

SCI Workcamps Spring 2010

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If you are interested in a particular project, you can easily apply online on our website www.scich.org or send an e-mail to placement@scich.org. For any additional information don't hesitate to contact the SCI office via e-mail (placement@scich.org) or phone: 031 381 46 20. We are looking forward to hearing from you!

March

ICELAND

Int. Reykjavík Photo Marathon

Project and location: In Reykjavik you can easily feel the pure energy at the heart of Iceland's capital city - whether it springs from the underground boiling thermal energy or radiates from the green scenery surrounding the city. Think of the qualities of a great city - fun, space, clean air, nature, culture - and Reykjavik has them in spades. Reykjavik offers both the features of a modern and innovative society and the marvelous traits of a unique natural landscape.

The population of the Capital Area is about 200,000. It is spread across a peninsula offering a panoramic view of the mountains and the Atlantic Ocean from nearly every part of the city. In the summer, you can sit by the harbor at midnight and watch the sun dip slightly below the horizon before it makes its way up again.

All around the world photographers are participating in photo marathons.

A photo marathon is a competition, where the photographers are given certain topics to interpret within a time limit. This is a socio-cultural event that aims to promote the art of photography and bring together people with all kind of background and knowledge in that field. Any one with an interest in photography can take part - beginners and experienced photographers.

WF Iceland is a part of the team that is organizing this event here in Iceland for the first time.

Following the photo Marathon an exhibition will be opened with the most interested photos.

Work: We will help with the preparation of the Photo Marathon, hand out brochures and posters and help with the promotion of the activities. We will than help the participants during the Marathon and afterwards prepare the photo exhibition. Wf Iceland will also offer the volunteers a short course in photographing where they will have their opportunity to improve the skills to capture their memories in an unforgettable way. We will learn how to think about landscape photography from capture to finished image, your ability to create dramatic compositions become more effortless and you'll learn about what might be holding you back from reaching your full potential as a photographer.

The camp will be led by an experienced photographer. We will also do some environmental work in the area during the camp for example cleaning the coastline and working in the green areas.

Leisure time: We will have free access to all the geothermal swimming pools in Reykjavik and excursion will be provided by our hosts.

Accommodation & Food: We will stay in a nice house near to the city centre. The food will

be supplied for the duration of the work camp and everyone is expected to do his/her fair part of the cooking/cleaning. It would be nice to share new and different dishes, so please remember to bring along recipes from your own countries.

Language: The language of the work camp is English.

Extra: There is an extra participation fee of 150 Euros for this work camp.

Code: IS-WF

Number: 9.140

Country: Iceland

Topic: 9. Art, Culture, History

Date start: 15/03/2010

Date end: 29/03/2010

Number of volunteers: 10

PALESTINE

Tree Planting Camp

We ask that you commit to working at least five days a week, for about 8 hours a day, and you are then free to take time off to travel around the local area and visit the many tourist spots in this historic land. The daily routine at the project is to get up around 7am having breakfast and then feeding the animals with the rest of the volunteers. Most of the day is then spent working on the farm – planting trees & vegetables, watering & weeding, harvesting crops, maintenance, building projects etc, depending on the work camp you are attending. Skills in farming, gardening, landscaping are helpful. With breaks for drinking tea, eating lunch, and finishing around 5pm.

Evenings we usually have evening programs but on free evenings after dinner people sit talking & sharing stories (around a fire if it's cold!), or if you are musical we have a guitar and you can entertain us!. You are welcome to bring your own music instrument with you. Food will be prepared for the volunteers at meals time, for snacks and refreshments, you will be able to purchase from the snack bar which is usually open during the day.

Accommodation: volunteers will sleep in tents or caves at the campsite. Volunteers will be staying in a large well equipped marquee tent (with paved floors, beds with mattresses & electricity). The infrastructure at the farm is very simple as we are not allowed to be connected with running water or mains electricity. We do have compost and flush toilets and also solar heated showers on sunny days, but all our water is collected from rainfall so we have to be very careful to not use much. We do have now a solar power system for electricity for a couple of hours during the day and in the evening, and during this time you can access our wireless internet if you want.

The weather in winter is normally cold, so please bring warm clothes and rain jacket is also good.

Attending a workcamp in Palestine gives you the opportunity to experience the contradictions of history, culture and politics. Despite the difficult political situation in Palestine through the last years, volunteers continue to come and attend international workcamps and show solidarity with the people in this region. Volunteers are asked to be prepared for their trip in terms of being aware of the political situation, the culture, working and living conditions.

Participation Fee: 150 Euros (This amount covers food, accommodation, lectures, different programs and activities. However, it doesn't cover field trips).

Code: PS-TON

Number: 1

Country: Palestine

Topic: Environment

Date start: 15/03/2010

Date end: 24/03/2010

Number of volunteers: 30

March/April

GERMANY

Island Ruegen Spring

Work: Your work will include creating pieces of art (drawings, paintings, sculptures, stones etc.) specific to your country. You will use only natural material. The pieces will be shown in different institutions of the city e.g. in schools or kindergartens. While visiting the various institutions you will meet children from the city.

Please be prepared for this kind of work and bring information material about your country and if possible material with you.

Location: Sassnitz (Island Ruegen)

Accommodation: Youth hostel.

Code: DE-VJF

Number: VJF 1.1

Country: Germany

Topic: 9. Art, Culture, History

Date start: 26/03/2010

Date end: 10/04/2010

Number of volunteers: 15

Maximum age: 26

Berlin Spring

Work: During this camp we need to prepare our centre Projekt- und Begegnungsstätte Krimnitzer Weg for the next workcamp season. The place needs renovation and cleaning. When the weather is bad, the dining hall needs some renovation work. Other small tasks during the camp include collecting dead leaves and maintaining the natural environment.

Location/Terminal: Berlin

Accommodation: You will live in bungalows.

Code: DE-VJF

Number: VJF 3.1

Country: Germany

Topic: 11. Others

Date start: 29/03/2010

Date end: 10/04/2010

Number of volunteers: 12

Maximum age: 26

USA

Sprout ~ NYC (A)

SPROUT is dedicated to helping individuals with developmental disabilities and mental retardation to grow through challenging and safe travel experiences.

Work: Vols will co-lead small groups of adults with special needs on short vacations to various destinations. Responsibilities include ensuring safety, providing emotional and physical support, enhancing fun, budgeting, driving and activity planning 24 hours a day while on trips. Vols must be willing to assist with all Adult Daily Living skills (brushing teeth, separating dirty clothes, showering etc). This is very challenging work, yet also very rewarding and fun. Experience working with this population is an asset but not required. Training will be provided. Between trips, some office work and general assistance to the organization is required.

Accommodation: While on trips you will stay in hotels. In between trips, you will stay at a youth hostel. Volunteers must feel comfortable sharing co-ed accommodations with little privacy. Volunteers will be responsible for their own meals, transportation and activities when not on a trip.

Location: Manhattan, New York City & various destinations.

Terminal: JFK International Airport, Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR), LaGuardia Airport (LGA).

Leisure: In between trips, you will have minimal time to explore NYC.

Requirements: Responsible, motivated vols age 21-35 with Drivers license strongly preferred. No alcohol during trips. Fluent English.

A SPROUT APPLICATION FORM and PHONE INTERVIEW REQUIRED. Volunteers must feel comfortable sharing co-ed accommodations with little privacy.

Code: US-VFP

Number: 4.01A

Country: United States of America

Topic: 4. Disabilities

Date start: 24/03/2010

Date end: 03/04/2010

Number of volunteers: 2

April

CZECH REPUBLIC

Moravian countryside I

Project: The workcamp will take place in the small Moravian village Tvarozna Lhota, situated in the White Carpathian mountains near the Slovakian border. The region is famous for its folk traditions and beautiful nature. In the middle of the village the local NGO "Bile Karpaty" is running a center for rural development and sustainability. The NGO also has a farm with old agricultural lands, which are again beginning to be used for breeding sheep and growing herbs and fruit trees. The area is currently turning into a retreat for children and tourists – there is a small museum on traditional rural architecture and every year several events take place there.

Work: The work will be manual. The volunteers will help on the farm – mainly repairing fences, making hay, preparing games for children, cleaning works, weeding in the herbal garden. They will also collect herbs from the surrounding meadows, which are used for the production of herbal teas. On the second day of the camp a little festival of typical fruit products „ Oskeruše“ is taking place. The volunteers will help with the technical preparations of the event (putting up stands ie.)

Leisure time: Trips to the nature, to folkloric events, visits of touristic sights in the surrounding villages and towns. On the last day of the camp, an educational cycling trip around the region is taking place.

Study part: Learn more about local products, local farming, historical and natural potentials of the region.

Accommodation/Food: The volunteers will be accommodated in the "In-Klub"-building in the very center of the village. You will need to bring your own sleeping bag and sleeping mat. Two small bathrooms are available. The volunteers will prepare their meals together – a small kitchen is available in the place of living.

Location: Tvarozna Lhota (bus stop in the village, next train stop Straznice)

Note: Bring your national recipes.

Code: CZ-INE

Number: 6.1

Country: Czech Republic

Topic: 6. Environment

Date start: 09/04/2010

Date end: 26/04/2010

Number of volunteers: 8

IRELAND

Mosney (Co. Meath)

Mosney is a former holiday resort, which now provides housing for almost 700 residents from 50 different countries seeking asylum in Ireland. There are approximately 100 children and young people aged 6 / 16yrs resident in Mosney, volunteers are needed to help run activities for some of these children during the Easter holidays.

Work: Organising and running activities: sports, arts and crafts, drama etc. and supervising the children .

Qualifications: Volunteers should have experience of working with children, preferably on summer camps. Skills in arts/ crafts, drama and/or sports are very welcome but not essential.

Accommodation: Shared, in former holiday chalets on the site. Meals provided.

Mosney is approximately 48 km north of Dublin in Co. Meath. The centre is quite isolated, there is a regular bus service to Drogheda, the nearest large town, which takes about 15 minutes. The centre is located next to a beach; there is a small supermarket on the site.

Important: Child protection procedures will be applied, info from VSI.

Code: IE-VSI

Number: 1.01

Country: Ireland

Topic: 1. Antiracism, Antifascism, Refugees and Ethnic Minorities

Date start: 05/04/2010

Date end: 10/04/2010

Number of volunteers: 15

SCOTLAND

Rubha Phoil Forest Garden

Where: Rubha Phoil is a beautiful forest garden on the famous Isle of Skye, in Scotland. It is situated on the coast by aramadale pier in the south-east of the island.

Background: When the current owner of Rubha Phoil took over the site 20 years ago it was an abandoned tree plantation. Since then, Rubha Phoil has been developed into a forest garden and woodland walk, along with the building of several buildings made from local wood from the site.

Project description: Now Rubha Phoil wants to develop organic growing and create an eco campsite. Each volunteer will help with Woodland Walk path-making and bracken, rhododendron clearing. Some heavy work will be involved for a short time bringing stones up from beach. Clearing small area of brambles to erect raised beds for food production. Bringing seaweed from beach. Learn to demolish and dispose/recycle caravan safely. Help design replacement structure. In their free-time volunteers will have the chance to explore the island of Skye, such as the Cuillin mountain range, and learn about the environment and more about the history of this beautiful area of Scotland.

Volunteers will be staying in one of the basic wooden buildings made with local wood by previous volunteers.

Volunteers must be motivated to do environmental work and learn rural skills. It would be good if volunteers had some experience of this type of work in the past, but not essential. Volunteers should bring boots, gloves, waterproof clothing and clothes they don't mind getting dirty for the work. They should also bring a sleeping bag and anything else they want for the 2 weeks.

Code: UK-IVS

Number: 6.5

Country: Great Britain

Topic: 6. Environment

Date start: 10/04/2010

Date end: 24/04/2010

Number of volunteers: 4

April/May

CZECH REPUBLIC

Forest Garden I

Project: The project "Forest Garden" is a recently founded NGO, who's members engage in promoting a sustainable, ecological way of living and a return to nature. The NGO is situated in a tiny traditional cottage house at the very outskirts of a Moravian village. Part of the center is a large garden with some woodlands. In the next years the areal is going to be transformed into a center for environmental education. You have the chance to support the project at the very beginning of it's work.

Work: The volunteers will mainly work in the woodlands of the project. During the last winter many trees were severely damaged. The fallen branches have to be removed and the paths must be cleared. Other tasks include cleaning a small river, building an encasement for a spring and helping with gardening. In case of bad weather conditions the volunteers will conduct reconstruction works in the barn.

Leisure time: Trips to nearby historical towns and nature, campfire, outdoor sauna, trips to regional museums.

Study part: Workshops on different types of woodcraft, presentation of traditional regional instruments. The volunteers can prepare a presentation of their own countries/regions (bring pictures, songs etc.).

Accommodation/Food: Basic accommodation in a cottage (with an outdoor toilet) and in a nearby family house. Bring your own sleeping bag! Its also possible to sleep in tents in the Forest Garden, but the nights can be very cold (in this case its necessary to bring a sleeping mat!) Vegetarian food only! The volunteers will assist in preparing the meals – bring your own recipes. **Note:** The project is open for volunteers from the age of 30+.

Internet will be available in the Forest Garden.

The volunteers will need good working boots (the woodlands are steep) and working cloths.

Web: www.skotva.cz (only in Czech – but you can find some pictures there)

www.roubenkadinotice.webnode.cz (more pictures)

Code: CZ-INE

Number: 6.2

Country: Czech Republic

Topic: 6. Environment

Date start: 27/04/2010

Date end: 07/05/2010

Number of volunteers: 8

JORDAN

Searching for the Jordanian Mentality/ Zarqa

Work: Volunteers are going to work for 4 hours a day, 5 days per week to help with painting arrangements inside the Omar bin Khatab orphans' Society . In the afternoons we will meet with Jordanian families and associations to exchange ideas about peace in the world. We will also visit some of the historical sites like Jerash, Ajlun, and the lowest point on earth, the Dead Sea. One of the most important aims is to merge the volunteers with Jordanian society, in order to give them a closer picture of Jordan.

Location: Jabal Tareq / Zarqa, which means the blue one, is situated some 14 miles (23 km) northeast of Jordan's capital, Amman. Al-Zarqa is Jordan's second-largest city (pop. 750,000 in 2006). The village witnessed tremendous growth beginning in the 1950s due to the presence of a major military base, the development of industry and a free trade zone, and the influx of Palestinian refugees (who represent 60 to 70 percent of the population).

Accommodation: in a house (a sleeping bag is needed).

Language: English

Camp fee: 200 Euros will cover the costs of accommodation and transportation during the period of the camp. **Please note:** Entrance to historical sites is not included in the camp fee.

We depend in financing our international voluntary organization in Jordan on the fees of the

volunteers because there is no financial support from any authority. We did our best to reduce the fees to the maximum (especially the volunteer residence and leisure time, the most important part of the program).

While looking for a suitable location to organize a voluntary work camp, we kept elite places away. Instead we chose to live with the locals, so the volunteers can become familiar with their lifestyle and understand the culture. Both sides will be able to exchange their point of view. The participants in these projects will learn many things about Jordan, the land of peace, and its history.

Code: JO-BOP

Number: 18

Country: Jordan

Topic: 8. Socially Disadvantaged

Date start: 20/04/2010

Date end: 01/05/2010

Number of volunteers: 10

Maximum age: 35

SCOTLAND

Environmental Arts

Gowanbank Environmental Arts was formed by a group of friends restoring historic buildings and landscape for the past 16 years. They have an interest in innovative and environmentally conscientious new log buildings. Eleven years ago a social element was incorporated into community activity by welcoming and training homeless young adults.

Work: Volunteers will be tree planting and restoring a stone wall to help complete the restoration. As well as this, there is also costume making for a children's project promoting healthy eating with the theme of fruit and vegetables.

Accommodation: Volunteers will stay in a converted barn with showers and communal kitchen.

Food: The food will be vegetarian, healthy and delicious.

Leisure time: A visit to the Highlands will be made as part of the workcamp on one weekend. Glasgow and Edinburgh are close by.

Language: English

Code: UK-IVS

Number: 6.3

Country: Great Britain

Topic: 6. Environment

Date start: 17/04/2010

Date end: 01/05/2010

Number of volunteers: 14

May

ICELAND

Eldfell the volcano in Vestmanneyjar I

Project and location: The Westman Islands consist in a group of fifteen beautiful islands which are situated at a short distance off the south coast of Iceland. They are so named because the Nordic settlers in the country called the Irish after which the islands are named after "westmen" (=the men from the west). All the islands have been created in submarine volcanic eruptions during comparatively recent geological time. The colorful town, the beautiful bird-cliffs, the new lava and volcano and the landscape in general give the islands a scenic interest as varied in character as any in the country. Heimaey is the largest and only inhabited island in the group and is Iceland's longest off shore island with an area of 13,4 sq. km. Fishing and fish processing and subsidiary trades are the main

source of income. Heimaey is sheltered to the north by low mountains and the imposing bird-life Heimaklettur, which protects the narrow cove at the end of which the harbour lies. Eldfell is a composite volcanic cone just over 200 metres high. It was formed in a huge volcanic eruption - the name means Mountain of Fire in Icelandic.

This volcanic eruption is considered the largest natural disaster in Iceland in recent history. The eruption begun on January 23rd 1973 on the island of Heimaey , after the evacuation of the inhabitants, and during the 5 months while the eruption lasted, there was much uncertainty as to whether or not the island could ever be repopulated.

The eruption, the destruction of a large part of the town, and the changed landscape of this tiny island made world news and when it was over, tourists and scientists alike from all over the world visited the island to witness the fury and the results of nature's forces. Now more than 30 years have passed and the memories and signs of that spectacular natural fury are somewhat fading, but the lava and ash of the eruption silently covers almost 400 homes and buildings, a third of the town in 1973.

Work: The volunteers will help the locals to preserve the Volcano Eldfell and fight the erosion. We will put some soil to the mountain and built fences so the wind will not blow it away in the wintertime. This is a hard physical work but also a very important environmental task,

Leisure time: Free access to the local swimming pool. Excursion or a boat trip will be organized by the hosting partner.

Accommodation & Food: In a community place, mattresses will be provided. Participants are asked to bring their own warm sleeping bags.

The food will be provided for the duration of the workcamp and everyone is expected to do their fair part of the cooking/cleaning. It would be nice to share new and different dishes, so please remember to bring along recipes from your own countries.

Language: The language of the workcamp is English.

Terminal: International Airport in Reykjavík - Keflavík (KEF).

WF Iceland will organize a shared bus and boat trip from Reykjavik to the workcamp site.

Extra: Xtra participation fee EUR 120,-

Code: IS-WF

Number: 6.130

Country: Iceland

Topic: 6. Environment

Date start: 14/05/2010

Date end: 27/05/2010

Number of volunteers: 10

USA

Sprout ~ NYC (B)

Code: US-VFP

Number: 4.01B

Country: United States of America

Topic: 4. Disabilities

Date start: 01/05/2010

Date end: 29/05/2010

Number of volunteers: 2

May/June

ICELAND

Eldfell the volcano in Vestmanneyjar II

Code: IS-WF

Number: 6.131

Country: Iceland

Topic: 6. Environment

Date start: 27/05/2010

Date end: 10/06/2010

Number of volunteers: 12

RUSSIA

Green necklace of Baikal

The project is organized by ECZ-Ru and Baikal'sky National Reserve. The Reserve is situated on the South bank of the Baikal Lake in the Buryatia Republic near the central part of Khamar-Daban Range.

Since 2007 the Reserve's staff creates an education open-air exposition Green necklace of Baikal. This 15-meter model-copy should become one of the main exhibits for the tourists and school groups visiting Reserve. Last years vols have begun this project: the reservoir in the form of Lake Baikal is dug out; was built and painted a relief around the Baikal's model - mountain ridges, the rivers, valleys.

W: landscape design of the area around the Baikal' models - decorative planting and improvement and continue work with the model - to indicate the biggest cities and lakeside protected natural territories.

A: in the Visit-center house in the Tanhoi village (10 min to the Baikal Lake, 20 min to the work place), with beds and blankets. Vols will cook by their own on a fully equipped kitchen. Toilet and shower are in the building. Banya (Russian sauna) is provided.

S: excursions on the territory of Baikal'sky Reserve to the waterfall, the Nature Museum, ethnographical excursion; 3-days study tour up to the Mountains or excursion on the boats to Delta of the Selenga River (depended from weather conditions).

L: English

T: Irkutsk or Ulan-Ude

X: Vaccinations against encephalitis is obligatory!

Code: RU-ECZ

Number: 2

Country: Russia

Topic: 6. Environment

Date start: 30/05/2010

Date end: 13/06/2010

Number of volunteers: 12