



C: CO-ORDINATING A SUPPORT NETWORK FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION OF THE PROGRAMME

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The International Dimension is a key element of the 6 to 25 programme and, as this part of *International Essentials* shows, is much more than just going abroad.

Here, we highlight the importance of creating an effective support structure both within local Scouting and externally that can help you deliver this International Dimension to your local area.

Local global teams

There is no 'perfect solution' that is suitable for all Counties and the ideas suggested here should be tailored to the needs of local Scouting.

An effective structure will look at two separate elements: delivery to local Scouting and functions.

Delivery to local Scouting is split into two areas:

- The first is supporting the needs of the differing Sections. For example, the International Dimension for Beaver Scouts is vastly different from that for Explorer Scouts or Scout Network and some Counties find benefit in having representation from each Section within the local global team.
- The second is geographic – to assist you with delivering the International Dimension to local Sections, it may be beneficial to have local 'agents'.

Functions covers the various roles and responsibilities that a local global team may have to address. These could include:

- Supporting the 6 to 25 Programme (see Section D)
- Supporting Visits Abroad (Section E)
- Training – Supporting the delivery of Module 19
- Supporting projects such as Jamborees/Moots, expeditions and links/exchanges
- Promoting international awareness such as newsletters or websites.

When these two elements are combined, it does not mean that the team has to be large – members may cover more than one function or more than one Section/District. A possible structure is shown at the end of this section.

External contacts

A local structure to support the international Dimension does not stop at your local Scouting boundary. It is essential that links are forged with parent organisations

(such as the National Team) and other local global teams.

Equally, there are many non-Scouting people who may be invaluable contacts. These include:

- Local charities - a great source of information and opportunities for coordinating action. These links do not necessarily mean Scouting supporting the local charity; a local charity offered to transport equipment to another Scout Association on behalf of a National Scout Fellowship
- Local representatives of national charities – many large charities have a youth department or regional representatives who are more than willing to come along to events or to provide material
- Local/National faith groups – at a local level, these faith groups may be able to provide Scouting contacts in another country and many national faith groups (for example Christian Aid, Cafod) produce activity material which is suitable for most age ranges; many of this material is free
- Development education
- Other youth movements.

Recruiting members

Membership of a local global team does not need to be a full time role and most of the roles do not match the need for a regular weekly commitment. When creating a team think carefully about what roles you want to be filled and the type of structure you think is required to deliver the International Dimension in an effective manner to your local members.

The Six Step approach to recruitment is a proven method of recruiting members; see <http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/support/recruit/index.htm> for more information on the approach.

Most Counties have a huge pool of people with some experience of 'global' activities such as:

- Groups which have travelled abroad
- Members of previous/current Jamboree/Moot contingents
- Members of National Scout Fellowships
- Members who have undertaken previous international Expeditions
- Members of International focused National Scout Fellowships.

