

# 'WILD NATURE' YOUTH EXCHANGE.

LANJARÓN, GRANADA (SPAIN). 20-28 NOV 2021.

## OBJECTIVES.

The objectives we are pursuing for this youth exchange are:

- To learn to value the natural environment, to avoid its degradation, as well as the rural environment to avoid its underestimation.
- To learn about the consequences of climate change and to develop a critical attitude towards it.
- To reflect about our own habits and actions, and the strength and importance we all have to stop environmental damage.
- To empower ourselves as agents of change. We are all useful.
- To learn new sustainable alternative actions to mitigate the effect of global change.
- To propose alternative leisure activities in nature as a tool to get to know and appreciate the environment.
- To develop interculturality and consider the positive aspects of group cohesion in order to move forward towards a common goal.

## THE PROJECT.

This project addresses a series of **topics and needs**, such as the environment and sustainability, the consequences and effects of climate change, types of pollutants and the seven Rs, the importance of endemisms, the ecosystemic services and resources of the Sierra Nevada National Park, the reappraisal of rural areas, reforestation, upcycling, inclusion, ecofeminism, and the Youthpass competences.

We propose an **experiential learning experience in the natural environment of the Sierra Nevada National Park** that will include a medium-low difficulty trek, and the collaboration with different institutions and local young people, so that both the involvement and the learning process are bidirectional.

We will focus on valuing the **natural heritage and rural life in the Alpujarra** as an example of sustainable living, through teamwork, active listening, empathy, participatory reflection on our environmental malpractice and the empowerment of participants as responsible agents and ambassadors of change, with a view to the implementation of the new environmental policies that are being implemented in Europe.

In any case, the problems and needs that **the participants** will want to address are and will be the target of our programme, as this "Wild Nature" exchange is based on the experience and the union of the group in order to achieve greater sensitivity, a process of critical analysis that begins with self-evaluation and culminates with the rethinking of the individual contribution to global warming, and with group actions.

## PRACTICALITIES (ACCOMMODATION AND ACTIVITIES).

The accommodation will be in a Hotel in the municipality of Lanjarón, in shared double/triple rooms. We will organise **intercultural dinners with typical products that the participants should bring from their countries**; a lunch in a public park with the local community; a plastic clean-up in the river or other local area; **a two-day route with an overnight stay in a mountain refuge in the National Park**; several **outdoor sessions** (in El Salao park) for the young population of the municipality to join in; visits to the Honey Museum and the Water Museum; astronomical observation; **handicraft workshops**, such as upcycling, wax and soaps, as well as a reforestation.

\*All these initially-planned activities, including the capacity of the rooms, are subject to possible changes due to the new COVID reality.

## WHAT TO BRING.

Apart from the usual for an exchange, **food from your country/region**, water bottle, comfortable **hiking clothes**, backpack, notebook and pen, sunscreen, sunglasses, appropriate **hiking shoes** (boots), **sleeping bag**, mat, hat and thermal clothing to keep warm at night.

Be mindful it is south and Spain, but it is **November** nonetheless ;).

## PEOPLE AND COUNTRIES INVOLVED.

5 participants coming from Egypt, Germany, Latvia, Romania, and 6 from Spain. Making a total of 26 people.