



INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING CAMP IN MADAGASCAR Call for Applications

Volunteering Camp in Madagascar for young people aged 18-30
is carried out by the project
“Ecoality: Youth and Local Authorities together for climate and gender justice”
The call is open **10–31 March 2025**.
Two participants will be selected.

Call Manual

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1. ABOUT ECOALITY

1.1 The Project

This is a call for applications within the project **“Ecoality: Youth and Local Authorities together for climate and gender justice”** (NDICI CHALLENGE/2023/451-832) funded by the **DEAR**: Development Education and Awareness Raising Programme (call 2022) by the European Commission.

Ecoality is a collaborative project involving 10 partner countries, targeting young people, teachers, and educators working with youth. In Finland, the project is coordinated by the **Rauhankasvatusinstituutti ry** (RKI, in English: Peace Education Institute), an independent non-governmental organization that has been active since 1981.

Ecoality is implemented in 2024-2026. It seeks to raise awareness and foster a sense of shared responsibility among young European citizens. It promotes climate and environmental justice, gender equality, and equity. The project provides participating young people with opportunities for peer learning and collective action on these themes. It encourages youth leadership and civic engagement to address ecological and social challenges.

You can find more information here: [Rauhankasvatusinstituutti](#) & [Ecoality](#).

1.2 Climate and Gender Justice

The climate crisis stands as the defining challenge of our era, with complex and evolving dynamics: ecological changes, poverty and inequality intricately link and profoundly influence the following three dimensions:

1. Inequalities regarding carbon emissions.
2. Impact on affected communities.
3. Communities’ capacities to respond to the climate crises.

Both at the local level and globally, response initiatives to climate change can downplay or suppress democratic, equity-enhancing politics. Inequality among women and men and climate change (and more broadly ecological crises) are interconnected and exacerbate each other across societies, but the impacts of climate change affect women and men differently. We must address both issues to contribute effectively to climate justice.

Gender often intersects with other categories of vulnerability such as race, ethnicity, sexuality, ability, etc. An intersectional approach between the environment and gender can sketch out a pathway to enable solidarity and agency across and beyond social categories. *Ecoality* has adopted an ecofeminist lens to facilitate this intersectional approach.

Such a lens promotes:

1. The relevance of everyone embracing cross cutting principles and values such as care, participation, non-violence, inclusion, etc. This implies shared responsibility and participation based on concepts of equity as well as equality.
2. Transforming mind-sets, skills, attitudes, actions, which are sensitive to both gender and ecological equalities.
3. Examining relationships (power and privilege) between people as well as between people and the planet, which help and hinder sustainable development.

Ecoality aims to train and mobilise young people to commit to global challenges and strengthen their cooperation with Local Authorities (LA’s), to raise awareness and sensitise them to the urgency and shared responsibility of taking collective action to support and promote Climate and Gender Justice. *Ecoality* fully embraces the key role of young people as allies for the transition towards sustainable development and youth’s collective agency as one of the most significant resources to combat climate change and social inequalities among women and men.

2. OBJECTIVES of the INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING CAMP

2.1 General objectives

- Mobilise young people for 'ecofeminist activism'.
- Raise awareness among young people and the broader community about climate justice, gender equity, and global interconnectedness through an intersectional perspective.
- Contribute to Global Education in Europe by engaging youth and wider communities on climate justice and gender equity.

2.2 Specific Objectives

- Learn about a new culture through local voices and their narratives on global crises;
- Engage in projects that promote climate justice and gender equity;
- Develop awareness of the environmental and social challenges of a country in the Global South, such as Madagascar, and learn about local strategies to combat them.
- Understand the role of NGOs and activism in ecofeminism.
- Explore the relevance of public policies for ecofeminism.
- Gather firsthand insights in Madagascar at Tamatave to inform and develop awareness campaigns in Finland, engaging youth and wider communities on climate justice and equity among women and men.

3. THE CAMP and PARTICIPANTS

3.1 Schedule for the Camp and Preparatory Trainings

The International Volunteering Camp comprises about mandatory preparatory trainings online (June, exact dates tbc) and in Paris. The schedule for Paris and Madagascar is following (**Note:** the plan is subject to change due to external and internal factors):

Paris

- **Sunday 20/07/2025:** Arrival in Paris in the afternoon.
- **Monday 21/07/2025:** Training in Paris with the other young Europeans and departure for Antananarivo, Madagascar.

Madagascar

- **Tuesday 22/07/2025:** Arrival in Antananarivo.
- **Wednesday 23/07/2025:** Travel to Tamatave, arrival in the afternoon.
- **Thursday 24/07 - Monday 28/07/2025:** Stay in Tamatave to meet young Madagascans who are aware of the program's theme, as well as local authorities and civil society players working for ecofeminism.
- **Tuesday 29/07/2025:** Return to Antananarivo.
- **Wednesday 30/07 - Thursday 31/07/2025:** Meetings with local and national institutions in Antananarivo.
- **Thursday 31/07/2025 (Night):** Departure for Paris.
- **Friday 01/08/2025 (Morning):** Arrival in Paris & connecting flight to Finland.

Travel arrangements from and to Finland will be agreed with the selected participants and RKI.

3.2 Participants

The Camp is targeted for young people aged 18-30 living/studying in Finland, including students and young people in non-formal settings such as volunteer groups and youth associations.

Two participants will be selected.

The other participants come from Croatia, Hungary, Poland, France

4. HOW TO APPLY

4.1 Required Documents

Send your application to ecoality@rauhankasvatus.fi with the following attachments:

- Application Form (available on the Website)
- CV (no longer than 3 pages)
- Motivation Letter (no longer than 1 page)
(For example, explain why you want to participate, share any previous experience in activities related to climate and gender justice, describe how this experience could be transformative in your personal journey of awareness, etc.).

4.2 Application Process

Timeline

- **Applications:** by 31.03.2025
- **Pre-selection:** 1.-4.4.2025; invitations to interviewees
- **Interviews:** 15.4.2025
- **Decision and acceptance communication:** latest by Friday 18 April 2025

Note: Selected participants are expected to sign a Commitment letter, in which they agree to commit themselves into the activities prior, during and after the International Volunteering Camp.

4.3 Selection

A review panel consisting of experts from the Peace Education Institute (RKI) will evaluate the applications. Motivation. The panel will pay attention to, for instance, applicants

- experience in volunteering at the local level,
- interest and experience in climate and gender justice issues,
- ability to communicate in English, and their
- availability to actively participate and commit into the activities prior to the Camp and upon return.

5. WHAT IS PROVIDED BY THE ECOALITY (/RKI in Finland)

Expenses related to Madagascar:

- International travel
- Travel insurance
- Visas
- Vaccinations
- Local travel
- Meals
- Accommodation.

Expenses related to France:

- Flight
- Local travel
- Meals
- Accommodation.

6. WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM THE PARTICIPANTS

6.1 Expenses

The selected participants are expected to take care of the expenses related to

- Passport
- Telephone card/calls abroad and Wi-Fi
- Possible Traveller's consultation

and any other expenses that may arise, including personal items, which the document does not specify.

6.2 Letter of Commitment and Withdrawal Declaration

The selected participants are expected to sign a **Letter of Commitment** (available on the Website), in which they agree to commit themselves into the activities prior, during and after the International Volunteering Camp.

Upon returning from the volunteering camp, participants will carry out one or more dissemination activities within their local communities, with the support of Rauhankasvatusinstituutti. This action has the objective of raising awareness and engaging young people and their broader communities on issues related to climate justice, gender equity and global interconnections.

Actions must be finalised **by the end of December 2025**.

Examples of possible actions:

- Round-table – debate – talk;
- Street action;
- Blog or article (school or community newspapers);
- Posters or murals;
- Educational workshops;
- Podcasts or educational videos;
- Exhibition;
- Manifestos;
- Improvements of the association work plans to better integrate the promotion of ecofeminism, gender equality or climate action;
- Other.

Example of possible themes:

- Best practices of community engagement in Madagascar.
- Success stories of women empowerment in Madagascar related to climate change.
- Reflecting on how your local association or school can better integrate gender equality and climate action into their action plans, incorporating the knowledge gained in Madagascar.
- Innovative solutions that are currently addressing climate change in Madagascar.

In the event of cancellation due to force majeure, the participant must provide a signed **Withdrawal Declaration** (available on the website) and a valid justification (e.g., medical certificate or bereavement). If the participant does not provide a valid justification, they must reimburse Rauhankasvatusinstituutti for any expenses incurred.

7. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact us by e-mail at ecoality@rauhankasvatus.fi