



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**



Interested in living and working in a German Ecovillage for several months?

* Call for Volunteers 2023 *

European Solidarity Corps

01.03.-31.10.23 or 01.03.23-28.2.24

What is the European Solidarity Corps?

The programme European Solidarity Corps (ESC) enables young people (18 to 30 years) to be part of a project as a volunteer, connecting on a European level.

Read more about ESC: https://youth.europa.eu/solidarity_en

Is **my** country part of the ESC-programm?

<https://www.eusolidaritycorps.org.uk/countries-connected-european-solidarity-corps.html>



Basic Facts

Where?	Ecovillage "Sieben Linden", North-Eastern Germany
What?	Three different placements: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sustainable food (3 free spaces)2. Sustainable education (1 free space)3. Organic vegetable garden (2 free spaces)
When?	1 st of March - 31 st of October 2023 (8 months) Placement 1 & 3: possible for 12 months

About the Ecovillage “Sieben Linden”

Sieben Linden Ecovillage is located in the North-East of Germany (approx. between Berlin and Hamburg) and is easily accessible by train and bus. The closest little towns are approx. 10km away.

Sieben Linden strives to be an ecologically and social model settlement. Our intentional community was established in 1997 and now we are more than a hundred adults and forty children. We aim at implementing a collaborative and holistic sustainable lifestyle that connects a small ecological footprint with a high quality of life.

The vision of Sieben Linden is a sustainable way of life where the social, ecological, economical and cultural aspects are intertwined into a holistic approach that offers space for diversity, creativity and the different needs of people. www.siebenlinden.org



In Detail

Requirements

- Interest in sustainability and community living, in a very rural location
- Openness to learn and meet new people
- Motivation to be of service to the Ecovillage
- Willingness to learn German - prior skills are very welcome (optional)

Weekly working hours	Total	30 h
	In placement	25 h <i>(15 hours routine work + 10 hours project)</i>
	Individual project (free choice)	5 h
Community language	German	
Working language	German/ English	
Food and Accommodation	Vegan and vegetarian food, wooden caravans, shared volunteer's kitchen & community facilities	
Covered during ESC	Free food and accommodation, health-insurance, pocket money (<i>150 Euro per month</i>), international travel	

Equal Opportunities

Sieben Linden promotes equal opportunities. We encourage you to apply if you have fewer opportunities (e.g. low income, unemployment, learning difficulties, LBGT+, migrant background, health issues etc.). Please feel free to contact us to discuss if your situation is a good match for one of our placements. We encourage **openness and transparency**, and are happy to **support, within our limits**.

Placements

1. Sustainable food

In this placement you will be in the kitchen in which a team prepares two warm meals for both the community and the guests every day (40-100 people usually, sometimes more for bigger festivals). The kitchen uses the vegetables grown in our community gardens and cooks a large variety of vegetarian and vegan food. If you enjoy chopping, cleaning and getting creative while cooking this placement is the right place. If you already have cooking experience you can also take on more responsibility by stepping up as a sous-chef at bigger events.

German language skills will be very helpful in the kitchen.

Project hours are either sustainable education.



Up for cooking for a bunch of hungry people?

If you choose this placement, you will work 15h (routine work) in this working field and 10h in the project "sustainable education".



2. Sustainable education

Being a part of the guest service team you will have different housekeeping tasks as well as being responsible for the well-being of the guest, i.e. setting up the dining room for mealtimes, preparing the bedrooms. If you like you can offer a kids programme during seminars. Other tasks like sewing and mending pillows and sheets, baking cake for seminars or renovating guest rooms are also possible to include into your working time.

German language skills will be very helpful in the guest-team.

Project hours are either sustainable food or outdoor infrastructure.

Up for working with guests and one of the largest working teams in Sieben Linden?



If you choose this placement, you will work 15h (routine work) in this working field and 10h in the project "sustainable food".

3. Organic vegetable garden

Being outdoors and growing food for the community will be your daily task. As you start in spring you will experience a full growing season, from the seedling to the harvest. The garden team grows 45 to 55 different types of vegetables, fruits and herbs using different growing techniques and a variety of tools that you will learn.

Interested in getting your hands dirty and working with your whole body?

Project hours will be done during the winter in the forest.



+ Personal Projects

Personal projects are free for you to choose, using your own creativity and skills. However, the project should have either a direct link to sustainability or a clear solidarity aspect. You can hook onto an existing project in Sieben Linden (or the region) or start something new. It is a great opportunity to try something that doesn't have to be related directly to your work placement and to recognize or improve your individual skills.

Past projects have been making oat milk for the community, creating videos, recipe booklets or upcycling projects and many more.

Social life

JuLe group and JuLe-Platz

You will be part of the group of young volunteers called **JuLe** (German for "young people") and live together in one area of the village ("JuLe-Platz") creating your own living space together with shared caravans and kitchen. One evening per week by a team of experienced facilitators offers time and space to get to know each other as well as permanent young residents. Different methods will be used to work on inner processes and communication including fun and creativity.



Community activities & celebrations

Throughout the year the community has a lot of events and rituals which we welcome you to join and to get to know the people living together with you in the village. Singing circles in the yurt, community pub and dancing on Saturdays, cinema, yoga and dance classes are opportunities to participate in community life. We also celebrate traditional holidays like Easter and have community events for many other occasions.



More links to more information

- Short interview of a volunteer from 2018:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2u3NL-lsnEo>
- Video from another volunteer 2020 in German with English subtitles:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2MDzWHFRkS4&list=RDLV2MDzWHFRkS4&start_radio=1&rv=2MDzWHFRkS4&t=2

Interested in a sustainable lifestyle? Interested in immersion in an intentional community? Interested in new work experiences? !!!Then apply for an ESC in Sieben Linden!!

Apply **HERE** (just complete sheets will be considered!):

<https://umfragen.siebenlinden.org/limesurvey/index.php/916543?newtest=Y&lang=en>

Questions? Please contact Sophie Willert, our volunteer coordinator for ESC:

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