

Volunteering in Palestine with Al-Ard



Volunteers are an integral part of our organization. With their support, we are able to achieve greater results and prosper in our work with different vulnerable communities. If you are looking for a rewarding and meaningful role where you can really make a difference, apply today and start your volunteering journey with us.

About Al-ard

We focus on the rights of Palestinians to self-determination and a decent life in their lands recognized as occupied territory. We believe in Palestinian ground and people, as Al-Ard literally means the land. Thus, our work coherently translates into supporting farming. Our NGO strives to best serve the diversity and beauty of the land of this welcoming, dignified and caring, imaginative and creative people. We adopt and apply a human rights-based approach in the design and implementation of our projects, which range from agricultural land improvement and water interventions, to rural women's livelihood promotion, empowerment of youth and other agricultural development projects based on an agroecological vision.

WHY VOLUNTEER WITH US?

Investing in People, Social Cohesion and Values

Volunteering is a human adventure. You will find the opportunity to develop new technical skills, or to apply those you already master. But in addition to know-how, you will also learn interpersonal skills such as communication, problem solving, and initiative.

As a volunteer, you will be working in a team, under the supervision of an experienced supervisor. It is therefore the perfect opportunity to learn to cooperate and to carry out a collective work.

You will develop your knowledge, create a network and be confronted with reality. It is an opportunity to put your skills to work for a cause in a different atmosphere and in a different way.



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My mission helped me to better understand the dynamics related to the local agricultural situation and process them.

This stay in Palestine was a chance for me to get to know a part of the world that resists to exist, which is an example for all of us.

I would like to thank all my colleagues for always nurturing my curiosity in the social, economic, and political especially and cultural spheres. This is gold and cannot be learned in any university book. - Giulia, volunteer from Italy in 2022

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERING SCHEMES

Volunteering in media communication (web development, social media, content creator) or creativity skilled (photography and/or video, graphic design).

Mission one : we are looking for people who use lots of digital tools, online platforms and applications, are active on social media, are good at preparing multimedia content, and have basic knowledge about social media communication. For this opportunity, we are specifically searching for volunteers with a communication profile, especially in web and social media management who are interested in supporting our online communication and networking; with experience and will to use and explore digital tools and participate in the communication strategy.

Mission two : your volunteer stay could also be focused on content production if you have creative skills in photography, video, or general knowledge in graphic design. We are looking for volunteers with a creative approach who will be dedicated and actively look for new perspectives. If this is something that interests you, don't hesitate to write to us.

Volunteering in current agroecological projects such as in the Local Seed Bank, or agricultural field work like olive harvest campaigns.

We would like to host volunteers who are motivated in learning about environmental and nature education. We will choose volunteers based on their motivation and interest in working in our organization. Willingness to get involved in Palestinian society is a key component of your volunteering experience.

Eagerness to cooperate, personal initiative, a positive attitude to collaborate in fieldwork, tolerance, respect for the customs and culture of the other volunteers and the local community, as well as the sense of humor will be highly appreciated.

We welcome warm and caring personalities, with a strong sense of responsibility. You have interest for agriculture field and food sovereignty and be able to create a smooth connection with others. The ideal volunteer is willing to engage and be active in society, with interest in human rights and the protection of the environment. The most important factor for the selection of the participants is their high motivation to join the activities planned in the project, their interest in the topic and to be eager to face personal challenges.

But we are also looking for someone out of the box, so don't hesitate to reach us if you feel you could be a good fit for us!



A bit of Palestine

"For the Palestinian, land is not only a political matter, but also a sacred one (...) land is the object of the conflict and colonization at the heart of the confrontation." Mahmoud Darwich, *Palestine as Metaphor*.

The zoning and administration of the territories by Israel have contributed to the decline in the agricultural area used by Palestinian farmers. And the Palestinian Authority's capacities in this field are limited as well. The agricultural lands are mostly found in areas where the latter has no power to intervene. The occupation is a reality, with the permit system and the risk of the progressive annexation of land. More than anything else, it is necessary to value and invest in the agricultural sector: to reduce dependence on chemical products, encourage organic farming, and support local seeds.



Eligibility

- Have a high level of motivation
- Desire for self-development
- Share our vision
- Brings added value

Depending on the chosen volunteering scheme, the missions may vary in duration, and may or may not require experience and skills in the field. **Accommodation is provided.**



If you are interested, send us your CV and a cover letter stating why you would like to participate and more about yourself at info@al-ard.org. Please title your email "volunteering in Palestine".