



Call for participants

SOW- SEEDS OF VOLUNTEERING ACTIONS

SEMINAR ON DESIGN AND COORDINATION OF VOLUNTEERING CAMPS

08.07 - 16.07.2024 | Buccino (Campania, Italy)



Service Civil International ([SCI](#)) is happy to open applications for an in-person, 8-days seminar (including arrival and departure days). It will be hosted by [SCI Austria](#), [Mòvesi APS](#) and [SCI Italy](#) with financial support from the ERASMUS+ Programme.

**This training is funded by an EU grant. It is only open to participants coming from or being officially resident in the following countries: Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Lebanon, Spain, Tunisia and Ukraine.*

*****APPLICATION FORM BELOW*****

Background of this Seminar

As SCI movement, part of our effort goes into the organisation of international volunteering camps aimed at fostering solidarity between local communities, to engage into learning and practising activities connected to topics like global solidarity, sustainable development and peace education. A volunteering camp is a learning experience aimed at connecting global volunteers with local communities worldwide and at discussing pressing global issues while cooperating together for a good cause. These words may seem simple, but anyone who has participated in a workcamp knows their meaning well.

This type of experience projects volunteers into an alternative dimension full of emotions, discovery and resourcefulness. Bonds are formed between people thousands of kilometres away and local communities are transformed into open books where one can learn the customs and history of the place. Camp after camp the local partner and the community grow thanks to the work carried out by the volunteers and thanks to the meeting of people from different places and cultures.

Volunteering camps are the means by which we connect and amplify local struggles for social and climate justice; in a global view, a multitude of political issues and realities interact with each other creating something new. All this is created thanks to the effort of partners, local activists and branch staff members.

Each camp is unique but the challenges to organise and conduct them are not. As SCI branches, partners and activists we usually experience different problems in the organisation of camps:

- It is difficult to communicate what a camp is, in what it consists and what is its impact;
- Camps are the most useful to local communities and they are the most needed exactly where they are the most difficult to be organised, communicated and coordinated;
- Camps require committed and prepared local partners, local activists and camp leaders in order to be successfully delivered;
- Camp leaders need effective preparation for coordination and management of activities during volunteering camps;

In order to discuss all these issues and to deliver practical solutions for our needs, SCI Austria has decided to organise together with SCI Italy and a local partner Mòvesi, an **hands-on seminar on volunteering camps directed to SCI staff, volunteers, future camp leaders and any community/local activist or leader willing to understand how workcamps can be useful tools** for fostering and implementing impactful actions at local level and with a global perspective.

The participants will also be the pioneers of a new collaboration in Buccino, this will allow us to interface directly with some of the challenges and understand them together.

Aims and Objectives

- Sharing practices and experiences between activists, partners and staff from different branches. In particular about:
 - how to enhance the impact of workcamps
 - how to communicate our impact
 - how to find local partners and collaborating with them;
 - how to prepare camp leaders
- Understanding the “glocal” nature of workcamps
- Learn how to build and sustain new alliances at local level through voluntary workcamps

- Updating existing materials about camp coordination
- Facilitate the preparation of the post-training workcamp for the local partner

Who's involved in organising this?

SCI Austria and SCI Italy are branches of Service Civil International. Service Civil International (SCI) is a global movement dedicated to fostering peace, social justice, and sustainable development. With a rich history spanning 100 years, SCI organises impactful international volunteering projects and innovative educational activities that promote intercultural dialogue and inspire positive change.

Mòvesi APS is a youth-lead NGO based in Buccino, Italy, dedicated to fostering community development in depressed rural areas of South Italy. Operating in the province of Salerno, Mòvesi focuses on revitalising marginalised communities, particularly addressing challenges such as depopulation, scarce opportunities and low participation. Our mission is to facilitate movements of people and ideas, aiming to create opportunities, especially for young people, in areas where hope and prospects have dwindled.

Our trainers:

Marco Rondoni: (he/him) is a trainer, facilitator and activist based in Turin, Italy. His passions are connected to agroforestry, permaculture and climate justice. Marco works as a freelance designer of photovoltaic systems and he actively participates in the development of the La Città Dell'Utopia project in Rome as a trainer and facilitator. Since 2015 has created a nature observatory in an agroforestry system in Cumiana, in the mountains near Turin.

Gianmichele Tuozzo: (he/him) is project manager at Mòvesi APS and SCI Austria. He spends most of his time reading philosophy and theory but professionally he is engaged in creating innovative (educational) activities on the topics of environmental sustainability, rural life and community development. He will be coordinator and trainer of this project.

Practical Information

Finances and Travel

- Food and accommodation during the training will be fully provided;
- Reimbursement of the travel tickets will be 100% up to the maximum amounts

indicated in the rules of the Erasmus+ programme after the receipt of original documents. Check [Erasmus Guide 2023](#).

- Distances can be calculated with [Erasmus+ Distance Calculator](#). Here you can find the amounts that we can reimburse in relation to the distance.

10 – 99 km 23 EUR

100 – 499 km 180 EUR (for non-green travel) 210 EUR (for green travel)

500 – 1999 km 275 EUR (for non-green travel) 320 EUR (for green travel)

2000 – 2999 km 360 EUR (for non-green travel) 410 EUR (for green travel)

3000 – 3999 km 530 EUR (for non-green travel) 610 EUR (for green travel)

4000 – 7999 km 820 EUR

- We strongly encourage green travel (i.e. avoid travel by plane, if possible; instead travel by train and bus). We are available to give you advice on this and offer a higher travel budget for eco-friendly options.
- Other necessary expenses, such as visa fees will be reimbursed after approval by organisers.
- Any difficulties or expensive travel situations can be discussed with coordinators. Do not hesitate to write us if you have difficulties.

Participation Fee

The participation in this project is subject to a fee of 30€ in order to cover administrative and logistic costs of our local partner.

Location and food

The training will take place in Buccino. We will live in two facilities in the historical centre of Buccino. The place is situated at the centre of the old historical centre of Buccino and is equipped with different rooms, living areas, one office and outdoor spaces. Some of the activities will be carried out on [Giardino Pedagogico](#), a learning and gardening space in Buccino. All the places we will use are scattered across the small historical centre and at walking distance. We hope you can feel at home by walking the streets of the old roman city of Buccino-Volcei.

Food will be provided by a local cook and will mostly be vegan with vegetarian options. The kitchen is however available for everybody to use. We definitely offer options for those with food intolerance/allergies.

Care work

We would like everyone to carry out care work during the seminar. Care work describes the activities of caring and looking after others. In general care work includes, for example, childcare or care for the elderly, but also family support, domestic care and helping friends are understood as care work. For us in the seminar, shared care work means that we look after each other, we all take on smaller tasks and together we create a caring atmosphere.

Methodological approach

All participants will be expected and stimulated to contribute to the activities and discussions. The interactions will be horizontal and learner-centred to create a transformative facilitation style and sharing space. Especially in this training role plays, simulations and interactive methods will be used to involve the participants fully and to re-create a workcamp learning atmosphere.

We will use participatory methodologies based on: 1) participatory diagnosis, 2) collective intelligence design, 3) canvas, 4) co-design of solutions, 5) prototyping.

Participants' profile:

- Being 18+
- Being resident in an Erasmus+ Programme or Partner Country (in general any country that is part of Erasmus+ Programme)¹;
- Being part (or having been) part of SCI network as a volunteer, staff, camp coordinator, activist, etc.
- Being part of a volunteering organisation or informal group willing to organise volunteering activities at local level;

¹ In yellow, necessarily required conditions for application.

- Being a member (coordinator, activist, staff) of a local partner of a SCI branch involved in the organisations of voluntary camps;
- Being interested in the coordination, design or coordination of a local voluntary activity.

We explicitly encourage participants of all genders, sexual orientations, abilities and nationalities as well as cultural backgrounds, religion and social status to apply. There will be a space to share any inclusion needs before the training, and the team will be in touch in case there is the need to organise any special arrangements.

Ready to apply?

If you've read all the information in this call and feel ready to apply... amazing! You are ready to fill in the application form. Find it here:

[LINK application form](#)

For more information or questions, please write to: coordination.sciaustria@gmail.com

The first deadline for applications is May, 1 2024.

All those accepted will later receive a detailed info sheet with information on the venue, detailed timetable, and preparation tasks before the training.

Funding information

SOW - Seed of Workcamps is an Erasmus+ International Seminar financed by the OeAD (Austrian Agency for Education and Internationalisation) as part of an Accreditation project in the field of Youth (2021-2027). Within this Accreditation project, SCI Austria will organise seminars, training courses, campaigns and capacity-building activities for the next 3 years. **SOW** is one of these.