

# ESC at Hopeland

Argos, Greece



Individual Volunteering Opportunity

Starting on June 20 (flexible)

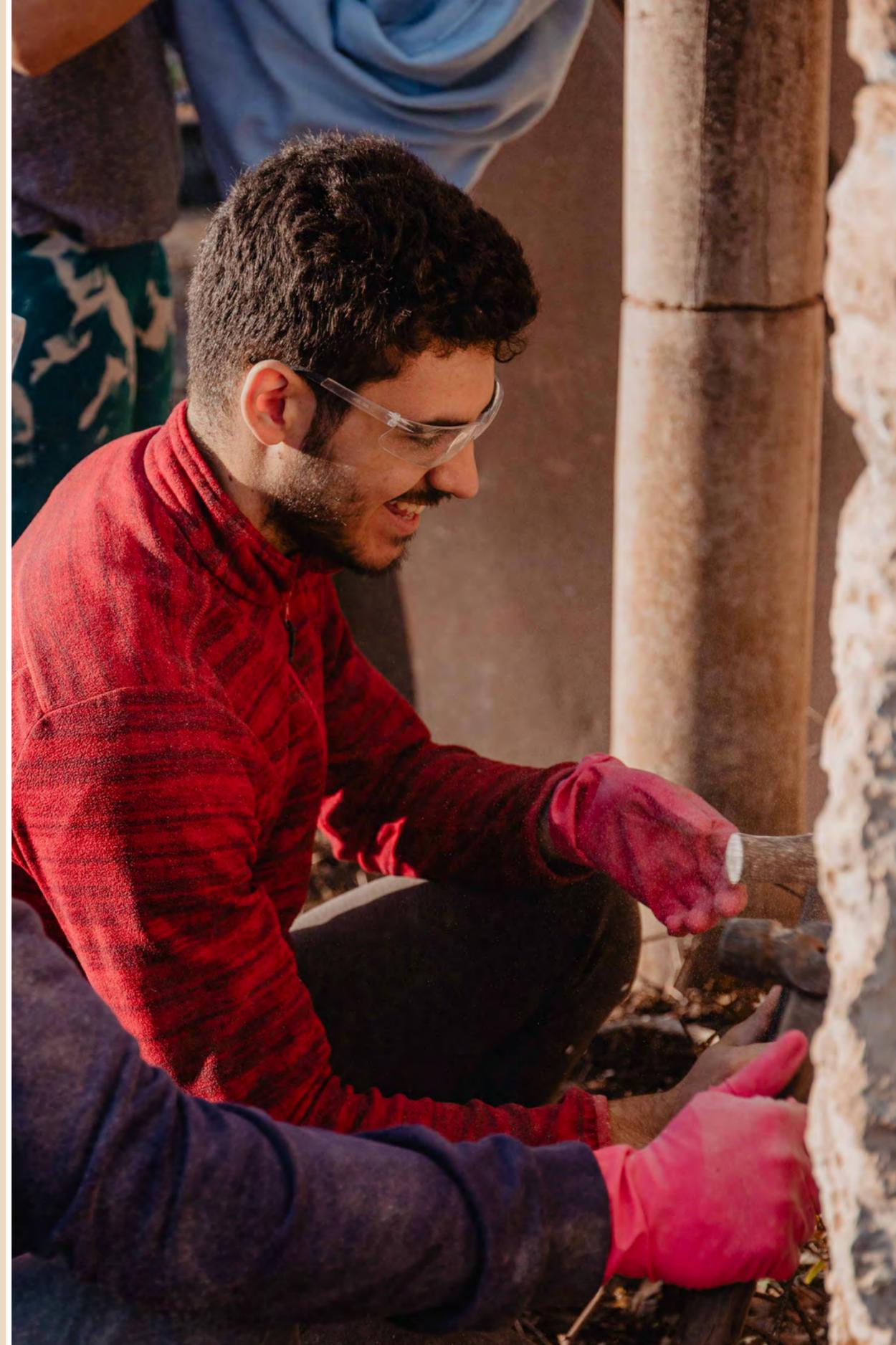
Duration: 3 months



Ελπίδοχώρι  
Hopeland



EUROPEAN  
SOLIDARITY  
CORPS





# Be a Hopelander

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**Live for 3 months in Hopeland**, a 7-acre eco place in southern Greece focusing on sustainability and create your dream experience as an international volunteer.

Use your **hands**, your **mind**, your **creativity** and any other skills you might have to support into **hosting group trainings and residencies**, into the **enhancement of the place** and into **outreaching the local community** of Hopeland.

# Hopeland - Context

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**Hopeland eco-training center** is located in a **rural remote area** in the south part of Greece. The venture is built with lots of love and (mainly) with natural materials from volunteers, visitors and guests who visited the place the last 10 years with **a vision to create a place where sustainability meets tradition, culture and personal development.**

The dream is that Hopeland is a place that belongs to its at-the-moment residents. It took many years for the local community around Hopeland to understand the whole idea and dream. Since 2017, we have started hosting Erasmus+ projects in place and this shifted a lot of the general mindset around us.



## ESC at Hopeland Principles

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50% of the project is focusing on 4 pillars supporting Hopeland and its activities happening in place or together with the surrounding community.



50% of the project is focusing on being part of an educational eco-community as a volunteer.



# Pillars of the project

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- 01 Maintain & Upgrade
- 02 Host groups and activities
- 03 Outreach the local society
- 04 Leave your own mark and beyond



# Maintain & Upgrade



**Hands-on actions and activities** focusing on the improvement of the place.

It can be **eco-building, farming, opening paths, making wooden constructions** and in general improving the **infrastructure, the facilities** and the **sustainability factors** of the place.

**Extras:** A group of experts in eco-building will be around in order to support you in eco-building techniques.



# Host groups and activities



During the summer we will have several groups visiting Hopeland for learning activities. Most of these activities are connected in one way or another with the idea of sustainability.

As part of the Hopeland team, you will be asked to **support hosting these groups in several ways and according to your skills.**

It can be **preparing the place, cooking, delivering workshops** or activities, **tutoring** them into task-related activities and in general **supporting the hosting of those groups.**



# Outreach the local society



One of the parts of the project is **to reach out and connect with the local community and the local initiatives of the surrounding area.**

We aim to build **strong partnerships** and plan **common activities**, creating a positive impact for the people around Hopeland and the environment.



# Leave your own mark and beyond

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By joining this project you are already **considered a “Hopelander”**, the place also belongs to you. In order to support you with that, we encourage you **to leave your mark** in Hopeland.

It can be really anything as far as it is in line with the vision of Hopeland. It can be from a **piece of furniture made of used pallets, a piece of art from repurposed materials, a drawing, to a video about Hopeland, a future project, a tree that you planted, a strong partnership with another local or international initiative, a recipe book, a new NGO** etc.

This includes initiatives **not only during your stay** at Hopeland but also afterwards for example to create a project for your community. **Here the sky's the limit.**

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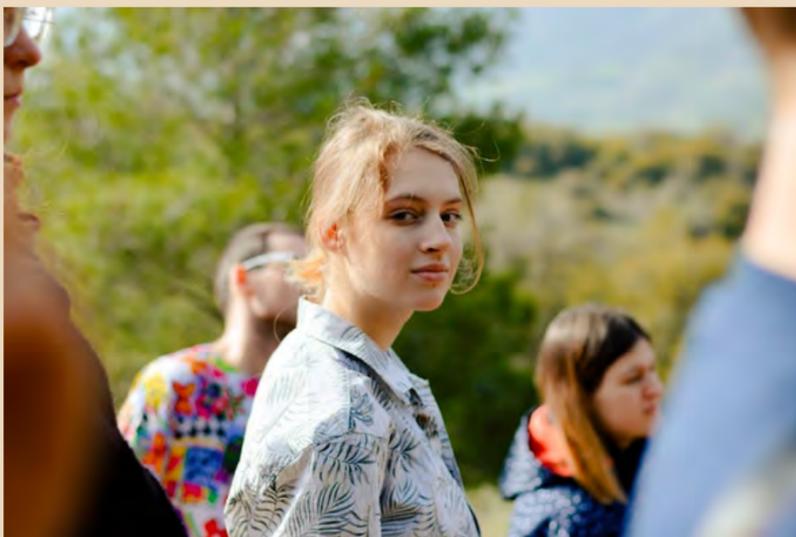


# For Whom?

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We are offering this opportunity to **2 volunteers, legal residents of one of the Erasmus + programme countries.**

There are several requirements from the programme itself and a profile that we would like to focus on.



## Profile

- 18–30 years old (not older than 31 on the 20th of June 2022)
- Legal resident of one of the Erasmus+ programme countries + does not require a visa to enter Greece
- Eager to learn or already have the knowledge or experience with the thematics of the project
- Enthusiastic with hands-on activities.
- Eager to take initiatives and create opportunities for themselves and society.
- Ready to live in a rural environment with basic conditions for 3 months.
- Ready to be challenged into aligning together with people from different cultures into making together a sustainable community.
- People with a clear plan and vision regarding their participation in the project and beyond.
- Extreme priority will be given to those that are facing or faced any kind of troubles in life

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## Special skills

- It is a bonus if you have media skills such as photography and filmmaking for documenting this whole experience but also support Hopeland activities, digital marketing and promotions.

# Hopeland - the Venture

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Hopeland is a venture that aims at creating and supporting activities for parents, children and adults regarding the **Environment, Tradition, Culture and Personal Development**, while promoting sustainability at all levels.

It aims at setting an example of **self-sufficiency** in practice. Some of its main objectives are natural building, natural farming, recycling, respect for nature and reducing the ecological footprint.

## Hopeland - the location

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Hopeland is situated **on a hill** near the village Malandreni and **located 130km** (approximately 2h) **south of Athens**. The nearest town is **Argos** which **is 12 km** away where you can find anything from small shops to supermarkets, banks, post offices, and bus stations. Closer to Hopeland and **4 km away** you can find **small shops for shopping and coffee**. Shops there are limited and unfortunately, it's not in walking distance so smart and **sustainable planning of supplies is needed**.

Hopeland center/estate, is located in a 7.7-acre piece of land, with old olive trees, almond and other trees, native herbs and it is surrounded by a forest and boasts, 5 oversize yew trees (which are protected by the local Forest Protection Service), as well as a **400- year-old oak tree**.





# Accommodation & Facilities

Facilities in Hopeland are basic but made with lots of love and work from previous Hopelanders



Accommodation is happening in a big camping area that we call **The Village**, equipped with 5 **big teepee tents** with **3 beds** and 3 furniture for personal items in each tipi. The Village is the Volunteers Area



There is a two-storey open area with shared decks **in basic conditions guesthouse** and has been built with the strawbale eco-building technique.



The whole venture **runs in solar panels**, therefore, **electricity is limited** and on rainy days or days with strong consumption of electricity, we can run out of electric power



Due to that fact, there is **no possibility of using hair dryers** and **washing of clothes can only be done in the traditional way.**



There is **wifi** in the area but **very limited** because **it is a 4G connection.** For this, we recommend using your own 4G or mindfully use the wifi.



The guesthouse is also going to be available throughout the project **exempt from the times that another group is hosted** in Hopeland.



The guest house has **2 indoor toilets**, an **indoor shower** and **two more outdoor showers.** Additionally, there are two more toilets and showers in the camping area and two compost toilets around the estate.



There is a **separate kitchen building** and a roofed dining area with all the necessary equipment for cooking and dining.



Hopeland is a **vegetarian, no-drugs venture.** We believe that human beings can reach the utmost of their potential without the consumption of substances.



# Get a glimpse from last year's Volunteering Teams

01 Greenovation Volunteering Teams [Chapter 1]



02 Greenovation Volunteering Teams [Chapter 2]



# Practicals

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## Pocket money

You will receive 5€/day for your living money



## Food money

You will receive a weekly budget in order to cook



## Reimbursement

Your travel costs will be reimbursed according to the distance between your home and Hopeland.



## Insurance Youthpass

Besides the European Health insurance card you are going to be offered a private insurance too

You are entitled to receive a YouthPass certificate where you are expected to self-assess your own learning



# Covid-19

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The programme is originally designed without the influence of COVID-19 however sometimes plans need to be changed in order to adapt to the reality for this reason:

- We are going to follow all the current Greek legislation and take any required measures in order to prevent the spread of the virus.
- You are asked to follow all the "at the time"/latest regulations to enter Greece according to the Reopen EU <https://reopen.europa.eu/>.
- We are going to use all the necessary precautions "at the time" needed interacting with groups (masks, gloves, sanitiser etc.)

We will adjust together (if needed) the activities of the programme in order to fit the "at the time" COVID-19 regulations of the Greek Government.





# Instead of Conclusion

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## What Sustainability means for us



**Sustainability for us** is the holistic idea to protect the **environment**, the **economy**, and the **people around us**. This means that yes, we look for greener solutions in our lives and the communities around us but also creating a balanced and harmonious connection with each other and the people around us.

Hopeland has done some steps towards being sustainable, the place is off the grid, most of the buildings are with eco-building techniques, it is a vegetarian place. However, we are fully aware that we are not yet an eco-community nor 100% sustainable.

**Our vision** is to make **every day a step towards** this direction by **shifting mindset through experiential learning** and we are inviting you to also contribute to this action plan. We are also aware that flying people from around Europe to work on sustainability is unsustainable so we invite you to be conscious even before coming on your own travelling options and be ready to contribute with ideas and actions on how we can balance it during the programme.

We are looking forward to creating this **greener world together**.

# Are you the next Hopelander?

If what you've read so far resonates with you and you are ready to live and work for 3 months in Hopeland, then...

[APPLY HERE](#)





ΕΛΠΙΔΟΧΩΡΙ  
Hopeland

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