

## CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

### Growing a New Light: A training for sustainable workcamp leaders!

March 17-26, 2025, Le Lude, France

[Application Form](#)

#### Summary

This week-long programme will train participants to become work camp leaders. We aim to support young people develop skills and learn about group facilitation, interculturality and sustainable practices...in the context of international workcamps!

**Arrival day: March 17**

**Last training day: March 25**

**First training day: March 18**

**Departure day: March 26**

#### Training content

Group facilitation skills include organising daily life, understanding group dynamics, dealing with conflicts and collective/ individual needs, reflecting on responsibilities and attitudes of a group leader.

Interculturality is also a central topic within any international workcamp. We propose to explore and understand the interest (and the beauty!) and challenges of intercultural exchanges and how to navigate tensions emerging from this exchange.

Our focus on sustainability is going to be about food and how to implement ecological practices on our workcamps. We would also like to create a space to reflect on ways of raising awareness about other ecological issues on workcamps. All this will help us to develop a **peace building culture**, because intercultural learning, sustainability and living in a group can be effective ways of building peace in its larger meaning.

#### What can you expect?

- An intense group life experience similar to what is proposed in international workcamps, short term group volunteering and youth exchanges
- 8 days of training plus arrival and departure day (10 days total)
- 2 workshop sessions per day: one in the morning, one in the afternoon and some evening sessions
- Half a day off in the middle of the project
- An active participation of everyone in daily life tasks (cleaning, cooking etc.)
- Note that the rhythm is intense and you shouldn't bring along any work that is not linked to the training course
- **Vegetarian** meals, made with seasonal products
- Lots of fun and inspiration !

## Methodology

The methodology (non-formal education) and the structure of the training is made to encourage an active involvement of each participant in order to develop competences and new tools for a personal, social and professional development. Moreover, the training is based on active methods that draw on the participants' knowledge, their ability, self-management skills, involvement and participation. Work in small groups, role-playing followed by debriefing, exchanges of knowledge and experience, theater, and daily reflection are all part of this training. Day-to-day life during the course provides an opportunity to experiment with collective organisation on a site and life in a group. We also propose to every participant to organize and lead some activities to experiment the role of a leader and analyse it.

## Profile of participants

- Between 18 and 30 years old
- Resident in a EU country or one of the [Programme Countries of the Erasmus+ programme](#)
- With a good conversational level of English. Speaking French is not required.
- Interested by interculturality, sustainability and group facilitation
- Willing to lead/facilitate a workcamp with Concordia or with your local organization**
- Can commit to the whole duration of the training

We encourage participants of all genders, sexual orientations, abilities, race and ethnic backgrounds to apply. There will be a space to share any inclusion needs before the training, and the team will be in touch to organise any special arrangements.

## Organisation & Financial Conditions

The exchange is coordinated by Concordia Normandie Maine.

Accommodation, food, local transportation and activity costs are covered by Concordia Normandie-Maine through the Erasmus+ programme.

Travel costs are reimbursed up to a certain amount, depending on the country the participant is traveling from. The reimbursable amount is decided with the [Erasmus+ Distance Calculator](#).

**We will encourage participants to purchase green ways of transportation (bus, train, carpool, hitchhiking) as much as possible. Reach out if you need help finding a green option. The choice of transportation will also be a criteria in the selection of participants.**

TRAVEL		
Distance	Max (in EUR)	Green Travel (in EUR)
100 - 499 km	211	285
500 - 1999 km	309	417
2000 - 2999 km	395	535
3000 - 3999 km	580	785
4000 - 7999 km	1188	1188

## Location

The training will take place in the rural town of Le Lude, in the department of la Sarthe, in the West of France. The venue is a [charming building](#), with vast outdoor spaces. We will have access to the kitchen, to a room to have our meals, to a training room, to all outdoors spaces. Rooms will be shared between 4-6 people. Several bathrooms will also be available and shared among the group.

To access the venue, you will need to take a bus from the closest city of Le Mans for about 30 minutes.

## About Concordia

Concordia is a non-profit and non-governmental French organization created in 1950. Our aim is to encourage active citizenship through various volunteering and education projects: workcamps, youth exchanges, medium and long term volunteering, etc.

Implemented with local and international partners, those activities involve a large number of participants with different backgrounds, coming from all around the world and acting together for the common interest of communities, in France or abroad, on a wide panel of topics..

Concordia Normandie-Maine is based in Le Mans and works throughout the region to promote international mobility. Many of Concordia Normandie-Maine's actions are designed for local young people with fewer opportunities in order to facilitate their participation in civic projects.

For more information please visit our website : [www.concordia.fr](http://www.concordia.fr)

## Contact

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**[Apply](#) as soon as possible as we will access participations on a rolling basis**