

## European Voluntary Service (EVS) Vacancy 2023

# **CENTER OF UNITY SCHWEIBENALP, SWITZERLAND**

**1 EVS VOLUNTEER FOR 6 MONTHS (15.04.2023 – 15.10.2023)**

### **Description:**

In the midst of the Bernese Oberland Alps, on a high plateau at 1100m above sea level with a view of turquoise Lake Brienz, lies the centre of the Schweibenalp unit. As a living and working community, we run the seminar farm and the alpine permaculture gardens (4 ha). As part of the Global Ecovillages Network (GEN), we see ourselves as one of the emerging models for holistic cultural change. At the Center of Unity Schweibenalp we have been contributing to the development of an integral culture of life and universal spirituality for more than 30 years.

We offer you the opportunity to work with us and experience community life, community building, living consciously with each other and with nature, and running a seminar business together. The aim of volunteering is to promote personal and spiritual development, to provide an intercultural experience in community life, to gain knowledge and practical experience about permaculture and sustainable living, and to be a positive inspiration on how to live now on our planet Earth. We live and work together on Schweibenalp and share the place with our many seminar guests and other volunteers.

### **Your tasks**

#### **Permaculture garden**

- Cultivation, care and harvesting of the vegetables
- Guidance and collaboration with volunteers and interns
- Assistance at markets and other events
- Takeover watering the plants at the weekend

#### **Further tasks**

- You will also get the opportunity to work in other areas, e.g. kitchen/houskeeping
- You will be encouraged and supported to realise your own project. Approximately one day a week is set aside for this, and depending on the topic you choose, you will be specifically guided by a tutor.
- You are welcome to join different working groups according to your talents, and you will be taking part at the different events of the community.

While working in the various areas, we welcome clarity and openness with other people, a good ability to communicate, flexibility and please do not forget to pack your humor, independence and self-responsibility. For more information, please visit: <https://schweibenalp.ch/>

The project starts in mid-April 2023 and has a duration of 6 months. It is part of the Swiss Erasmus+ program “European Voluntary Service (EVS)” funded by Movetia. More info about the EVS program you find here: <https://scich.org/en/european-voluntary-service/>

### Accommodation:

Shared rooms with shared bathrooms. The EVS volunteers live together with other volunteers (short & long term) in multiple shared rooms on the upper floor of the main building. There are common rooms that can be used by all volunteers as well (e.g. small living room, library, meditation room, etc.). The volunteers will cook and eat together with the community and seminar guests (vegetarian, vegan and partly ayurvedic kitchen). In summer, volunteers also get the opportunity to sleep in a tipi if they would like to do so.

### Requirements:

Participants are motivated to live and work in a remotely located ecological, spiritual and open community of all ages and cultures. You do not mind living in a shared bedroom and you agree and want to live in accordance with our common grounds (<http://www.schweibenalp.ch/en/vision-2>). You must be between 17 and 30 years old and never volunteered as an EVS or ESC before.

### Basic conditions offered to long-term volunteers:

- Accommodation and all meals
- Erasmus+ Program provides health insurance and travel expenses, plus training seminars at arrival and mid-term
- Weekly German lessons (optional)
- Pocket money
- Continuous mentoring and support since arrival and throughout all the stay
- Final certification about the work done and competences acquired
- The practical and logistic matters will be handled by your host organisation. SCI Switzerland will organize all administrative matters like insurance and visa.

### How to apply

Please write to [evs@scich.org](mailto:evs@scich.org) if you have some questions. Note that you can only apply if you are between 17-30 years old and if you have not volunteered through the Erasmus+ before.

Send your application via email to your Sending Organisation with the subject: “**Center of Unity Schweibenalp EVS 2023/permaculture garden**”, and include all the following documents in English:

1. **CV, Curriculum Vitae**
2. **Specific motivation letter for the project**

**Deadline for the application: 28 of February 2023**