The Scouts help to set the standard of behavior and discipline for the rest of the children. The Association will therefore be very happy and feel honored to help these homes and centres by providing support, training and guidance to the unit leaders, so that they can have an active and successful ESP unit at their homes or centres. The Association will be seeking to add value to and compliment what the homes or centres engage in. The Association will expect the Scout leader to work closely with the leaders or management of the homes or centres to ensure that the Scout Programme fits with the overall home or centre objectives and Programme.

All children homes and day care centres with ESP units are too expected to respect children's rights as envisaged in the Children's Act of 2001 of the Laws of Kenya.

6. Local and Foreign Partners.

The Association will be happy to work with partners who reside in and out of Kenya and want its involvement and support. The Association will be happy to oversee a Scouting project for them, provided the Association has an involvement with the selection of the project – its objectives and management. The Associations' ESP Programme cannot be held accountable for projects over which it has no input in planning and implementation phases. The Association would prefer if Scouting donations were made through the ESP central organization or through the Scouts Local Association rather than direct with unit, where the central organization or Scout Local Association have no direct knowledge of what has been given and for what exact purpose. The Association will ensure that any donation given will have a specific purpose and that the money will be used exclusively for that purpose and no other. The Association will also ensure that accurate financial records of income and expenditure on any such project and that this will be available to the partners.

All local and foreign partners engaging with KSA ESP units are too expected to respect children's rights as envisaged in the Children's Act of 2001 of the Laws of Kenya. Failure to this is tantamount to discontinuing the partnership and legal actions taken against any reports of child abuse or harm. It is the responsibility of KSA and partners to ensure children in Scouting are safe from harm.

7. Education Officials, Heads of Educational Institutions and their Boards.

Many of the ESP projects are based at Educational institutions and the Scout leaders are teachers. Where there is good open and constructive working relationship with Education Officials, Heads of Education Institutions and their Governing Boards, the chances of success are much greater. The Association encourages all ESP Unit Leaders in this situation to work with and through the

relevant education authorities. The programme will seek to demonstrate that an active and successful ESP unit can enhance the local reputation of the education institution.

3.2 Conflicts of Interest in ESP

- ❖ In case of conflict of interest involving the ESP Unit leaders the Policy, Organization and Rules (P.O.R) of the Kenya Scout Association shall be upheld.
- ❖ In case of conflicts of interest involving the partners the Marrakech Charter on partnership shall be used as the guidelines.
- ❖ In case of any conflict of interest in ESP affairs, it will be brought to the Projects and Partnerships committee by the Scout Local Association or the afflicted stakeholder. The committee after investigation and deliberations shall make its recommendations to the National Executive Committee to make a decision. The decision of the National Executive Committee shall be final.

4.0 Guiding Principles of the ESP Policy

The Kenya Scouts Association ESP policy is guided by the Children's Act of 2001 of the Laws of Kenya. The children's Act stipulates the need to protect the rights and promote the welfare of the children of Kenya irrespective of their circumstances and/or background.

NB: Each and every adult scout leader dealing with children MUST adhere to the stipulations in this ACT as requirement to run an ESP unit or engage in any activities involving ESP scouts.

Appendix: MARRAKECH CHARTER

1. Principles

- In a world increasingly perceived as a global village, but which, paradoxically, is witnessing the disintegration of more and more communities;
- In a world suffering from hunger, poverty, illiteracy, exploitation, social injustice and unemployment, encountering easing intolerance and racism, threatened by individualism and the desire for profit at any price, seeking greater democracy and the respect of human rights, at a time when the health, the environment and peace are threatened in numerous regions;
- In a world where totalitarianism and barriers between people are disappearing, and where modern means of communication offer links among people;
- More than ever before, we need men and women capable of acting in partnership for a world "Without border", in the name of justice, solidarity and peace.
- We firmly believe that Scouting, faithful to its fundamental principles and with its proven specific educational method, can significantly contribute to the development of the kind of citizens, which the world needs.

In Scouting, education for partnership starts in the patrol, when a young person learns to discover other people, to respect their differences and to act with them.

This discovery gradually extends to the world around him or her, to the local, national and international community.

Through concrete and appropriate activities adapted to their capabilities, young people prepare to become responsible citizens.

Partnership between Scout Associations, whether from the North, South, East or West, and between Scout Associations and other local, national or international governmental or non-governmental organizations, reinforces this educational action, provided that:

- The partnership meets the young people's needs and aspirations, and involves them in all stages of action;
- The partnership is based on the fundamental principles of Scouting;

The partnership serves to:

- i. Enrich the Youth Programme of the Scout Associations concerned;
- ii. Strengthen their human and financial resources, develop their infrastructure;
- iii. The partnership is built upon the principles of equality, autonomy, reciprocity and fraternity;
- iv. Recognized that the other bears the main responsibility for its own development;
- v. Respect the culture, values and beliefs of the other,
- vi. Respect educational choices and structures of the partner associations,
- vii. Seek to strengthen the autonomy of the other whilst accepting the need to be Interdependent,
- viii. Recognize the other's contribution and endeavor to ensure a reciprocal exchange,
- ix. Avoid harming the partner and its credibility,
- x. Place human relationships at the heart of the partnership, in a spirit of openness and Tolerance,
- xi. The implementation process is based on transparency and co-management;
- xii. Freely express needs in a spirit of mutual trust,
- xiii. Consult each other before taking any decision.
- xiv. Make decisions together at all stages of the project (Identification of needs, definition of objectives, implementation, evaluation and follow-up).

2. Partnership and Youth Programme

- Partnership contributes to the enrichment of the Youth Programme, especially in the field of development education and peace education.

In implementing partnership, it is important;

- i. To identify the needs and aspirations of the young people in each community
- ii. To involve the young people in all stages of the partnership activities,
- iii. To consider the patrol as the basic cell.

- Partnership is a means to discover, understand and respect others, their cultures, lifestyles and Scouting practices.
- Development education and peace education promote the rights of men, women, and children.
- Development education and community involvement need to be integrated into the youth programme, in particular through the progressive scheme.
- Young people need to be involved in regularly evaluating and updating the partnership, taking the specific objectives of each partner into account.
- Partnership contributes to the participation of all young people and their social, cultural and economic integration into their local, national and international communities.

3. Partnership and Youth Exchanges.

Youth exchanges are privileged means of promoting development education and peace education.

In order to be fully educational, they should:

- Allow both partners to share knowledge and skills;
- Be prepared jointly in a spirit of mutual respect, involving young people in all stages of the project as the main participants in the partnership,
- Train young people to acquire a good understanding of their own culture and that of their partners;
- Be planned, implemented and evaluated jointly,
- Ensure that partners contribute equally,
- Be founded on the principle of reciprocity;
- Enable young people to share their experience upon their return home.

4. Partnership in the area of Adult Resources

Partnership enables us to strengthen the adult resources of partner scout associations, especially through leader exchanges, leader training and volunteer service.

Association should ensure that leader exchanges are based upon the same principle as those defined for youth exchanges.

In the case of trainees, it is essential for the Scout Associations concerned and, if need be, the appropriate bodies of WOSM to discuss in advance:

- The choice of trainees,
- Their preparation
- The objectives and content of their training,
- Evaluation
- What is expected of the trainee upon his/her return.

Overseas volunteers should meet the following criteria:

- The volunteer is under the responsibility of the Association to which he or she is assigned. A detailed contract defines the mission of the volunteer and the relationship between him, his own Association and his host Association;

The volunteer should correspond to the following profile:

- i. Be a member of the Scout Movement or at least accept its fundamental principles.
 - ii. Be able to provide training,
 - iii. Have the skills and professional experience corresponding to the job description,
 - iv. Be able to get on with people and adapt to different situations;
- The contract should be long enough to allow time for adoption, planning, implementation and preparation for the future: creation of the conditions required to guarantee the durability of the project, especially the training of Local leaders to take over from the volunteer, etc:
 - The host Association should do everything possible to prepare the volunteer and facilitate his work and integration;
 - The partners should jointly evaluate the volunteer's work during and after the contracted period;

To guarantee development and peace education through partnership activities, Scout Associations should include this dimension in the Adult Leader training Programme at all levels and for all age sections.

5. Partnership, material, and financial resources.

- The financial dimension should not be the only motive for partnership. Above all, partnership should be based on a mutual need to learn more about each other and to pursue a common objective together.
- **Financial co-operation require:**
 - i. Determining jointly the aim of the activity or projects to be funded;
 - ii. Agreeing on the criteria and rules governing the granting of funds or the provision of services;
 - iii. Ensuring transparency in financial management;
 - iv. Exchanging information on administrative and financial procedures.
 - v. Evaluating jointly. Joint evaluation of all procedures.
- This co-operation should be based on real solidarity between all Associations, by encouraging them to devote a percentage of their own budget to development.
- It should also promote direct action between Associations in neighboring countries, as a way of sharing and using available resources more effectively;

- The development of Scouting depends on support for the Educational Programmes and infrastructure of Associations, public and private sponsors need to be convinced to provide such financial support.
- Partnership should enable Associations to gain access to different kinds of funding, in order to guarantee their autonomy and multiply their possibilities for action. It should also find funding for projects, which enable an Association to generate its own funds.

All Association should be encouraged:

- i. To contribute to the “U-fund” (Scout Universal Fund and WOSM Solidarity fund).
 - ii. To assist Scout Associations in countries which are victims of conflicts or Natural disasters.
- Likewise, funding for development education is essential for partnership.
 - From a financial point of view, it is essential that the partnership is built on mutual trust, transparency in financial matters and all the end of the exchange.

6. Multilateral Partnership

- Associations are encouraged to establish multilateral partnerships with other Scout Associations or governmental or non-governmental organizations, especially in the same geographical area.
- This type of partnership can help to develop more egalitarian relationships between partners and to enrich exchanges.

7. Partnerships with other organizations.

Partnerships between Scout Associations and other local, national, international, governmental or non-governmental organizations enable associations to strengthen the educational impact of their activities.

These organizations should be encouraged to acknowledge the contribution of Scouting to the development of Society through its educational action, and to cooperate more closely with Scouting at local, national and international level, respecting its independence and specific character.

Such partnerships may take a variety of forms: financial support, provision of materials, expert technical support, preparation of educational material, etc.

They should encourage Scout Associations, at national and international (regional and worldwide) level, to participate in collective consultations to develop youth policies.

8. Partnership Scout Association and WOSM

Scout Associations are invited to prepare and establish their partnership activities and relationships in consultation with the appropriate WOSM bodies.

These bodies should support Associations in the development and implementation of these activities, namely:

- *By signing agreements at international level with other organizations, in order to gain recognition for Scout activities in the filed of action of these organizations;*
- *By developing educational tools, to help associations to implement these activities as effectively as possible;*
- *By encouraging the exchange of information on partnership experiences by all appropriate means (Publications, networks, etc)*

9. Partnership and Emergency Relief

- Partnership is particularly necessary in emergencies, conflicts and natural disasters
- Through its educational programme, Scouting prepares young people to play an active role in the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts. It contributes to emergency relief work by mobilizing its members and appealing for solidarity. Once the emergency is over, it helps with reconstruction and rehabilitation.
- It is important that support networks exist, in order to allow Associations to intervene rapidly and effectively in an emergency.

Scouting must remain true to its fundamental principles and method by focusing its action on caring for children and young victims.

10. Partnership contract

Partnership activities should be regulated by a “Partnership agreement” in the form of a Convention between two or more Associations or Organizations in the spirit of the present Charter.

A partnership agreement is a moral commitment between the partners, based on shared ideals and convictions. It clearly defines the objectives, means of action and implementation procedure of the project. It also defines the responsibilities and framework within which each partner can act.