

Les Apprentis de l'Espérance



The basis of our work is the respect for cultural diversity and human diversity.
Everyone his own tool or instrument for a more united world ...

You want originality for your holidays ? You want to discover another way of traveling, meet new people and share other ways of life ? Or simply test your resistance to the remote and your entrepreneurial skills ? You would like to contribute to the realization of a development project with the implementation and animation of social, cultural or environmental activities, to participate in a helpful adventure ?

Our work in Brazil is for you ! Energy must be renewed and circulate constantly to build a better world. We are looking for new talents, new skills, courage, creativity and determination to revitalize a place of living, encounters and exchanges, that we want to build over time.

Join us and support this project and encourage sustainable development in the context of a mission of solidarity. And, if your wish, you can also take part in World Youth Day, which will be held this year in Rio from the 23rd to 28th of July !

A project for the European Youth

You're full of good will, you want to push your own limits and gain experience.

You have the soul of a builder and want to go further in your personal development. You try to implement concrete action against exclusion and discrimination, or you want to be part of a solidarity action.

To realize an adventure that requires the mobilization of human and financial resources, procedures and administrative mechanisms are often hard to operate.

We invite you to take on the challenge and engage you in a human-sized company to promote a Culture of Peace for the children of the world. But in return, you will need to demonstrate your abilities and your real motivations, prove the viability of your project and define the means of its implementation.

On your return, we can help you present surveys, reports, documents and memories you have gathered, at a public event to enhance your experience and make people aware of other realities.

Thus, you will show initiative and creativity to give others the desire to invest themselves in a formative and life enriching project.

It will also be a way to consolidate your gains, open doors and meet a job in accordance with your skills and aspirations, while having the satisfaction of having accomplished an exemplary adventure.

Sophie Tzitzichvili de Panaskhet

A solidarity project, ok, but what is it ?



The principle is simple : for 15 days, a month or two, you participate voluntarily in a project of local interest. Besides your motivation and involvement in the field, no training or special knowledge is required to perform your duties properly.

This is an opportunity to live in community and share the life of the inhabitants of a locality, region, namely: Barra de Guaratiba, a fishing village about one hour from Copacabana.

Every day, everyone participates faithfully in all the tasks : meal preparation, organization of working and relaxation time, workshops and activities, events, meetings, etc.. ..

As a volunteer, you will not receive a salary or a compensation.

A financial participation including your full pension, your insurance and membership in the association, will be asked, and the round trip ticket is at your own charge. But we can help you find funding from relevant institutions to achieve your project and ensure your mission.

But beware ! Away from getting involved in local life and participate in development projects, raises thoughts about our legitimacy to act in a life that is not our own : one's place in the projects, the impact expected locally, your own position as a volunteer, your rehabilitation when you return, etc ...

Engage yourself in a participatory, united and responsible initiative, implies, meeting another culture, experience a new lifestyle, as well as the need to adapt and understand a different universe and linguistic environment.

With a global perspective on sustainable development and intercultural exchanges, the aim is to promote mutual learning and enrichment on a basis of openness, equality, a better understanding and a greater solidarity between peoples.

This is a unique and training experience, upholding the values of solidarity, self-reliance and equity.

Since 1986, we are a group of volunteer educators, craftspeople and artists committed to international solidarity, emphasizing the multicultural aspect of our world and a Culture of Peace, recommended by the United Nations.



History

Les Apprentis de l'Espérance (Apprentices of Hope) was founded in 1986 in Paris, from the pioneering initiative led by Sophie de Panaskhet with street children in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) through performing arts.

A permanent site is set up with French youngsters (Paris 19th district) and children of Rio, meeting in an exchange involving numerous artistic practices, to promote their rights, interests, potential abilities and encourage vocations.



Led toward the recognition of their cultural identity and the learning of their citizenship, through creative workshops and cultural exchange, we encourage reflection on the themes of Health, Education, Environment and solidarity, to boost their participation in issues of their time.

The Instituto para a Comunicação e Desenvolvimento (ICADC) was created in 1988 in Rio to boost trade between Europe and Latin America. And, also support the implementation and running of a living place, hosting underprivileged children until their majority. This effort, led in 1996 to the creation of Jardim de Gaya, in the west area of Rio.

Since 1989 under the auspices of the UNESCO, the organization supported locally the animation of the educational campaign « Planet Society, World remains to be done » for a new art of living on Earth.

Active in the World Forum for Environment and Development (Rio 92), our organization is a member of the Global Movement for a Culture of Peace for the Children of the World (UN 2000).

Transferred in 2004 in the PACA region, the organization continues its approach, in line with her beliefs and her past actions, by and through the involvement of young people towards better intercultural understanding.

Our goals and values

We offer viable dynamics to prevent or recover youth from the vicious circle of violence and prejudice they may face.

A broader artistic approach and the promotion of meetings and exchanges based on solidarity, are alternatives using the reality of youngsters to stimulate critical thinking, provide basic values and foster social cohesion.

Directed towards citizenship learning, we value their artistic and creative potential on the themes of Education, Health, Environment and Solidarity to boost their participation in issues of their time.



We mobilize young people often encountered in social conflict, through creative and educational activities, making them protagonists of actions that reflect their rights and duties towards our society.

We use an alternative pedagogy based on art, culture, sports, crafts, audiovisual and computer technology, to raise the awareness and sensitize youngsters to the protection and enhancement of the natural and cultural heritage of Humanity.

Transversality between the themes of human rights and environment, allows the multiplication of creative, interactive, sensitive and entertaining activities, which together make up the cultural spectrum of a project that has no boundaries. This also helps in the establishment of a collective and intergenerational dialogue, which opens horizons for a better future.



Rio de Janeiro



Barra de Guaratiba



O Jardim de Gaya

Brazil has a variety of landscapes, cultures, and the richest biodiversity on the planet.

Providing an incredible boost to tourism, the State of Rio de Janeiro is the region of the country that concentrates the majority of visitors from all around the world.

Considering the fast touristic growth undermined by an exaggerated reputation of urban violence, it is necessary to implement economic and social policies that meet the needs of the population to participate in the development process.

Heavily involved in the conservation of their area (land management, public health, social integration), the state and the municipality of Rio de Janeiro encourage its enhancement, with the formation of an environmental awareness and the public's participation in its conservation.

A predator tourism has adverse effects on the environment and on the local populations. The concept of ecotourism includes heritage conservation, respect for nature, cultural diversity and traditions.

The multiple activities that result from it, open to a remarkable politic of recovery, awareness and conservation of the ecosystem, supporting environmental education and income generation in accordance with the principles of sustainable development.

Located in the western Zone of Rio de Janeiro, at the end of the Baixada Fluminense, the Sepetiba Bay benefits from an unique and exuberant vegetation : the Costa Verde.

The environment is composed of mangroves, sandy beaches and hills covered with Atlantic Forest, a rich ecosystem with more than 200,000 plant and animal species. At the federal level, this is a pilot area for the preservation of bio-diversity and sustainable development, with the conservation and management of the endemic wildlife and flora and the monitoring of indigenous peoples.

The local population is mainly composed of fishermen and Caiçaras Indians who earn their living with craft production and a middle class that mainly works in and around the major urban areas.

Very attended by the tourists in the summer and winter, this beautiful area is a touristic and gastronomic attraction recommended by international guidelines. There are many tree nurseries, exotic gardens and an luxurious natural environment.



O Jardim de Gaya is located halfway between the Port of Sepetiba and the center of Rio. Facing the mangrove, this lush garden lies at the foot of the Pedra Branca Park, it is the core of the Ecological and Archaeological Reserve of Guaratiba.

O Jardim de Gaya is located on a road that leads to the beaches of Barra da Guaratiba, Recreio and Grumari, highly prized by surfers.

On the basis of the Jardim de Gaya, the ICADC wishes to promote the exchange of experiences concerning the interpretation and preservation of the marine coast of the Atlantic Mata (Forest tropical) and mangrove, whose social, cultural and economic role participates in maintaining the biodiversity of our planet.







O Jardim de Gaya is composed of an orchard of 1400m² and a 300m² private house, built on two floors, encircled by high walls and protected by an imposing wall.



Encircled by a seafood and a Japanese restaurant, it is located near the Roberto Burle Marx Foundation, which offers a visit to a huge tropical garden and the landscape artist's workshop, famous throughout the world.

Between 1996 and 2009, in conjunction with neighboring schools and supported by Les Apprentis de l'Espérance, local volunteers led activities and proposed various events : « Café-théâtre », « Ciné-club », thematic meetings, creative and artistic workshops, exhibitions, etc.

With a view to social, economic and sustainable development, as well as the promotion of green tourism and nature sports, the goal is to redevelop, restore and reorganize the existing structure in the spirit of a rural guest house, oriented toward ecotourism.

In conjunction with local institutions, our program is considering the expansion of social, cultural, artistic and sport activities, with volunteers from the region, always focused on the preservation, the protection and the enhancement of the global environment.



This program was suspended in 2009, after the garden and the facilities were devastated by tropical storms.





The project O Jardim de Gaya

Coordinated by ICADC, O Jardim de Gaya aspires to become a host venue and a place focused on cultural and technical exchanges in the fields of environmental education and social tourism.

The planned activities reflect social and environmental aspects of sustainable development, in accordance with the traditions and the local environment.

Boosting artisanal workshops will contribute to medium-term self-management of the site with the introduction of products and services available to the greatest number : reception, gastronomy, eco-friendly shop (jewelry, bamboo crafts, fish skin leather, recycling)

Goals

- Support the promotion and animation of Jardim de Gaya as a lasting and sustainable prospect
- Encourage exchanges and confrontation of experiences in favor of the protection of the Environment and Heritage, with Brazilian schools via the Internet and correspondence
- Provide youth and families the opportunity to participate actively in the social, cultural and economic development of their region, a hotel and tourism eco paid business
- Support the improvement of the living conditions of the community through cultural and tourist activities aimed at education and learning
- Encourage education, learning, training and research, and support the discovery and preservation of biodiversity
- Host a residency for researchers, trainees, students, artists, athletes and other volunteers who can contribute to the implementation of Jardim de Gaya between Europe and Brazil
- Accommodate a public eager to discover and experience Brazilian cities differently and foster international cooperation



Means

- Disseminate the cooperative action undertaken in Brazil and boost exchanges with Europe
- Strengthen the participation of local schools and communities
- Support the formation of a team responsible for the reception of visitors and animation of cultural and sport activities
- Set up artisanal workshops to expand the solidarity trade (recycling, jewelry, crafts, cooking)
- Enhance direct and indirect job creation, related to the services provided in support of the structure
- Promote meetings and thematic conferences, in conjunction with local institutions
- Transfer knowledge and know-how through the exchange of information and ecological experience
- Organize excursions to discover the ecosystem, flora and fauna of the region
- Establish an economically viable business with the construction and equipment of a rural guest house, by 2014 (World Cup Football)





TESTIMONY

« Monday, I was awakened with a multitude of birdsong and I discover the site : Wonderful ! A flower garden with dozens of species, warmth is pleasant, typical smells from elsewhere, hummingbirds having their lunch on flowers while I drink my coffee. Briefly : a change of scenery ! »

« This project is a reality, there is a lot of work to do but Sophie's passion is contagious, it is true that this is not a trip like I usually do, but things change and it is just as well ... it inspires calm and harmony ... "Fred, 2008.



Working program

Outside of daily tasks (cleaning, meal preparation, washing up), the different activities planned and the reconstruction works, can take place at different levels which all volunteers can participate in rotation, according to their choices and skills.

For example:

- Construction : It is not necessary to have experience in mixing cement, painting, decorating or helping in the installation of a kiosk. All good wishes are welcomed to reform and optimize the existing structure;
- Gardening and Landscaping : You can participate in the development of an organic garden, botanical nursery, ponds for fish farming, etc..
- Animation : Brought to meet children and young people in schools and surrounding communities, you can offer workshops, organize exhibitions and promote thematic meetings, in order to create synergies and expand the circle of cooperation

Recreation program (advance booking required)

The organization also offers a range of activities which you can register for, to discover or enjoy during your free time.

- Initiation or improvement of Portuguese ;
- Excursions, hiking, horse-riding, mountain biking ;
- Polynesian canoe or small boat kayak ;
- Sea fishing and diving, visiting tropical islands ;
- Visiting Rio de Janeiro and historic towns ,
- Discovery of local festivals.

Registration in those activities should be scheduled in advance and are your responsibility.

The fares charged can vary depending on the time of the year, the distance and the demand.



To learn more and get involved in our adventure, download the application form on our website!

www.brasil21.org



TESTIMONY

« We met Reinaldo and his theatre company, a group of young people who will be presenting a show tonight at the Santa Marta favela in Botafogo. The youngsters are so excited to share with us ! They start their show in the evening, with of popular theater representation. Amina presented French poetry and ended with a song of Michael Jackson of course, because one of his video clip was shot here ! The end of the evening ends with songs and musics and we have the chance to discover the kindness and joy of living of people who live in poverty ... The children are just adorable, with a grin on their face and a twinkle in their eyes ! This day was very rewarding and full of emotions, it will remain forever engraved in my memory ... » Manue, 2012.

Local partners

Involved in the local community, our partners will be happy, if you wish, to welcome you as part of their projects and activities.

- Vida Feliz, Guaratiba
<http://vidafelizrj.org/>
- Anjos de Realengo, Realengo
<http://osanjosderealengo.blogspot.fr/>
- Grupo Entrou por uma Porta, Jacarepagua
<http://grupoentrouporumaporta.blogspot.fr/>
- Nucleo de Arte Silveira Sampaio, Curicica
<http://teatroescolasesc.wordpress.com/>
- Centro Esportivo Ramiro, Recreio
<http://centroespramiro.blogspot.fr/>
- Rio Va'A (projet Canoa Rio)
<http://www.riovaa.com/>
- Bandeirantes do Brasil
<http://bandeirantesrs.blogspot.fr/>
- Integrated Centers for Popular Education (CIEP) and municipal schools in Rio de Janeiro

Proposed activities in collaboration

If you are showing interest and, depending on their programming in the community, we can promote the meeting and develop together with our partners :

- Creative and artistic workshops ;
- Cultural and sporting events ;
- Artistic activities ;
- Tutoring and language courses ;
- Initiation or training to computer literacy ;
- Courses, seminars, exhibitions, conferences ;
- Reforestation programs ;
- Rehabilitation of public spaces ;
- Participation to local festivals.



Typical day on the site

- 8h - 9h30 : breakfast and daily tasks
- 9h30 - 12h30 : activities
- 12h30 - 14h : lunch and daily tasks
- 14h - 17h30 : activities
- 17h30 - 20h30 : free time (subject to an exceptional programming with the partners)
- 21h : dinner and exchange time

Chores, as well as collective departures are organized in rotation and coordination.

Acknowledgements

We thank all our partners who support our work since 1986 and encourage us to continue our exchanges between Europe and Brazil.

And of course not forgetting all the many French and Brazilian volunteers, who contribute to the development and the well-foundedness of our solidarity adventure !

Institutional partners

- Institute and Centre for Development and Alternative Communication (ICADC), Jardim de Gaya : Logistical support for the reception and receptive, management of the activities
- Brazilian Foundation for the Conservation of Nature (FBCN) : Institutional / technical support
- Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRRJ) : Institutional / technical support
- Technical College of the Rural University (CTUR / UFRRJ) : School Integration Company, courses and training in agriculture, tourism and hospitality
- State of Rio de Janeiro (Secretary of Education) : Networking with the CIEPS
- Forest Institute of the State of Rio (IEF / RJ, Secretary of State for the Environment) : Institutional / technical support
- Municipality of Rio de Janeiro (Secretary of Education and the Environment) : Networking with the municipal schools
- UNRIC, UNESCO, UNECE, General Consulate of France in Rio de Janeiro : Institutional Support



Contact

The Board of Directors

François Ricaud - President
 Chantal Seycker - Treasurer
 Richard Sedeno - Secretary
 Sophie de Panashket - General Delegate

The team of Jardim de Gaya (ICADC)

Vania Mendonça - Head of the rehabilitation program
 Diva Resende / Anna Paraense - Officers of the ecotourism program
 Kilda Botelho Oliveira / José Antonio Lima - Officers of the creative workshops and craft production
 José Carlos Gomes / Carlos Eduardo Pereira - Officers of the cultural programming and communication
 Maria Liberal / Saintclair - Administrative officers

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