



girls worldwide say

“together we can end extreme poverty and hunger”



World Thinking Day 2010

About World Thinking Day

Today, 30,000 children die every day from poverty and neglect, and two billion people live without adequate food and basic needs. More than three million people will die of HIV and AIDS this year - many of them live in poverty.

The World Thinking Day theme for 2010 is girls worldwide say ‘together we can end extreme poverty and hunger’ and the aim is to raise awareness among everyone about the situation and improve the lives of the poorest people in the world.

‘Ending poverty’ is one of the eight areas of focus made by 189 world leaders at the United Nations Millennium Summit in 2000. It is also part of the WAGGGS Global Action Theme (GAT), which encourages girls and young women to make a personal commitment to change the world around them by linking to an important global agenda: the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs.)

WAGGGS will continue supporting the Millennium Development Goals over the next three years with the following themes:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| • World Thinking Day theme 2010 | Poverty and Hunger |
| • World Thinking Day theme 2011 | Empowerment |
| • World Thinking Day theme 2012 | Environment |

World Thinking Day both raises awareness of the Millennium Development Goals through our GAT and raises funds for the Movement worldwide.

How the World Thinking Day Fund will be used

Poverty exists in all areas of the world – even the wealthiest nations are still struggling to eradicate poverty within their own borders. In some of the poorest nations in the world the vast majority live with poverty everyday.

Through the non-formal education programme and activities such as the GAT badge curriculum young people learn about development issues. Girl Guiding/Girl Scouting offers girls and young women skills and confidence to help them overcome poverty. In some countries this involves girls learning income generating skills, such as craft skills in Honduras, or sewing and baking skills in South Africa. Girl Guides and Girl Scouts have also always served others in their communities – offering help and support to those less fortunate than them.

For 2010 we are highlighting the difference Girl Guiding/Girl Scouting makes and the ways it challenges poverty in five countries*. The five countries, one from each of our regions are:

1. Haiti
2. Zimbabwe
3. Sudan
4. Georgia
5. Maldives



girls worldwide say

“together we can end extreme poverty and hunger”



World Thinking Day 2010

2

About World Thinking Day

Through World Thinking Day you can learn about these countries and how Girl Guiding /Girl Scouting makes a difference for girls and young women. World Thinking Day money is used around the world and benefits all our Member Organizations. Each of the five countries in 2010 will receive a small grant from the World Thinking Day Fund for a project along the theme of 'Poverty' in order to offer more to girls.

The money spent in these five countries is just one example of how the World Thinking Day Fund bring more opportunities to girls and young women around the world. As in previous years, the Fund also supports other work that the World Association does to grow the Movement, develop leaders and make the voice of girls heard. The World Association delivers a huge range of activities worldwide; here are just a few examples:

Developing the leaders of the future

Our WAGGGS Leadership Development Programme (WLDP) provides young women from around the world the opportunity to develop their leadership skills, acquire a better awareness of their leadership roles within their association, and also identify their own leadership path using the methodology of the Programme with its specific gender, inter-generational and inter-cultural perspectives.

The voice of girls and young women on key development issues

Representatives from WAGGGS attend many important global gatherings to ensure that the voice of girls and young women are heard. Recent examples include the International Colloquium on Women's Empowerment, Leadership Development, International Peace and Security in Liberia, meeting the World Bank in Washington DC and launching the WAGGGS training toolkit on HIV and AIDS at the International AIDS conference in Mexico City.

Strengthening the Movement so more girls can benefit worldwide

Ten millions girls and young women are already benefiting from being a Girl Guide/Girl Scout. Learning through non-formal education girls and young women are developing leadership and life skills. Individual girls, units, and associations are tackling the challenges of the Millennium Development Goals as part of our Vision for 2011; "We are a growing worldwide Movement - the voice of girls and young women who influence issues they care about and build a better world". WAGGGS strengthens our 145 Member Organizations through work in the field, resources and events, which World Thinking Day funds in part make possible.

** World Thinking Day donations will be allocated to the World Thinking Day Fund and used where they are most needed. It is not possible to restrict World Thinking Day gifts for a particular country.*



girls worldwide say

“together we can end extreme poverty and hunger”



World Thinking Day 2010

3

About World Thinking Day

Get involved with World Thinking Day 2010

1. Learn about Girl Guiding/Girl Scouting in other countries as you celebrate World Thinking Day 2010 (see activities sheet)
2. Raise money in your unit for World Thinking Day (there's a great selection of fun ways to raise money in the activities sheet)
3. Do something amazing and ask friends and family to sponsor you. WAGGGS is registered with various websites that can help you in raising and collecting money (e.g. everyclick.com/waggggs, justgiving.com/waggggs)
4. Find fun and interesting ways for those outside of the Movement to join in on World Thinking Day

How World Thinking Day began...

Each year on 22 February, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts all over the world celebrate World Thinking Day. World Thinking Day was first created in 1926 at the 4th Girl Guide/Girl Scout International Conference, held at Girl Scouts of the USA's Camp Edith Macy (now called Edith Macy Conference Center). Conference attendees decided that there should be a special day when Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all around the world think of each other and give thanks and appreciation to their "sister" Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

The delegates chose 22 February as the date for Thinking Day because it was the mutual birthday of Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scout Movement, and his wife Olave, who served as World Chief Guide. In 1932, at the 7th World Conference, held in Poland, it was suggested by a Belgian delegate that since birthdays usually involve presents, girls could show their appreciation and friendship on Thinking Day not only by extending warm wishes to each other but also by offering a voluntary contribution to the World Association. Olave wrote to all Girl Guides and Girl Scouts after this idea was adopted asking them to help support the Movement by donating just a penny. You can read Olave's first letter.

This is how the World Association's Thinking Day Fund began. The Fund helps offer Girl Guiding/Girl Scouting to more girls and young women worldwide. Your help is needed just as much today as it was in 1932. To emphasize the global aspect of Thinking Day, members at the 30th World Conference, held in Ireland in 1999, changed the name to World Thinking Day.