

World Thinking Day 2011 newsletter



Each year on **22 February**, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts all over the world celebrate **World Thinking Day** (WTD). This is a special day when Girl Scouts and Girl Guides think of each other and give thanks and appreciation to their "sisters".



The 2011 theme

This year the theme is UN Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 3: girls worldwide say "empowering girls will change our world" and the aim is to raise awareness of the situation for many girls and young women and empower them to take a stand against inequality. In different areas of the world, women do not have the same access to education, work and leadership opportunities as men.

Did you know ...

- Women hold only 19 per cent of the world's parliamentary seats
- Girls are twice as likely to be unable to read as boys
- Women do two thirds of the work in the world, but earn only 10 per cent of the income
- Six out of every ten women experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime

Support the Fund

Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting is about empowering girls and young women to develop leadership skills and live fulfilling, happy lives. By donating to WAGGGS' World Thinking Day Fund, you can help empower and support girls and young women around the world!

For WTD 2011 we have identified five countries to showcase gender equality and women's empowerment, demonstrating how Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting supports the girls and young women in these countries to have a long-term impact on their communities. The five focus countries are: Bolivia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nepal and Yemen.

You can find out more about the countries and the Fund on the World Thinking Day website.

Get involved

- **Download the activity pack**, which contains lots of WTD activities on the theme of gender equality
- **Purchase WTD badges or pins** – proceeds from sales go towards the WTD Fund www.waggs-shop.org
- **Check the fundraising ideas** from the WTD website
- **Send an online WTD card**
- **Leave a WTD message** on our special online board
- **Upload an image of your national uniform** and share it with Girl Guides and Girl Scouts globally
- **Add your WTD activity** to our new online map
- **Donate** to the World Thinking Day Fund

How you helped in 2010

In 2010 the theme was **MDG 1: end poverty and hunger**. Thanks to your fundraising efforts, the WTD Fund provided:

- Leadership training and a refugee support project in Georgia
- Resources and support for Girl Guides and their communities in earthquake-stricken Haiti
- Vocational and income-generating skills training for young women in the Maldives
- A goat-rearing project in deprived regions of Sudan
- A vehicle for the Girl Guides Association of Zimbabwe to reach out to girls and young women in poor, remote areas

Read about last year's **celebrations**

For more information visit www.worldthinkingday.org or email wtd@waggsworld.org