

## **Abstract: Rural Youth Lab - Erasmus+ Training Course**

The organization *01 21 Aps* are thrilled to invite you to collaborate as a partner on the **Rural Youth Lab**, an Erasmus+ Training Course aimed at empowering youth workers by fostering **rural development, environmental sustainability, and community engagement**. This 9-day program will take place **from August 31 to September 10, 2025**, in the beautiful and natural setting of Maia Camping, located in Lama dei Peligni, Italy, a picturesque town nestled in the Majella National Park.

The program is designed for youth workers, educators, and young leaders (2 participants from each organization) who are passionate about enhancing the opportunities for young people in rural areas. Our participants will be guided through an immersive experience where they will gain valuable skills in project design and management, specifically focusing on rural youth exchanges. By participating in a variety of non-formal and informal learning activities, such as workshops, outdoor education, team-building exercises, and project labs, they will learn how to address the unique challenges and opportunities of working in rural contexts.

The **Rural Youth Lab** will tackle key themes including accessibility, ecological sustainability, antispeciesism and community involvement, ensuring participants develop a deep understanding of these issues while creating innovative solutions. The exchange will culminate in the development of concrete proposals for rural youth exchanges, where participants will plan their own programs based on the needs of rural communities. They will explore ways to integrate environmental education, sustainable living practices, and local community engagement into their projects.

Throughout the exchange, participants will engage in a rich variety of activities such as trekking in the Majella National Park, rural energizers, and digital tool workshops, all while developing a customized Rural YouthPass that will document and recognize the competencies they acquire. Daily reflection sessions, including feedback circles and mindfulness practices, will ensure that participants have the space to reflect on their personal and group learning experiences.

This program is ideal for youth organizations, rural development groups, environmental NGOs, and other entities committed to youth empowerment and rural sustainability. By joining the Rural Youth Lab, partners will have the opportunity to create a strong network of like-minded organizations that are dedicated to addressing rural challenges, increasing youth participation, and fostering sustainable development. Together, we can shape a future where rural communities are empowered, inclusive, and sustainable.

We look forward to building a lasting partnership with organizations that share our vision and are eager to contribute to this meaningful exchange. Let's work together to empower the next generation of rural youth!

### **Our contacts:**

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Maia Camping: [linktr.ee/maia.camping](https://linktr.ee/maia.camping)