

**Call for participants!**

# *Training for Future*

**Ecovillage Design Education 2020**

## **WHAT is Training for Future?**

The Training for Future Ecovillage Design Education is a Gaia Education certified, three week long training, covering 4 dimensions of sustainability: social, ecological, economic and cultural, integrated by the Design studio projects.

Training for Future offers you to:

- Learn about 4 dimensions of sustainability: social, ecological, economic and cultural, integrated by the Design studio projects
- Learn through various types of intelligence/learning, including discussions, lectures, hands-on work, arts, physical activities etc.
- Develop skills in the areas of participatory, agile and democratic facilitation, communication and decision making
- Gain a deeper knowledge of ways and practices of living responsibly and respectfully within planetary boundaries
- Gain attitudes and competences in creating and upholding equitable and resilient communities
- Gain skills and networking potentials aimed at building bridges and inspiring change
- Develop your own project through Design studio module
- Have personal experience of a functioning ecovillage
- Experience community building
- Gain Gaia Education certificate (see <https://www.gaiaeducation.org/face-to-face/ede-programmes/>)

The daily schedule will consist of a voluntary morning session mainly organised by participants, two morning sessions, two afternoon sessions and a closing sharing/celebrating circle or umbrella groups for facilitated debriefing, feedback, support and peer support. Evenings will be free or with light/optional evening activities, including presentations of participants' projects from back home.

Training for Future aims to enable youth workers to support young people to help translate the energy of activist youth into the resilience of local communities and a constructive dialogue with local municipalities and stakeholders.

## WHO is Training for Future for?

Training for Future EDE is for youth workers of various profiles:

- Formal education workers - e.g. teachers, school librarians, professors...
- Non-formal youth workers - e.g. youth workers in organisations, facilitators of workshops for youth, independent youth workshop organisers...

It is for youth workers with a passion:

- For the development of local communities in urban and/or rural settings
- For the development and education that are sustainable ecologically, socially, economically and culturally
- To include youth into development processes and to practice and promote a culture of participatory education and active citizenship
- To participate in an intense training and meet people with different backgrounds

You may have varied levels of experience in these topics and processes. You may or may not be experts in fields related to sustainability. It is, however, important that you are keen to apply the insights and competences gained at the training in your subsequent youth work.

## WHERE and WHEN is it?

The Training for Future will take place in the beautiful setting of the Schloss Tonndorf ecovillage, Germany in September 2020.

It will start on the 30th of August and end on the 19th of September 2020, while the 29th of August and the 20th of September will be the arrival and departure days.

## HOW to apply?

To apply, contact your national contact point through email with the subject 'Training for Future'.

**Croatia:** Mirna Šmit, Zaklada Slagalice, [info@zaklada-slagalice.hr](mailto:info@zaklada-slagalice.hr)

**Czech Republic:** Jana Stará, Dobroti Czech Republic, [stara.jana@gmail.com](mailto:stara.jana@gmail.com)

**Denmark:** Dicte Frost, Landsforeningen for Økosamfund, [dicte@okosamfund.dk](mailto:dicte@okosamfund.dk)

**Germany:** Thomas Meier, GEN Deutschland, [thomas.meier@gen-deutschland.de](mailto:thomas.meier@gen-deutschland.de)

**The Netherlands:** Mieke Elzenga, Stichting Liberta Care, [info@liberta-care.nl](mailto:info@liberta-care.nl)

**Slovenia:** Nina Kozin, Društvo za permakulturo Slovenije, [projekti@permakultura.si](mailto:projekti@permakultura.si)

Travel costs, training fee, food and accommodation will mostly be covered by the Erasmus+ grant for the selected participants from each country. However, the participants are expected to contribute 150€ / 250€ / 350€ per participant to the training costs depending on their means. The most

common price of Ecovillage Design Education is 2.000€-3.000€ per participant, so we are happy to be able to offer Training for Future Ecovillage Design Education at the above mentioned contributions.

## WHY to join the Training for Future?

European youth are actively fighting for societal changes in the face of climate breakdown. Fridays for Future are the most striking example, demonstrating a high level of energy, concern, eloquence and perseverance. Faced with this wake-up call, youth workers across the continent have a responsibility to support this movement in terms of organisation and information, and a responsibility to spread this momentum, using it to transform their communities towards sustainability, democracy and resilience.

Training for Future provides understanding, knowledge and tools for youth workers and organisations that work with youth, to tackle this momentum.

**Looking forward to meeting you!**

**Training for Future team**

ede.team.for.future@gmail.com

**P.S. See more about Global Ecovillage Network, the training and excursion venue and preliminary schedule below. Visit [www.gaia.org](http://www.gaia.org) and [www.gaiaeducation.org](http://www.gaiaeducation.org) to learn more about EDE programme and Gaia education.**

# GEN – the Global Ecovillage Network

„Be the change you want to see – find your way to a high quality, low impact lifestyle!“



The Global Ecovillage Network (GEN) catalyzes communities for a regenerative world. GEN is a growing network of regenerative communities and initiatives that bridge cultures, countries, and continents.

GEN builds bridges between policy-makers, governments, NGOs, academics, entrepreneurs, activists, community networks and ecologically-minded individuals across the globe in order to develop strategies for a global transition to resilient communities and cultures.

GEN is composed of five regional networks panning the globe. The network is made up of approximately 10,000 communities and related projects where people are living together in greater ecological harmony.

The Global Ecovillage Network envisions a world of empowered citizens and communities, designing and implementing their own pathways to a sustainable future, and building bridges of hope and international solidarity.

It's mission is to innovate, catalyze, educate and advocate in global partnership with ecovillages and all those dedicated to the shift to a regenerative world in order to

- advance the education of individuals from all walks of life by sharing the experience and best practices gained from the networks of ecovillages and sustainable communities worldwide,
- advance human rights, conflict resolution, and reconciliation by empowering local communities to interact globally, while promoting a culture of mutual acceptance and respect, effective communications, and cross-cultural outreach,



- advance environmental protection globally by serving as a think tank, incubator, international partner organization, and catalyst for projects that expedite the shift to sustainable and resilient lifestyles,
- advance citizen and community participation in local decision-making, influencing policy-makers, and educating the public, to accelerate the transition to sustainable living.

A basis for GENs work is the so-called map of regeneration – including the four areas ecology, culture, social relations and economy with a holistic approach to joining our attempts at the centre of all this. The following diagram shows this in detail:



## An introduction to the hosting ecovillage Schloss Tonndorf

Since 2005, when a community (with 65 members today) took over an abandoned former fortress in the heart of Germany, Tonndorf castle has witnessed a lot of change. Not only was this place (used as a home for retired people during the East-German era) "blessed" by the birth of more than 15 children - the community has also created more than 20 jobs for its members as well as for employees from the nearby villages.



Together they run a farm, a catering kitchen, a cafe, a forest-kindergarden and a honey-farm, host international youth camps and workshops, guide and welcome about 8.000 visitors per year, celebrate festivals and renovate the estate which is a cultural heritage site today.

Working in Tonndorf castle allows to include the children and youth into some of the activities. They enjoy witnessing and participating in what their parents and other community members do during the day and often they will contribute to the work themselves.



## An introduction to the ecovillage Lebensgut Cobstädt (destination of the 1 day training-excursion)

The ecovillage in Cobstädt was founded in 2004 when young gardeners and farmers moved there from the regional capital and started to establish what is now an thriving example of community-led initiative of 35 people including permaculture, agro-forestry, community-supported agriculture, traditional crafts and the saving of seeds as well as fruit-tree-varieties. Besides the community has extensive experiences in working with its local municipality, the local church-groups, youth-groups, local farmers, other ngo's and researchers from regional universities.





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