

Scholarship Programme 2023



DESCRIPTION

Forums Synergies offers a trainees exchange programme. We are addressing **young people involved in rural development activities**, who want to discover or improve their knowledge and their know-how in a particular field of sustainable rural development, AND **organizations or entrepreneurs** from rural areas, who would like to host young people to transmit them a particular knowledge and to share their experience.

The Scholarship Programme offers to the trainee to discover and learn from the experiences and practices of people and organisations dedicated to sustainable local and rural development, while spending a time in a place of his/her choice (according to the hosts availability).

GOAL

TIME AND DURATION

Scholarship period is **from April to November 2023**

The scholarship should last ideally 1 month. A minimum of 2 weeks and maximum **up to 3 months** can be discussed on the basis of the proposed work programme and funds available.

It is important that a real exchange between host and trainee is established and that the trainee could bring back **a particular know-how** as well as share his **experience and knowledge** about practice in his country with the host.

To promote a multicultural exchange, one host can **host up to two trainees** - both scholarships can be programmed for the same time or separate time within the Scholarship duration period.

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YOU WANT TO BECOME INVOLVED?

Profile TRAINEE

Trainees should ideally:

- be actively involved - or want to start **activities in local & rural development projects** as animator, organiser, trainer or adviser to a rural community or rural development NGO; or
- be an actor in activities (or want to start activities) related to sustainable rural development (e.g. as a farmer, herbalist, ..)
- have experience in a collective initiative, as an active community member; experience with/ interest in rural development or voluntary work would be desirable;
- have ability to communicate in one of the languages indicated by the host organisation (usually English);
- have motivation to use and **share** with others the **knowledge and practical skills acquired** during the scholarship period.

Candidates should preferably be under 35 years of age.

Profile HOST ORGANISATIONS

The host should be an association, organisation or institution **involved in sustainable rural development** at local, regional or national level and should have experience at least since 5 years.

The main requirement for hosts is the **ability and readiness** to provide the trainee with examples of good rural development practices, as well as managerial and organisational capacity needed to facilitate and monitor the progress of the trainee. One host can host up to 2 trainees.

The host should be ready to exchange experiences made with the scholarship programme with Forum Synergies: by authorizing to use the substantial report details, to publish them and to share them The host is also invited to publish information about the Scholarship on his organisation's social media and website.



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WHAT FORUM SYNERGIES CAN OFFER

Contribution towards the costs **up to 2000 EUR per scholarship** covering travel and accommodation costs, including a small contribution towards the cost of the recipient organisation covering the effort for supervision and organisation of the stay.

Exciting experience to be a part of a movement and a network promoting sustainable rural development.

HOW TO JOIN THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Both the host and the trainee are invited to **apply online**
You will find all online registration forms at **Forum Synergies website**

NEXT STEPS

- 1/ **PERSONAL INTERVIEW:** In order to support synergies and support a fruitful matching of trainee(s) and host, a short interview will be held with a representative of Forum Synergies;
- 2/ **DESIGNING A TRAINING SCHEDULE.** Supplementary information will be asked after the interview, ex. description of main activities the trainee could be involved in (work programme), practical information about travel/ accommodation possibilities etc.
- 3/ **FINANCIAL PLAN:** provision of estimated costs for both trainee and host as basis for a concrete financial agreement between Forum Synergies and trainee/ host

Apart from mentioned criteria the **approval of applications** will depend on the actual absorption of funds available for the scholarship programme.



SPREADING AND SHARING THE LESSONS LEARNED

A **substantial and financial report** shall be provided 1 month after the completion of the scholarship. The approval by Forum Synergies is prerequisite for receiving final payment.

Reporting of TRAINEES

- Each trainee is free to **choose a way to present** his scholarship experience (combining text and visual): creation of blog, video, diary, photos or else. This part shall include information about the activities carried out and lessons learned, discoveries, peoples met;
- Profile describing the **experience of the trainee** related to sustainable rural development and/ or the professional/ educational background and motivation for taking part in the scholarship programme;
- **Action Plan:** a short description of ideas how the trainee intends to make use of the lessons learned.

Reporting of HOSTS

- **Profile of the host organisation** and local actors related to the organisation;
- **Evaluation:** Short overall evaluation describing the output of the training;
- **Recommendations.** Hosts should provide recommendations for other hosts and/ or make proposals for improvement of the exercise, procedure.

VISIT OUR HOST ORGANISATIONS

You want to get an idea where you could go to as a TRAINEE?
visit our HOST organisations here
get inspired and make your choice!

You want to become a HOST organisation? You can register here or contact us at
forum-synergies@a1.net

FINANCIAL REPORT

The **TRAINEE** will submit:

- a reimbursement sheet including the originals of all tickets, hotel bills and any other financial documents;
- a report according to the required elements explained in "Report and share the experience".
- Try to save money - find cheap flights etc. If you are travelling by car Forum Synergies will refund you a gas money according to the reimbursement convention. Receipts should be addressed to Forum Synergies.

The **HOSTS** will submit:

a report according to the required elements explained in "Report and share the experience".

Forum Synergies will **evaluate** the delivered reports **within 2 weeks**.

After approval of reports and submitted documents Forum Synergies will make the payment within 14 days.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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