



International Workcamp



Core Values

Since workcamps varied in the areas of needs, each workcamp has its own aim and types of work. However, the core values and goals of all workcamps are to create a peaceful and sustainable world where everyone, despite their differences, can learn to understand and respect one another, promoting global friendship and support. The idea that workcamps provide mutual aid and not charity is also very important.



What Is It? The First Workcamp

International workcamp is an international voluntary project where enthusiastic and passionate volunteers from all over the world, regardless of any cultural or background differences, can together with locals, provide positive and meaningful contributions to society through working on a project such as environment conservation, heritage protection, social concerns, rural development, and more!

The first international workcamp dates back to 1920 to the First World War near Verdun, France. During the times of the war, farmers' houses were destroyed. With the idea of "mutual aid not charity," Pierre Ceresole, founder of the first workcamp, and his team, consisting of a dozen Frenchmen, Swiss, Germans, British, Hungarians, an Austrian and a Dutch, helped renovate the houses.

Today, there are over 3000 international workcamps worldwide, and they range from short term voluntary projects (STV), that last less than 2 months, to long/medium term voluntary projects (LMTV), that last up to 2 months or more.

BENEFITS

For Volunteers...

Workcamp is the perfect environment for **experiential learning**! Here, participants often **discover** more about themselves and can **learn from various cultures**! It is a great opportunity to **widen one's horizon**, **challenge oneself**, and to **reflect** on one's strengths and weaknesses for **personal growth and development**, while at the same time build **self-confidence** and gain both **communication and team-working skills** from working together with other volunteers! Oh and don't forget the chance to network and build **global friendship**!

For Communities and the World...

Through international workcamps, citizens from different countries can gain **mutual understanding, respect, and trust** for one another, breaking the racial barrier. Participants will gain **awareness of global issues** and contribute to them, as well as to **global peace**. Workcamps are where people can be **inspired** to be the world's future **changemakers**!

