NICE Projects for 2024
(Mainly, Projects starting in Apr.–Dec.)

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NICE (Never-ending International workCamps Exchange)
< Organizing various types of Workcamps & International Voluntary Service Projects >
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https://www.nice1.gr.jp/ Tel.: 81-(0) 080-2347-3184 (Mon-Fri 10:00-13:00/ 14:00-18:00)
1. What is NICE!?

NICE was founded on the 1990 Feb. 4th by the unknown 7 youth who had joined IVS projects abroad with the strong initiative of KAIZAWA Shinichiro (Kai) who joined the international workcamp in Poland during his one year break from the university.

In 1990 Sep., the first international workcamp of NICE was held at the foot of the Mt. Fuji in Japan.

Thanks to the great solidarity and collaboration with members, volunteers and partners, the numbers of Projects and Volunteers were increased till 2019, then dramatically decreased due to restrictions of movement & gathering by COVID-19 as well as most of IVS NGOs in the world.

During COVID-19 period, NICE kept national workcamps, created online/ donation projects and downsized the structure (moving the office, decreasing the paid staff) to overcome the challenges! In 2023, Outgoing vols. reached 678 and Incoming placement finally restarted from 2022 Oct.!

1-2) Aims and Goals

Achieve a Healthy & Colorful World!

We believe, **health can be a key, one of the most important values** toward the post-modern civilization. We mean not only physical health of human bodies, but **also mental, ecological, cultural, economic and communal health**! Many people seem afraid that a low carbon society may bring us inconvenient, uncomfortable and unhappy life, but if we put more value on “health”, it may not!

To **protect/ create a colorful world** is another important goal. This means, Diverse ecologies, cultures and personalities are harmoniously coexisted and glittered. Potential of each actor can be more brought out with various standards!

1) Improve the social & environmental situation by direct actions!

2) Empower NPOs/local communities and raise awareness & actions!

3) Promote global friendship/ cooperation and personal growth!
1-3) Activities - Organizing various types of workcamps on 6 themes!

To achieve the above aims, NICE mainly organizes the following types of Projects.
* In each of them, there are VSTV (1-6 days), STV (7-29 days), MTV (30-182 days), LTV (183 days-).
* Workcamps are “Group living types of voluntary service”.
* Some projects (especially MTV & LTV) are not workcamps, but individual voluntary service.
* In each of them, many local people are actively participating in the various ways.

1. Organize Workcamps in Japan
   In 2023, 217 projects were organized with 1,187 vols. many of which focused on “satoyama” forests, depopulated villages or nature/ cultural education.

2. Send Volunteers to Workcamps abroad
   In 2023, 678 vols. were sent to 36 countries (incl. co-organizing projects that are mostly in Asia with Partner NGOs.)

3. Organize Online Workcamps
   In 2023, 1 projects were organized with 15 vols. who worked for empowering indigenous mountain people of Vietnam by starting the fair trade of the hand crafts!

4. Organize Group Workcamps
   In 2023, 32 projects were organized in Japan, Nepal, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam and Sri Lanka, with 397 vols. of universities, children home & companies.

5. Organize Donation Projects
   In 2023, 15,596 USD were generated by 5 projects with Citizen (watch company), Ima bag (Bag company) and Monthly Supporters of NICE.

6. Organize other types of projects
   * Run regular classes in the univ. and the high school.
   * Sell eco sponges made by women in the slum, Hanoi.
   * Organize special Events and publish Newsletters.

<NICE's projects by themes>

A. Development
   ● Poverty reduction
   ● Village activation
   ● Disaster relief

B. Environment
   ● Animal Protection
   ● Reforestation
   ● River/Sea Cleaning

C. Agriculture
   ● Organic farming
   ● Home gardening
   ● Revive the fields

D. Culture
   ● Renovate temples
   ● Support festivals
   ● Create social arts

E. Education
   ● Assist kids camps
   ● Teaching skills
   ● Cultural learning

F. Social welfare
   ● Children’s Home
   ● Refugee children
   ● Elders home

Peaceful, fair and sustainable World
1-4) Structure - Run by many active members voluntarily!

As of 2024 Jan., there are
9 EC (Executive Committee) members
2 Auditors
764 Full + Associate members
Over 300 Active members
15 family members
17,188 Supporting members
4 full + 6 part time paid staff members
16 Registered Activity team
4 Regional Workcamp Center

1-5) Finance - Severely damaged by COVID-19, but gradually recovered!

< Settlement of Account in 2022 >

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income: 304,367 USD</th>
<th>Expense: 273,440 USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership fee 54%</td>
<td>IVS projects cost 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation fee 0%</td>
<td>Other projects cost 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants 22%</td>
<td>Staff cost 66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donation 12%</td>
<td>Other operation cost 6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund raising 7%</td>
<td>Network &amp; Promotion 11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others 5%</td>
<td>Others 7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Total Balance: plus 42,367 USD after big minus for 4 years!

1-6) External Relations - One of the largest networks in IVS movement!

As of 2024 Jan., there are,
110 partner NGOs in 70 countries
Over 2,000 local hosts in the world
59 local hosts in 32 pref. of Japan
19 Partners of Group workcamps

And NICE is currently;
-President of NVDA (Network for Voluntary Development in Asia)
- Full member of CCIVS (Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service)
- Ex. Associate member of ALLIANCE of European Voluntary Service Organisations
- Partner of SCI (Service Civil International)
2. Types & Definitions of NICE Projects

2-1) What is voluntary service? - Just our way of understanding

* Actions mentioned here are just examples and not always apply to the case.

This is voluntary service!

Social paid work not by order (many NPO paid staff, etc.)

Social paid work by order (Many civil servants, etc.)

Profit making business

Personal hobby, willing study, training, etc.

Unwilling housework, study, training, etc.

Not for profit

For/ with society

Not by order

2-2) What are workcamps? - Category in voluntary service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Living there together</th>
<th>Group type</th>
<th>Individual type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workcamps!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Workcamp is a group living type of voluntary service project

2-3) Categories of (I)VS projects by length & sizes of groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Number of vols.</th>
<th>Workcamp = group type (more than 2 vols.)</th>
<th>Individual type (1 or 2 vols.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Short Term (Less than a week)</td>
<td>VSTW (all together)</td>
<td>VSTI</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Term (1 week-1 month)</td>
<td>STW (all together)</td>
<td>STI</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Term (1-6 months)</td>
<td>MTW (together)</td>
<td>LMTV</td>
<td>LMTI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Term (over 6 months)</td>
<td>LTW</td>
<td>LMTW</td>
<td>LMTI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* As most of VSTW are done in the weekends, it is often called “Weekend Workcamps” (even for the ones organized on Mon.-Fri.). Some NGOs call them as “Mini Workcamps”.
* LTV and MTV are usually called together (here as “LMTV” while some organizations call “MLTV”).
* Most of IVS NGOs rarely organize VSTI and STI while many of LMTV are individual type (LMTI).

2-4) Other ways of Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International (open globally)</th>
<th>Regional (e.g. only for Asian)</th>
<th>Trilateral (3 countries)</th>
<th>Bilateral (2 countries)</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>Local</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

* Even if vols are from 2-3 countries after all, if it was open globally, it can be still called “International”.
* In the wider definition, Regional/ Trilateral/ Bilateral ones can be also called “International”.

Environmental Developmental Cultural Educational Social (Human Rights)

* There are many ways to categorize differently in each NGO and many projects are multi thematic.

Group workcamps (organized for the specific groups such as schools, companies and community clubs)

Other (Non Group) Workcamps (Volunteers are recruited individually)

* Some NGOs call above mentioned “Bilateral workcamps” as “Group workcamps”.

* Workcamp is a group living type of voluntary service project

Profit making business

Personal hobby, willing study, training, etc.

Unwilling housework, study, training, etc.

Not for profit

For/ with society

Not by order
2-5) More info. about IVS movement

< What is our IVS? >

This paper was produced by a Global Task Force gathering 6 IVS networks with the strong initiative of NICE and the sponsorship of Japan Foundation in 2017-19.

The main contents are;
* IVS’s Definition / Universal Charter / Statistics and Impact / Quality standard
* IVS and other similar concepts / Questions to judge the nature and value
* Recommendation for Improvement and development / Goals of IVS

You can download the whole paper here (and also Annex, Informal paper)

< Global statistics of IVS >

The first version was made in 2015 (for the figures of 2013) for the first time of IVS history since 1920 by the collaboration of 6 IVS networks with the strong initiative of NICE and its President. Here is some data from the second version finalized in 2018 for the figures of 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Projects organized</th>
<th>STV</th>
<th>MTV</th>
<th>LTV</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,302</td>
<td>823</td>
<td>986</td>
<td>5,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>935</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>1,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>1,939</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>2,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Volunteers from</th>
<th>STV</th>
<th>MTV</th>
<th>LTV</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>25,917</td>
<td>2,655</td>
<td>1,694</td>
<td>30,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>1,629</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>1,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>6,199</td>
<td>1,635</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>8,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>17,545</td>
<td>914</td>
<td>1,206</td>
<td>19,665</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

< History of IVS >

The first IVS (International Voluntary Service) project as “International workcamp” was started in France in 1920 by SCI (Service Civil International). Here are some sentences from their website;

SCI was founded by Pierre Cérésolé, a Swiss engineer, who established a peace and humanitarian movement in the aftermath of World War I in 1920, thereby laying down the foundations of SCI. Cérésolé organised the first international workcamp (voluntary project) on the former battlefield of Verdun (France) in 1920 in order to reconstruct the war damaged village Esnes-en-Argonne. Amongst the participants were three Germans and Cérésolé wanted the workcamp to be a symbol of reconciliation between France and Germany. The volunteers build up temporary homes for the villagers and cleared the farmland.

For more info., see their website.
3. Participation Process and Fee

3-1) Participation Process - How can I join NICE projects in Japan!?

If you are **Japanese or residents in Japan**
- A) Apply to NICE directly!

If you are **non Japanese & living outside Japan**
- B) Apply through Partner!
  - Where NICE has partner NGOs
- C) Apply through NVDA!
  - Asia where NICE has no partner NGOs
  - Non Asia where NICE has no partner

* For Non Asia where NICE has no partner, you may apply through the partner of neighboring country.
* For A), contact to in@nice1.gr.jp (Mami) and for C), contact to secretariat.nvda@gmail.com.

< How can I know if my residential country has NICE’s partner NGOs!? >
You can check the websites of NVDA, CCIVS, ALLIANCE and SCI since NICE has partnership with most of Member NGOs/ branches of those 4 IVS networks. Or you can also inquire us (in@nice1.gr.jp)!

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**Step 1: Send your application and pay the inscription fee**
You need to fill in Online application form (for C, it is an Excel file) and pay the inscription fee to your sending NGO that will be used for their management and does NOT go to NICE/ Local host!

**Step 2: Have an Interview** *(ONLY for some projects as written on the descriptions)*
If you apply for the project which requires a special point such as speaking GOOD Japanese, you will need to have a zoom interview with the NICE office and/ or the local host. The details such as the date and the time will be arranged with you after having received your application.

**Step 3: Receive Acceptance or Refusal**
NICE will inform your sending NGO by e-mail usually within 3 working days for VSTV and STV/ 2-3 weeks for LMTV. If accepted, Acceptance Letter and NICE Volunteers’ Guide will be also sent.
Acceptance letter contains the invitation link to the Facebook Group of your participating project and to the Confirmation Form mainly to inform your flights and travelling plans.

**Step 4: Book the flights as soon as being accepted**
Don’t wait for the Information Sheets, otherwise you may miss economical flights! Usually, if you arrive at Japan by the day before and leave Japan from the day after, it should be fine.

For VSTV, STV and LMTW in Japan, you will usually meet at Accommodation or train station/ bus stop nearby, **in the afternoon of the first day** and can leave there **around the noon of the last day**. Some projects are located far from the airports and it takes a quite long time to reach Meeting point.
We write concrete latest arrival/ earliest departure time and dates at/ from the major airports (based on the faster way by using the bullet trains, etc.) in each project description.
For LMTI in Japan, you usually need to join On Arrival Seminar and Evaluation Seminar in Yokohama (for the projects in the eastern Japan) or Osaka (for those in the western Japan), so should fly to Tokyo (HND or NRT) or Osaka (KIX) as specified in the project description!

This is just for your minimum stay while most of vols. stay for some days-weeks more before/ after the projects (we recommend “after” since you may get more info. about nice spots and even travel mates/ home stay host (Japanese vols.) during your project! **Don’t expect much time for sightseeing during Projects.** If you want it, make your schedule to do it before/ after the project!
Step 5: Apply for visa (Only those who will need)
70 nationalities are exempted to get visa within 3-6 months stay! So, only those who are from other countries or those who will stay for a longer time will need to get visa (NICE will send the invitation letters for your application). See more details on Page 11, 3-3) Visa to join NICE Projects in Japan. The regulations are changeable, so check the updated info.!

Step 6: Submit the Confirmation form
All volunteers need to fill in and submit online Confirmation form (linked from the Acceptance letter) as soon as the flights are booked, by 31 days before Project start at latest.

Step 7: Pay the NICE Volunteers Fee
All volunteers need to pay this fee beforehand (9,000 JPY for VSTV/STV, 18,000 JPY per month for LMTV) by 31 days before Project start. See more details in 3-5) NICE Volunteers.
* Only if you have special difficulties, it can be paid by cash in the project or the On Arrival Training.
* This is actually not only the money matter, but you will get rights as “NICE Volunteers”!

Step 8: Receive the Information Sheets
Usually by 4 weeks before Project start, NICE will send the “Information Sheets” (details about the project such as Area, Background, Work, Schedule, Accommodation, What to bring, Meeting point, How to get there and Emergent contact) to you through your sending NGOs.

Step 9: Do other preparation
Do any other necessary preparation such as;
* Volunteers insurance NICE will provide can cover only limited cases and amount of money DURING your project in Japan, so we request all volunteers to prepare their own Travel insurance.
* You can communicate with your project leaders, other volunteers and possibly, ex. volunteers on the Facebook Group of your project (or in some cases, also by FB messengers, LINE, mails, etc.).
* Why not to try to learn Japanese cultures and language (even basic words) beforehand that can be useful to understand what you will see and exchange with whom you will meet!
* Pre-Departure Training may be organized physically or online by your sending NGO.

Step 10: Join the On Arrival Seminar (Only for LMTV especially LMTI)
Most of Volunteers for LMTI (Long and Mid Term volunteers, Individual type) and some of LMTV (Workcamp type) need to join it in Tokyo/ Yokohama or Osaka (depending on Project location) for 2 days right before Project start. See more details in 6-1) On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars.

Step 11: Join the project!
You will stay and work with other volunteers and the local hosts. Have a fruitful stay!
* Most of LMTI and some of LMTW vols. need to join the Evaluation Seminar in Tokyo/ Yokohama or Osaka which takes place together with On Arrival Seminar for 2 days right after Project end.

Step 12: Follow up!
You are very welcomed to keep connected and involved with NICE and your project forever!
* Help the future volunteers joining the same project by giving advices on the FB group, etc. where you can also enjoy to see how your project will be developed by the pictures, comments, etc.
* Become a “Project Supporter” with valuable donation that will help your project and NICE.
* Connect your project host with the similar type of NGO in your country for possible collaboration!
* Organize “Japan Volunteering Night” with other ex. volunteers of NICE projects from your country where you can enjoy meeting them and contribute to the promotion of your sending NGOs/ NICE!
3-2) Qualification - Who can join NICE projects!? 

The workcamp will be very enjoyable!

But if you are only interested in having a holiday/tourism
If your motivation is to create a colorful and healthy community & world through the collaboration with the local people and volunteers,
you are very welcomed 😊

And not motivated for the aims, voluntary work and exchange with others in collective, simple (but healthy!) life,

better not to join our projects & travel on your own.

1) High motivation for voluntary work!
- Special skills or physical strength are not necessary unless specifically stated.
- Need to be interested in the backgrounds, needs, plans & ambitions of work

2) Respect and follow the rules & cultures!
- Be responsible and keep the rules of NICE & Host.
- Have a good manner to the hosting communities.
- Respect the cultures & personalities of others.

3) Open minded to make friends!
- Try to speak English in the group and Japanese words with local people.
- Moreover, open attitude to communicate, exchange and smile is important.

4) Aged 18 or over (no maximum age)!
- Minimum age is 18 besides family or teen workcamps (age 15-17)
- Younger vols. can be accepted in some cases also in the “adult” workcamps.

5) Have good physical and mental health!
- However, physically/mentally disadvantaged persons can be accepted/welcomed in some cases.
- Need to negotiate with Local host in each case.

6) Adapt and enjoy simple and local life!
- Lower carbon, healthier, less internet & cooperative.
- E.g., Be ready to eat rice 3 times a day in Japan.
- Share tasks of group life for cooking, cleaning, etc.
3-3) Visa to join NICE projects in Japan

Check the updated info. at this site and this site of MOFA, Japanese embassies and any others. It will depend which category your nationality belongs to among the following A, B or C.

A: 26 Countries/areas which has Working Holiday visa / Visa exemption agreement with Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Countries/areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asia-Pacific</td>
<td>Australia, Hong Kong, New Zealand, South Korea, Taiwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Austria, Czech, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Lithuania, Netherland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>Argentina, Canada, Chile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B: 44 Countries/areas which has Visa exemption agreement with Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Countries/areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asia-Pacific</td>
<td>Brunei, Indonesia, Israel, Macao, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, UAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Andorra, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, North Macedonia, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Lesotho, Mauritius, Tunisia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>Bahamas, Barbados, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Suriname, Uruguay, USA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C: Countries which has no Visa exemption agreement with Japan: All the others

**Working Holiday Visa (only for Category A)**

This allows you to stay in Japan up to 1 year, so suitable for LMTVs! It also allows you to have paid jobs, so you may combine them (we don’t introduce any though) and our projects for your stay.

*For more details (Age limit, other conditions and procedure), check this page.

**Visa exemption for short term stay (for Category A and B)**

Since 2022 Oct., visa exemption is revived up to 90 days stay in Japan as tourists besides the following exceptions. Thus, you may get another 90 days permission to stay by going to neighboring countries (e.g., Korea, Taiwan) for over 10 days as some vols. have done though NICE does not guarantee your success.

* Austria, Germany, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Switzerland, UK: Up to 6 months with extension process at the end of the first 3 months stay.
* Indonesia/Thailand: Up to 15 days, only for those who have registered ICAO-compliant ePassport
* Malaysia/Serbia/UAE: Only for those who have registered ICAO-compliant ePassport
* Hong Kong/Macao: Only for holders of Special Administrative Region (SAR) passport
* Barbados/Turkey/Lesotho: Only for holders of MRP or ePassport with ICAO standards.

**Visa for the voluntary service (for Category C)**

With this visa, you usually can stay in Japan up to 90 days while those from some countries be allowed to stay only for the period you will have applied with your participating projects. This depends on the policies of each embassy, so check it at your Japanese embassy.

You and NICE need to prepare some documents for visa applications and the process may take a few weeks or even months. But don’t worry, most of the volunteers in the past (with proper preparation) could successfully get visa!
3-4) Financial management of NICE Projects & Exchange

Fee 1: Inscription fee the volunteers pay to their sending NGOs (Amount depends on each NGO)
This is used for the management of Sending NGOs, does NOT go to neither NICE nor Local host.

Fee 2: NICE volunteers fee (9,000 JPY for VSTV/ STV and 18,000 JPY per month for LMTV)
This is used for the management of your project and NICE, does NOT go to Local host.

Fee 3: Additional fee ONLY for some projects (Amount depends on each project)
This is quite exceptional and mentioned in the project description where Local host cannot provide Meals and Accommodation by free by special circumstances (mostly, Family/ Teenage workcamps).

Fee 4: NICE Special Membership fee (19,000-49,000 JPY for VSTV-LTV for the first time)
This is paid by National (usually Japanese) vols. and used for the management of project and NICE.

* The above chart explains only the financial (monetary or materialistic) aspects and we believe, all stakeholders are strongly connected & collaborated for the common goals and values above all!

* As you can see, Meals & Accommodation are provided by free by Local hosts (unless they charge Fee 3 exceptionally) with appreciation to your contribution to work together voluntarily, so don’t complain like “I’ve paid XXX, but what’s this food and house” and let’s appreciate each other!

< Why do I have to apply through my sending NGOs? >

1. You can have better preparation
with them that have more common language and cultures as you in the same country.
   They have years of experiences, know-hows and other resources to send volunteers abroad
   For example, they could possibly introduce ex. vols. in NICE projects from your country and/ organize your Pre-Departure Seminar.

2. They (and NICE) can act as a bridge
   in case you and Local hosts cannot solve any issues well bilaterally during the project (though this is quite rarely happened.)
   It is also helpful for NICE/ Local hosts to have them as the coordination/ promotion bodies and focal points rather than being connected with each volunteer individually only.

3. IVS NGOs are sustained by (ex.) vols!
   Most of staff/ active members of IVS NGOs have joined IVS/ workcamps first, then got passionate and motivated to develop and promote IVS in/ from their countries.
   You can be also benefitted to meet many great ex. vols. and do meaningful/ exciting activities!

4. Many IVS NGOs are financed by vols.
   For the freedom and financial health/stability, many IVS NGOs choose to be supported by the volunteers, rather than the external big funds.
   It is also reasonable that NGOs are financed by the people living in the same countries since they have common economic & social base. (#)

#: You may wonder then why “NICE Volunteers” fee is charged, but it is only a small part of NICE’s finance for the diversification of income resources. By the way, most of IVS NGOs in the “South” greatly depend on the fee income from international volunteers due to their special circumstances.
< How much should I pay? >

VSTV (1-6 days) and STV (7-29 days): 9,000 JPY (55 EUR by XE rate on 2023 Nov. 18)
LMTV (over 29 days): 18,000 JPY per month for 1st-3rd month and 6,000 JPY from 4th month
* This is charged for every time of participation even from the repeaters of the same project/year.

< What this fee is used for? >
Preparation/ coordination of your project (only as its small part) such as:

- Transportation of Staff/ Camp leaders before/ during/ after the project
- Human cost: Training for leaders and work of Incoming placement officer
- [for LMTI]: Accommodation and meals of On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars
- [for Vols. who need]: Visa cost such as EMS mailing, registration certificate, etc.

< How should it be paid? >

A. by Credit Card (VISA or Master Card): No additional charge!
1. Click the following link: https://www.nice1.gr.jp/en/card_overseas/
2. Choose the right amount (if there is no choice for your amount, you can combine some bottoms).
3. Insert the data and make the payment!
* You don't have to pay the commission in this option, that is paid only by NICE as the receiver.

B. by PayPal: Easier to get refund in case of early cancellation!
1. Click the following link: https://PayPal.me/niceworkcamp?locale.x=ja_JP
2. Put the amount how much you will pay.
3. Sign in to your account with your e-mail address and password.
4. Choose how to pay. You can choose the credit card which you want to use.
* The commission for Senders (around 5%) should be additionally paid by Senders.

* All volunteers needs to pay the fee by 31 days before Project start at latest.
  If they are accepted later than that, they need to pay within 7 days from the acceptance.
* Only if you have special difficulties, it can be paid by cash in the project or the On Arrival Training that should be communicated and agreed between NICE and Volunteers (or their Sending NGOs).

[Cancellation policy] (But unless you have a PayPal account, it will be quite complicated to refund.)

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<th>If NICE is informed of cancellation</th>
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<td>By 31 days before Project start</td>
<td>50% of Paid amount minus Commission of Card/ PayPal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Later than 31 days before Project start</td>
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< Benefits to become “NICE Volunteers”! >

Join FB group of your project!
* Communicate with other new/ ex. vols.
* See Project progress
Receive Newsletters & NICE Project lists
NICE may send you 1-2 times a year.

One night free stay @ NICE house
in Yokohama before or after your project if there is any space!
Join NICE gathering in your country!
It may be organized if NICE staff have visit.

Possibility of free home stay in Japan
NICE has members almost all over Japan, so maybe found!?
Organize/ join Japan IVS Nights, etc.!
with your Sending NGOs & other ex, vols.

Get a Certificate of your participation!
This can be issued by NICE electrically upon your request.
Create actions with NICE/ Local host!
E.g., Connecting farms, schools of 2 countries.
4. VSTV - Very Short Term workcamps (in Japan)

* VTSV is a voluntary service project which duration is for less than a week (1-6 days).
* Most projects are Workcamps types (VSTW) and Individual volunteering type (VSTI) are rare.
* Most projects open to international vols. are for 4-6 days while most projects targeting national vols. are for 1-3 days and usually held in the weekends as they are called "Weekend Workcamps".

### 4-1) Summery List of Projects

Click each Project name to jump into the detailed description!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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### 4-2) Detailed Project Description

Back to Summery list of Very Short Term Workcamps in Japan

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</table>
1. **Summary**

Supporting a village next to Kakurin-ji temple with agriculture and revitalization of the community!

2. **Background**

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with the local group since 2019. This village has been welcoming "Ohenro (pilgrims)" who visit 88 temples in Shikoku since long time ago. The pilgrims walk through this village before visiting "Kakurin-ji temple"; the 20th temple out of 88 temples of the Shikoku Ohenro Pilgrimage. However, there are problems which should be solved such as aging and depopulation of the community these days, and locals haven't been able to find solutions for those problems. On the other hand, since more and more people from overseas visit for the Shikoku Ohenro Pilgrimage locals are trying to find new ways for "omotenashi (hospitality)". Volunteers who have been working on the project have come up with ideas for the reuse of vacant and abandoned land. Local host Oi have finally decided that they can freely renovate and modify the vacant houses. Moreover, the site is in a good location, with mountains, a river and fields. It is up to the volunteers from now on to decide how to develop the project. The aim is for the volunteer members to clean up the abandoned houses and village landscape and transform it into a village that people will want to visit to take photos, as it used to be a village where people came and went since ancient times.

3. **Work**

1) Supporting for harvesting and shipping during the peak of the Japanese star anise (shikimi) harvest season. 2) Supporting for harvesting and shipping of sudachi (Japanese citrus fruit) at the peak of harvest season. 3) Supporting for activities such as writing English guides in various places in the town for foreign pilgrims. 4) Cleaning of vacant houses, support for carrying out furniture, pruning of cedar cypress branches in abandoned mountain forests, picking up plastic rubbish from the sea and river, and utilization of vacant houses. 5) Maintenance of Asagimadara flying sites, maintenance of firefly flying sites, etc.

4. **Accommodation**

Home staying at local farmhouses. All meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is NOT necessary.

5. **Study theme**

Finding ways for sustainability of a depopulated village, Pass down the "osettai" culture to the next generation, Helping senior citizens to host foreigners

6. **Other activities**

Visiting Kakurin-ji temple.

7. **Location**

Oi-cho, Anan city, Tokushima pref.

8. **Terminal**

The nearest int’l airport is Kansai (Osaka). From Osaka to the meeting point in Tokushima, it takes 3 hours by highway bus. Volunteers are recommended to arrive at Japan one or more days before the workcamp starts and leave Japan one or more days after the end. Volunteers need to take a local train from the meeting point to the campsite about 2.5 hours. Volunteers need to arrive at the meeting point at 14:00 on 1st day and can leave project site around 13:00 on last day.

9. **Requirement**

Positive attitude, a willingness to work hard and communicate with local people!

10. **Participation fee**

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

11. **Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

12. **Other**

Video about Kakurin-ji temple https://youtu.be/V2vX5Ik4ASM

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**Picture (Area)**

**Picture (Work)**

**Picture (Accommodation)**
### NICE-24V-0808A

**Activating rural community by organizing kids camp or visiting elderly facility, and maintaining the mountain!**

This project is actively working for SDGs 4 (Quality Education) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with local community center in Ino area. Ino area is remote area in Shimane and faces the problem of depopulation. Local group is trying to reactivate this area by inviting people from another area of Japan and foreign countries. Especially kids here don't have enough experience of international interests, which local group think it's important for kids' growth. And also, local group is trying to turn mountain area to place where people can have a fun each other by cutting trees as a maintenance. And create opportunity of communicating with local elderly people to encourage them by inviting volunteers to elderly facility and playing games.

1) Interaction with Primary School students (events, etc.).
2) Pest control (e.g. installation of protective fences on agricultural land).
3) To revive abandoned farmland (e.g. planting buckwheat seeds).

### Accommodation

Local house. Local people might prepare beds for you, but you are recommended to bring your own sleeping bag in case. All meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

### Study theme

Volunteers will get knowledge of good ways of interaction with kids.

### Location

Ino area, Izumo city in Shimane prefecture

### Terminal

The nearest int'l airport is Kansai (Osaka). From Osaka to the meeting point in Shimane, it takes 6.5 hours by highway bus and train. Volunteers are recommended to arrive there one day before workcamp starts. Hiroshima airport is also available by take a flight from Kansai airport, it takes about 4 hours to the meeting point by train and bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the meeting point by 13:00 on 1st day, and can leave there after 13:00 on last day.

### Requirement

Positive attitude to communicate with kids, love nature.

### Participation fee

9,000 JPY (60 USD by the rate on 2024 Feb. 16th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### Language

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### Other

None

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Back to Summery list of Very Short Term Workcamps in Japan

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</table>

1. **Summary**

Organic farming and nature life in the beautiful and traditional mountain communities in Japan. No road for cars, the only way to reach there is by walk for 1.5 hours!

2. **Background**

Family workcamp! This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Kyodo Gakusha since 2000, a cooperative community where people with various backgrounds such as mentally disadvantaged, people who are tired of city life, who want to learn farming, who want to live in the nature, etc. They have 5 communities in Japan incl. Maki and Tateya and grow animals and vegetables in ecological, organic way. Maki is located in a very isolated area (not accessible for cars and we have to walk 4 km in the mountains!), so it once became an abandon village in 1970s and then, was revived by Kyodo Ghakusha. Over 10 people incl. 2 families were living till several years ago, but less and less in these years (almost nobody in the winter), so vols. are needed even more!

Tateya is located on the hilly (less than Maki, but still a bit isolated) area where 30-40 members live and mainly do rice farming as well as growing cows and chicken.

*Outcome of this workcamp: In 2023, we had 4 short term workcamps and 1 LMTV project with 13 vols. who greatly contributed to their protecting the houses, farming and caring animals that was difficult to finish by the time they needed without volunteers! See the long-term goal of this project as Local SDGs made by the previous project leader at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2019-ep3-188767935 (only in Japanese, sorry, but you can still enjoy the pictures!)

3. **Work**

Volunteers will help their organic farm by weeding in the rice and vegetable fields, planting vegetables, taking care of goats and chicken and also renovate the trails and the traditional house, help their house works such as cooking, washing, carrying the stuffs from the down village. Be ready to work for quite a long time (05:30-18:00 with some brakes) and hard. Kids may sometimes be separated to plan in the nature with care of some adults.

4. **Accommodation**

Maki: Volunteers will sleep in a few rooms of the volunteers' house that is a very beautiful cultural heritage and equips the basic facilities such as water, electricity, toilets and a bath room! They will have meals, meetings and social life with Kyodo Gakusha members in the main building (just 30 meters far). Meals will be cooked by together with the members by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary.

Tateya: Building for volunteers and a few members, 5 min. walk from the farm. Meals will be usually cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary.

5. **Study theme**

2030 goals of Kyodo Gakusha and children’s growth in each country

6. **Other activities**

Exchange program, Excursion on a free day (possibly to Hakuba, a famous tourism spot), etc.

7. **Location**

Both are located in the beautiful places near “Japanese Northern Alps”. Maki is in about 900 meters asl. and there is something remained here that most of Japanese areas have lost in modernization.

Tateya is surrounded by the farms and 40 min. walk from the train station.

8. **Terminal**

The nearest international airport is Tokyo (NRT or HNH). From Tokyo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 5 hours by express bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo by the end of Aug. 22 and can leave there from the beginning of Aug. 26.

9. **Requirement**

Only families (Children should be 6-12 years old) can join this program. Up to 4 persons (1-3 kids) per family. Parents volunteers need to be physically strong and flexible to respect the way of the local host. Motivation letter is needed!

10. **Participation fee**

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Child is exempted to pay this, but need to pay 3,000 JPY per child for the meals instead (this can be paid on the arrivals).

11. **Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

12. **Other**

The popular documentary film for this place was broadcasted in 2015 at arayashiki-movie.jp/en/.
5. STV - Short Term Workcamps (in Japan)

* STV is a voluntary service project which duration is from 1 week to 1 month (7-29 days).
* Most projects are Workcamps types (STW) while Individual volunteering type (STI) are rare.

5-1) Summery List of Projects

Click each Project name to jump into the detailed description!

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AGRI: Agriculture
ANIM: Work with animals
ARCH: Archaeology
ART: Artistic
CONS: Construction
CULT: Cultural
DISA: Disabled (“Challenged”)

EDU: Teaching, Awareness
ELDE: Work with Elderly
ENVI: Environmental
FEST: Festival
CHIL: Work with Kids
LEAD: Project leading
FAM: targeting Family
TEEN: targeting Teenagers

REFU: Work with refugees
RENO: Renovation
SOCI: Social
SPORT: Sports
STUD: Study, Research


[PHOTO ALBAM in Google Drive](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NAuF0WlrGs4HXSaXiMLhLEm_2-L1G6bQ)

Feel free to download and use for promotion of our workcamps😊
## 5-2) Detailed Project Description

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</tbody>
</table>

### 1. Summary
Preserving the beautiful beech forests and enjoy your stay in beautiful rural area where is famous for tasty sea foods!

### 2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG13 (Climate Action) and SDGs 15 (Life on Land), organized together with Shirakami Mountains Preservation Society (SMPS), since 2006. The Shirakami Mountains is one of Japanese valuable preserved natural forests consisting primarily of beech trees, registered as a World Natural Heritage in 1993. SMPS aims to preserve the natural beauty of the Shirakami Mountains by nurturing seedlings of beech trees, planting them, training mountain guide, etc. SMPS hosts tree-planting ceremony every June for preserving beech forests and promoting the value. They also preserve the forests near the Mutsu-bay, famous as production of scallops. Due to climate change, the sea water temperature increased abnormally in 2010, the most of scallops were dead, so SMPS started to preserve the forest there to let nutrient water flow to the ocean.

### 3. Work
Work will be carried out in two locations, Ajigasawa and Hiranai. In Ajigasawa, volunteers will remove the snow fence of Shirakami Nature School, putting up a plastic greenhouse, chopping firewood, and digging and transport new saplings at the nursery. In Hiranai, work is carried out to remove dead saplings and replant new ones. The contents of work might be changed due to weather condition, so volunteers need to be flexible!

### 4. Accommodation
Shared room in school dormitory. Sleeping bag is needed! Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

### 5. Study theme
Volunteers will get knowledge of history and culture of Shirakami-Sanchi World Heritage, and skills of conservation forests in Japan.

### 6. Other activities
Enjoy rich nature around accommodation, taking a walk at morning, hot spring, etc.

### 7. Location
Volunteers will work in Ajigasawa town and Hiranai town in Aomori prefecture. Aomori is located on the northernmost tip of Honshu Island. Shirakami Mountains located in southwest and the Mutsu-bay nestles between the eastern Shimokita and western Tsugaru Peninsulas. This is the good season for cherry blossom-viewing there. In this workcamp, volunteers doesn’t have chance to go to Shirakami-sanchi world heritage place.

### 8. Terminal
The nearest international airport is Tokyo (NRT or HND) from which it takes 7 hours by bullet train and local train or 10 hours by night bus and local train to the meeting point in Aomori pref. Vols. need to arrive at NRT or HND by 18:00 on Apr. 26 and can leave there after 22:00 on May 03. It is better to book flight on or after May 04.

### 9. Requirement
Volunteers should be prepared to work hard outside in good and bad weather and have high motivation for work in the forests actively with local people.

### 10. Participation fee
9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host for free.

### 11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### 12. Other
None

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**Picture (Area)**

![Picture of an area]

**Picture (Work)**

![Picture of work]

**Picture (Accommodation)**

![Picture of accommodation]
### 1. Summary

Organic farming and nature life in the beautiful and traditional mountain communities in Japan. No road for cars, the only way to reach there is by walk for 1.5 hours!

### 2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Kyodo Gakusha since 2000, a cooperative community where people with various backgrounds such as mentally disadvantaged, people who are tired of city life, who want to learn farming, who want to live in the nature, etc. They have 5 communities in Japan incl. Maki and Tateya and grow animals and vegetables in ecological, organic way.

Maki is located in a very isolated area (not accessible for cars and we have to walk 4 km in the mountains!), so it once became an abandon village in 1970s and then, was revived by Kyodo Gakusha. Over 10 people incl. 2 families were living till several years ago, but less and less in these years (almost nobody in the winter), so vols. are needed even more!

*Outcome of this workcamp: In 2023, we had 4 short term workcamps and 1 LMTV project with 13 vols. who greatly contributed to their protecting the houses, farming and caring animals that was difficult to finish by the time they needed without volunteers! See the long-term goal of this project as Local SDGs made by the previous project leader at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2019-ep3-188767935 (only in Japanese, sorry, but you can still enjoy the pictures!)

### 3. Work

We will help their organic farming (planting rice and vegetables, weeding in the vegetable fields, taking care of goats and chicken) and also carry the things from the town, renovate the trails, help their house work such as cooking, washing, clearing, etc. Be ready to work for quite a long time (05:30-18:00 with some brakes) and hard! It'd be surely good exercise to make your body more healthy!

### 4. Accommodation

Volunteers will sleep in a few rooms of the volunteers' house that is a very beautiful cultural heritage and equips the basic facilities such as water, electricity, toilets and a bath room! They will have meals, meetings and social life with Kyodo Gakusha members in the main building (just 30 meters far). Meals will be cooked by volunteers together with the members by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary.

### 5. Study theme

Similar type of communities in each country and their networking

### 6. Other activities

Exchange program, Excursion on a free day (possibly to Hakuba, a famous tourism spot), etc.

### 7. Location

Maki is located in the beautiful place near “Japanese Northern Alps”, at about 900 meters asl. and there is something remained here that most of Japanese areas have lost in modernization.

### 8. Terminal

The nearest international airport is Tokyo (NRT or HND). From Tokyo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 5 hours by express bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo by the end of Jun. 04 and can leave there from the beginning of Jun. 17.

### 9. Requirement

Volunteers need to have high motivation and patience to keep the hard, long and important work in the very isolated, natural place and to respect the way of the local host. No special skills nor experiences are needed. Motivation letter is needed!

### 10. Participation fee

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of “NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### 11. Language

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### 12. Other

The popular documentary film for this place was broadcasted in 2015 at arayashiki-movie.jp/en/.
Let’s preserve the beautiful forests in the World Natural Heritage!

This project is actively working for SDG13 (Climate Action) and SDG15 (Life on Land), organized together with Shirakami Mountains Preservation Society (SMPS) since 2006. The Shirakami Mountains is one of Japanese valuable preserved natural forests consisting primarily of beech trees, registered as a World Natural Heritage in 1993. SMPS aims to preserve the natural beauty of the Shirakami Mountains by nurturing seedlings of beech trees, planting them, training mountain guide, etc. SMPS hosts tree-planting ceremony every June for preserving and promoting the value of it. They also preserve the forests near the Mutsu-bay, famous as production of scallops. Due to climate change, the sea water temperature increased abnormally and the most of scallops were dead. So SMPS started to preserve the forest there to let nutrient water flow to the ocean.

Assisting in the preparation (preparation of saplings and tools, setting up tents, etc.) and operation of tree planting festivals in two locations in Aomori Prefecture (Ajigasawa and Hiranai). On the day of the festival, many participants, local students to those from all over the country, will gather to plant trees.
1) Preparing a beech nursery and organize a tool shed. 2) Preparation and operation of the tree-planting festival in Hiranai on June 16. 3) Preparation and operation for the tree-planting festival of SMPS in Ajigasawa on June 23.

Volunteers will get knowledge of history and culture of Shirakami-Sanchi World Heritage, and skills of conservation forests in Japan.

Enjoy rich nature around accommodation, taking a walk at morning, hot spring, etc.

Volunteers will work in Ajigasawa town and Hiranai town in Aomori prefecture. Aomori is located on the northernmost tip of Honshu Island. Shirakami Mountains located in southwest and the Mutsu-bay nestles between the eastern Shimokita and western Tsugaru Peninsulas.

The nearest international airport is Tokyo (NRT or HND) from which it takes 7 hours by bullet train and local train or 10 hours by night bus and local train to the meeting point in Aomori pref. Vols. need to arrive at NRT or HND by 18:00 on Jun. 13 and can leave there after 22:00 on Jun. 24. It is better to book flight on or after June 25.

Volunteers should prepare to work hard outside in good and bad weather and have high motivation for work in the forests actively with local people.

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)
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1. **Summary**

Let’s preserve the beautiful forests in the World Natural Heritage!

This project is actively working for SDG2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Akitsugawa Promotion Group (APG) since 2024. Tanabe City and Minabe Town in Wakayama Prefecture are Japan's largest ume(plums)-growing areas. Over 400 years ago, firewood forests were left around plum groves and near ridges on steep slopes to support plum production by recharging water sources, supplying nutrients and preventing slopes from collapsing. The bees that inhabit the wood and coal forests also help pollinate the plums. In addition, the wood and charcoal forests produce "Kishu-binchotan", a top-quality charcoal made from Japanese oak logs, and a wood and charcoal forest management method called 'selective logging' has been devised, which can quickly regenerate logs and is not found elsewhere in the region. However, the region is also suffering from an ageing population and declining birth rate, and sustainable agriculture, particularly plum farming, is in danger due to a lack of manpower. An international workcamp was organized with the aim of communicating the plum and the region's attractions to volunteers from home and abroad, and connecting them to the next generation. In addition, rich Japanese food centered on rice. APG would like to think together about expanding the consumption of ume as a side dish.

2. **Background**

Collecting plums that naturally fall from the tree onto the net. Harvesting and sorting of plums on trees by hand. Working to support plum processing operations. etc.

3. **Work**

Shared house in community center. Sleeping bag is not needed! Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

4. **Accommodation**

Volunteers have opportunities learning about "Minabe-Tanabe Ume system", which is a World Agricultural Heritage Site.

5. **Study theme**

Homestay, discussion with local people, observation of charcoal making, making plum juice, etc.

6. **Other activities**

Tanabe City is located in south-central Wakayama Prefecture. It is the second largest city in Wakayama Prefecture and the economic and industrial center of southern Wakayama. It is the junction of the Nakaheji and Oheji routes of the Kumano Kodo, and is known as 'Kuchikumano'. With an area of over 1,000 km², the city has the largest area of any city in the Kinki region.

7. **Location**

The nearest airport is Osaka (KIX). To the meeting point, it takes 2-3 hours by Express train from the airport. Vols. need to arrive at KIX by 07:00 on Jun. 15 and can leave there after 19:00 on Jun. 25.

8. **Terminal**

Volunteers should prepare to work hard outside in good and bad weather and have high motivation for work in the forests actively with local people.

9. **Requirement**

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

10. **Participation fee**

- **Language**

   English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

11. **Language**

12. **Other**

   None
International FAMILY workcamp in the mountain village of great nature and beautiful houses! Meaningful work, super clean water and Dinosaur museum are waiting!!

This project is actively working for SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Ohara Eco Project (OEP) since 2009. There were 600 inhabitants in Ohara village with 90 houses 100 years ago, but now only 1 elder! OEP was founded by the local people in 2006 and has rehabilitated 7 houses of cultural heritage. They maintain and revive the trails and fields, organize the workcamps with NICE and run various eco tours, so got the best prize in the award of Creating Home Town by the national government in 2016! The family workcamp started since 2013 (President of NICE keeps joining as a leader with his kids) and hosted a lot of families from Japan, Asia, Europe and Americas with great success.

*Outcome of this workcamp: In 2023, 14 vols. from 5 families joined and made great contribution to have dried over sleeping mats, weed in the tea field (see the pictures), made natural clay for walls, cleaned the village road, etc. Please see the presentation made by the volunteer for the IVS contest in Japan; https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/e5-55193721 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)

Volunteer will help to 1) maintain the old houses by cleaning up, drying many sleeping mats, etc., 2) do farming (weeding in the green tea field that was abandon, cultivating, planting and harvesting potatoes) and 3) do other community work (e.g., construction, chopping woods, trail maintenance). Children sometimes work with adults and other times play in the nature (river, etc.) by the assistance of some parents (by turns) and supporting vols.

A few rooms of the traditional renovated house! Meals will be cooked by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary. Simple shower rooms. Clean toilets. You can see how the village looks like at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzGZvho8fVQ

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of Ohara

Exchange parties, Excursion on a free day including the famous Dinosaurs Museum and its experience program of fossil excavation, etc.

200 km north east of Osaka. Katsuyama is an agricultural city and famous for dinosaurs discovery. Ohara village is located at 500 m a.s.l. and surrounded by the mountains with very rich nature (e.g., the spring water is drinkable and very tasty!).

The nearest airport is Komatsu for domestic and Osaka (KIX) for international flights. From Osaka/ Tokyo to the meeting point, it takes 3/ 5 hours by the bullet train and 5/ 11 hours by bus. If Tokyo, vols. need to arrive at the airport in Narita or Haneda by 05:00 on Jul. 25 and can leave there after 23:00 on Jul. 31.

Only families (Children should be 6-12 years old) can join this program. Basically up to 4 persons (2 adults) per family. High motivation to work and cooperate. Respect to the local culture and way of the organization! Speaking Japanese language is welcomed!

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Child is exempted to pay this, but need to pay 7,000 JPY per child for the meals instead (this can be paid on the arrivals).

English

Please see the presentation of the volunteer for the IVS contest in Japan 2016 https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/e1-67951349 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
1. Summary
Harvesting the traditional pumpkin and enjoy local life style!

2. Background
Organized with the Yamato Traditional Fishing Weir Preservation Association. The first-class river Enogawa, also known as "Chugoku Taro", flows through the Tsuga area of Misato. This is the only area of the "Gouno River" where a fishing method called "fish weir fishing" still exists, and the co-organizing organizations are keen to preserve this fish weir fishing for the next generation, so they set up a new preservation association in 2020.
And as a form of preserving the weirs, they aim to create a "tourist weir" where people can experience fish weir fishing and river games on the Gouno River. The weirs are involved in a variety of activities. We would like to make the weir a force for continuity by getting more and more people, not only from the local area, but also from outside the town, county and country, to get involved with the weir. This year’s project is a joint project with Fukuoka Prefecture. Japanese participants will include seven high school students from Fukuoka Prefecture and NICE staff.

3. Work
1) Weir construction for the traditional fishing method "weir fishing" on the river.
2) Environmental improvement around fish weirs for sightseeing weir fishing.
3) Sharing and exchanging national cultures with local residents, groups and children. etc.

4. Accommodation
Accommodation is located near project site. Room facilities (wifi, kitchen, washing machine, bath, toilet, fridge).

5. Study theme
Learn about traditional Japanese fishing methods.

6. Other activities
Sight seeing like World Heritage Site "Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine", Izumo Taisha shrine.

7. Location
The Gouno River is the largest river in the Chugoku region, flowing from Mt. Asa in Hiroshima Pre.. It flows from Hiroshima Pre. to Shimane Pre., then northwards through the Chugoku Mountains, before changing course in Misato Town and emptying into the Sea of Japan. Tsuga area of Misato, where the activities take place, is in the lower reaches of the river.

8. Terminal
The nearest int'l airport is Kansai (Osaka). From Osaka to the meeting point in Shimane, it will take 6.5 hours by bus. You are recommended to arrive at Kansai one day before workcamp starts. Hiroshima airport is also available, it takes about 4 hours to the meeting point.

9. Requirement
People who can communicate in the community, young and old, men and women, and who are flexible in tackling different activities.

10. Participation fee
9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

12. Other
None
### 1. Summary
Revive the countryside and beautiful village by maintenance of the forests and fields. You can enjoy very beautiful nature and traditional Japanese culture!

### 2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Shizentaiken Ozuchi Mura since 2013, founded by local people to keep the original landscape. There were 140 inhabitants with 20 houses in 1916, but now only one person lives there. Still 10 houses remained and the area was designated as Nation's Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings. We will try to improve the situation by young voluntary power. Since 2016, Ozuchi village and NICE have started weekend workcamps and over 400 vols. joined here per year and love this village! Local host hope to pass this village down the next generations! This year's project is a joint project with Fukuoka Prefecture. Japanese participants will include seven high school students from Fukuoka Prefecture and NICE staff.

### 3. Work
We will do various work to activate the area and success their culture. Main work may be one of (1) maintaining rice and vegetables’ fields for sustainable life (2) communicating with local people. And do some other work for the community.

### 4. Accommodation
Renovated house (traditional house!). Simple shower room. Clean toilet. Sleeping bag is needed! Food will be cooked by volunteers. There is a cat. Wi-Fi is available at the base facility, but internet access may be difficult due to the mountainous terrain.

### 5. Study theme
Volunteers get knowledge about actions for developing local village. Also the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.

### 6. Other activities
Exchange parties, trekking and hot spring etc.

### 7. Location
The southwest part of Ishikawa prefecture. Ozuchi village is surrounded by mountains, so very isolated, but beautiful place. Charcoal making was main industry.

### 8. Terminal
Nearest Domestic terminal is Komatsu. International airport is Osaka (Kansai) or Tokyo (Haneda/Narita). From Osaka, 4 hours by express train. From Tokyo, 5 hours by express train/ 8 hours by night bus (Meeting time is First day’s 2 pm, Departure time is Last day’s 12 pm at Kaga-Onsen station)

### 9. Requirement
High motivation to work hard and simple life in the isolated area and respect to the local culture and way of the local organization!

### 10. Participation fee
9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### 11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### 12. Other
Please see the presentation made by the volunteer for the IVS contest in Japan; https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2017e2 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
### 1. Summary

Let's be a volunteer for nature kid summer camp in beautiful World Natural Heritage!

This project is actively working for SDG 4 (Quality Education), organized together with Shirakami Nature School (SNS) since 2006. Shirakami Mountains is one of Japanese valuable preserved natural forests consisting primarily of beech trees, registered as a World Natural Heritage in 1993. SNS has a summer vacation program for children aged 7-12. Children will play and live in the nature to grow their independence, cultivate sensitivity, and learn group cooperation. This is also good opportunity for children to learn about international culture through communication with international volunteers. Volunteers need to be ready to spend 24 hours with children during kids camp except some free times.

### 2. Background

Supporting of children's nature camps, which take place from July 31 to Aug. 7. Supporting various activities (farming/forestry experience, river play, BBQ, climbing, sports, etc.) while living together with the children, and preparing & cleaning up for the reception. Volunteers are also responsible for the safety of the children, providing behind-the-scenes support and encouragement for the children to enjoy their activities, and acting as a bridge between the children and foreigners. In addition, there is a possibility of doing environmental maintenance around the school. Work content may change depending on the weather, so a flexible attitude is important!

### 3. Work

Shared room in school dormitory. Volunteer take it in turns to sleep in tent to look after the children. Sleeping bag is needed! Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

Volunteers will get knowledge of history and culture of Shirakami-Sanchi World Heritage, and skills of conservation forests in Japan.

Enjoy rich nature around accommodation, taking a walk at morning, hot spring, etc.

The Shirakami Mountains, located in the northern part of Honshu Island, is a huge mountainous area (130,000 hectares on the border between Aomori and Akita Prefectures).

The nearest international airport is Tokyo (NRT or HND) from which it takes 7 hours by bullet train and local train or 10 hours by night bus and local train to the meeting point in Aomori pref. Vols. need to arrive at NRT or HND by 18:00 on Jul. 29 and can leave there after 22:00 on Aug. 07. It is better to book flight on or after Aug. 08.

Volunteers should love kids and speak/understand some Japanese language. Responsibilities, group cooperativeness and high motivation are necessary! Volunteers have experienced the activity with kids are welcome! Motivation letter is required.

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### 11. Language

English and basic Japanese

### 12. Other

none
### 1. Summary
Revitalize the depopulated village through working and interacting with local people!

### 2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Association for Promotion of Regional Development in Nishiyama area, Kumano city where is depopulated in Mie prefecture since 2017. There are about 220 residents whose 73% is over 65 years old in Nishiyama area where volunteers will mainly stay. One youth who had joined an international workcamp in the past, has started organizing weekend workcamps since 2011 in Nishiyama area. 5 years later, local people have been getting open-minded to youths from outside of the area. Since the local people are getting too old to maintain public places such as parks or ruins of a castle, they need hands from international volunteers! Last year, more local elderly people got involved in the camp because the volunteers actively helped the work a lot and practiced traditional Japanese dance together. This year, local high school students may be invited to join a part of the camp.

*Outcome of this workcamp: Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2019-wp5 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!). The local people and vols. sometimes cry on the last days. In 2019, 7 vols. from 4 countries worked well.

### 3. Work
Maintenance at the national historic site (Akagi Castle ruins). Cleaning of ditches and maintenance of turn mirrors in the area. Re-repair of public toilets that have been maintained in previous work camps. Think about what can be done to boost the future of depopulated and ageing areas.

### 4. Accommodation
Community center. Bring your sleeping bag. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

### 5. Study theme
Volunteers will learn and feel about situation of seriously depopulated area in Japan.

### 6. Other activities
Sightseeing along the Kumano Kodo, hot springs, BBQ, discussions, etc.

### 7. Location
Nishiyama area, Kumano city, Mie prefecture. It is more than 200 km far both from Osaka and Nagoya.

### 8. Terminal
The nearest airport is Nagoya (Chubu Centrair) or Osaka (Kansai). To the meeting point, it will take about 4.5 hours by train from Chubu and 6 hours from Kansai. Volunteers are recommended to arrive at the airport one day before workcamp starts.) To the meeting point, it will take about 4.5 hours by train from Chubu and 6 hours from Kansai. Volunteers are recommended to arrive at the airport one day before workcamp starts.

### 9. Requirement
Positive attitude to enjoy rural, remoted area. Open mind to respect and communicate with local people

### 10. Participation fee
9,000 JPY  (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### 11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### 12. Other
Nothing

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### 1. Summary
Supporting a village next to Kakurin-ji temple with agriculture and revitalization of the community!

### 2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with the local group since 2019. This village has been welcoming "ohenro (pilgrims)" who visit 88 temples in Shikoku since long time ago. The pilgrims walk through this village before visiting "Kakurin-ji temple"; the 20th temple out of 88 temples of the Shikoku Ohenro Pilgrimage. However, there are problems which should be solved such as aging and depopulation of the community these days, and locals haven't been able to find solutions for those problems. On the other hand, since more and more people from overseas visit for the Shikoku Ohenro Pilgrimage locals are trying to find new ways for "omotenashi (hospitality)". Volunteers who have been working on the project have come up with ideas for the reuse of vacant and abandoned land. Local host Oi have finally decided that they can freely renovate and modify the vacant houses. Moreover, the site is in a good location, with mountains, a river and fields. It is up to the volunteers from now on to decide how to develop the project. The aim is for the volunteer members to clean up the abandoned houses and village landscape and transform it into a village that people will want to visit to take photos, as it used to be a village where people came and went since ancient times. This year’s project is a joint project with Fukuoka Prefecture. Japanese participants will include seven high school students from Fukuoka Prefecture and NICE staff.

### 3. Work
1. Support harvesting and shipping “Sudachi citrus’ at its season
2. Support harvesting and shipping “Shikimi (Japanese star anise)”
3. Help making brochures or signs for pilgrims from overseas throughout the village

### 4. Accommodation
Home staying at local farmhouses. All meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is NOT necessary.

### 5. Study theme
Finding ways for sustainability of a depopulated village, Pass down the “osettai” culture to the next generation, Helping senior citizens to host foreigners

### 6. Other activities
Welcome party by locals, visiting Kakurin-ji temple.

### 7. Location
Oi-cho, Anan city, Tokushima pref.

### 8. Terminal
The nearest int'l airport is Kansai (Osaka). From Osaka to the meeting point in Tokushima, it takes 3 hours by highway bus. Volunteers are recommended to arrive there one day before workcamp starts since the bus leaves early. Volunteers need to take local train from the meeting point to the campsite about 2.5 hours. Volunteers need to arrive at the meeting point by 13:00 on 1st day and can leave there after 13:00 on last day.

### 9. Requirement
Positive attitude, a willingness to work hard and communicate with local people!

### 10. Participation fee
9,000 JPY (60 USD by the rate on 2024 Feb. 16th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### 11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### 12. Other
Video about Kakurin-ji temple https://youtu.be/V2vX5Ik4ASM
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### 1. Summary
Working in SATOYAMA forest and help organizing a kids' camp!

### 2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDGs 15 (Life on Land), organized together with "Akame no SATOYAMA wo Sodateru kai", a local environmental organization for conservation of SATOYAMA forest working in Nabari city since 1999. Because this area is relatively close to the big cities between Osaka and Nagoya, there were plans to build a golf field and a disposal center. However, the local people stopped those plans by collecting donations and buying the land. SATOYAMA needs to be maintained by humans for its biodiversity and water adjustment function.

Our ancestors had protected and utilized the forest in an ecological and sustainable way, which has been neglected by modernization at many places in Japan.

1) Cutting down trees in the forest and carry them out so that SATOYAMA forest receives enough amount of sun light and will be kept in the healthy condition for biodiversity. You sometimes need to use blades and machineries under the supervision.
2) Supporting Kids camp. Work is quite hard from morning to evening.
3) Volunteers may take care of free-range raised chickens and slaughter old enough chickens for eating by themselves as well. Volunteers sometimes work with mentally/physically challenged people who work at the same place. Volunteers also will help organizing a 3-days summer kids' camp.

### 4. Accommodation
Volunteers will stay in a volunteer house. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is NO need. Depends on the amount of work and consideration for the environment, volunteers may take a shower once every two days.

### 5. Study theme
Volunteers will acquire the knowledge of conservation work in SATOYAMA forest.

### 6. Other activities
Hiking, cultural exchange parties, etc.

### 7. Location
Workcamp is held in Kami-mitani area, Nabari city, Mie prefecture, about 60 km from Osaka. There are famous falls nearby that many hikers visit.

### 8. Terminal
The nearest airport is Kansai (Osaka) or Nagoya (Chubu Centrair). To the meeting point, it will take about 2-3 hours by train from the both airports above. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport by 10:00 on 1st day and can leave there after 19:00 on the last day.

### 9. Requirement
Strong motivation and physical strength are highly needed. Motivation letter is required.

### 10. Participation fee
6,000 JPY (44 USD by the rate on 2023 Feb. 24th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### 11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### 12. Other
None
### 1. Summary
Cutting bushes of forest, Making Soba noodle, Japanese drum festival in the beautiful island!

### 2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 15 (Life on Land), organized together with “Morito”, a local voluntary group in Sado Island, since 2001. They maintain the school forest called “Furusato-no-mori Park” in Ogi town, on the southern part of the island. They make it possible for the community to enjoy the forest in every season. They are now trying to focus on caring for the forest in a joint effort with the community. They hope youth and foreign volunteers will mentally and physically help to empower this area. Volunteer maintain about 5.7ha field every year! And they had good relationship with local people in the local festival.

*Outcome of this workcamp: Please see the presentation made by the volunteer for the IVS contest in Japan; https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2018-e3 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!) In 2019, 7 vols. from 4 countries were well integrated into the activities!*

### 3. Work
Volunteer’s main works are (1) cutting bushes in the school huge forests by Brush-cutter machine (2) practicing making soba noodles and sell it at ‘Earth Celebration’, 3 days (3) Supporting the local small festival “Ogi Matsuri”, like as playing Japanese drums, and do some other work for the community.

### 4. Accommodation
Cottage in the school forest. Please bring your sleeping bag! Everyone will sleep same room.

Volunteers prepare the meals by themselves. Internet cannot be connected in the site.

There is simple toilet, kitchen and shower room. Please be ready for simple forest life!

### 5. Study theme
Volunteers get knowledge and skill about making Soba and playing the Japanese drum. Also, the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.

### 6. Other activities
Exchange parties, fishing, swimming in the sea etc.

### 7. Location
300 km northeast of Tokyo. Sado Island is famous for gold and the Japanese crested ibis. Ogi village is in the southern part beside the beach, where you can enjoy fishing and the hot spring! (https://goo.gl/maps/wSCq3PyfZT32)

### 8. Terminal
The closest International airport is Tokyo (Haneda/Narita airport). It takes 3 hours by express train/ 8 hours by highway night bus and take ferry for 2 hours. Volunteers need to arrive Japan by afternoon of the day before the first day/ can leave campsite after noon on the last day.

### 9. Requirement
Interest in nature protection & exchange with a community. Adaptability to enjoy a simple forest lifestyle. Super high motivation for hard physical work during day and night! Volunteers also need to speak and understand some Japanese language (daily conversational level).

### 10. Participation fee
9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of “NICE Volunteers” fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### 11. Language
Mainly Japanese and some English, NICE leader will help you with the translation.

### 12. Other
None
1. Summary
Revive the countryside and beautiful village by maintenance of the forests and fields. You can enjoy very beautiful nature and traditional Japanese culture!

2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Shizentaiken Ozuchi Mura since 2013, founded by local people to keep the original landscape. There were 140 inhabitants with 20 houses in 1916, but now only one person lives there. Still 10 houses remained and the area was designated as Nation's Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings. We will try to improve the situation by young voluntary power. Since 2016, Ozuchi village and NICE have started weekend workcamps and over 400 vols. joined here per year and love this village! Local host hope to pass this village down the next generations!

*Outcome of this workcamp: This village had become abandoned, but one of the former villagers was maintaining the terraced rice fields alone from his home in the town. But through the workcamps working together with him, he has gotten so empowered that he started living there again since 2018!*

3. Work
We will do various work to activate the area and succeed their culture. Main work may be one of (1) maintaining rice and vegetables' fields for sustainable life (2) communicating with local people. And do some other work for the community.

4. Accommodation
Renovated house (traditional house!). Simple shower room. Clean toilet. Sleeping bag is needed! Food will be cooked by volunteers. There is a cat. Wi-Fi is available at the base facility, but internet access may be difficult due to the mountainous terrain.

5. Study theme
Revival of the abandon villages. Bring some info.!
Volunteers get knowledge about actions for developing local village. Also the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.

6. Other activities
Exchange parties, trekking and hot spring etc.

7. Location
The southwest part of Ishikawa prefecture. Ozuchi village is surrounded by mountains, so very isolated, but beautiful place. Charcoal making was main industry.

8. Terminal
Nearest Domestic terminal is Komatsu. International airport is Osaka (Kansai) or Tokyo (Haneda/Narita). From Osaka, 4 hours by express train. From Tokyo, 5 hours by express train/8 hours by night bus (Meeting time is First day’s 2 pm, Departure time is Last day’s 12 pm at Kaga-Onsen station)

9. Requirement
High motivation to work hard and simple life in the isolated area and respect to the local culture and way of the local organization!

10. Participation fee
9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers“ fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

12. Other
Please see the presentation made by the volunteer for the IVS contest in Japan; https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2017e2 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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1. **Summary**

Let's be of help for the local elderly farmers in a beautiful country side in Japan! After working, you can also enjoy a relaxing time in natural hot spring.

2. **Background**

This project is actively working for SDG 15 (Life on Land), organized together with Ono Agriculture Union in Nishiwaga (OAUN), since 2014. Nishiwaga is a rural town surrounded by beautiful nature such as forests and lake. On the other side, it faces serious aging society and depopulation, and over 45% of villagers are 65 years or older. More and more farmers have retired, and many farmers suffer from a shortage of successors. OAUN has tried to revive deserted cultivated lands, organized some projects for interaction between urban and rural areas to activate the community. In 2017, the project for biotope development newly started to promote sustainable organic farming. From few years ago, OAUN started to accept some company group through NICE. The company choose this project site, because of hospitality of OAUN. They have really warm heart and welcome to volunteers.

3. **Work**

Volunteers will mainly work on 1) Renovation of the vacant house and 2) Support and interaction at facilities for people with disabilities, 3) Communicating with primary and high schools in the town, 4) meeting to show respect for the aged.

4. **Accommodation**

Volunteers will stay in shared room in an old house (newly-renovated). Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is NOT necessary.

5. **Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of history and culture of Nishiwaga and have time for sharing ideas how to activate the depopulated area.

6. **Other activities**

Hot spring is available. Volunteers can also join for cultural exchange parties with locals as well as activity with nursery school kids.

7. **Location**

Nishiwaga town, center of Tohoku area (north part of Japan), and located in border between Iwate and Akita prefecture. It surrounded by beautiful mountains, and famous for hot spring (there is one even in a train station)!

8. **Terminal**

The nearest international airport is Tokyo (Narita/Haneda). To the meeting point (Hot Yuda sta.) in Iwate, it takes 5 hours by bullet train or 9 hours by night bus. You need to arrive at Narita/Haneda by 19:00 on 1day before of 1st day, and can leave the airport after 09:00. on 1day later of last day.

9. **Requirement**

Interest in community development, cultural exchange with a local community, and agriculture. Ability to ride a bicycle.

10. **Participation fee**

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

11. **Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

12. **Other**

None

**Picture (Area)**

![Image of area](image1.png)

**Picture (Work)**

![Image of work](image2.png)

**Picture (Accommodation)**

![Image of accommodation](image3.png)
1. Summary
Organic farming in the wonderful community with challenged people in beautiful nature. They have got the best prize of mountain cheese contest in the world!

2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Kyodo Gakusha since 1998, a cooperative community where people with various backgrounds such as mentally disadvantaged, people who are tired of city life, who wants to learn farming, just want to live in the nature, etc. They have 5 communities in Tokyo, Nagano and Hokkaido and grow animals and vegetables in ecological, organic way with utilizing bacterium and charcoal. Shintoku farm has 60 ha of land and 60 inhabitants including kids. Their cheese got the 1st prize in the global contest! The workcamp has been stopped since 2020 and revived this time!

*Outcome of this workcamp: The workcamps have greatly shared the spirit of the community and also do some that is hardly done by their daily work such as construction of sheep farm, irrigation ditch, etc. In 2019, 7 vols. from 5 countries helped to harvest the vegetables, run the cafe, etc. and had a wonderful exchange in the school visit. Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/n0-68540773 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)

3. Work
Volunteers will 1) join the farm work (weeding and harvest in the vegetable fields), 2) do some work with the supervision of the specialists (possibly, dismantling the barns) and 3) help other community work especially cooking.

4. Accommodation
Houses in the community (female and male are separated). Meals will be cooked by volunteers together with the community people by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

5. Study theme
Similar types of communities in each country and networking (Social farms)

6. Other activities
School visit, exchange and birthmonth parties, lecture and discussion with the community leader who has very big visions, etc.

7. Location
Shintoku town is an agricultural country side with big scale of nature and farms, at the foot of "Mt. Milk" and located in the center of Hokkaido island, near Obihiro and 120 km east of Sapporo. -20 degree in winter and 20 in summer.

8. Terminal
The nearest airport is Obihiro for domestic and Sapporo (CTS) for international flights. From CTS to the meeting point (Shintoku station), it takes 2 hours by express train. Volunteers need to arrive at Shin-Chitose airport by 11:00 on Aug. 28 and can leave there after 18:00 on Sep. 08.

9. Requirement
Interest and motivation to work and live in this type of community. Respect to their life.

10. Participation fee
9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

12. Other
They also recruit LMTVs.
Maintain SATOYAMA forest to keep biodiversity and encourage sustainable life!

This project is actively working for SDG 15 (Life on Land), organized together with local NPOs, ‘Association to protect nature in Tondabayashi’ and ‘Hamuro club’ since 1999. 67% of land in Japan is covered with forest and 40% of them is human-made planted forest called SATOYAMA, where people used to receive the benefit to live such as food and resources. SATOYAMA needs to be maintained its biodiversity and to keep water adjustment function. Our ancestors had protected and utilized the forest in an ecological and sustainable way, which has been neglected by modernization. We try to revive it with global voluntary power! Most of the members of the local organization are aged 50-70 so they expect our participation of youth and foreign vols. to vitalize the activities both mentally and physically.

In the morning, volunteers will work in the forest to maintain. Cutting woods, pealing skins, cutting bamboos, sometimes chopping firewood. In the afternoon, volunteers will have activities such as discussion about environmental issues, bamboo craft, having a lecture about SATOYAMA.

Simple local community house. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Volunteers will take a bath to go to hot spring everyday.

Volunteers will get knowledge of conservation work in a forest.

Exchange parties, experiencing Japanese culture etc.

Takitani fudo, Tondabayashi city in Osaka. 60 km south of Osaka city

The nearest airport is Kansai (Osaka). To the meeting point, it will take about 1 hour by train. You need to arrive at Kansai airport by 10:00 on the 1st day and can leave the airport after 18:00 on the last day.

Interest in nature conservation. Adaptability to enjoy a simple lifestyle is needed!

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)
### 1. Summary

Painting the long fences, restoration of work roads, planning and managing exchange events. You can make Kamimamakuchi village encourage!

### 2. Background

This project is actively working for SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with "Kamimamakuchi village" since 2013, and they tried starting new project with volunteer. Depopulation (especially of youth) is a serious problem here similarly in many other country sides. This village have only 20 families and very few young people. It is difficult to keep traditional culture and community work, so we aim to help keeping this landscape/cultures and telling local village’s attraction by young power!

*Outcome of this workcamp: Volunteer had painted fence about 1km! And organizing candle night festival, cultural party! Local people really welcome to coming the new people! Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at [https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2019-wp2-188758763](https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2019-wp2-188758763) (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!).

### 3. Work

Main works are (1) Drawing on the fences that are near mountain, (2) Agriculture: harvesting rice, (3) Supporting the events with local people, and do some other work for the community.

### 4. Accommodation

The community center in the village. There are clean kitchen and toilet. Volunteers take a shower in the kindly local people's houses. Please bring sleeping bag! Volunteers prepare the meals by themselves. Wi-Fi is not available.

### 5. Study theme

Volunteers get knowledge about actions for developing local village. Also, the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.

### 6. Other activities

Exchange parties with local people, trekking and hot spring etc.

### 7. Location

Ishikawa prefecture is almost middle of Japan. Campsite is very small village located in South part of Ishikawa prefecture. There are rice fields, historical shrine, and beautiful nature. ([https://goo.gl/maps/JBr8Py5WowS2](https://goo.gl/maps/JBr8Py5WowS2))

### 8. Terminal

Meeting place is "Komatsu station". Nearest Domestic airport is "Komatsu". The closest International airport is Osaka (Kansai). It takes 4 hours by express train. From Tokyo (Narita/Haneda), 5 hours by express train/ 8 hours by night bus (you need to arrive by afternoon of the day before the first day) On last day, you can leave campsite around noon.

### 9. Requirement

High motivation to work hard and seriously and enjoy simple countryside life. Need idea for local revitalization. Speaking Japanese language is welcomed!

### 10. Participation fee

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### 11. Language

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### 12. Other

None
First international workcamp of this place to support the artistic event of mentally challenged people together with the local people and the artists in a very beautiful nature of the mountain area!

This project is actively working for SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), newly organized together with NPO WHITE CANVAS, a Non Profit Organization to empower mentally challenged people through the power of art. It was established by Kyoko who was a very active members of NICE with a lot of workcamp experiences in Togo, etc. and the company who had been working with her. Then more members joined when the workshop was about to open. They organize the workshop "TIME WARP" that is a workplace for adults with special needs for weavery, pottery, small garden and embroidery work. They all love art and craft, having big interests on humans. They don't stick in specific philosophies, but anthroposophy is one of their guides. They work and study together with a certified anthroposophical doctor, nurse, curative pedagogist and Extra Lesson practitioners.

*Outcome of this workcamp: In 2023 Jul., we had a pilot weekend workcamp with 13 vols. from Japan and Vietnam that was very successful to convince the values and power of the workcamp through the physical work (clearing the bushes, cleaning the rooms) and active exchange!

We will 1) Support for the art event conducted by mentally changed adults together with community members and artists (Event is scheduled to be held in various locations to produce large paintings in a field using soil as paint under the guidance of a picture book artist.), 2) Maintain and prepare the art event venues and ateliers, including fields and warehouses and 3) Support the daytime activities, including making things in the atelier (e.g., dyeing plants and trees, setting up weaving machines etc.)

Volunteers will sleep in the tatami (Japanese traditional carpet) rooms of a separate house near the office of White Canvas. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary. There is a shower room, a kitchen and wifi.

Discussion on activities in the volunteer’s home country and local art brut/ outsider art

Exchange parties, hot spring, excursion on a free day, etc.

The project is located in Azumino-city, Nagano pref.; foothills of the Northern Alps of Japan. 189 km north west from Tokyo, 150km north east from Nagoya. It is famous for beautiful nature as well as the fresh, tasty fruits especially, apples! There are no shops nearby.

The nearest international airport is Tokyo (NRT or HND). From Tokyo to the meeting point near the project, it takes around 4 hours by ttain or bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo by the end of Sep. 07 and can leave there from the beginning of Sep. 16.

Volunteers need to have respect and interest in others and other cultures. Enjoyment of living in a natural setting where one comes into contact with insects and soil. Willingness and flexibility to engage in a variety of activities. Motivation letter is needed!

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

Website of White Canvas https://npowhitecanvas.wixsite.com/love/services-9

Picture (Area) Picture (Work) Picture (Accommodation)
### 1. Summary

Revive the countryside and beautiful village by maintenance of the forests and fields. You can enjoy very beautiful nature and traditional Japanese culture!

### 2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Shizentaiken Ozuchi Mura since 2013, founded by local people to keep the original landscape. There were 140 inhabitants with 20 houses in 1916, but now only one person lives there. Still 10 houses remained and the area was designated as Nation's Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings. We will try to improve the situation by young voluntary power. Since 2016, Ozuchi village and NICE have started weekend workcamps and over 400 vols. joined here per year and love this village! Local host hope to pass this village down the next generations!

*Outcome of this workcamp: This village had become abandoned, but one of the former villagers was maintaining the terraced rice fields alone from his home in the town. But through the workcamps working together with him, he has gotten so empowered that he started living there again since 2018!*

### 3. Work

We will do various work to activate the area and success their culture. Main work are (1) maintaining/harvesting rice and vegetables' fields for sustainable life (2) communicating with local people. And do some other work for the community.

### 4. Accommodation

Renovated house (traditional house!). Simple shower room. Clean toilet. Sleeping bag is needed! Food will be cooked by volunteers. There is a cat. Wi-Fi is available at the base facility, but internet access may be difficult due to the mountainous terrain.

### 5. Study theme

Revival of the abandon villages. Bring some info.!

Volunteers get knowledge about actions for developing local village. Also the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.

### 6. Other activities

Exchange parties, trekking and hot spring etc.

### 7. Location

The southwest part of Ishikawa prefecture. Ozuchi village is surrounded by mountains, so very isolated, but beautiful place. Charcoal making was main industry.

### 8. Terminal

Nearest Domestic terminal is Komatsu. International airport is Osaka (Kansai) or Tokyo (Haneda/Narita). From Osaka, 4 hours by express train. From Tokyo, 5 hours by express train/8 hours by night bus (Meeting time is First day’s 2 pm, Departure time is Last day’s 12 pm at Kaga-Onsen station)

### 9. Requirement

High motivation to work hard and simple life in the isolated area and respect to the local culture and way of the local organization!

### 10. Participation fee

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host for free.

### 11. Language

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### 12. Other

Please see the presentation made by the volunteer for the IVS contest in Japan; https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2017e2 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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#### 1. Summary
Supporting a local festival related to Shintoism to activate local people and to hand over traditions to the next generation!

#### 2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDGs 15 (Life on Land), organized together with the local group, “executive committee of Light and Tradition festival” since 2011. Recently, aging and depopulation of the area is getting very serious as well as many other rural villages in Japan. They expect the workcamp to activate local traditional festivals related to Shintoism, which is Japanese traditional religion. This event is combined with 2 events called “Bamboo Lantern Festival” and "Gaku-uchi" which locals play Japanese drums and flute with walking around the village to wish for the productiveness of grain. Local people want us to know their traditional cultures to be succeeded to the next generation.

*Outcome of this workcamp; local people proposed to invite volunteers to their own house for staying as cultural exchange or joining in Japanese drum practice to touch local culture.*

#### 3. Work
Volunteers will mainly prepare and join the local festival. Cut bamboos to make lanterns and some small tools to be used in the festival. Volunteers will also need to practice traditional music in every evening with local people to play and walk around the village at the festival. Volunteers will also organize a program in the elementary school to promoting both inter-cultural learning and also, the festival to the children.

#### 4. Accommodation
Local community center. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. There is a shower room.

#### 5. Study theme
You can get the knowledge about Japanese traditional festivals and customs.

#### 6. Other activities
Japanese Shinto music and dance, home staying, lecture about traditional cultures.

#### 7. Location
Misato-town is located in the middle of the Shimane prefecture, famous for Iwami silver mine as a world heritage. There is hot spa, some famous shrine as origin of Shintoism.

#### 8. Terminal
The nearest int’l airport is Kansai (Osaka). From Osaka to the meeting point in Shimane, it takes 6.5 hours by highway bus and train. Volunteers are recommended to arrive there one day before workcamp starts. Hiroshima airport is also available by take a flight from Kansai airport, it takes about 4 hours to the meeting point by train and bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the meeting point by 13:00 on first day and can leave there after 13:00 on last day.

#### 9. Requirement
Interested in Japanese old culture, positive attitude to communication with local people

#### 10. Participation fee
9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

#### 11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

#### 12. Other
None

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**Picture (Area)**

**Picture (Work)**

**Picture (Accommodation)**
### 1. Summary

Organic farming and nature life in the beautiful and traditional mountain communities in Japan. No road for cars, the only way to reach there is by walk for 1.5 hours!

### 2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Kyodo Gakusha since 2000, a cooperative community where people with various backgrounds such as mentally disadvantaged, people who are tired of city life, who want to learn farming, who want to live in the nature, etc. They have 5 communities in Japan incl. Maki and Tateya and grow animals and vegetables in ecological, organic way.

Maki is located in a very isolated area (not accessible for cars and we have to walk 4 km in the mountains!), so it once became an abandon village in 1970s and then, was revived by Kyodo Gakusha. Over 10 people incl. 2 families were living till several years ago, but less and less in these years (almost nobody in the winter), so vols. are needed even more!

Tateya is located on the hilly (less than Maki, but still a bit isolated) area where 30-40 members live and mainly do rice farming as well as growing cows and chicken.

*Outcome of this workcamp: In 2023, we had 4 short term workcamps and 1 LMTV project with 13 vols. who greatly contributed to their protecting the houses, farming and caring animals that was difficult to finish by the time they needed without volunteers! See the long-term goal of this project as Local SDGs made by the previous project leader at [https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2019-ep3-188767935](https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/2019-ep3-188767935) (only in Japanese, sorry, but you can still enjoy the pictures!)

### 3. Work

Volunteers will stay and work in Maki for some days and Tateya in other days. The work will be mainly helping organic agriculture (cutting thatch, harvesting/ threshing rice, selecting beans, taking care of goats, cows and chicken) and also carrying the things from the town to Maki, renovating the trails on the way, helping the house works especially cooking, etc. Be ready to work for quite a long time (05:30-18:00 with some brakes) and hard!

### 4. Accommodation

Maki: Volunteers will sleep in a few rooms of the volunteers' house that is a very beautiful cultural heritage and equips the basic facilities such as water, electricity, toilets and a bath room! They will have meals, meetings and social life with Kyodo Gakusha members in the main building (just 30 meters far). Meals will be cooked by together with the members by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary.

Tateya: Building for volunteers and a few members, 5 min. walk from the farm. Meals will be usually cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary.

### 5. Study theme

Similar type of communities in each country and their networking

### 6. Other activities

Exchange program, Excursion on a free day (possibly to Hakuba, a famous tourism spot), etc.

### 7. Location

Both are located in the beautiful places near “Japanese Northern Alps”. Maki is in about 900 meters asl. and there is something remained here that most of Japanese areas have lost in modernization. Tateya is surrounded by the farms and 40 min. walk from the train station.

### 8. Terminal

The nearest international airport is Tokyo (NRT or HNH). From Tokyo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 5 hours by express bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo by the end of Oct. 15 and can leave there from the beginning of Oct. 25.

### 9. Requirement

Volunteers need to have high motivation and patience to keep the hard, long and important work in the very isolated, natural place and to respect the way of the local host. No special skills nor experiences are needed. Motivation letter is needed!

### 10. Participation fee

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

### 11. Language

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### 12. Other

The popular documentary film for this place was broadcasted in 2015 at arayashiki-movie.jp/en/.
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**1. Summary**

Let’s stop climate change through the carbon offset and bamboo charcoal and enjoy nice exchange with local students and people!

**2. Background**

This project is actively working for SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDGs 15 (Life on Land), organized together with NAP (Nobel Application of Plant resources) since 1992 and since 2016, as a part of SCC (Stop Climate Change) projects initiated by NICE with NVDA (Asian network). NAP is a local NPO to recover natural ecosystem cycles. Minamata had experienced the terrible industrial pollution though it is completely safe and clean now. As well as many other parts of Japan, bamboo trees, originally brought from China by human being, are severely spreading and damaging the eco-system. Also, the beaches have a lot of rubbish, but when it’s clean, there is a lot of sea food such as oysters and sea urchins. Rehabilitation of seaweed forests has been done since several years ago. The workcamp has been stopped due to COVID-19, but finally revived since 2020 by this project! *Outcome of this workcamp: Workcamps have made various kinds of great impacts to create a forest on the reclaimed land, etc. In 2019, 4 LMTVs from 4 countries and 6 STVs from 5 countries, together with local people, maintained 1ha of bamboo forest, made 541 kg of charcoal and reduced 1.1 ton of CO2 emission. In 2023, 5 vols. worked very well! Please see the long-term goal of this project as Local SDGs athttps://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/17-82084627 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)

**3. Work**

Volunteers will mainly trim the bamboo trees that can increase the whole amount to fix carbon in the forest and make the bamboo charcoal to be used as fuel instead of oil as carbon offset project. Other work will be helping to run the marine environmental education for the local middle school students as well as helping the traditional cultural workshop a bit such as making a paper from natural materials and weaving also as your experience.

**4. Accommodation**

Community center (Volunteers will borrow the bathrooms of neighbors that creates nice exchange). Cooked by volunteers. Sleeping bag is needed! Moved by the bicycle.

**5. Study theme**

Climate change, eco life, forests and future plan about Minamata. Bring some info!

**6. Other activities**

To join the local events, exchange party, excursion, etc.

**7. Location**

South west in Kyushu islands. People are cheerful and many of man like to drink sake!! If lucky, you could enjoy parties under cherry flowers!

**8. Terminal**

The nearest airport is Kagoshima and there is LCC from Tokyo (Narita) and Osaka. From Kagoshima airport to the meeting point, it takes 2 hours by bus. You need to arrive at Kagoshima by 11:00, Tokyo by 07:00 and Osaka by 06:00 on Nov. 17 and can leave there after 20:00 on Nov. 30 from Kagoshima and mid night from Tokyo/ Osaka.

**9. Requirement**

Be able to ride a bicycle. High interest in environmental issues and their activities, big motivation to work hard, open mind, cooperation with others. Any experience and skills of the environmental work, Carbon research and Crowd funding are welcomed!

**10. Participation fee**

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

**11. Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**12. Other**

Please see the presentation of the volunteer for the IVS contest in Japan https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/17-82084627 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)

| Picture (Area) | Picture (Work) | Picture (Accommodation) |
1. Summary

Working in the flower farms of the southern island. Vols. need to speak very good Japanese!

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with a group of farmers since 1995. The project has been held mostly in March and this is the 3rd time to be held in the summer since 2019. The project started by the links with the President of NICE who had a farm stay here in his student days. The island has rich, beautiful sub tropical nature with corral leaf on the beach without being polluted by the tourism. As the location is isolated and very far from the cities, they can hardly get the paid workers to help their farm work, so vols. help it to protect their industry and life! Thus, the volunteers can learn a lot from the natural and local life, by that many of them become a big fan of the island!

*Outcome of this workcamp: Workcamps have greatly contributed to the farmers (not to waste the flowers due to lack of working power) in 2023 by 3 workcamps with 10 vols.!

3. Work

The volunteers will be split into 3 farms (without change in the whole period) and mainly help to harvest the flowers and other farm work such as selection and rapping of flowers. Farm work will be 5-6 days in a week usually around 08:00-18:00 (sometimes, even longer) with lunch break in 12:00-13:30. There will be some pocket money to be used for meals (besides the lunch on the working days) and a part of the travel cost to the island. Thus, there are some possibilities to have another public work once a week such as beach cleaning and activities at the elders home though not sure.

4. Accommodation

Local house rent for the volunteers with some sleeping rooms, bath, kitchen, toilet, etc. Meals will be cooked by the volunteers themselves besides the lunch on the working days that will be provided by each farm.

5. Study theme

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of Erabu

6. Other activities

Excursion on the island (limestone cave, etc.) on the free days, welcome/ farewell parties, swimming in the beach, sea turtle (or if lucky, also whale!) watching, etc.

7. Location

Okino erabu island. It originally belonged to Ryukyu kingdom of Okinawa islands which deeply effects the culture. It had been once occupied by the USA after the World War II, but returned back to Japan in 1953. Birth rate is one of the highest in Japan since people help each other like a big family:)

8. Terminal

The nearest international airport is Naha. The ferry runs every day (Naha 07:00 - Wadomari 14:10, Wadomari 12:00 - Naha 19:00. 5,760 JPY for one way). Vols. need to arrive at Naha by the end of Nov. 30 and can leave there after the beginning of Dec. 21.

9. Requirement

Good Japanese (no problem for the daily and work conversation). Respect to the culture and farm life and high motivation to work hard. You don't need much power, but patience to keep (and positive attitude to enjoy!) the same work

10. Participation fee

9,000 JPY (55 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free.

11. Language

Japanese only. Info. sheets will be made in Japanese only.

12. Other

We can open the place for international volunteers ONLY IF we already have a Japanese volunteer or resident in the same period.

---
6. LMTV - Long and Mid Term Projects (in Japan)

LMTV is a voluntary service project which duration is over 1 month (30 or more days) that can be separately called MTV for 1-6 months (30-182 days) and LTV over 6 months (183 or more days).

Many projects are Individual volunteering type (LMTI) while some are Workcamps type (LMTW).

6-1) On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars

Volunteers of LMTI (individual type) usually need to join both On Arrival and Evaluation Seminars unless there are special circumstances and exceptionally agreed by NICE. Vols. for LMTW (workcamp type) can usually have Arrival Orientation and Evaluation Meeting in the project sites.

The places and dates of the seminars are divided depending on your project location (with some exceptions) and usually organized in the weekend for 2 days every 12 weeks in each region;

- Join “East” for Projects in the eastern part of Japan (Prefecture no. 1-23 of the map below) usually at NICE house/ office in Yokohama (Kanagawa), but sometimes other places around Tokyo.
- Join “West” for Projects in the western part of Japan (Prefecture no. 24-47 of the map below) usually at NICE House West in Tondabayashi (Osaka), but sometimes other places around Osaka.

Some projects which periods are limited have cross over (East Seminar for Western projects and vice versa) for On Arrival and/ or Evaluation Seminar to give more chance of flexible length.

For 2024, this applies to Maki / Kurogi (Apr.-Nov.).

Area | 2024         | 2025         |
-----|--------------|--------------|
East | Mar. 09-10   | Feb. 08-09   |
     | Apr. 20-21   | May 03-04    |
     | Jul. 13-14   | Jul. 26-27   |
     | Oct. 05-06   | Nov. 16-17   |
     | Dec. 23-29   | Nov. 16-17   |
West | Jan. 27-28   | Mar. 22-23   |
     | Jun. 01-02   | Jun. 14-15   |
     | Aug. 24-25   | Sep. 06-07   |
     | Nov. 16-17   | Nov. 29-30   |

* The meals and accommodation during the seminars are included in your NICE Volunteers Fee. Other cost such as drinking, sweet, transportation to/ from the place need to be paid by the vols.

* By mixing two seminars in the same places and time together, we expect that the ones joining Evaluation can advise and support the last minutes preparation of the ones for On Arrival!
Thus, we also mix them with Pre Departure and After Coming Back Seminars of Japanese vols. for Projects in Japan/ the world for both short and long terms, so you can enjoy exchange with them!

![Japan Prefectures Map](image_url)

*Copyright © Travel Friend, ZenTech*
* The typical schedule is as follows (but can be changed each time). The details will be sent together with the Info. sheets by 28 days before the project start.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00-13:00 Orientation with Lunch</td>
<td>08:00-09:00 Cooking, Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00-16:00 Voluntary work (Gardening, etc.)</td>
<td>09:00-09:50 Workshop 2 (Expectation &amp; fear)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00-18:00 Workshop 1 (Testimony, Safety, etc.)</td>
<td>10:00-10:50 Workshop 3 (Problem solving)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:00-20:00 Cooking, Dinner, Shower, Cleaning</td>
<td>11:00-11:50 Workshop 4 (Impact goals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20:00-22:00 Discussion and Exchange party</td>
<td>12:00-12:30 Evaluation, Cleaning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6-2) Summery List of Projects

Click each Project name to jump into the detailed description!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Project name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>SDGs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NICE-24L-ST</td>
<td>Shintoku</td>
<td>Hokkaido</td>
<td>06/01</td>
<td>25/10/19</td>
<td>12 periods</td>
<td>ENVI, MANU</td>
<td>11,15</td>
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<td>Yoichi</td>
<td>Hokkaido</td>
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<td>25/10/19</td>
<td>12 periods</td>
<td>ENVI, MANU</td>
<td>11,15</td>
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<td>Aizu Wakamatsu</td>
<td>Fukushima</td>
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<td>25/10/19</td>
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<td>SOCI, CHIL, EDUC</td>
<td>4,10</td>
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<td>Nagano</td>
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<td>11/17</td>
<td>15 periods</td>
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<td>2,10</td>
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<td>Nagano</td>
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<td>10/06</td>
<td>10 periods</td>
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<td>Akame</td>
<td>Mie</td>
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<td>15 periods</td>
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</table>

* Location: Green letters = Projects in East, Yellow letters = Projects in West

* Start/ End: Green = Start/ End with the Seminars in Yokohama. Yellow = Start/ End with the Seminars in Osaka. Yellow green = Mix (Yokohama or Osaka depending on the period)

### < How to count the fee >

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Period (M/D)</th>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Fee (JPY)</th>
<th>In EUR #</th>
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<td>12</td>
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</table>

# Fee should be paid in JPY. “In EUR” is calculated by the rate of 23/11/19 and could be changed by the exchange rate.

* Theme
  - AGRI: Agriculture
  - ANIM: Work with animals
  - ARCH: Archaeology
  - ART: Artistic
  - CONS: Construction
  - CULT: Cultural
  - DISA: Disabled ("Challenged")
  - ELDE: Work with Elderly
  - EDU: Teaching, Awareness
  - EDUC: Education
  - EDU: Education
  - ENVI: Environmental
  - LEAD: Project leading
  - KIDS: Work with Kids
  - KIDS, CHIL, RENO: Work with children and refugees
  - MANU: Manual
  - MANU: Manual
  - NICE: Work with the elderly
  - REFU: Work with refugees
  - RENO: Renovation
  - SOCI: Social
  - SOCI: Social
  - SPORT: Sports
  - STUD: Study, Research
  - TEEN: targeting Teenagers
6-3) Detailed Project Description

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Start</th>
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<td>AGRI, ENVI, CONS</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Summary
Let’s enjoy organic farming with various members in the cooperative community in the beautiful nature of Hokkaido! They got the best prize for the World contest of mountain cheese!

2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Kyodo Gakusha (since 1998 here), a cooperative community where people with various backgrounds such as mentally disadvantaged, people who are tired of city life, who want to learn farming, who want to live in the nature, etc. They have 5 communities in Japan incl. Shintoku and grow animals and vegetables in an ecological, organic way.

At Shintoku farm in Hokkaido, they grow cows, pigs, vegetables with utilizing bacterium and produce various types of milk products as well as running the cafe (soft cream and cakes are so yummy!) which is a popular spot for the local people and tourists. Their cheese got the best prize in the World contest for the mountain cheese! The project has been revived this year since 2019.

*Outcome of this workcamp: So many vols. have joined this community and greatly contributed both physically and mentally. There is even a case to marry one of the community members:) Please see the long term goal of this project as “Local SDSs” at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/n0-68540773 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)

3. Work
 Volunteers will mainly do 1) Agricultural work (planting, weeding, cultivating and harvesting of the organic vegetables, taking care of animals, milk processing, etc.), 2) House work (cooking and cleanings along with members in the community) and possibly 3) Handcrafts and textiles (making some handcrafts and textiles for sale to the locals). Bee ready to do what will be needed for the farm!

4. Accommodation
Share the rooms in the facility which Shintoku Farm members live in. Cooking with the members by turn (Vegetarian is possible if it’s prepared by volunteer self.)

5. Study theme
Learn about organic farming, taking care of animals such as cows, chickens. Learn a group work with various types of people.

6. Other activities
Join the local festivals. Sightseeing (hot springs, famous places in this area).

7. Location
Shintoku town is an agricultural country side with big scale of nature and farms, at the foot of ’Mt. Milk’ and located in the center of Hokkaido island, near Obihiro and 120 km east of Sapporo. -20 degree in winter and 20 in summer.

8. Terminal
The nearest airport is Obihiro for domestic and Sapporo (CTS) for international flights. From CTS to the meeting point (Shintoku station), it takes 2 hours by express train. However, volunteers need to join On Arrival and Evaluation Seminars in Yokohama, so firstly should arrive at Tokyo airport by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave Tokyo airport after 18:00 on the ending day.

9. Requirement
Motivation letter is needed. Interest and motivation to work and live in this type of community.
Respect to their life. Some levels of Japanese speaking skills as well as high motivation to learn and speak Japanese language is needed. Skills of agriculture or construction can be useful!

10. Participation fee
18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of “NICE Volunteers” fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

11. Language
English and Japanese. Not many members can speak basic English (while the leader of the farm can speak very fluently!), so you will communicate with them in mixing simple English and Japanese.

12. Other
The first/ last 2 days are On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars in Yokohama. Shintoku Farm websitehttps://www.kyodogakusha.org/ (only in Japanese)
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
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<th>Vols.</th>
<th>Min age</th>
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1. Summary

Working as a staff of the eco village in the beautiful Hokkaido. Let's create sustainability of our healthy lifestyle and community!

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGS15 (Life on Land), organized together with Hokkaido Eco-village Promotion Project (HEPP) since 2015. They started to promote "sustainability of our lifestyle and community", to create better environmental and social model for next generation in Hokkaido since 2012. They want to produce necessities that are needed for our daily life (foods, energy, etc.) by themselves as much as they can, and want to share them to the local area. They provide various chances to learn comprehensive skill and knowledge about "sustainable development" by organizing training programs and events for the local adults and kids. They also aim at connecting urban area and rural area, producers and consumers and to contribute local revitalization. They restarted to welcome the international volunteers from 2022 summer and 2 vols. from UK did nice job for one month!

*Outcome of this project: In 2023, 6 vols. from UK greatly contributed for 32 days to their farming and other activities as well as the mental empowerment of the host!

3. Work

Volunteers will work for around 36 hours a week (08:00-11:00/ 13:30-16:30) with one day off mainly to 1) do organic farming such as growing seedlings, seeding, weeding, thinning, harvesting, etc., 2) help the vineyard and food production of wine, vegetables and fruits, 3) help the farm nearby, 4) Help to prepare and run the local events and promote HEPP through SNS, 5) maintain the facilities to make comfortable environment for the visitors including maintenance of eco toilets and weeding, 5) cook the meals for the visitors and staff, etc.

4. Accommodation

Shared room in the main house or a container house (male and female are separated). Cooking with the local and members by turn, vegetarian food is possible. There is limited wifi.

5. Study theme

Theory and various practices of the sustainable living style

6. Other activities

Joining the local festivals, exchange with local people, short trip (hot springs, famous places)

7. Location

Located next to the city of Otaru, Yoichi is a place where one can fully enjoy Hokkaido tourism, from history and nature tourism to fruit fields and fresh seafood. There is the famous Nikka Whiskey factory.

8. Terminal

The nearest airport is New Chitose (CTS) in Hokkaido from which it takes 2 hours to the project by train and bus. However, volunteers need to join On Arrival and Evaluation Seminars in Yokohama, so firstly should arrive at Tokyo airport by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave Tokyo airport after 18:00 on the ending day.

9. Requirement

Motivation letter is needed. Good level of speaking for the daily conversations of English or Japanese is needed. Skills of driving a car (valid in Japan), maintenance of the agricultural machines, experience of work in the tourism/ hotels are not needed, but useful! Having work experience is desirable. Strong physical health, open mind to actively exchange with others, good cooking skills, PC skills and loving team work/ collective life are also welcomed!

10. Participation fee

18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

11. Language

English. The local host can speak English fluently. Japanese is also welcomed!

12. Other

The first/ last 2 days are On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars in Yokohama. HEPP website=http://ecovillage.greenwebs.net/english.html
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1. **Summary**

Let’s create a place for learning together with children who have difficulties in life do to various circumstances!

2. **Background**

This project is actively working for SDGs 1 (no poverty) and SDGs 4 (Quality Education), organized together with a local NPO, Terakoya Hojosha that aims to create a diverse learning environment that places children at the center and aims to promote children’s participation in society. Their mission is to support ‘Children’s participation in society’ and create a happy future for children. A characteristic of the learning at Terakoya Hojosya is that it attends to children’s interests. The aim to create a happy future with children, each and every one of whom is important. In their all projects, it is importance on approving and affirming children and fostering a sense of self-affirmation, which is the children’s energy, through their connections with others.

3. **Work**

Volunteers will support to prepare, run and follow up the Kodomo Shokudo (Children’s cafeteria) that provides meals for free or at a low price to the children including those in the low income families. It also provides the assist the homework and the subject learning for about 15 primary and junior high school students, so the volunteers will help their homework and crafts as well as cook the lunch and dinner together. Thus, they will also assist the activities with out-of-school children (e.g. supporting children, organizing event).

4. **Accommodation**

Shared rooms in accommodation owned by the organization. It is different place with activity place. Men and women separated room. Cooking by yourself. Staffs also stay at the facility. No wifi in the accommodation (but there is wifi in activity place).

5. **Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of alternative school, children’s social participation, child poverty in Japan.

6. **Other activities**

Join the local events, many opportunities to learn the local wisdom, etc. Sightseeing, short trip (hot springs, castle, famous places here).

7. **Location**

Aizu Wakamatsu city is called Samurai city. It is located in the eastern part of the Aizu region of Fukushima prefecture. It is the central city of Aizu region, surrounded by rich nature, including Mt. Bandai and Lake Inawashiro and blessed with natural scenery. The organization is located in an area with an atmosphere of Taisho era Romanticism. Winter season (Dec.-Mar.) is quite cold, so vols. need to bring warm cloths.

8. **Terminal**

The nearest airport is Tokyo (NRT or HND) from which it takes 5 hours by train and bus to the meeting point in Fukushima pref. Volunteers need to join On Arrival and Evaluation Seminars in Yokohama, so firstly should arrive at Tokyo airport by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave Tokyo airport after 18:00 on the ending day.

9. **Requirement**

Motivation letter is needed! Volunteers need to have some Japanese speaking skill (manage to have basic daily conversation), respect to the local culture and way of the local organization, positive attitude to communicate with children, being interested alternative school, children’s social patriation and child poverty, high motivation to work hard, open mind, cooperation with others.

10. **Participation fee**

18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

11. **Language**

Japanese

12. **Other**

The first/ last 2 days are On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars in Yokohama.
Let’s preserve way of traditional Japanese life in mountain area!

2. Background
Volunteers mainly work for organic agriculture (cultivation, seeding, weeding, harvesting, taking care of goats, cows and chicken, making their feeds) and also carrying the things from the town to Maki, renovating the houses and trails on the way, constructing a hut, helping the house works especially cooking, etc. It’s important and necessary to actively join the daily meeting and actively share the collective life. Be ready to work for quite a long time (05:30–18:00 with some breaks) and hard. It’d be surely good exercise to make your body more healthy!

3. Work
Volunteers will live in the main house that is a very beautiful cultural heritage and equips the basic facilities such as water, electricity, kitchen, toilets and a bath room! Single room can be provided. They will have meals, meetings and social life with Kyodo Gakusha members. Meals will be cooked by volunteers together with the members by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary. There is limited wifi.

4. Accommodation
Volunteers will have meals, meetings and social life with Kyodo Gakusha members. Meals will be cooked by volunteers together with the members by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary. There is limited wifi.

5. Study theme
Similar type of communities in each country and their networking

6. Other activities
Exchange program, Excursion on a free day (possibly to Hakuba, a famous tourism spot), etc.

7. Location
Maki is located in the beautiful place near “Japanese Northern Alps”, at about 900 meters asl. and there is something remained here that most of Japanese areas have lost in modernization.

8. Terminal
The nearest airport is Tokyo (NRT or HND) from which it takes 7 hours to the project by train and bus. However, volunteers need to join On Arrival (in Yokohama for MK06-09, 13-14 and Osaka for MK01-05, 10-12, 15) and Evaluation Seminar (2: Yokohama for MK06-09, 10, 12, 14, 15 and Osaka for MK02, 04, 06, 08, 11, 13), so firstly should arrive at/ leave NRT or HND if the seminar is in Yokohama and KIX if it is in Osaka, by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave there after 18:00 on the ending day.

9. Requirement
Motivation letter is needed! Volunteers need to have some Japanese speaking skill (manage to have basic daily conversation) and high motivation and patience to keep hard, long and important work in the very isolated, natural place, to respect the way of the local host and to learn and speak Japanese language is needed. No special skills nor experiences are needed.

10. Participation fee
18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of ”NICE Volunteers” fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

11. Language
Japanese and English (a few of the local host can speak basic English)

12. Other
The first/ last 2 days are On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars in Yokohama or Osaka. The popular documentary film for this place was broadcasted in 2015 at arayashiki-movie.jp/en/.
1. Summary
Organic farming in the wonderful community with challenged people and beautiful nature. Feel and appreciate the values of food and life!

2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Kyodo Gakusha (since 2015 here), a cooperative community where about people with various backgrounds such as mentally disadvantaged, people who are tired of city life, who wants to learn farming, just want to live in the nature, etc. They have 5 communities in Tokyo, Nagano and Hokkaido and grow animals and vegetables in an ecological, organic way with utilizing bacterium and charcoal. Tateya Farm has 40 members and NICE started LMTV projects here since 2014. NICE also organizes workcamps and LMTV projects in Maki and Shintoku farms of Kyodo Gakusha.
*Outcome of this workcamp: In 2023, 1 mid term volunteer for 2 months greatly contributed to harvest rice which was difficult to finish by the time they needed without volunteers! There was also nice exchange between Community people and vols. through Yoga and Mindfulness. Please see the presentation of the camp leader for the IVS contest in Japan https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/e4-54764427 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)

3. Work
Volunteers will help their organic farm (harvesting/ threshing rice, planting vegetables, taking care of animals, etc.) and their house work especially cooking. Volunteers will also carry the things in the mountain to the Maki farm and harvest rice there. Be ready to work for quite a long time (05:30-18:00 with some brakes) and hard. It’d be surely good exercise to make your body more healthy!

4. Accommodation
Shared room in the building for the volunteers and a few members, 5 min. walk from the farm. Meals will be cooked by volunteers together with the community people by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary. There is limited Wifi.

5. Study theme
Similar type of communities in each country and their networking

6. Other activities
Exchange program, Excursion on a free day (possibly to Hakuba, a famous tourism spot), etc.

7. Location
Otari village is a small village located in the region of stunning natural beauty in the northern part of Nagano Prefecture, Japan. It is beautiful village near “Japanese Northern Alps”. It takes 40-50 min. by foot from Minami-Otari, the nearest train station.

8. Terminal
The nearest airport is Tokyo (NRT or HND) from which it takes 7 hours to the project by train and bus. However, volunteers need to join On Arrival (in Yokohama for TT05-07, 10 and Osaka for TT01-04, 08-09) and Evaluation Seminars (in Yokohama for TT01, 03, 06, 08 and Osaka for TT02, 04, 05, 07, 09, 10), so firstly should arrive at/ leave NRT or HND if the seminar is in Yokohama and KIX if it is in Osaka, by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave there after 18:00 on the ending day.

9. Requirement
Motivation letter is needed. Volunteers need to have good level of speaking for the daily conversations of English or Japanese and high motivation and patience to keep the hard, long and important work in the natural place, to respect the way of the local host and to learn and speak Japanese language is needed. No special skills nor experiences are needed.

10. Participation fee
18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

11. Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

12. Other
The first/ last 2 days are On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars in Yokohama or Osaka.
### 1. Summary

Let’s conserve SATOYAMA and sustainable life in mountain area!

### 2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 15 (Life on Land), organized together with a local environmental Non-profit organization (NPO) Akame no SATOYAMA wo Sodateru Kai (ASSK) since 1999. Since this area is close from big cities Osaka and Nagoya, there were plans to build a golf field and an incinerator, but local people stopped those plans by the movement called National Trust. They founded the group in 1996 to collect donations to buy and protect lands, to accept people who want to enjoy nature, to maintain forests, to create a pond for dragonflies, to host national corps meeting, etc. SATOYAMA needs to be maintained by humans for its biodiversity and water adjustment function. Our ancestors had protected and utilized the forest in ecological and sustainable way, which was neglected by modernization. We will try to revive it by global voluntary power!!

### 3. Work

Volunteers will do various types of activities such as 1) Forest conservation (cutting trees, branches and maintaining the footpaths, etc.), 2) Agricultural work (taking care of the chickens raised by the free range farming, slaughtering too old chickens (#), harvesting and packaging mushrooms, etc.) and 3) Organizing some environmental events (e.g., to collect edible wild plants, nature observation) in the mountains. #: It’s hard for ASSK to keep feeding too old chickens since they don’t bear the eggs anymore and feeding is quite costly. Most chicken farms ask the special company to just kill and “throw away” as if they are rubbish with paying 15 yen per chicken, but ASSK does not support this and eats by themselves with deeply appreciating to their value of life.

### 4. Accommodation

Small traditional house, on the premises of ASSK. Volunteers will cook the meals by themselves.

### 5. Study theme

Volunteers will acquire the knowledge of conserving SATOYAMA and solving the environmental issues.

### 6. Other activities

Many opportunities to learn the local wisdom. Sightseeing, short trip (hot springs, famous places here).

### 7. Location

Kami-mitani area of Nabari city, 60 km from Osaka. There are famous falls nearby many hikers visit.

### 8. Terminal

The nearest airport is Osaka (KIX) or Nagoya (NGO). To the meeting point, it takes 2-3 hours by train from the both airports. However, volunteers need to join On Arrival and Evaluation Seminars in Osaka, so firstly should arrive at KIX by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave KIX after 18:00 on the ending day.

### 9. Requirement

Motivation letter is needed! Some Japanese speaking skill (manage to have basic daily conversation). High motivation to learn and speak Japanese language and work hard with simple mountain life in a remote area without colleagues. Respect for the local culture and way of the local organization. Interests in environment issues. Open mind and flexibility.

### 10. Participation fee

18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of “NICE Volunteers” fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

### 11. Language

Japanese and English. The daily communication will be done by mixing simple English and Japanese.

### 12. Other

The first/ last 2 days are On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars in Osaka.
### 1. Summary
Let's revitalize the community by utilizing “NICE House West” and also help the work of International Voluntary Service NGO to achieve a colorful & healthy world!

### 2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDGs 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) organized by NICE itself for the first time.

In 2011-13, the old couple (Kuroda san) kindly rent a traditional house in their land by free to NICE for its office in Osaka, through the connection of the environmental group in this city with which NICE has been co-organizing workcamps to protect satoyama forests since 1999. A staff and a few LTVs lived there to do the daily work and also to maintain the bamboo forest next to the house. Then, the office was moved to Osaka city and the husband passed away, but this year, the wife decided to donate it to NICE to be used as its office again with expectation to create space for local people incl. elders to gather and enjoy exchange. Therefore, NICE decided to recruit long term residents. Together with NICE, let's work on activities to liven up the community with free and colorful ideas.

### 3. Work
Volunteers will mainly 1) Help the work of NICE in the western part of Japan such as Public Relations (Creating short movies of workcamps and spread through SNS and mass media), Organizing promotion events and weekend workcamps, Coordinating the workcamps in the western part of Japan as a camp leader together with NICE and the local hosts and Hosting the training seminars of NICE volunteers. They will also 2) Renovate/ maintain the house and the surroundings and 3) Organize various types of gathering for the local people incl. elders (e.g., just chatting with tea, taking care of small kids to support the parents, organizing international culture/ language classes).

Volunteers will get knowledge of conservation work in a forest, management of Non-Profitable Organization in Japan, etc.

### 4. Accommodation
NICE House West. Single room can be provided if the number of the residents are not many. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

### 5. Study theme
Volunteers will get knowledge of conservation work in a forest, management of Non-Profitable Organization in Japan, etc.

### 6. Other activities
Exchange parties, experiencing Japanese culture, home stay, etc.

### 7. Location
Tondabayashi city is located in Osaka prefecture, 60km south of Osaka city. The house is surrounded by many old houses and a bamboo forest.

### 8. Terminal
The nearest airport is Osaka (KIX). It will take about 1.5 hours by train to the accommodation. On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars will be most likely held in this project place, so volunteers should arrive at KIX by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave KIX after 18:00 on the ending day.

### 9. Requirement
Motivation letter is needed! Good Japanese speaking skill (can have daily conversation well). High motivation to learn and speak Japanese language and to work hard with enjoying the simple and collective life. Respect for the local culture and way of the local organization. High interests in environment and community issues as well as the management of International Voluntary Service NGO. Open mind and flexibility.

### 10. Participation fee
18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

### 11. Language
English and Japanese

### 12. Other
We can open the place for international volunteers ONLY IF we already have a Japanese volunteer or resident in the same period.
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1. Summary

Supporting a village next to Kakurin-ji temple with agriculture and revitalization of the community!

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with the local group since 2019. This village has been welcoming "ohenro (pilgrims)" who visit 88 temples in Shikoku since long time ago. The pilgrims walk through this village before visiting "Kakurin-ji temple"; the 20th temple out of 88 temples of the Shikoku Ohenro Pilgrimage. However, there are problems which should be solved such as aging and depopulation of the community these days, and locals haven't been able to find solutions for those problems. On the other hand, since more and more people from overseas visit for the Shikoku Ohenro Pilgrimage locals are trying to find new ways for "omotenashi (hospitality)".

Volunteers who have been working on the project have come up with ideas for the reuse of vacant and abandoned land. Local host Oi have finally decided that they can freely renovate and modify the vacant houses. Moreover, the site is in a good location, with mountains, a river and fields. It is up to the volunteers from now on to decide how to develop the project. The aim is for the volunteer members to clean up the abandoned houses and village landscape and transform it into a village that people will want to visit to take photos, as it used to be a village where people came and went since ancient times.

3. Work

1) Supporting for harvesting and shipping during the peak of the Japanese star anise (shikimi) harvest season. 2) Supporting for harvesting and shipping of sudachi (Japanese citrus fruit) at the peak of harvest season. 3) Supporting for activities such as writing English guides in various places in the town for foreign pilgrims. 4) Cleaning of vacant houses, support for carrying out furniture, pruning of cedar cypress branches in abandoned mountain forests, picking up plastic rubbish from the sea and river, and utilisation of vacant houses. 5) Maintenance of Asagimadara flying sites, maintenance of firefly flying sites, etc.

4. Accommodation

Home staying at local farmhouses. All meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is NOT necessary.

5. Study theme

Finding ways for sustainability of a depopulated village, Pass down the "osettai" culture to the next generation.

6. Other activities

Finding ways for sustainability of a depopulated village, Pass down the "osettai" culture to the next generation.

7. Location

Oi-cho, Anan city, Tokushima pref.

8. Terminal

The nearest int'l airport is Kansai (Osaka). From Osaka to the meeting point in Tokushima, it takes 3 hours by highway bus. Volunteers are recommended to arrive there one day before workcamp starts since the bus leaves early. Volunteers need to take local train from the meeting point to the campsite about 2.5 hours. Volunteers need to arrive at the meeting point at 14:00 on 1st day and can leave project site around 13:00 on last day.

9. Requirement

Positive attitude, a willingness to work hard and communicate with local people!

10. Participation fee

18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

11. Language

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

12. Other

The first/ last 2 days are On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars in Osaka. Video about Kakurin-ji temple: https://youtu.be/V2vX5Ik4ASM.
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1. Summary

Creating the opportunity of international exchange for local children!

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDGs 4 (Quality Education), SDGs 11 (Sustainable city and Communities) organized together with a local NPO, Bizan Daigaku (B.D.) since 2019. They organize short term workcamps with NICE from 2013 and have many types of projects, one of the projects started visiting a primary school/ kindergarten this year in Tokushima city. There is a kind of problem that the children who live in countryside face to have few opportunity to communicate with foreign people compared with city because of the lack of number of foreigners. They want to change the situation and activate both of children and the situation of education for cultural exchange through having such a local activities with volunteers.

3. Work

Visiting the local Child center and kindergarten, volunteers play with local students and kids. For example, playing game, helping their homework etc. Supporting B.D. activities Flower Road project (Watering flowers, maintaining flower on the road). Joining in some kind of local events which BD organizes.

4. Accommodation

Staying in local apartment house. Share room with other volunteers. Shower room in each rooms. Volunteers need to prepare for breakfast by themselves. Lunch and dinner are usually cooked by themselves, sometimes provided from the local.

5. Study theme

Volunteer have opportunities to communicate with local people, to join local events a lot.

6. Other activities

Awa Odori Festival on August, Exchange parties, experiencing Japanese culture, etc. Join the local events etc. Sightseeing, short trip (hot springs, famous places here).

7. Location

Tokushima City, capital of Tokushima Prefecture, has a population of about 260,000. The city is in northern Tokushima Prefecture where the Yoshino River and its tributaries create a delta.

8. Terminal

The nearest airport is Tokushima for domestic. However, volunteers need to join On Arrival and Evaluation Seminars in Osaka, so firstly should arrive at Osaka airport (KIX) by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave KIX after 18:00 on the ending day. It takes 3 hours from Osaka to Tokushima by bus.

9. Requirement

Motivation letter is needed! High motivation to learn and speak Japanese language. Respect for the local cultures and way of the local organization. It’s also better if volunteer have experience of taking care of children.

10. Participation fee

18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of "NICE Volunteers" fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

11. Language

English and Japanese. A few locals can speak English. When volunteers communicate with children, mainly language is Japanese.

12. Other

The first/ last 2 days are On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars in Osaka.

Picture (Area) Picture (Work) Picture (Accommodation)
Let's support mandarin farming in edge of peninsula!

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), organized together with Kikuya Community Group (KCG) since 2008, formed by the local young people to think of the future of their small village. Ikata is famous for its main industry of mandarins farming, but has been facing depopulation, lack of workers and aging society since most of young people leave the town. So, the number of abandoned mandarin farms is increasing and the town is losing its tradition, life, custom and scenery. KCG strongly hopes to host vols. to work together to animate the town and revive the farms.

Volunteers will help mandarin farming (It is the main work!! Harvesting, taking care of trees, cutting grass etc., it depend on season! Especially, Nov. to April. is hard!!), support local youth club (If you have chance) and create new activities to animate the town.

Shared room (male and female are separated) at the volunteer’s house. It is traditional Japanese style house. Volunteers will cook by themselves.

Volunteers will have opportunities learning organic mandarin farming.

Join the local events, many opportunities to learn the local wisdom, etc. Sightseeing, short trip (hot springs, famous places here).

In the edge of Sata Peninsula, surrounded by the sea, so fishing is also famous. There are only 30 houses in this community. The climate is relatively warm though it can be cold in winter.

The nearest airport is Matsuyama for domestic and Osaka (KIX) for international flights. It takes 2.5 hours by bus from Matsuyama to the meeting point. However, volunteers need to join On Arrival and Evaluation Seminars in Osaka, so firstly should arrive at KIX by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave KIX after 18:00 on the ending day.

Motivation letter is needed! Some Japanese speaking skill (manage to have basic daily conversation). High motivation to work hard and to learn and speak Japanese language. Respect for the local cultures and way of the local organization. Interests in agriculture. Be ready that work is for quite a long and hard.

18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of “NICE Volunteers” fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

Japanese and English (a few of the local host can speak basic English)

The first/last 2 days are On Arrival/Evaluation Seminars in Osaka.
Let’s make international volunteer movement to connect urban and rural areas!

This project is actively working for SDG2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG15 (Life on Land), organized together with Sansonjuku, founded in 1994, maintaining forest and step rice paddies through the projects which involve people from the city and local. They started 80-days of international workcamp with NICE since 2008 to make the footpath and maintain the forest. But in July 2012, the hardest rain ever attacked around this area. After that, it had serious damages from a flood. Their aim is to activate the community and sustain the program with young people from the world to conserve this rich nature and revival in this area!

Volunteers will work on various types of activity related to agriculture such as 1) Cultivating rice (Ex. rice planting, cutting grass in terraced rice fields (Mainly from May to Nov.), 2) Helping local farm of green tea (May and Oct.), rice and vegetable (from May to Nov.), etc., 3) Supporting events of Sansojuku (Ex. promotion, preparation, supporting staffs, communicating with participants, clean up) and 4) Taking care of goats (everyday).

Egao no mori center (It was Kasahara-higashi elementary school until 2004). Volunteers cook by themselves.

Volunteers will get knowledge of how to conserve SATOYAMA, taking care of forest, organic farming.

Other activities Join the local events, many opportunities to learn the local wisdom, etc. Sightseeing, short trip (hot springs, famous places here).

Southern part of the Fukuoka prefecture. The Yame city is 482.53 km2. There are so many tee trees and terraced paddy fields.

The nearest airport is Fukuoka. However, volunteers need to join On Arrival (in Yokohama for KR06-09, 13-14 and Osaka for KR01-05, 10-12, 15) and Evaluation Seminars (in Yokohama for KR01, 03, 05, 07, 09, 10, 12, 14 and Osaka for KR02, 04, 06, 08, 11, 13), so firstly should arrive at/ leave NRT or HND if the seminar is in Yokohama and KIX if it is in Osaka, by 08:00 on the starting day and can leave there after 18:00 on the ending day.

Motivation letter is needed! Volunteers need to have high motivation to learn and speak Japanese language, respect to the local culture and way of the local organization, high motivation to work hard and interests in environment issues and local development.

18,000 JPY (110 EUR by the rate on 2023 Nov. 18th) per month till the 3rd month and 9,000 JPY per month from the 4th month of “NICE Volunteers” fee need to be paid in advance either by Card or PayPal. This is used for the project preparation/ coordination such as the transportation of the camp leaders while the meals and the accommodation are provided by the local host by free. Odd days are counted as one month (e.g., 170 days are counted as 6 months).

Japanese and English (the local host can speak some English), but Japanese speaker is in priority.

The first/ last 2 days are On Arrival/ Evaluation Seminars in Yokohama or Osaka. The activity Blog: http://egaonomori.exblog.jp/
NICE has been actively working with “new” NGOs in Asia-Pacific where there had been no IVS projects or done by the specific networks exclusively. By co-organizing the pilot projects for 2-3 years, we share visions, values, know how and networks with those NGOs to enable to do it completely by themselves afterwards.

However, some of them keep co-organizing the projects with NICE which is still in charge of the recruitment of the international volunteers due to various circumstances (lack of human resources, etc.). So, please send the applications of your volunteers to “Outgoing” placement officer of NICE (out@nice1.gr.jp).

- For PLATO, our incoming placement officer keeps forwarding the applications internally, so no worry!

### 7-1) Summery List of Projects

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* All short term workcamps are open to partial participation for 6-9 days. Purple: LMTV
Starting the first day of each month and ending the last day of that month (so, the length should be always for one month.

Working in the nursing home to have a precious time with the elders.

This project is actively working for SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Malaysian Organization of Volunteer Exchange (MOVE) since 2019 in this place. MOVE is a workcamp NGO founded in 2006. Bernice Home was found by a lady by the name of Bernice. She started this home for senior citizens who need quality home care services to seniors with limited mobility or dementia and hence social interaction. She started this home in 2000 and the second home in 2018. The founder belief “life shouldn’t end when you are old, it should be full of happy memories regardless of the age. The founder wants to keep the seniors active and engaged through physical, mental and social activities, all in the comfort of their home. The workcamp was revived in 2023 and 2 STVs from Japan + 1 MTV from Czech did great work, so they have decided to host the workcamp again!

Volunteers will help in arranging extra activities for the senior citizens, such as art, craft, painting, gardening, storytelling, music and movement activities. Other than that, volunteers could help the nursing care helpers to cook and take part in daily cleaning routines. Some of the days, bring the senior citizens for an evening walk if weather permits. Otherwise lots of, indoor activities could be conduct.

Bernice Home. Three meals will be provided. Sleeping bag is necessary. There is open space with attach bathroom/toilet. Volunteers will use the space as their accommodation and sleep by using sleeping bag.

Situation of senior citizens and elderly home in each country. Local SDGs (2030 goals) of Bernice Home

Create a herb garden or vegetable garden for the elderly people. Visit around Kuala Lumpur city, and the cultural heritage of Malaysia, cultural exchange events.

The home is located in Jalan Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur. https://goo.gl/maps/84vfEaSMEaBL2b4x8

Kuala Lumpur - Volunteers will meet at the nearest train station and need to arrive at the airport by 14:00 on the first day and can leave the airport after the noon on the last day.

Bring along your expertise, such as singing, dancing, arts and craft and most important your caring heart to engage with these old people.

200 USD + 5 USD x days of participation (e.g., 350 USD for 30 days) to be paid on your arrivals.

English (Malay is also welcomed!)
1. Summary

Paddy farming area, new settlement, rural area. Second kingdom of the Sri Lanka. Sharing with local communities on life and work, understand the dealing with challenges facing during the daily life and how to live and overcome them.

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2017 in this place!). Project is a based on paddy farming area. Higurakgoda is a part of the Polonnaruwa District, Sri Lanka’s 2nd kingdom, exist 1100 years ago. Higurakgoda is a settlement, established in 1956, under the government development plan. Families brought to here from different parts of Sri Lanka and asked them to settle here while doing paddy farming. Different parts of Sri Lanka have different kind of sub cultures. In here all of them are mixed and emerge a new sub culture. Now 3rd generation is living here with their 2nd generation parents. During the 21st century, technology is changed rapidly but it is not reached to these areas because of language barrier, unawareness, narrow perspectives and so on. As a country, everyone should be a part of country’s development process but unfortunately these rural communities are somehow rejected by the administration. But actually, communities’ active participation is essential to overcome the burdens and to establish a just society. Some families are doing other activities to live. Making bags, packeting spices, maintain plant nurseries are among them. We are working closely with paddy farmers as well as other families who have no lands to do agriculture too.

3. Work

Basically our projects consists with two parts. First three days we are working at the two or three places that is our main work, helping to members of the self-help group members. We are going to help to families who have gardens and planting vegetable. Second four days, we are moving around the village to meet community to do our next part of the projects. During these four days volunteers can meet a family, youth/children society members and watch their activities, women’s/farmers groups, visit village preschool etc. Among work scheduled volunteers are going to participate, 1. Help family to do their home gardening work 2. Cultural exchange programs with villagers including youths. 3. Activities with children / kindergarten kids 4. Work and assist to self-help group member’s activities

4. Accommodation

Village house with a host family, located close to nice paddy fields. There are electricity, filtered clean water to drink available as well. Mobile phones/internet are working. But no Wi-Fi. You have to wash your cloths by hand and have to hang outside for drying.

5. Study theme

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Higu and Sri Lanka

6. Other activities

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursion, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell party, etc.

7. Location

Higurakgoda. 256km from Colombo, suburb of Polonnaruwa, the second ancient kingdom in Sri Lanka and declared as a world heritage site. Many people depend on paddy farming and it is low population density area for Sri Lanka (122 people/km2).

8. Terminal

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of March 11 and can leave there after 20:00 of March 21. 7 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

9. Requirement

High motivation to work while experiencing different type of life style, accept challenges, adopt to local environment, respect and accept local life and culture.

10. Participation fee

220/180 EUR for 10/6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

11. Language

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

12. Other

None

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1. Summary

Paddy farming area, new settlement, rural area. Second kingdom of the Sri Lanka. Sharing with local communities on life and work, understand the dealing with challenges facing during the daily life and how to live and overcome them.

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2017 in this place!). Project is based on paddy farming area. Higurakgoda is a part of the Polonnaruwa District, Sri Lanka’s 2nd kingdom, exist 1100 years ago. Higurakgoda is a settlement, established in 1956, under the government development plan. Families brought to here from different parts of Sri Lanka and asked them to settle here while doing paddy farming. Different parts of Sri Lanka have different kind of sub cultures. In here all of them are mixed and emerge a new sub culture. Now 3rd generation is living here with their 2nd generation parents. During the 21st century, technology is changed rapidly but it is not reached to these areas because of language barrier, unawareness, narrow perspectives and so on. As a country, everyone should be a part of country’s development process but unfortunately these rural communities are somehow rejected by the administration. But actually, communities’ active participation is essential to overcome the burdens and to establish a just society. Some families are doing other activities to live. Making bags, packeting spices, maintain plant nurseries are among them. We are working closely with paddy farmers as well as other families who have no lands to do agriculture too.

3. Work

Basically our projects consists with two parts. First three days we are working at the one place that is our main work, helping family to do their nursery work. Making pots, mix soil and composts, watering to plants, making propagators, arrange the pots are among the work. Second four days, we are moving around the village to meet community to do our next part of the projects. During this week you can meet a family, youth/children society members and watch their activities, women’s/farmers groups, visit village school etc. Among work scheduled volunteers participating to, 1. Help to family to do their nursery work 2. Cultural exchange programs with villagers including youths. 3. Activities with children 4. Work and assist to self-help group member’s activities 5. Visit village kindergarten

4. Accommodation

Village house with a host family, located close to nice paddy fields. There are electricity, filtered clean water to drink available as well. Mobile phones/internet are working. But no Wi-Fi. You have to wash your cloths by hand and have to hang outside for drying.

5. Study theme

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Higu and Sri Lanka

6. Other activities

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursion, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell party, etc.

7. Location

Higurakgoda. 256km from Colombo, suburb of Polonnaruwa, the second ancient kingdom in Sri Lanka and declared as a world heritage site. Many people depend on paddy farming and it is low population density area for Sri Lanka (122 people/km²).

8. Terminal

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of June 17 and can leave there after 20:00 of June 27. 7 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

9. Requirement

High motivation to work while experiencing different type of life style, accept challenges, adopt to local environment, respect and accept local life and culture.

10. Participation fee

220/180 EUR for 10/6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

11. Language

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

12. Other

None
1. **Summary**

Working with members of the women's group on their home gardens. Join with village youth program and teach language. Experience a life of settlers in North Central Province.

2. **Background**

This project is actively working for SDG 1 (No poverty) and SDGs 02 (Zero hunger), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2020 we are working here but Kumaragama is first time). Higurakgoda is a settlement, established in 1956, under the government development plan. Families brought to here from different parts of Sri Lanka and asked them to settle here while doing paddy farming. Different parts of Sri Lanka have different kind of sub cultures. In here all of them are mixed and emerge a new sub culture. Now 3rd generation is living here with their 2nd generation parents. During the 21st century, technology is changed rapidly but it is not reached to these areas because of language barrier, unawareness, narrow perspectives and so on. As a country, everyone should be a part of country’s development process but unfortunately these rural communities are somehow rejected by the administration. But actually, communities’ active participation is essential to overcome the burdens and to establish a just society. Some families are doing other activities to live. Making bags, packeting spices, maintain plant nurseries are among them. We are working closely with paddy farmers as well as other families who have no lands to do agriculture too.

3. **Work**

Volunteers are going work at the home gardens maintaing by the members of the women’s group. Some times they have to work 2 or 3 days same place until finish the work. Evenings volunteers can teach languages (English/ Japanese /French etc) to village children according to their age groups. Saturday totally volunteers are staying with village youth group. They are going to work 5 days, including Saturday. During this period you can meet a families, youths/children society members and watch their activities, women’s/farmers groups, visit village school etc.

4. **Accommodation**

Village house with a host family, there is electricity and mobile phones are working. But no or less internet or WiFi. You have to wash your cloths by hand and have to hang outside for drying. At the night you can see lots of bright stars at the sky.

5. **Study theme**

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Higu and Sri Lanka

6. **Other activities**

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursion, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell party, etc.

7. **Location**

Higurakgoda. 256km from Colombo, suburb of Polonnaruwa, the second ancient kingdom in Sri Lanka and declared as a world heritage site. Many people depend on paddy farming and it is low population density area for Sri Lanka (122 people/ km2).

8. **Terminal**

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Jun. 17 and can leave there after 22:00 of Aug. 29. 8 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

9. **Requirement**

High motivation to work while experiencing different type of life style, sharing experiences, accept challenges, adopt to local environment, respect and accept local life and culture.

10. **Participation fee**

702 EUR to be paid on your arrivals. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

11. **Language**

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

12. **Other**

None

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**Code** | **Name** | **Location** | **Country** | **Start** | **End** | **Type** | **Vols.** | **Min age** | **Max age**
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1. **Summary**

Working and sharing with local communities, Sinhalese and Tamils, who brought to Sri Lanka 200 years ago, experiencing the rural life and local culture while exploring hill country’s environment.

2. **Background**

This project is actively working for SDG 1 (No poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2023 in this place!). The total area was a tea plantation until Independence (in 1948) and after that government took the administration. Some parts were abandoned and some parts were distributed among people. This is a kind of traditional village; some families have been living here for more than 100 years. Agriculture and Tea plantations are the main livelihoods in this area. People who have no lands to cultivate are engaging in other livelihoods such as packing and distribute spices, mushroom plantations, etc. Very few people are working in the city or for government. This area is not a popular destination among the locals or foreigners because of the difficulty in accessing common facilities.

3. **Work**

The project consists of two parts. First three days we are supporting domestic-level level small-scale income-generating activities for the selected 2 or 3 families in the village. Second four days we moved around villages to meet members of the women’s group/members of the self-help group, kindergarten, youths, etc., and share volunteer stories and cultures with family/village youths/village level organizations members while supporting to do their daily work. On the last day morning volunteers visit the village kindergarten/village temple/church/Kovil.

4. **Accommodation**

Volunteers are going to stay at a village house with limited facilities. Electricity, clean drinking water, beds, pillows, and toilets are available. The Internet facility is good. But no Wi-Fi. Clothes can be washed by hand and can be hung outside to dry.

5. **Study theme**

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Nawalapitiya and Sri Lanka

6. **Other activities**

Organizing cultural exchange events, Visiting village temples, and other historical monuments, Excursion, Environmental Education, Farewell parties, etc.

7. **Location**

Located at 134 km from Colombo. This is a rural area and is located among mountains. 620 m above sea level. People mainly depend on agriculture. It is close to ancient kingdoms called Kandy (24 km). This area has beautiful landscapes, mountains, ancient temples etc. Some tea plantations and man-made forest plots also can be seen here.

8. **Terminal**

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Jul. 16 and can leave there after 20:00 of the last days. 6 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

9. **Requirement**

Necessary = High motivation to work with rural people, adapt/ respect to local culture and rules. Desirable = language skills of Sri Lankan, experience of joining /coordinating international workcamps, some experience with agriculture, knowing some games for youths, children, etc.

10. **Participation fee**

220/ 180 EUR for 10/ 6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

11. **Language**

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

12. **Other**

None
Working and sharing with local communities, Sinhalese and Tamils, who brought to Sri Lanka 200 years ago. experiencing the rural life and local culture while exploring hill country's environment.

The project consists of two parts, activities with youths and visits community. For three days we are working with youths in the village, youths in the vocational training center, and the orphanage. After that we visit to meet a family, members of the self-help group, kids at the kindergarten, etc. With youths, volunteers are going to share their lives, play games, etc. During the second part, sharing volunteers’ stories and culture with family/village level organization members and support to do their daily work. On the last day morning volunteers visit the village kindergarten/village temple/church/Kovil.

Volunteers are going to stay at a village house with limited facilities. Electricity, clean drinking water, beds, pillows, and toilets are available. The Internet facility is good. But no Wi-Fi. Clothes can be washed by hand and can be hung outside to dry.

Organizing cultural exchange events, Visiting village temples, and other historical monuments, Excursion, Environmental Education, Farewell parties, etc.

Located 114 km (and 157 km via Gampola) from Colombo. This is a rural area and is located among mountains. 590 m above sea level. People are mainly tea plantation workers working at the tea factories. Few families depend on agriculture, especially on black pepper and vegetable cultivation. It is close to two ancient kingdoms called Gampola (17 km) and Kandy (46 km). This area has beautiful landscapes, mountains, ancient temples, etc. Cardamom and Vanilla are also common crops here. Some big houses, constructed by British officers as well as rich people who lived here can be seen.

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Aug. 05 and can leave there after 20:00 of the last days. 6 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

Necessary = High motivation to work with rural people, adapt/ respect to local culture and rules. Desirable=language skills of Sri Lankan, experience of joining /coordinating international workcamps, some experience with agriculture, knowing some games for youths, children, etc.

220/ 180 EUR for 10/ 6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

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1. Summary

Only for Asian. Construct a new community center in a small village of Laos! The black big is running around and the food is so tasty and unique!

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Phoudindaeng Youth Center (PYC) since 2009. PYC was established by AVAN (network of individuals who has done voluntary service for one year in Japan) and KNCU to work for rural development in Van Vieng by running school bus and English classes, construction of the library and skill training. We aim that local youth can have sustainable life by their own responsibilities! PYC is run by Lao youth and the leader joined JAVS (Japan-ASEAN 3 months workcamp) in Japan in 2015! This project is open only for Asian due to the principle of the hosting organization.

3. Work

Volunteers will 1) construct a new community center in the Phonsung village where we have been working since last year, 2) do cultural exchange/environmental education activities with local youth in the village and Phoudindaeng Youth Center and 3) do some other work needed in the School/ the Center.

4. Accommodation

Phonsung Youth Center. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

5. Study theme

The future plan of international workcamps in Laos and the youth center. Bring some info.!

6. Other activities

Going to the Market, Basi Ceremony, Performance, Party, etc.

7. Location

Agricultural village in Van Vieng district in the north part, surrounded by the river and mountains.

8. Terminal

Vientiane. Volunteers need to arrive by 08:00 on the first day and can leave there after 20:00 on the last day. They can go to Van Vieng by the public bus that takes 4-5 hours, possibly together with other volunteers!

9. Requirement

Only Asian. High motivation to work and respect to the local culture and way of the local organization!

10. Participation fee

280 USD (180 USD for 9 days) to be paid on your arrivals

11. Language

English (Lao is also welcomed!)

12. Other

The Local SDGs made by the project leader (background/past actions/future actions/2030 Goals); https://www.nice1.gr.jp/files/user/IC-Van%20Vieng-17.pdf
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1. Summary

The rare international workcamp in Asia working with refugees! Let’s have a precious time with the children:

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Malaysian Organization of Volunteer Exchange (MOVE) since 2018 in this place. MOVE is a workcamp NGO founded in 2006. Yayasan Chow Kit (YCK) is a non-profit organization that caters to the needs of children in and around Chow Kit. They run two drop-in centers in Chow Kit and one safe home for children who are in need of temporary guardianship. YCK operate in partnership with Ministry of Women and Child Welfare. YCK developed out of Nur Salam and was incorporated in 2011. The past workcamps since 2018 Sep. have been successful, so revived in 2023 with 3 workcamps after 3 years stop due to the COVID-19, that were again successful!

3. Work

Volunteers will help in guiding student in studies, setting a better environment to enhance a better learning environment. Be ready to provide attentive care from 09:00 to 15:00 on Monday to Friday. It is also important to have nice exchange with several children sleeping in the school building! Some group activities will be arranged by the school and teachers.

4. Accommodation

Volunteers will stay in the school. Meal will be provided. Sleeping bag is necessary (mat is also recommended since the floor is hard). Water is very valuable, so the volunteers should be aware of not wasting it when washing the clothes and taking a bath.

5. Study theme

Situation of refugees and other disadvantaged children in each country. Local SDGs (2030 goals) of YCK

6. Other activities

Visitation to the other community school around, local sports, visit around Kuala Lumpur city, and the cultural heritage of Malaysia, cultural exchange events.

7. Location

The school is located in Chow Kit, Kuala Lumpur. It is located in the city, so you can sometimes enjoy café, night market, etc. in the evening (but not till too late!).

8. Terminal

Kuala Lumpur - Volunteers will meet at KL Sentral station and need to arrive at the airport by 14:00 on the first day and can leave the airport after the noon on the last day.

9. Requirement

High motivation to work with the kids and to respect local culture/ way. Experience of similar type of service is welcomed!

10. Participation fee

1,050 MYR (206 EUR by the rate on 2024 Nov. 19) for 14 days and 800 MYR (157 EUR) for 9 days to be paid on your arrivals. 10% less for repeaters of MOVE workcamps and those from less expensive countries.

11. Language

English (Malay is also welcomed!)

12. Other

The Local SDGs made by the project leader (background/ past actions/ future actions/ 2030 Goals); https://www.nice1.gr.jp/files/user/LS-YCK%2019-%EF%BC%93.pdf

Picture (Area)  Picture (Work)  Picture (Accommodation)
1. Summary

Working in the nursing home to have a precious time with the elders.

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Malaysian Organization of Volunteer Exchange (MOVE) since 2019 in this place. MOVE is a workcamp NGO founded in 2006. Bernice Home was found by a lady by the name of Bernice. She started this home for senior citizens who need quality home care services to seniors with limited mobility or dementia and hence social interaction. She started this home in 2000 and the second home in 2018. The founder belief “life shouldn’t end when you are old, it should be full of happy memories regardless of the age. The founder wants to keep the seniors active and engaged through physical, mental and social activities, all in the comfort of their home. The workcamp was revived in 2023 and 2 STVs from Japan + 1 MTV from Czech did great work, so they have decided to host the workcamp again!

3. Work

Volunteers will help in arranging extra activities for the senior citizens, such as art, craft, painting, gardening, storytelling, music and movement activities. Other than that, volunteers could help the nursing care helpers to cook and take part in daily cleaning routines. Some of the days, bring the senior citizens for an evening walk if weather permits. Otherwise lots of indoor activities could be conduct.

4. Accommodation

Bernice Home. Three meals will be provided. Sleeping bag is necessary. There is open space with attach bathroom/toilet. Volunteers will use the space as their accommodation and sleep by using sleeping bag.

5. Study theme

Situation of senior citizens and elderly home in each country. Local SDGs (2030 goals) of Bernice Home

6. Other activities

Create a herb garden or vegetable garden for the elderly people. Visit around Kuala Lumpur city, and the cultural heritage of Malaysia, cultural exchange events.

7. Location

The home is located in Jalan Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur. https://goo.gl/maps/84vfEaSMemakerL2b4x8

8. Terminal

Kuala Lumpur - Volunteers will meet at the nearest train station and need to arrive at the airport by 14:00 on the first day and can leave the airport after the noon on the last day.

9. Requirement

Bring along your expertise, such as singing, dancing, arts and craft and most important your caring heart to engage with these old people.

10. Participation fee

1,050 MYR (206 EUR by the rate on 2024 Nov. 19) for 14 days and 650 MYR (127 EUR) for 6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 10% less for repeaters of MOVE workcamps and those from less expensive countries.

11. Language

English (Malay is also welcomed!)

12. Other

None

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1. Summary
Let’s experience the life - assist to livelihood activities, Higurakdamana, Higurakgoda

2. Background
This project is actively working for SDG 1 (No poverty) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2017 in this place!). Higurakgoda is a settlement, established in 1956, under the government development plan. Families brought to here from different parts of Sri Lanka and asked them to settle here while doing paddy farming. Different parts of Sri Lanka have different kind of sub cultures. In here all of them are mixed and emerge a new sub culture. Now 3rd generation is living here with their 2nd generation parents. During the 21st century, technology is changed rapidly but it is not reached to these areas because of language barrier, unawareness, narrow perspectives and so on. As a country, everyone should be a part of country’s development process but unfortunately these rural communities are somehow rejected by the administration. But actually, communities’ active participation is essential to overcome the burdens and to establish a just society. Some families are doing other activities to live. Making bags, packeting spices, maintain plant nurseries are among them. We are working closely with paddy farmers as well as other families who have no lands to do agriculture too.

3. Work
Basically our projects consists with two parts. First three days we are working at the one place that is our main work, helping family to do their work in the workshop which making bags. Checking the finished bags, packing, cut the remaining strings are among the main work. Second four days, we are moving around the village to meet community to do our next part of the projects. During this week you can meet a family, youth/children society members and watch their activities, women’s/farmers groups, visit village school etc. Among work scheduled volunteers participating to, 1. Help to family to do their bag making activities 2. Cultural exchange programs with villagers including youths. 3. Activities with children 4. Work and assist to self-help group member’s activities 5. Visit village kindergarten

4. Accommodation
Village house with a host family, located close to nice paddy fields. There is electricity and purified drinking water available. Mobile phone connections are working. Internet is available, but not strong and no Wi-Fi. You can use toilet papers here. You have to wash your cloths by hand and have to hang outside for drying.

5. Study theme
Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Higu and Sri Lanka

6. Other activities
Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursion, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell party, etc.

7. Location
Higurakgoda is located at Polonnaruwa District. Polonnaruwa is the second ancient kingdom in Sri Lanka and declared as a world heritage site. Lots of ruins are still there including stone carvings, palaces, temples, pagodas, shrines, parks and lakes etc. and most of them are more than 1100 years old. This is a on the very populated destinations among the tourists. Total area is religious and thousands of pilgrimages visiting daily and for religious ceremonies. Lots of ruins still can see 27km around the city. Majority of the population is depending on paddy farming. Polonnaruwa is another low population density area recorded 122 people per square KM. Project site is located 256 km from Colombo.

8. Terminal
Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Aug. 19 and can leave there after 22:00 of the last days. 7 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

9. Requirement
Necessary = High motivation to work with people, some knowledge about nursery work, adapt/ respect to village life local culture and rules, Desirable = language skills of Sri Lankan, experience of joining/ coordinating international workcamps, team work some sports

10. Participation fee
220/ 180 EUR for 10/ 6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

11. Language
English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

12. Other
None
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1. Summary

Working with members of the women’s group on their home gardens. Join with village youth program and teach language. Experience a life of settlers in North Central Province.

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDG 1 (No poverty) and SDGs 02 (Zero hunger), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2020 we are working here but Kumaragama is first time). Higurakgoda is a settlement, established in 1956, under the government development plan. Families brought to here from different parts of Sri Lanka and asked them to settle here while doing paddy farming. Different parts of Sri Lanka have different kind of sub cultures. In here all of them are mixed and emerge a new sub culture. Now 3rd generation is living here with their 2nd generation parents. During the 21st century, technology is changed rapidly but it is not reached to these areas because of language barrier, unawareness, narrow perspectives and so on. As a country, everyone should be a part of country’s development process but unfortunately these rural communities are somehow rejected by the administration. But actually, communities’ active participation is essential to overcome the burdens and to establish a just society. Some families are doing other activities to live. Making bags, packeting spices, maintain plant nurseries are among them. We are working closely with paddy farmers as well as other families who have no lands to do agriculture too.

3. Work

Volunteers are going work at the home gardens maintaining by the members of the women’s group. Some times they have to work 2 or 3 days same place until finish the work. Evenings volunteers can teach languages (English/ Japanese /French etc) to village children according to their age groups. Saturday totally volunteers are staying with village youth group. They are going to work 5 days, including Saturday. During this period you can meet a families, youths/children society members and watch their activities, women’s/farmers groups, visit village school etc.

4. Accommodation

Village house with a host family, there is electricity and mobile phones are working. But no or less internet or WiFi. You have to wash your cloths by hand and have to hang outside for drying. At the night you can see lots of bright stars at the sky.

5. Study theme

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Higu and Sri Lanka

6. Other activities

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursion, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell party, etc.

7. Location

Higurakgoda. 256km from Colombo, suburb of Polonnaruwa, the second ancient kingdom in Sri Lanka and declared as a world heritage site. Many people depend on paddy farming and it is low population density area for Sri Lanka (122 people/ km²).

8. Terminal

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Aug. 19 and can leave there after 22:00 of Sep. 26. 8 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

9. Requirement

High motivation to work while experiencing different type of life style, sharing experiences, accept challenges, adapt to local environment, respect and accept local life and culture.

10. Participation fee

422 EUR to be paid on your arrivals. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

11. Language

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

12. Other

None

Picture (Area)  Picture (Work)  Picture (Accommodation)
**1. Summary**

Let's experience rural life - assist in livelihood activities, Kumudupura, Meegaswewa

**2. Background**

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (first time in this place!). Meegaswewa is a very rural area and 425 families. In 1986 they migrated here and established illegally. In 1993 they received legal permission to stay and do something for a living. More than 80% of the population depends on agriculture. Others are catching fish, making bricks, etc. for a living. According to the climate, they can work only for 6 months. Other 6 months all of them are working as temporary laborers. The village school accommodates up to grade 11 and after that, students have to help their parents or have to find a job elsewhere. The village is located middle of the forest and we can see elephants in the evening close to the village border. Public Transport system is very weak here. Almost every family has a motor bicycle or tuk tuk for transport. No foreigners are visited there and no locals visit this area for tourism because facilities are very low. There are very rich people, less than 2% are living here and all others are in deep poverty. It is time to explore the life of other countries and get an idea and education on the development and how it benefits common people. During the 21st century, technology has changed rapidly but it has not reached these areas because of language barriers, unawareness, narrow perspectives, and so on. As a country, everyone should be a part of the country’s development process but unfortunately, these rural communities are somehow rejected by the administration. But actually, communities’ active participation is essential to overcome the burdens and to establish a just society.

**3. Work**

Our projects consist of two parts. First three days we worked at the one place that was our main work, helping the families to do their work in the workshop which making clay bricks. Mixing clay with water, making bricks, and placing it to dry are among the main work. Second four days, we moved around the village to meet the community to do our next part of the project. During this week you can meet a family, youth/children society members and watch their activities, women’s/farmers groups, visit village school, etc. Among work scheduled volunteers participating, 1. Help to family to do their clay brick-making activities 2. Cultural exchange programs with villagers including youths. 3. Activities with children 4. Work and assist with self-help group member’s activities 5. Visit village kindergarten

**4. Accommodation**

Village house with a host family, located close to nice paddy fields. There is electricity and purified drinking water available. Mobile phone connections are working. Internet is available, but not strong and no Wi-Fi. You cannot use toilet paper here. You have to wash your clothes by hand and hang them outside for drying.

**5. Study theme**

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of Meegaswewa and Sri Lanka

**6. Other activities**

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursions, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell parties, etc.

**7. Location**

Meegaswewa is located in Polonnaruwa District. Polonnaruwa is the second ancient kingdom in Sri Lanka and is declared a world heritage site. Lots of ruins are still there including stone carvings, palaces, temples, pagodas, shrines, parks lakes, etc. and most of them are more than 1100 years old. This is one of the very populated destinations among tourists. The total area is religious and hundreds of pilgrimages visit daily and for religious ceremonies. Lots of ruins still can be seen 27 km around the city. The majority of the population depends on paddy farming. Polonnaruwa is another low population density area recorded 122 people per square KM. The project site, Meegaswewa is located 285 km from Colombo.

**8. Terminal**

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Sep. 02 and can leave there after 22:00 of Sep. 12. 7 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

**9. Requirement**

Necessary = High motivation to work with people, some knowledge about nursery work, adapt/ respect to village life local culture, and rules, Desirable = language skills of Sri Lankan, experience in joining/ coordinating international workcamps, teamwork some sports

**10. Participation fee**

230 EUR to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

**11. Language**

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

**12. Other**

None
The rare international workcamp in Asia working with refugees! Let’s have a precious time with the children!)

This project is actively working for SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Malaysian Organization of Volunteer Exchange (MOVE) since 2018 in this place. MOVE is a workcamp NGO founded in 2006. Yayasan Chow Kit (YCK) is a non-profit organization that caters to the needs of children in and around Chow Kit. They run two drop-in centers in Chow Kit and one safe home for children who are in need of temporary guardianship. YCK operate in partnership with Ministry of Women and Child Welfare. YCK developed out of Nur Salam and was incorporated in 2011. The past workcamps since 2018 Sep. have been successful, so revived in 2023 with 3 workcamps after 3 years stop due to the COVID-19, that were again successful!

Volunteers will help in guiding student in studies, setting a better environment to enhance a better learning environment. Be ready to provide attentive care from 09:00 to 15:00 on Monday to Friday. It is also important to have nice exchange with several children sleeping in the school building! Some group activities will be arranged by the school and teachers.

Volunteers will stay in the school. Meal will be provided. Sleeping bag is necessary (mat is also recommended since the floor is hard). Water is very valuable, so the volunteers should be aware of not wasting it when washing the clothes and taking a bath.

Situation of refugees and other disadvantaged children in each country. Local SDGs (2030 goals) of YCK

Visitation to the other community school around, local sports, visit around Kuala Lumpur city, and the cultural heritage of Malaysia, cultural exchange events.

The school is located in Chow Kit, Kuala Lumpur. It is located in the city, so you can sometimes enjoy café, night market, etc. in the evening (but not till too late!).

Kuala Lumpur - Volunteers will meet at KL Sentral station and need to arrive at the airport by 14:00 on the first day and can leave the airport after the noon on the last day.

High motivation to work with the kids and to respect local culture/ way. Experience of similar type of service is welcomed!

1,050 MYR (206 EUR by the rate on 2024 Nov. 19) for 14 days and 800 MYR (157 EUR) for 9 days to be paid on your arrivals. 10% less for repeaters of MOVE workcamps and those from less expensive countries.

English (Malay is also welcomed!)

The Local SDGs made by the project leader (background/ past actions/ future actions/ 2030 Goals): https://www.nice1.gr.jp/files/user/LS-YCK%2019-%EF%BC%93.pdf
The rare international workcamp in Asia working with visually impaired persons! Let’s have a precious time with them:) This project is actively working for SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Malaysian Organization of Volunteer Exchange (MOVE) since 2020 in this place. MOVE is a workcamp NGO founded in 2006. MAB (Malaysian Association for the Blind) is the premier voluntary organization in Malaysia serving blind & visually impaired persons. Since 1951, MAB carries out educational programs, rehabilitation courses, vocational training and placement services as well as runs a braille library, an audio book, etc. MAB Rehabilitation and Training Center in Kinta Valley was started in 2012. The people who are certified as blind by medical doctor, half blind and going to be blind will register themselves at MAB. From MAB in KL, these visually challenged people are sent to Kinta Valley training Centre to get training to lead their challenging life as a normal person. After the training they will be go home, look for job and start living independently. They hosted the first workcamp in 2020 Mar. with 4 Japanese vols. that was great success, but due to the Covit-19, the project has been stopped and finally decided to be restarted with big expectations!

The visually challenged trainees will get training on living skills. The volunteers will assist the trainers in the training process. The visually challenged trainees will be taken for out door activities too. That time volunteers will be a great help for this Centre to conduct the outdoor training. They may work in 08:30-17:30 with the lunch and twice of tea breaks.

Volunteers will stay in the dormitories of MAB facility (female and male are separated) located in 2 min. walk distance from the training center. Meals will be provided (07:00, 13:00 and 18:30). Sleeping bag is necessary.

Situation of visually impaired persons in each country. Local SDGs (2030 goals) of MAB

Excursion on free days (Muhamdiah Mosque - Chinese Muslim mosque, Ipoh Wall art town, Mining museum, Kinta riverfront walk, Geological Museum, Gopeng Heritage House, Lang Cave, Gaharu Valley, Cameron Highland, kellys Castle, etc.

The Kinta Valley in the northern Malaysia. It is a quiet town in up north Malaysia. There is less crowd and good breathtaking from busy city.

Kuala Lumpur - Volunteers will leave the MAB facility in KL (Kuala Lumpur) together in the morning of Sep. 02, so need to arrive at KL by the end of Sep. 01. They can come back to KL together on the last day and can leave the airport from the night on the last day.

High motivation to work with the visually impaired persons and to respect local culture/ way. Experience of similar type of service is welcomed!

950 MYR (177 EUR by the rate on 2024 Nov. 19) to be paid on your arrivals. 10% less for repeaters of MOVE workcamps and those from less expensive countries.

English (Malay is also welcomed!)
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1. Summary

Working in the nursing home to have a precious time with the elders.

2. Background

This project is actively working for SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities), organized together with Malaysian Organization of Volunteer Exchange (MOVE) since 2019 in this place. MOVE is a workcamp NGO founded in 2006. Bernice Home was found by a lady by the name of Bernice. She started this home for senior citizens who need quality home care services to seniors with limited mobility or dementia and hence social interaction. She started this home in 2000 and the second home in 2018. The founder belief “life shouldn’t end when you are old, it should be full of happy memories regardless of the age. The founder wants to keep the seniors active and engaged through physical, mental and social activities, all in the comfort of their home. The workcamp was revived in 2023 and 2 STVs from Japan + 1 MTV from Czech did great work, so they have decided to host the workcamp again!

3. Work

Volunteers will help in arranging extra activities for the senior citizens, such as art, craft, painting, gardening, storytelling, music and movement activities. Other than that, volunteers could help the nursing care helpers to cook and take part in daily cleaning routines. Some of the days, bring the senior citizens for an evening walk if weather permits. Otherwise lots of, indoor activities could be conduct.

4. Accommodation

Bernice Home. Three meals will be provided. Sleeping bag is necessary. There is open space with attach bathroom/toilet. Volunteers will use the space as their accommodation and sleep by using sleeping bag.

5. Study theme

Situation of senior citizens and elderly home in each country. Local SDGs (2030 goals) of Bernice Home

6. Other activities

Create a herb garden or vegetable garden for the elderly people. Visit around Kuala Lumpur city, and the cultural heritage of Malaysia, cultural exchange events.

7. Location

The home is located in Jalan Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur. https://goo.gl/maps/84vfEaSMEaBL2b4x8

8. Terminal

Kuala Lumpur - Volunteers will meet at the nearest train station and need to arrive at the airport by 14:00 on the first day and can leave the airport after the noon on the last day.

9. Requirement

Bring along your expertise, such as singing, dancing, arts and craft and most important your caring heart to engage with these old people.

10. Participation fee

1,050 MYR (206 EUR by the rate on 2024 Nov. 19) for 14 days and 650 MYR (127 EUR) for 6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 10% less for repeaters of MOVE workcamps and those from less expensive countries.

11. Language

English (Malay is also welcomed!)

12. Other

None
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**1. Summary**

Let’s experience the life- assist to livelihood activities, Higurakdamana, Higurakgoda

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2017 in this place!). Higurakgoda is a settlement, established in 1956, under the government development plan. Families were brought here from different parts of Sri Lanka and asked to settle here while doing paddy farming. Different parts of Sri Lanka have different kinds of subcultures. In here all of them are mixed and emerge a new subculture. Now 3rd generation is living here with their 2nd generation parents. During the 21st century, technology has changed rapidly but it has not reached these areas because of language barriers, unawareness, narrow perspectives, and so on. As a country, everyone should be a part of the country’s development process but unfortunately, these rural communities are somehow rejected by the administration. But actually, communities’ active participation is essential to overcome the burdens and to establish a just society. Some families are doing other activities to live. Making bags, packing spices, and maintaining plant nurseries are among them. We are working closely with paddy farmers as well as other families who have no land to do agriculture.

**2. Background**

Basically, our projects consist of two parts. First three days we worked at the one place that is our main work, helping a family to do their work in the nursery. Mixing soil and composts, filling the bags, cutting flowers, and planting the branches are among the main work. Second four days, we moved around the village to meet the community to do our next part of the project. During this week you can meet a family, youth/children society members and watch their activities, women’s/farmers groups, visit village school, etc. Among work scheduled volunteers participating. 1. Help to family to do their work in nurseries 2. Cultural exchange programs with villagers including youths. 3. Activities with children 4. Work and assist with self-help group member’s activities 5. Visit village kindergarten

**3. Work**

Higurakgoda is located at Polonnaruwa District. Polonnaruwa is the second ancient kingdom in Sri Lanka and declared as a world heritage site. Lots of ruins are still there including stone carvings, palaces, temples, pagodas, shrines, parks and lakes etc. and most of them are more than 1100 years old. This is a on the very populated destinations among the tourists. Total area is religious and thousands of pilgrimages visiting daily and for religious ceremonies. Lots of ruins still can see 27km around the city. Majority of the population is depending on paddy farming. Polonnaruwa is another low population density area recorded 122 people per square KM. Project site is located 256 km from Colombo.

**4. Accommodation**

Village house with a host family, located close to nice paddy fields. There is electricity and purified drinking water available. Mobile phone connections are working. Internet is available, but not strong and no Wi-Fi. You can use toilet papers here. You have to wash your clothes by hand and have to hang outside for drying.

**5. Study theme**

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Higu and Sri Lanka

**6. Other activities**

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursion, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell party, etc.

**7. Location**

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Sep. 16 and can leave there after 22:00 of the last days. 7 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

**9. Requirement**

Necessary = High motivation to work with people, some knowledge about nursery work, adapt/ respect to village life local culture and rules, Desirable = language skills of Sri Lankan, experience of joining/ coordinating international workcamps, team work some sports

**10. Participation fee**

220/ 180 EUR for 10/ 6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

**11. Language**

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

**12. Other**

None

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**Picture (Area)**

[Image of Higurakgoda area]

**Picture (Work)**

[Image of work in nursery]

**Picture (Accommodation)**

[Image of village house]
### 1. Summary

This project is actively working for SDG 1 (No poverty) and SDGs 02 (Zero hunger), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2020 we are working here but Kumaragama is first time), Higurakgoda is a settlement, established in 1956, under the government development plan. Families brought here from different parts of Sri Lanka and asked them to settle here while doing paddy farming. Different parts of Sri Lanka have different kind of sub cultures. In here all of them are mixed and emerge a new sub culture. Now 3rd generation is living here with their 2nd generation parents. During the 21st century, technology is changed rapidly but it is not reached to these areas because of language barrier, unawareness, narrow perspectives and so on. As a country, everyone should be a part of country’s development process but unfortunately these rural communities are somehow rejected by the administration. But actually, communities’ active participation is essential to overcome the burdens and to establish a just society. Some families are doing other activities to live. Making bags, packeting spices, maintain plant nurseries are among them. We are working closely with paddy farmers as well as other families who have no lands to do agriculture too.

### 2. Background

Volunteers are going work at the home gardens maintaining by the members of the women’s group. Some times they have to work 2 or 3 days same place until finish the work. Evenings volunteers can teach languages (English/ Japanese /French etc) to village children according to their age groups. Saturday totally volunteers are staying with village youth group. They are going to work 5 days, including Sathurday. During this period you can meet a families, youths/children society members and watch their activities, women’s/farmers groups, visit village school etc.

### 3. Work

Village house with a host family, there is electricity and mobile phones are working. But no or less internet or WiFi. You have to wash your clothes by hand and have to hang outside for drying. At the night you can see lots of bright stars at the sky.

### 4. Accommodation

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Higu and Sri Lanka

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursion, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell party, etc.

### 5. Location

Higurakgoda. 256km from Colombo, suburb of Polonnaruwa, the second ancient kingdom in Sri Lanka and declared as a world heritage site. Many people depend on paddy farming and it is low population density area for Sri Lanka (122 people/ km2).

### 6. Terminal

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranyake International Airport by the end of Sep. 16 and can leave there after 22:00 of Nov. 28. 8 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

### 7. Requirement

High motivation to work while experiencing different type of life style, sharing experiences, accept challenges, adopt to local environment, respect and accept local life and culture.

### 8. Participation fee

702 EUR to be paid on your arrivals. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

### 9. Other activities

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursion, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell party, etc.

### 10. Language

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

### 11. Other

None
### Back to Summery list of projects outside Japan

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1. **Summary**

Working and sharing with local communities, Sinhalese and Tamils, who brought to Sri Lanka 200 years ago. experiencing the rural life and local culture while exploring hill country's environment.

2. **Background**

This project is actively working for SDG 1 (No poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2023 in this place!). The total area was a tea plantation until Independence (in 1948) and after that government took the administration. Some parts of the estates were abandoned and some parts were distributed among people. During the development of hydropower projects in the nearby area, many lost their properties and were relocated to this area. Tea plantation is the lifeline of most people and still, some people work in fields. There are 3 tea factories still functioning. Very few people are working in the city or for the government. This area is not a popular destination among the locals or foreigners because of the difficulty in accessing common facilities. We got an opportunity to discuss with an officer who coordinates livelihood development activities of the village to the regional secretariat office and he suggested we visit and have programs with villagers.

3. **Work**

The project consists of two parts, activities with youths and visits community. For three days we are working with youths in the village, youths in the vocational training center, and the orphanage. After that we visit to meet a family, members of the self-help group, kids at the kindergarten, etc. With youths, volunteers are going to share their lives, play games, etc. During the second part, sharing volunteers’ stories and culture with family/village level organization members and support to do their daily work. On the last day morning volunteers visit the village kindergarten/village temple/church/Kovil.

4. **Accommodation**

Volunteers are going to stay at a village house with limited facilities. Electricity, clean drinking water, beds, pillows, and toilets are available. The Internet facility is good. But no Wi-Fi. Clothes can be washed by hand and can be hung outside to dry.

5. **Study theme**

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Nawalapitiya and Sri Lanka

6. **Other activities**

Organizing cultural exchange events, Visiting village temples, and other historical monuments, Excursion, Environmental Education, Farewell parties, etc.

7. **Location**

Located 114 km (and 157 km via Gampola) from Colombo. This is a rural area and is located among mountains. 590 m above sea level. People are mainly tea plantation workers working at the tea factories. Few families depend on agriculture, especially on black pepper and vegetable cultivation. It is close to two ancient kingdoms called Gampola (17 km) and Kandy (46 km). This area has beautiful landscapes, mountains, ancient temples, etc. Cardamom and Vanilla are also common crops here. Some big houses, constructed by British officers as well as rich people who lived here can be seen.

8. **Terminal**

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Nov. 05 and can leave there after 20:00 of the last days. 6 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

9. **Requirement**

Necessary = High motivation to work with rural people, adapt/ respect to local culture and rules. Desirable=language skills of Sri Lankan, experience of joining /coordinating international workcamps, some experience with agriculture, knowing some games for youths, children, etc.

10. **Participation fee**

220/180 EUR for 10/6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

11. **Language**

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

12. **Other**

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)
Let’s experience the life - assist to livelihood activities, Higurakdamana, Higurakgoda

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (since 2017 in this place!). Higurakgoda is a settlement, established in 1956, under the government development plan. Families were brought here from different parts of Sri Lanka and asked to settle here while doing paddy farming. Different parts of Sri Lanka have different kinds of subcultures. In here all of them are mixed and emerge a new subculture.
Now 3rd generation is living here with their 2nd generation parents. During the 21st century, technology has changed rapidly but it has not reached these areas because of language barriers, unawareness, narrow perspectives, and so on. As a country, everyone should be a part of the country’s development process but unfortunately, these rural communities are somehow rejected by the administration. But actually, communities’ active participation is essential to overcome the burdens and to establish a just society. Some families are doing other activities to live. Making bags, packing spices, and maintaining plant nurseries are among them. We are working closely with paddy farmers as well as other families who have no land to do agriculture.

Basically, our projects consist of two parts. First three days we worked at the one place that is our main work, helping a family to do their work in the nursery. Mixing soil and composts, filling the bags, cutting flowers, and planting the branches are among the main work.
Second four days, we moved around the village to meet the community to do our next part of the project. During this week you can meet a family, youth/children society members and watch their activities, women’s/farmers groups, visit village school, etc. Among work scheduled volunteers participating, 1. Help to family to do their work in nurseries 2. Cultural exchange programs with villagers including youths. 3. Activities with children 4. Work and assist with self-help group member’s activities 5. Visit village kindergarten

Village house with a host family, located close to nice paddy fields. There is electricity and purified drinking water available. Mobile phone connections are working. Internet is available, but not strong and no Wi-Fi. You can use toilet papers here. You have to wash your cloths by hand and have to hang outside for drying.

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the family, Higu and Sri Lanka

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursion, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell party, etc.

Higurakgoda is located at Polonnaruwa District. Polonnaruwa is the second ancient kingdom in Sri Lanka and declared as a world heritage site. Lots of ruins are still there including stone carvings, palaces, temples, pagodas, shrines, parks and lakes etc. and most of them are more than 1100 years old. This is a on the very populated destinations among the tourists. Total area is religious and thousands of pilgrimages visiting daily and for religious ceremonies. Lots of ruins still can see 27km around the city. Majority of the population is depending on paddy farming. Polonnaruwa is another low population density area recorded 122 people per square KM. Project site is located 256 km from Colombo.

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Nov. 18 and can leave there after 22:00 of the last days. 7 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

Necessary = High motivation to work with people, some knowledge about nursery work, adapt/ respect to village life local culture and rules, Desirable = language skills of Sri Lankan, experience of joining/ coordinating international workcamps, team work some sports

220/180 EUR for 10/6 days to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!!)

None
## 1. Summary

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (first time in this place!). Hatton was created after British planters established a coffee plantation before tea was introduced. South Indian people came here as temporary labors. They work one month, get their wage of just one British pound, and leave. Very unhealthy, small, packed rooms constructed by planters for laborers' temporary living. No sufficient toilet facilities and no drinking water were the main problem those days but fewer complaints because they stayed only one month. Some people stayed two or more to earn more. After independence, British people were left but the majority of the laborers stayed here, they preferred local lives. Some were stayed with their families. Now their 3rd and 4th generations are living there. These communities still live in almost the same conditions, 3 generations living in small houses, low sanitary facilities, difficulties in accessing education, and low wages cause huge problems. The results are migration to cities, young age marriage, and lost community leadership. Almost all families in this area depend on vegetable farming and working in tea estates. They are separated from the outside of the world. Volunteers are going to meet youths and children in orphanages and common society.

## 2. Background

Hatton is located in Nuwara Eliya district, in the hill country, 1300m above sea level. This area has a rich tea plantation and produces the finest teas in Sri Lanka. The majority is Tamil, who were brought here 200 years ago by British planters. The climate is very cold and the day temperature drops 150C to in day time and 100C at night. There are nice scenic places, mountains, and beautiful waterfalls. In this area the main language is Tamil and volunteers can experience South Indian subculture here. Adam’s Peak, Nuwara Eliya – the highest elevation city, Botanic Gardens, etc. are the icons. The project site is 6 hours from Colombo by bus.

## 3. Work

Our projects consist of two parts. First three days we worked at the orphanage. That is our main work. We are going to meet and help a family who doing domestic industries for a living. 1. Visit an orphanage and have activities with youths. 2. Activities with village children 3. Visit a family to share lives

## 4. Accommodation

Going to be a holiday home at Hatton. Hot water is available. Staff prepare food for us.

## 5. Study theme

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the orphanage and Sri Lanka

## 6. Other activities

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursions, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell parties, etc.

## 7. Location

Hatton is located in Nuwara Eliya district, in the hill country, 1300m above sea level. This area has a rich tea plantation and produces the finest teas in Sri Lanka. The majority is Tamil, who were brought here 200 years ago by British planters. The climate is very cold and the day temperature drops 150C to in day time and 100C at night. There are nice scenic places, mountains, and beautiful waterfalls. In this area the main language is Tamil and volunteers can experience South Indian subculture here. Adam’s Peak, Nuwara Eliya – the highest elevation city, Botanic Gardens, etc. are the icons. The project site is 6 hours from Colombo by bus.

## 8. Terminal

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Dec. 01 and can leave there after 22:00 on Dec. 08. 6 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

## 9. Requirement

Necessary = High motivation to work with people, some knowledge about community-based industries, adapt/ respect to village life local culture, and rules, Desirable = language skills of Sri Lankan, experience in joining/ coordinating international workcamps, teamwork some sports

## 10. Participation fee

230 EUR to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

## 11. Language

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

## 12. Other

None

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**1. Summary**

This project is actively working for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDGs 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), organized together with Green Volunteers for Green Future (GV4GF) since 2012 (first time in this place!). Hatton was created after British planters established a coffee plantation before tea was introduced. South Indian people came here as temporary laborers. They work one month, get their wage of just one British pound, and leave. Very unhealthy, small, packed rooms constructed by planters for laborers' temporary living. No sufficient toilet facilities and no drinking water were the main problem those days but fewer complaints because they stayed only one month. Some people stayed two or more to earn more. After independence, British people were left but the majority of the laborers stayed here, they preferred local lives. Some were stayed with their families. Now their 3rd and 4th generations are living there. These communities still live in almost the same conditions, 3 generations living in small houses, low sanitary facilities, difficulties in accessing education, and low wages cause huge problems. The results are migration to cities, young age marriage, and lost community leadership. Almost all families in this area depend on vegetable farming and working in tea estates. They are separated from the outside of the world. Volunteers are going to meet youths and children in orphanages and common society.

**2. Background**

Hatton is located in Nuwara Eliya district, in the hill country, 1300m above sea level. This area has a rich tea plantation and produces the finest teas in Sri Lanka. The majority is Tamil, who were brought here 200 years ago by British planters. The climate is very cold and the day temperature drops 15°C to in day time and 10°C at night. There are nice scenic places, mountains, and beautiful waterfalls. In this area the main language is Tamil and volunteers can experience South Indian subculture here.

Adam’s Peak, Nuwara Eliya – the highest elevation city, Botanic Gardens, etc. are the icons. The project site is 6 hours from Colombo by bus.

**3. Work**

Our projects consist of two parts. First five days we worked at the orphanage. That is our main work. As a second part, we are going to meet and help a family who doing domestic industries for a living. 1. Visit an orphanage and have activities with youths. 2. Activities with village children 3. Visit a family to share lives 4. Cultural exchange programs with villagers including youths.

**4. Accommodation**

Going to be a holiday home at Hatton. Hot water is available. Staff prepare food for us.

**5. Study theme**

Local SDGs (2030 goals) of the orphanage and Sri Lanka

**6. Other activities**

Organizing cultural exchange events, Excursions, Environmental Education, Expeditions, Farewell parties, etc.

**7. Location**

Hatton is located in Nuwara Eliya district, in the hill country, 1300m above sea level. This area has a rich tea plantation and produces the finest teas in Sri Lanka. The majority is Tamil, who were brought here 200 years ago by British planters. The climate is very cold and the day temperature drops 15°C to in day time and 100°C at night. There are nice scenic places, mountains, and beautiful waterfalls. In this area the main language is Tamil and volunteers can experience South Indian subculture here. Adam’s Peak, Nuwara Eliya – the highest elevation city, Botanic Gardens, etc. are the icons. The project site is 6 hours from Colombo by bus.

**8. Terminal**

Colombo - Volunteers need to arrive at Katunayake Bandaranayake International Airport by the end of Dec. 01 and can leave there after 22:00 on Dec. 08. 6 hours by bus to the site. You will meet at the Colombo Government bus terminal in the morning on the first day.

**9. Requirement**

Necessary = High motivation to work with people, some knowledge about community-based industries, adapt/ respect to village life local culture, and rules, Desirable = language skills of Sri Lankan, experience in joining/ coordinating international workcamps, teamwork some sports

**10. Participation fee**

265 EUR to be paid on your arrivals. 20 EUR less for repeaters of GV4GF workcamps and vols. from less expensive countries. There is optional service of 50 EUR to pick up at the airport and one night stay in the guest house, following day breakfast and moving to the meeting point are included.

**11. Language**

English (Sri Lankan is also welcomed!)

**12. Other**

None

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### Table: Summary of Projects

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8. NICE’s Visions & Actions on SDGs

- NICE is actively working on SDGs initiated in/ together with NVDA! -

SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) was approved at General Assembly of United Nations in 2015 Sep. It is very important that the world works together for the better future, but also important that each of us digests SDGs and see what is agreeable or not by our own visions. Then, we will strongly work/ cooperate with various stakeholders to achieve SDGs where we agree!

1. Make Local/ Project Goals (“Local SDGs”)
   ☑️ Long term goals of the communities and the projects they have anyway regardless of SDGs
   ☑️ Different and not following from SDGs (it is NOT to implement SDGs in the local level).
   ☑️ This is based on their own visions/ needs by bottom up approach and not only say, but also do!

< Aims to make Local SDGs >
1. Good for ourselves! (make better plans together, stronger motivation & solidarity, get more vols)
2. Good for the world! (show another way of concrete goals, differently from UN with our actions)
3. Good for the movement! (share the visions and actions, raise recognition from the society)

< Where can we make the goals? >
   Any place where you can make your goals such as your international/ weekend workcamps, LMTV projects, schools, offices, seminars, etc. Especially, this can be quickly and effectively utilized in a study part (in the evening or a rainy day) or the on arrivals orientation of your workcamps starting from now!

2. Make a NICE’s (modified) version of SDGs
   ☑️ This will be a good opportunity to discuss and share each and common vision for the future!
   ☑️ We are a colorful NGO, so don’t unite opinions and we also introduce minority’s opinions.
   From next page, we will introduce the NICE’s version that was made, discussed and approved in the 2 EC meetings with some local and international partners and finally at its GA in 2016 Dec.!

3. Work to achieve the (modified) SDGs
   1. Indicate which goals of SDGs are related in each project description
   2. Research the impact for each goal in each project, then will collect and show them together.
   3. Work with UN agencies and other organizations to increase the impact of each project.
   4. Join or create the projects and actions of UN agencies and other sectors/ organizations.
   5. Organize special projects or campaigns
NICE’s modified SDGs

* This was made by Executive Committee meeting and General Assembly of NICE in 2015 with over 100 staff, members and local/ international partners. IVP representative has also joined us.
* We fully agree with the basic values (especially, "no one left behind") and principles of SDGs and over 80% of the goals besides the ones mentioned below (80%).
* There are various different opinions on each topic and we do NOT force all vols/ partners to agree.

1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than $1.25 a day
   → (Change) that they can have minimum standard of life without lack of food, clothes, houses and other basic human needs, and a means to sustain themselves.

1.a (and other places) __developing countries
   → (Change) Less expensive countries or Countries with lower GDP.

2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural...
   → (Add) Convert the fundamental direction of agriculture by dramatically decreasing the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizer, combating GM crops, increasing self-sufficiency of each country, region and household and reviving/ developing organic/ natural farming.

2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and...
   → (Add) Escape from the situation that a few multinational companies dominate the seeds as soon as possible and protect/ revive the native, multi year (not F1) seeds.

2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round
   → (Change) Protect local farming not to be destroyed by the free trade, change the direction fundamentally and enable each country and region can freely protect their life line of food production.

3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.
   → (Add) At the same time, promote family planning and social welfare not to increase poverty by the explosion.

4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.
   → (Add) And promote good quality non-formal education.

6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation...
   → (Add) that causes serious sanitation problems

(Comment) This action can be even better for nature and farming if we do it in a proper way rather than just throw them to the river away?

7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
   → (Change) Renewable energy service without depending on unsustainable energy of nuclear and fossils

8.4...with developed countries taking the lead
   → (Change) by collaboration of all countries and stakeholders

8.7...end child labor in all its forms
   → (Change) end bad child labor while promote good children’s work.

9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020
   → (Add) At the same time, promote education and do other policies to be able to use internet properly.

c13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
   → (Add) Limit the global emission within the nature’s capacity (10 billion tons) and have equal amount of emission per person (1.4 tons if 7 billions population) not to increase the temperature over 1.5-2 degrees.

16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
   → (Add) all’ before ‘arms’.
   (Add) Eliminate nuclear weapons and combat all the wars and terrorism.

17.2 Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries
   → (Change) Double the positive impact of ODA such as to elaborate the poverty, protect the environment and decrease half of negative impact.
**Example of Local SDGs**

**Local SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)**

**Onuma (Hokkaido), Japan**

Made by: IKEDA Makoto (Japan, local coordinator), KAIZAWA Shinichiro (Japan, project coordinator in NICE), 10 vols in the workcamp


**Background situations**

Though Onuma lake has been a popular tourism spot for a long time because of its beautiful scenery, it has been polluted by over use of agricultural chemicals in cattle farming and erosion from abandoned forests with alien trees. President of Cooperative has bought a forest and wants to revive it to original nature with native trees!

**Goals in 2030**

We would like to get the clean lake like 100 years ago where people can enjoy swimming and more various types of native fish and plants can be grown! We also want the community with more active participation of all stakeholders such as young people, farmers, etc.

Tourists can enjoy the area in a more slow way not harming the nature and the farmers can keep cows without polluting.

**Past actions & impact**

We organize 2 weeks and 2 months workcamps since 2004 that revived over 3 ha of forests by moving alien conifer trees that disturb growth of other plants and animals and made water quality worse, made 200 rafts with reeds every year in the lake to purity the water and helped the research with some specialists. Onuma was registered by the world’s Ramsar treaty thanks to the workcamps, the local host says. The projects also connected different people who did not work together.

**New actions & impact**

We will keep workcamps every year to create more and more impact to purify the lake with some new programs such as;

* Promotion of using eco sponges to the locals
* Hosting Longer term volunteers (e.g., 6 months)
* Running eco-tourism with less negative impact

**Personal actions!**

* Introduce to my friends by SNS.
* Collect the fund for the materials.
* Join the project again as LMTVs.
* Link with the similar NGOs in my country!