

# champions for nature

## national challenge 2023

### rovers



*"Surely we have the responsibility to leave for future generations a planet that is healthy and habitable by all species."*

David Attenborough





## introduction:

### Nature, Biodiversity, and Better Choices

Nature is very relevant and attractive for young people all over the world for leisure, a learning space, cultural exploration, and spiritual development. Currently, each individual shares this planet with thirty million other species.

The Champions for Nature Challenge takes young people on a journey to discover and recognise the importance of biodiversity for all living beings, helping youth to connect with nature while engaging in projects to protect and improve our relationship with the natural world.

### Why is the Champions for Nature Challenge important?

The Champions for Nature Challenge will help young people to understand how to make an impact on the environment through responsible consumption, and how to make better choices and develop sustainable habits and behaviours. The Champions for Nature Challenge is part of World Scouting's Earth Tribe learning paths of Nature and Biodiversity.

### SCOUTS South Africa has adopted the Champions for Nature Challenge as our National Challenge for 2023!

Join hands with 50 million Scouts making the world's largest youth contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals!



By taking up the National Challenge, young people throughout South Africa will be enabled to develop their knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and become an active part of the global Scout Movement's drive to empower young people for global environmental action.

## the challenge:

SCOUTS South Africa's National Challenge 2023 addresses SDG's 13, 14 & 15 and will focus on the Nature and Biodiversity learning path where young people will be connecting with nature by understanding the interconnectedness and relationship between humans and nature, and how ecosystems work.



The purpose is to encourage Rovers to have a greater awareness of their local environment and to take practical action, to become a *champion for nature and biodiversity*, by developing sustainable habits for an eco-friendly and healthy lifestyle.

The Rovers are challenged to focus on environmental challenges in their community.

### Task 1: Self-Assessment

Before starting on the Champions for Nature Challenge, take the *champion for nature and biodiversity* self-assessment. (See appendix) This will help to better understand your own knowledge and awareness in the areas of Nature and Biodiversity.

In addition to the self-assessment, devise a plan of action for the Champions for Nature challenge by identifying a suitable environmental area and the actions to be taken.

### Task 2: Be Aware

Explore and understand different environmental challenges related to, and because of, consumption habits.

Lead the Crew into discovering an area in your local community where there's an environmental challenge; the recommended length of the area is a minimum of 3 kilometers.

Record and present your findings to your Crew. Share your findings with a Group other than your Scouting friends, e.g., Varsity, etc.

### Task 3: Cooperate

Identify local actions which will contribute to addressing a specific Nature and Biodiversity challenge in your community.

Share your findings with another Rover who is not from your Crew. Engage other stakeholders in creating sustainable solutions using the information gained in task two.



## Task 4: Act

Lead your Crew into doing a local environmental service project for a minimum of 10 hours.

OR

Adopt a working community project related to environmental awareness for one month.

Write up a story for the local newspaper/Scout website/Crew website/Social media site on the project you did or adopted and its impact.

Share the story or a presentation with a local Scout/Community group on the impact of the project.

Report back to your Crew.

## Task 5: Self-Development

Complete one of the following Awards/Bars:

- Public Health Award
- Civics Award
- Projects Award
- Community Bar

## Deadline

**National Challenge deadline: 30 November 2023.** All entries are to be submitted to your Regional Team Coordinator by 11 December 2023.

## Note to Rovers

We invite you to become a Champion for Nature and Biodiversity and accept the SCOUTS South Africa Champions for Nature National Challenge.

We hope that you enjoy yourself whilst exploring your neighbourhood and making a positive difference within your community.

You can help SCOUTS South Africa enhance our public visibility by embracing the PR value of the National Challenge 2023.

Please take advantage of the PR opportunities and send your Crew's Champions for Nature Challenge activities and photographs to [pr@scouts.org.za](mailto:pr@scouts.org.za) and post them on social media with the hashtags #ChampionsforNature #NationalChallenge2023 #Scoutssouthafrica #Scouting #Scouts #SkillsforLife #Communities #Upliftment #YouthEmpowerment #Scouts4SDGs.



|   |   |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Champions for Nature and Biodiversity</b></p> <p><b>Self-Assessment</b></p> <p><i>Connecting with Nature and protecting it towards sustainability</i></p> | <p>I am at the beginning of my path, and I need to learn more about the issues.</p> | <p>I am on my path and have started a project or activity.</p> | <p>I understand the issues, participate in activities and projects, and promote the solution to the issue.</p> | <p><b>My Personal Goals</b></p> <p>I can choose an issue I want to impact with positive actions.</p> | <p><b>My Activities</b></p> <p>Define an activity or project, either personal or with my Crew.</p> |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|

| Age section (15+) | ✓ or X | Write notes to start your Champions for Nature Challenge journey. |  |  |  |
|-------------------|--------|---|--|--|--|
| 1                 |        |   |  |  |  |
| 2                 |        |   |  |  |  |
| 3                 |        |   |  |  |  |
| 4                 |        |   |  |  |  |