EVS VACANCIES

GAIA Alentejo has two open EVS vacancies within an approved EVS project, for young people coming from the following countries: Ukrain and Italy (priority), Spain, Hungary, Slovenia. EVS activities happen for 12 months, starting on the 1st of November 2017.

1. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
2. YOUTH WORK, ARTS AND MEDIA

APPLICATION AND SELECTION

Send your CV with a photo and Motivation Letter (English or Portuguese) + example of a video made by you, to svegaia.alentejo@gmail.com and juventude@cm-odemira.pt, until September 17, 2017. Candidates should be clear to which vacancy they are applying and specific interests and motivations should be presented in the Motivation Letter.

We make no distinction regarding ethnic origin, religion, political or sexual orientation of the candidate, nor regarding academic degrees.

For selecting the volunteers GAIA Alentejo will consider:

- Presentation of documents: CV, motivation letter, link to digital media material made by the candidate;
- Explicit motivation for the EVS position and adequacy of profile;
- Nationality: Ukrain and Italy (priority), Spain, Hungary, Slovenia [limitation due to partnerships within the approved project]
- Gender balance.

Selection will be announced until the 22nd September.

HOSTING ORGANIZATION

GAIA is a Portuguese Environmental NGO. Since 1996 we've conducted numerous campaigns on local and national level and have been involved in international campaigns, mainly at European level. GAIA is presently active in Lisboa and Alentejo region, aiming at raising
awareness on environmental issues such as eco-consumption, food sovereignty and freedom of seeds, non-GMO and the transition movement to a future without oil. Two work spaces are open in Lisboa and São Luís (Alentejo).

GAIA Alentejo’s objectives are: awareness raising on environmental issues and global environmental challenges; promoting the active involvement of local communities through the use of participatory techniques; promoting ecological lifestyles. Target groups are the local people of all ages in the village of São Luís, where GAIA Alentejo operates.

In Alentejo region GAIA works with rural communities since 2006. GAIA Alentejo currently supports the OFICINA (Workshop) project for young people in São Luís, the Transition movement initiative of São Luís and the RECO network of local producers and consumers - these projects are lead by citizens and are focused on rural sustainable development in Odemira municipality. In São Luís regular activities happen in OFICINA, offering continuous support to youth and youth associations and one-off events lead by local young people.

LOCAL CONTEXT

São Luís village, where the EVS activity occurs, is located in Odemira municipality, region of Southern Alentejo. Odemira is the largest municipality in Portugal, in what concerns the size of the territory, with a significant dispersion of the population. It is mainly rural, in particular in the interior part. It has a large coast by the Atlantic ocean, with many beached and an accentuated touristic activity in Summer.

São Luís is located 14km away from the sea and 17km away from the head of the municipality, Odemira. There is public transportation to Lisboa and to the Algarve (ca. 2 times a day) and to Odemira (ca. 3 times a day). São Luís has about 2000 inhabitants, one primary school, one pharmacy, elders’ care, health centre, bank, one traditional market, bakery, a couple of mini markets and a lot of coffee shops and restaurants. It is a traditional community of Alentejo and the main economic activities involve agriculture, cattle, cork, forestry, small commerce and services. The local cultural context is dynamic, with a combination of traditional cultural and contemporary art, typical events throughout the year and an arts exhibition in Summer. Local population has mainly older people, as young people tend to move to the cities looking for opportunities of higher education and employment.

ACCOMMODATION/ FOOD/ TRANSPORTS

The volunteer will lodge in a shared house in São Luís, together with the other volunteer hosted by GAIA Alentejo. In this house, the volunteer will have an individual bedroom. The house is fully equipped, has a shared living room and a kitchen where the volunteer can freely prepare her/his meals. It is possible to host volunteer’s guests. Meals are prepared by the volunteer, for which s/he receives a monthly fee.

The volunteer will have a bicycle for local transport in São Luís. Whenever necessary to travel outside of São Luís for EVS activities, GAIA assures the organisation of transports, free of charge to the volunteer.

GAIA Alentejo assures free access to Internet at the OFICINA (Workshop) space.
DESCRIPTION OF EVS POSITIONS

1. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

This EVS position focuses on Environment and Sustainable communities, aiming at supporting the initiative of local citizens who are aware of current global environmental and social challenges, are active in their local community and are connected in local, national and international networks.

The EVS position will explore ecological lifestyles, implemented by different people and entities in the region of São Luís. It is suitable for young people wishing to explore alternative lifestyles and reflect about their own, while supporting the initiative of the local community.

One volunteer will be hosted by GAIA Alentejo in São Luís, for 12 months, and will support the activities lead by different local work groups and associations. The focus of this EVS vacancy will be permaculture, local production and consumption, ecological lifestyles. The objective for the current year is to build communication between local partners and to support their work. The tasks of the volunteer will be built in a yearly calendar, according to seasonal needs, and the volunteer should be available to perform different kind of tasks, responding to the necessities of the work groups.

TASKS

• To document (video) the work of local partners, concerning permaculture, local production and consumption and ecological lifestyles;
• To support the conception, preparation, implementation and documentation of one-off events (debates, films, presentation, workshops, walks...), held by GAIA Alentejo and local partners;
• To support permaculture activities: vegetable garden, food forest, construction of ecological systems;
• To support the confection of handmade cosmetics;
• To support implementing ReCo network of ecological production and consumption in Alentejo region.

PROFILE OF VOLUNTEER

The volunteer should:

• have a clear interest in ecological lifestyles and in reflecting upon society, thinking globally and acting locally;
• have a clear motivation to live in a small community (2000 inhabitants) with rural characteristics, for one year;
• have interest and capacity to learn Portuguese language;
• be active in her/his local community and to be experienced in associations or other kind of social movements;
• have the personal interest to develop one or more of the following competences: techniques/methodologies for self-organisation inside a community, participation, project management, permaculture activities and production of natural cosmetics; information and communication techniques;
• be able to shoot and edit small (home made) videos;
• be self-motivated and a dynamic person.
2. YOUTH WORK, ARTS AND MEDIA

One volunteer will support the OFICINA (Workshop) project for young people in São Luís. This space is open for the population of São Luís, in particular young people. At OFICINA you can find information on opportunities for youth: support measures by Odemira Municipality, European Voluntary Service and other international opportunities inside Erasmus+, training and education. You can also receive information and support for issues concerning youth, such as consumption and risk behaviours, sexuality and health, healthy relations, victim and aggressor support, safety of the social networks, personal development. OFICINA further offers support to youth associations and/or informal groups, plus personal and/or vocational follow-up for the implementation of your personal and professional projects.

It is a space where everything can happen! Here young people can create and share ideas, develop activities for the community or make personal projects come true.

The volunteer will be hosted by GAIA Alentejo in São Luís, for 12 months, and will support the activities lead by different local work groups and associations, concerning youth, arts and media. The focus of this EVS vacancy will be youth, arts and media. The tasks of the volunteer will be built in a yearly calendar and the volunteer should be available to perform different kind of tasks, responding to the necessities of the work groups.

TASKS

- To create information and dissemination material, including video;
- To support the implementation of gatherings of local young people and events led by them;
- To support activities aimed at young people, developed by local partners;
- To support the documentation of youth events;
- To maintain updated information on internet: blog, facebook, Instagram;
- To support developing opinion surveys (questionnaires, interviews...);
- To support maintaining OFICINA space.

PROFILE OF VOLUNTEER

The volunteer to be hosted in Youth Workshop project should:

- have a clear interest in ecological lifestyles and reflecting upon society, thinking globally and acting locally;
- have a clear motivation to live in a small community (2000 inhabitants) with rural characteristics for one year;
- have interest and capacity to learn Portuguese language;
- be active in her/his local community and to be experienced in associations or other kind of social movements;
- have the personal interest to develop competences in the fields of technology and innovation, youth and participation;
- be motivated to animate spaces where young people get together, encouraging contact making and sharing of experiences;
- be able to work with information and communication technologies;
- be able to create and publish digital media materials (audio, video, photo podcasts) and other graphic materials (flyers, posters), as well as communication and design, in order to support the intervention of OFICINA.

GAIA Alentejo

https://gaiaalentejo.wordpress.com
https://www.facebook.com/SVE-GAIA-Alentejo-183468988491962/

CONTACT PERSON
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