



Tide Turners Plastic Challenge



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World Scout Bureau
Global Support Centre
Kuala Lumpur

Suite 3, Level 17
Menara Sentral Vista
150 Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad
Brickfields
50470 Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA

Tel.: + 60 3 2276 9000
Fax: + 60 3 2276 9089

worldbureau@scout.org
scout.org

This document is primarily for National Scout Organizations (NSOs), National Scout Associations (NSAs) and educational institutions in general.

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The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

Their mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.



Tide Turners Plastic Challenge

This Tide Turners Plastic Challenge

implementation Manual is an adaptation of the original Tide Turners Plastic Challenge action kit to fit the educational objectives set by the Earth Tribe Initiative.

Earth Tribe Initiative is created by the World Organization of the Scouts Movement in collaboration with the UN Environment Programme to support young people in the development of competencies for sustainable development, directly related to the environment.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

This challenge has been developed by WOSM in collaboration with UN Environment. The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge is part of the YUNGA badges addressing plastic pollution to young people from different institutions. The content of manual and other resources related to the challenge are adapted to the Earth Tribe, the Better World Framework and Scouts For SDGs competencies and learning processes.

The adaptation of this material has the authorization of UN Environment Programme.

You can learn more about the Earth Tribe Initiative its Challenges and the Scouts for SDGs mobilization in the online site



earthtribe®

CONTENT

Introduction	6
Plastic pollution and a clean, healthy planet	6
Why is a healthy planet important?	7
The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge	8
What is it?	8
Who is the Challenge for?	8
The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge Objectives	9
How to get involved	11
The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge progression	11
How to get The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge badge?	12
The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge learning process	14
Developing your competencies through the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge	16
Tide Turners Plastic Challenge educational activities related to the developed competencies	18
Who is supporting Earth Tribe challenges	19
Clean Seas Campaign Supporting a Clean & Healthy Planet Path	19
Annexes	20
Self-assessment	21
Plastic audit quiz	24
Tide Turners Plastic Challenge visual identity	25



Introduction

Plastic pollution and a clean, healthy planet

Anything that sounds too good to be true probably is. Plastic is no exception. Cheap, durable, and light, plastic has made its way into every country, every society, every lifestyle. You are probably using a lot of plastic: for food and drink packaging, dishes and cutlery and even the material you need for your outdoor activities, like tents and ropes, are made from plastic.

Plastic makes life easier for you in lots of ways. The material you have to carry on your hike or to your camp are lighter, and food and drink are protected so they stay fresh longer. But here's the downside: The production and consumption of single-use plastics and the inability to manage plastic waste sustainably have led to a massive pollution problem. Marine litter and microplastics are flooding our oceans and is hurting marine ecosystems and human health on an unprecedented scale.

The real solution does not lie at sea, though. The problem will not be solved by continuously cleaning the ocean and waterways. The solution lies on land with all people, who are starting the problem.

From cutting back use of single-use plastic to managing and recycling plastic waste more effectively, to finding sustainable alternatives to plastic - solutions to plastic pollution are within our grasp.

When starting the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge, you're first going to learn a bit more about the problem, what possible solutions are and how you as a Scout can play your part in them through smaller activities. Those activities will give you an idea how you can get active and inspire others to join you acting against plastic pollution.

Finally you will be ready and equipped to tackle your own challenge, either on your own or with your Scout group.

Why is a healthy planet so important?

A lot of the waste we are producing is not biocompatible. So it does not just break down by natural processes and without negative impact.

Instead it will stay around for decades and centuries, slowly decaying and potentially giving off harmful substances. Even if waste is littered on land, it will be freely moved around with the wind, especially light waste like plastics, potentially ending up in lakes, rivers and the oceans.

Waste in the waterways becomes an obstacle for aquatic wildlife, and plastics in the oceans will break down to smaller particles being mistaken by fish as food. Therefore, our waste ends up in the food chain, at some point most likely ends up on our dinner tables.

Reducing the amount of waste generated, banning littering, improving the management of waste and applying the technology to process waste (like energy recovery and recycling) is therefore the task at hand.

A healthy planet will ultimately enable us to stay healthy ourselves, have access to clean water and food products, and allow us to enjoy a harmonious relationship with nature.



The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge

What is it?

The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge is a global initiative developed by UNEP, adopted by the World Scout Organization as an integral component of its Earth Tribe Initiative.

The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge will help young people to understand the impact that humans have in the world when it comes to plastic use and consumption and how you can promote a clean, healthy planet that will contribute to a more sustainable world.

The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge supports the development of a specific set of competencies in young people to adopt responsible behaviour towards the environment in the area of a “Healthy planet.” This set of competencies is complementary to many others that Scouting recognises through the Earth Tribe Programme and aligned with Education for Sustainable Development Goals.

So, by taking up the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge, young people develop their knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential for supporting the Sustainable Development Goals.

Who is it for?

This challenge is designed for all young people from 7 years and above, to educate young people about plastic pollution and encourage them to play a part in resolving pressing environmental issues, specifically related to plastics, plastic waste, and plastic pollution.



Tide Turners Plastic Challenge Objectives

Young people can be ambassadors for positive environmental change and action. The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge aims are to:

- Encourage young people to have the knowledge, skills and attitude to be responsible toward daily consumption, in particular with plastic, and find environmentally friendly alternatives, following these learning outcomes that are reflected below in the competencies matrix.
- Understand what plastic is and how plastic is threatening life in oceans and on land;
- Understand how the global community is tackling the issue;
- Understand and act to reduce your personal use of single-use plastics;
- Inspire your friends, family, school, and community to reduce, reuse and recycle single-use plastics;
- Take the lead on a wider scale to create lasting change in your region or community related to the use of single-use plastics, marine litter and microplastics, specifically in preventing and recovering water and land ecosystems from pollution.
- Take part in the Earth Tribe global network of young people across National Scout Organizations and other institutions who are actively aware, involved in environmental education, specifically in plastic reduction, and collaborate with the community, partners and key actors involved.

The challenge has been developed with a series of levels and activities at each stage which must be completed in order to advance on to the next level. This is meant to push young people to become aware of the issues threatening the planet, as well as to engage them in a fun and challenging undertaking which can lead to a sense of personal fulfilment in taking responsibility for the planet's well-being. This badge also encourages the development of leadership skills and meaningful, impactful change-making.

Healthy Planet

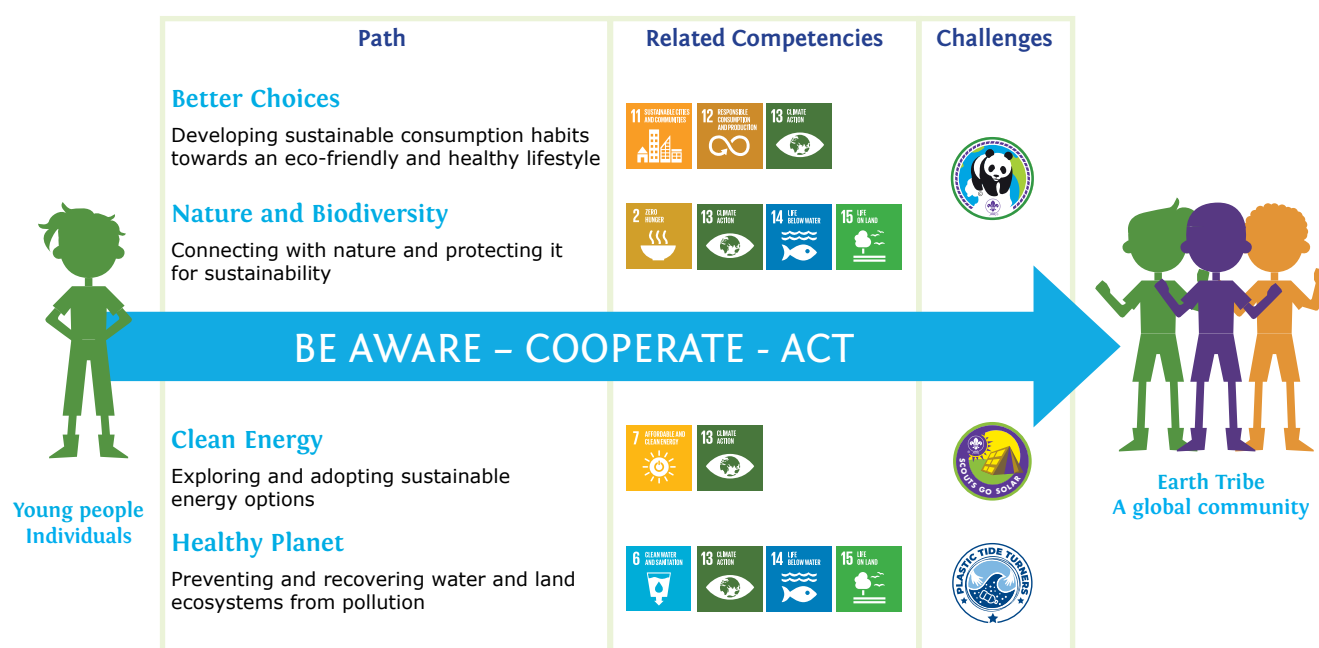
Preventing and Recovering water and land ecosystems from pollution

Young people thrive towards creating a better world for others and themselves. Understanding how pollution impacts the planet, identifying and challenging practices conducive to increasing pollution, and how to reduce its effects, implementing waste management is one learning aspect of this path. Land ecosystems, lakes, rivers, and oceans provide food and water for all of us, but are heavily impacted by careless pollution, and young people will work with the community, local organizations and partners to reduce, reuse and recycle single-use plastics.

Young people become ambassadors for positive change for the environment by pursuing the Earth Tribe recognition. The Plastic Tide Turner Challenge helps young people to develop competencies in one of the four paths you can take to become a member of this global tribe working for our planet.

By completing the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge young people are exploring one of the four paths to become a recognised member of the Earth Tribe Programme, and to become a member of a global tribe working for our planet.

The Earth Tribe paths related to Tide Turners Plastic Challenge is:



Young people become
Healers for Healthy Planet

Tide Turners Plastic Challenge progression

Young people can obtain the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge recognition badge according to the development and age of each individual. For each age, there is specific knowledge, actions and attitudes to develop through activities and community projects.



From 7 to 10



11 to 14



15 and above

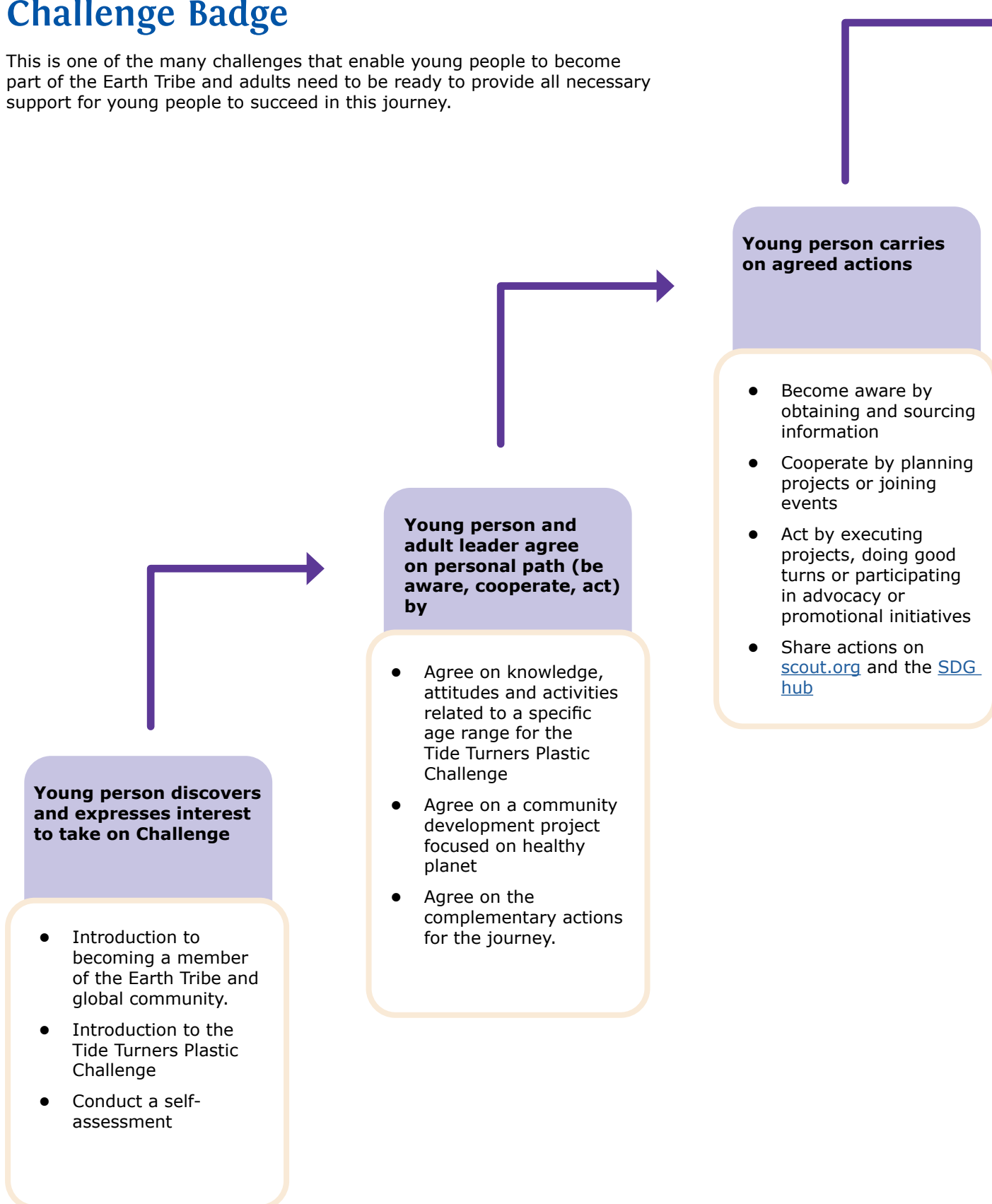
The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge is one of many ways that young people can contribute to the [Scouts for SDGs](#) mobilization to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

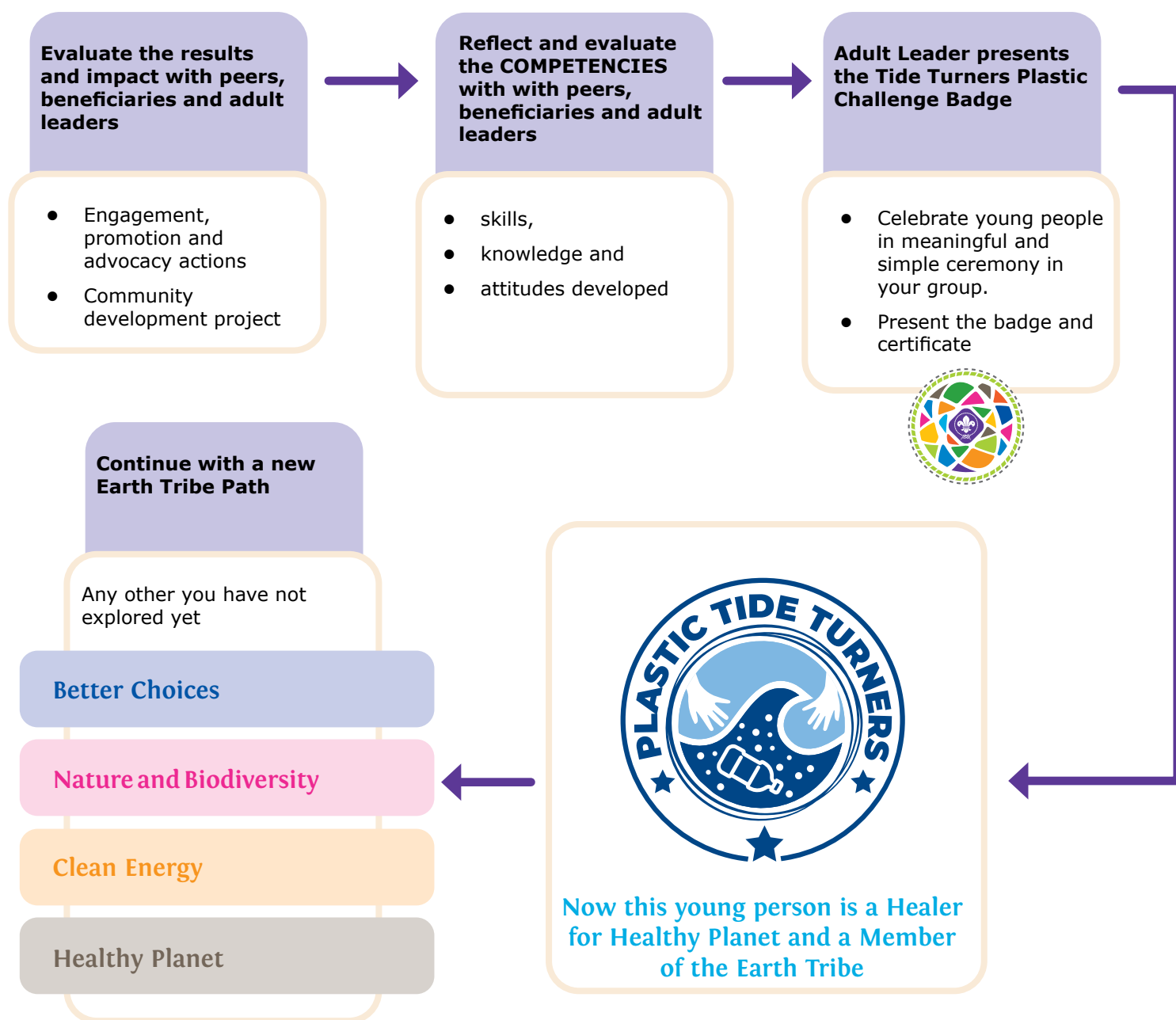
SCOUTS for SDGs

From now to 2030, we are calling all Scouts and young people to take action by inviting community members, partners and experts in designing sustainable solutions for the issues affecting their local communities.

How to get the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge Badge

This is one of the many challenges that enable young people to become part of the Earth Tribe and adults need to be ready to provide all necessary support for young people to succeed in this journey.





CONGRATULATIONS!

This young person is now a **Healer of a Healthy Planet**

The young person is now a member of the global Earth Tribe, can obtain the **Earth Tribe Recognition**. The young person can continue the journey by completing other paths to contribute towards the 17 SDGs.

Young people can combine the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge with other challenges related to environmental action to continue the journey of the Earth Tribe.

Young people and adults can agree on many other possible combinations that are suitable to each individual interest, on other environmental initiatives already developed within the NSO.

Tide Turners Plastic Challenge

Learning Process

Scouts for SDGs mobilisation aims to INSPIRE, ENABLE and DELIVER active global citizens and sustainable communities. The Earth Tribe applies the objective of Scouts for SDGs from an environmental education perspective as:



- **Be aware** of the world around you and key environmental concerns.
- **Cooperate** with others to find solutions to protect ecosystems, biodiversity and outdoor spaces.
- **Act** to develop and implement actions that can make a difference.

The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge contributes in the development of young people with a specific set of actions related to a Healthy Planet, plastic pollution in particular. Young people, with the support of adults, use the same process in each age section, selecting a different set of activities according to age.

Tide Turners Plastic Challenge - Be Aware

What are the learning processes to help young people be aware?

Adults or peers support young people to:

- Explore and understand different environmental issues related or as a result of plastic pollution on land and water.
- Explore their community and surroundings to identify issues present in their local community.

How does the learning process work?

Adults or peers support young people to:

- **Complete a self-assessment** on how much does the person understand the issues related to plastics, plastic waste, and plastic pollution.
- **Audit your plastic usage** in his or her personal life through the plastic audit quiz before going through the activities.
- **Do at least 5 activities** for 7 to 10 years of age, and 4 activities for

11 years of age and above in the path. you can use your own activities considering competencies of Healthy Planet

- **Plan and carry on** with a community service project.

Tide Turners Plastic Challenge- Cooperate

What are the learning processes to help young people cooperate?

Adults or peers support young people to:

- Being able to identify the needs and challenges in the local community and work with others to create sustainable solutions.

How does the learning process work?

Adults or peers support young people to:

- **Identification of issues** or needs with the teams, community, and partners.
- **Explore possible solutions** together and decide which one to work on as a project
- **Brainstorm different options** with community members
- **Check the feasibility of the projects** and sustainability in the long term.
- **Present results to community members** of beneficiaries
- Agree on a solution to bring into action
- **Design and action plan to execute your project**, communicate it, and gather the necessary funds and resources.
- **Set up one SMART goal**: Specific - Measurable - achievable - Realistic - Time-based
- **Apply sustainability principles** in plans and be mindful of the use of resources.

Tide Turners Plastic Challenge - Act

What are the learning processes to help young people take action?

Adults or peers support young people to:

- Take action to contribute to solving a specific issue related to Healthy Planet while working with the key actors: community, your group, partners.

How does the learning process work?

Adults or peers support young people to:

- Execute the agreed service project
 - Execute your plans in collaboration with community members and partners
 - Monitor the plans and progress of actions
- Evaluate it (Goals, impact, individual collective evaluations, etc)
- Report and Share on Scout.org and SDG hub
- Celebrate and recognize efforts with peers, beneficiaries, and partners.

Developing your competencies through the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge



Young people's actions to complete the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge contribute to achieve the following SDGs:

Healthy planet: Preventing and recovering water and land ecosystem from pollution



The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge enables young people by developing competencies conducive to adopting and understanding the concept of Healthy Planet through the following learning objectives.

Healer for a Healthy Planet

Learning Objectives for sustainable development¹

7 to 10	11 to 14	15 and above
I know what impact pollution has on ecosystems, human health and communities.	I understand how ecosystems are impacted by pollution arising from human activities. I know the largest pollutants at a local and regional level. I know what actions to take in polluted environments in order to safeguard life and health. I know how my outdoor activities have an impact on nature, and what is the difference between good and bad practices.	I understand direct and indirect impacts of my lifestyle – what I eat, what I wear, what chemicals I use, on ecosystems, and learn ways to and learn ways to reduce the impact (to zero)
I want to help reduce human impact on nature.	I am aware of how my everyday life impacts life on earth, even far away. I want my life experiences to be environmentally-friendly.	I want to reduce the impact of my lifestyle on the production of pollutants.
I am taking part in events that address the pollution of water and land ecosystems. I do not litter.	Whenever possible, I reduce pollution to help protect ecosystems. I urge my peers not to litter or make other actions that lead to pollution.	I protect others from the effects of pollution through my personal habits and actions in the community. I am organising events that actively address the pollution of water and land ecosystems. I am consciously reducing waste production in my life, and in my school or workplace. I also organise campaigns to reduce pollution.

1. Adaptation from Education for Sustainable Development Goals: learning objectives

Topics and activities to support the development of competencies in the path of a healthy planet

The activities and topics that young people and adults can use to agree on to achieve the first phase "Be aware". It is optional to use the following topics and activities. You can also develop your own activities but it must follow the competencies mentioned above.

Healthy Planet Preventing and Recovering water and land Ecosystems from pollution		
7 to 10	11 to 14	15 and above
Activity : Audit your plastic Habit	Activity: Audit your Plastic Habit	Activity: Audit your Plastic Habit
Activity : Movie Night	Activity: Identify alternatives to plastic	Activity: Litter, Why does it matter
Activity: Play to kill the ocean	Activity: Needs and Wants	Activity: Litter Blitz
Activity: Bottle Cap Mosaic Art & Craft	Activity: When do they degrade	Activity: Regulating the use of plastics
Activity: Plastic Beginnings (plastic then & now)	Activity: Bottle planters	Activity: Making a Poster on Marine Pollution
Activity: Plastic Resolution	Activity: Changing Minds	Activity: Audit your Plastic Habit
Activity: Upcycling Art	Activity: Biggest Plastic Footprint	
Activity: Learning By Doing	Activity: Segregation at Source	
	Activity: Poster Campaign	
	Activity: Changing Minds	
	Activity: Biggest Plastic Footprint	

Who is supporting Earth Tribe Challenges



National Scout Organizations are encouraged to incorporate capacity development experiences, promotional events and training for young people and adults. Accredited SCENES centres are key supporters in the promotion and capacity development for the Earth Tribe and its challenges. In different countries, SCENES centres can offer this support and training with the possibility of experiencing a natural environment. Discover SCENES centres around the world at www.scout.org/scenes



UN Environment

Through the partnership with UNEP, we have reviewed our environmental education component and developed Earth Tribe Initiative; Scouts have engaged in worldwide campaigns such as Clean Seas Campaign and the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge; Scouts contribution to the environment have been highlighted through UNEP publications, and receiving expert advice in developing the Earth Tribe Initiative..



Clean Seas campaign supporting a Clean & Healthy Planet path

UN Environment launched Clean Seas (#CleanSeas on social media) in February 2017, with the aim of engaging governments, the general public and the private sector in the fight against marine plastic pollution. Since then, the programme worked on addressing the root-cause of marine litter by targeting the production and consumption of non-recoverable and single-use plastic. For this to be effective, participants need to be aware, engaged and active in addressing the problem in their daily lives and beyond.

By connecting individuals, civil society groups, industry and governments, UNEP is a catalyst for change, transforming habits, practices, standards and policies around the globe to dramatically reduce marine litter and the harm it causes.

The campaign contributes to the goals of the [Global Partnership on Marine Litter](#), a voluntary open-ended partnership for international agencies, governments, businesses, academia, local authorities and non-governmental organisations hosted by UNEP.

Become a member of the partnership to join a vibrant community of environmental leaders to share experiences, coordinate activities and exchange ideas to find innovative solutions to the marine litter problem. As a member, you will also have access to exclusive webinars and other member-only events. For more information, please visit <https://www.cleanseas.org/>

You can use the take action with Clean Seas campaign through your journey with the Tide Turners Plastic by making sure the resources are following the competencies of Healthy Planet path.

Annex



Self-assessment

Tide Turners Plastic Challenge

You're joining in the Young Leaders Plastic Challenge—yay! and before forging ahead, please take the self-assessment. Doing so will give a moment of reflection about your level of knowledge and awareness in the area of Healthy planet.

- Choose the sheet of your age section
- Tick the boxes next to each point in the area of Healthy Planet, based on your personal knowledge, skills, and attitude.
- Write down some notes in the section of "My Personal Goals" and "My Activities" to kickstart your challenge journey.

Note:

If you are below 15 years old, please use the assistance of your leader to fill the form.

Name:

Mark with √ or X in what level do you see yourself for each of these learning objectives.

Discover - I am at the beginning of my exploration.

Exploring - I am on my exploration.

Aware - I have finished my exploration.

Age section (7-10)	I am at the beginning of my exploration.	I am on my exploration.	I have finished my exploration.	My Personal Goals I can choose an issue I want to work on through positive actions(assisted by an adult)	My Activities Define an activity or project (personal or with my team/ patrol)
	(√ or X)			Write notes to start your Tide Turners Plastic Challenge journey	

Healthy planet

1	I know what impact pollution has on ecosystems, human health and communities.					
2	I want to help reduce human impact on nature.					
3	I am taking part in events that address the pollution of water and land ecosystems.					
4	I do not litter.					

Name:

Age section (11-14)	I am at the beginning of my path and I need to learn more about the issues	I am on my path and I started a project or activity	I understand the issues, participate in activities and projects and promote the solution to the issues	My personal GOALS I can choose an issue I want to impact with positive actions	My Activities Define an activity or project (personal or with my team/patrol)
	(√ or X)			Write notes to start your Tide Turners Plastic Challenge journey	

Healthy planet

1	I understand how ecosystems are impacted by pollution arising from human activities.					
2	I know the largest pollutants at a local and regional level. I know what actions to take in polluted environments in order to safeguard life and health.					
3	I know how my outdoor activities have an impact on nature, and what is the difference between good and bad practices.					
4	I am aware of how my everyday life impacts life on earth, even far away.					
5	I want my life experiences to be environmentally-friendly.					
6	Whenever possible, I reduce pollution to help protect ecosystems.					
7	I urge my peers not to litter or make other actions that lead to pollution.					

Name:

Age section (15+)	I am at the beginning of my journey	I am on my path and I started a project or activity	I understand the issues, participate in activities and projects and promote the solution to the issues	My personal GOALS I can choose an issue I want to impact with positive actions	My Activities Define an activity or project (personal or with my team/patrol)
	(✓ or X)			Write notes to start your Tide Turners Plastic Challenge journey	

Healthy planet

1	I understand direct and indirect impacts of my lifestyle – what I eat, what I wear, what chemicals I use, on ecosystems, and learn ways to and learn ways to reduce the impact (to zero)					
2	I want to reduce the impact of my lifestyle on the production of pollutants.					
3	I protect others from the effects of pollution through my personal habits and actions in the community.					
4	I am organising events that actively address the pollution of water and land ecosystems.					
5	I am consciously reducing waste production in my life, and in my school or workplace.					
6	I organise campaigns to reduce pollution.					

Plastic audit quiz²

Audit quiz: 10 compulsory questions before you start

After assessing your competencies, please take the following 10 quick questions to audit your plastic usage in your personal life. At the end of your Tide Turners Plastic Challenge journey, you can come back to this form and check how your personal practice and opinion around the use of plastic changed.

Name:

Age section:

7-10

11-14

15+

1	In the past month, I have avoided eating at places that serve food with single-use plastic cutlery.	YES	NO	NOT SURE
2	In the past month, I have used single-use plastic bags.	YES	NO	NOT SURE
3	I buy my household supplies in a plastic bag.	NO	YES	I DON'T KNOW
4	I drink tea in a plastic cup.	NO	YES	I DON'T KNOW
5	I like to drink soda with a plastic straw.	YES	NO	NOT SURE
6	I view single-use plastic as a good thing.	DISAGREE	AGREE	NOT SURE
7	I can change the way my friends and family use plastics in their everyday lives by talking to them about the issues around plastic.	DISAGREE	AGREE	NOT SURE
8	Can you easily find paper or cloth bags or are you able to make a bag yourself?	YES	NO	NOT SURE
9	Are there any plastic recyclers in your area?	YES	NO	I DON'T KNOW
10	Do you think it is possible to manage without single-use plastic in our lives?	YES	NO	I DON'T KNOW

Send your quiz response to: unenvironment-yea@un.org and on scout.org as an attachment with your project report

Tide Turners Plastic Challenge Visual Identity

Tide Turners Plastic
Visual Identity



	WEB	RGB	CMYK
	#064282	R6 G66 B130	C 96 M 68 Y0 K27
	#8EBDE6	R142 G189 B230	C 48 M 16 Y0 K0

The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge Visuals provide information and resources to help National Scout Associations/Organizations (NSAs/NSOs) and partners develop promotional materials when adopting the Earth Tribe initiative into their national Youth Programme.

NSAs/NSOs that adopt the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge, can access all of the artwork at: earthtribe.scout.org.

WOSM encourages and supports the adoption and use of its graphics by its member organizations and partners. We have introduced the unified concept of what is considered commercial or non-commercial use of any WOSM brand or logo on any item, based on the intent "to offer it for sale" or not, in order to simplify authorised use of our designs by our member organizations. **These conditions are described in more detail on page 4 of the Earth Tribe Identity Guide.**

This document, and the information on the website, do not provide, or imply any right, for anyone to use these designs for commercial purposes, nor the right to modify the basic logo and badge in any way, other than for translation purposes.

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, typical of notebook or ledger paper. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

Notes



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World Scout Bureau
Global Support Centre
Kuala Lumpur

Suite 3, Level 17
Menara Sentral Vista
150 Jalan Sultan Abdul Samad
Brickfields
50470 Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA

Tel.: + 60 3 2276 9000
Fax: + 60 3 2276 9089

worldbureau@scout.org
scout.org



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