

# the sustainable development goals

“sdg challenge 2020”

‘get involved & be prepared  
to create a better world’



SCOUTS  for SDGs

## introduction:

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2018 "[Scouts for SDG's](#)" was launched at the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York – "an unprecedented mobilisation of our Movement that will see 50 million Scouts make the world's largest coordinated youth contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) for 2030".

## how can we help?

In order to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all, we all have a role to play.

This is where Scouting comes in.

*"Since its beginnings, Scouting has been enabling young people from every corner of the globe to create positive change in their communities, acting on challenges and needs at all levels of society. It uses an action-orientated, self-educational approach to contribute to the empowerment and holistic development of young people as autonomous individuals and active global citizens."*

SDGs should not just be a focus for SCOUTS South Africa (SSA) and all our members last year and this year, but a part of our lives, till 2030 and beyond!

In **2019**, SSA chose to focus on these SDGs in order to consolidate our efforts on helping overcome challenges experienced by many in South Africa.



We issued a National Challenge to Meerkats and Cubs and challenged Scouts, Rovers and Adults to complete individual SDG badges. The details for the **2019 SDG challenges and badge requirements can still be found [HERE](#)**.

The response was good, but if you did not complete all the challenges for SDGs 1 to 4, either with your Den or Pack, or as an individual, you can still tackle them this year, and the next and the next, etc. to earn an SDG badge.

In **2020** we have chosen to focus our efforts on **four more SDGs**



The **2020 National Challenges** for Meerkats and Cubs as well as the **individual SDG challenges** for Scouts, Rovers and Adults can be found [HERE](#).

Can you, your Troop or Crew help a Den or Pack achieve the National Challenge this year?



We also introduced an **"SDG Champion badge"** for Scouts, Rovers and Adults who complete 8 individual SDG challenges over two or more years.

The good news is that any 4 of the SDG challenges you completed as a Cub can count for the "Champion Badge" when you are a Scout but you must earn 4 of the individual badges to become a "Champion". Any 4 badges you achieved as a Scout count when you are a Rover or Adult member, so you will be able to become an SDG Champion whenever you complete 8 individual challenges. Keep working to make positive changes in our world!

## what are the sustainable development goals?

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were born at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in 2012. The objective was to produce a set of universal goals that meet the urgent environmental, political and economic challenges facing our world.

One of the main outcomes from this conference was an international agreement to negotiate a new set of global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to guide the path of sustainable development in the world after 2015. Building on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the SDGs were established following the largest multiple stakeholder consultation process of its kind.

It was determined that these goals should be *"action-oriented, concise and easy to communicate, limited in number, aspirational, global in nature and universally applicable to all countries, while taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities"*.

They should be *"focused on priority areas for the achievement of sustainable development"*. They should also reflect *"the moral principles that no-one and no country should be left behind, and that everyone and every country should be regarded as having a common responsibility for playing their part in delivering the global vision"*.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2015, during the UN General Assembly in New York, an unprecedented 193 countries adopted the 17 new Sustainable Development Goals with 169 specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years. In the words of the United Nations Development Program, the goals are designed *"to end poverty, hunger and inequality, take action on climate change and the environment, improve access to health and education, and build strong institutions and partnerships, and more"*.

All of the goals have been conceived as applying ambitions and challenges to all countries. All of the goals and targets contain important messages and challenges for developed and developing countries alike. However, for the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part: governments, the private sector, civil society and people like us.

### **The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) are:**



End poverty in all its forms everywhere.



End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.



Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.



Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.



Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.



Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.



Reduce inequality within and among countries.



Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.



Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.



Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and half biodiversity loss.



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for sustainable development

**Good Luck!**

## references:

<https://sdgs.scout.org/>

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/background.html>

<https://charity.org/sdgs-background>

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

[www.sesamestreet.org/toolkits/healthy\\_habits](http://www.sesamestreet.org/toolkits/healthy_habits)