

Email Communication

Scouts.org.uk

My email: My MA I am concerned with enabling those who do good deeds, being able to have a platform to be able to promote that and have a positive user profile online. I was thinking about making links to fund-raising pages organisations and group projects that would make more people feel connected to working together.

That is why I am looking at the million hands project and how your intentions have developed into the aims of the million hands. Can you forward these questions please:

Questions:

Q1: Where did the concept of the million hands project come from?

Answers: A Million Hands first launched in 2013/14 when a group of 10 young people from across the UK came together, aided by research that had been conducted of the wider movement regarding the issues that matter the most to them. This group then interviewed a number of organisations in a 'dragons den' style, before picking the partners we would be working with over the next 4 years. The principle of A Million Hands is that by marrying up the enthusiasm and passion of our young people with the expertise of expert charity partners on issues that matter to our young people, we can have huge collective impact. In 2018/19 A Million Hands was relaunched with a new set of partners and themes, more information on these can be found at www.scouts.org.uk/community

Q2: How were the partnerships formed?

Answers: The partnerships were formed through an open call to all charities to submit pitches to partner, these were then shortlisted and selected by a group of young people, aided by research.

Q3: Your badges are well known and give purpose to the scouts making advancements in the programme, what made you as an organisation consider the community aspect linking to the 17 SDG points from the UN, Scouts for SDGs?

As Scouts, helping others and the environment has been in our DNA for over 110 years, from helping out during national emergencies to long term partnerships with charities – our young people are at the forefront of creating a better world. By linking to the SDG's we are able to highlight how the work our young people is doing contributes to the global goals – allowing our young people to connect their local actions to global change

Q4: Do you have links to the UN and your research goes into their data?

The World Organisation of the Scout Movement regularly work with the United Nations on a number of projects and share data/insights.

Q5: How do you measure success of your project for the million hands?

By 2023, our target is to have 50% of our young people taking part in habitual social action – this is measured in a variety of ways, but primarily through our annual Scout Experience Survey. In addition to this, we are also tracking whether young people develop their knowledge and ability to take action on the themes.

Q6: I am interested that then million hands project is possibly looking externally too, how are you recruiting those outside of the scouting organisation into the program?

Anyone can take part in the A Million Hands activities as they are all freely available on our website – in order to receive the badge young people must be part of a Scout Group. As an organisation we are open to all and are committed to ensuring our movement is reflective of the society in which we live. Just one example of this is our new section for 4-5 year old's: Squirrels, where we are prioritising opening Dreys (groups) in IMD 1-3 areas, where Scouts has previously not had as large a presence – in doing this we are providing provision in the communities that need it most.