



**CEDE ARUBA**  
CENTRO PA DESAROYO



**Erasmus+**



# *Youth Exchange*

Humans Empowering Local Projects - H.E.L.P.

November 18 - December 2, 2023

## Aruba

CEDE Aruba  
Beatrixstraat 8, Oranjestad, Aruba  
[www.cedearuba.org](http://www.cedearuba.org)



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# Dear Youth Exchange participant,

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our youth exchange project HELP, taking place in Aruba between November 18 and December 2, 2023. It will be 8 days + 2 travel days. Please keep all these dates blocked in your calendar as we have chosen a wider window to have some room to decide on best travel tickets and accommodation. Exact travel dates will be pointed out closer to the start of the activity.

HELP is the acronym for: Humans Empowering Local Projects. This info pack contains all important information which will be useful for you as a participant. Please take your time to read it well.

The coordinating organisation for your project is Centro pa Desaroyo di Aruba - CEDE Aruba in short. CEDE Aruba is the national center for social development. Your contact person before and during the project is your group leader. The overall coordinator is Yolanda Richardson-Smit from CEDE Aruba and she will be assisted by her team of colleagues and volunteers. Your facilitators for the youth exchange will be Branimir Suk and Mirko Logožar.

This info pack contains the basic information you need about this youth exchange, like where it will be held, what you will be doing and what you can expect from this experience. After you have registered and have successfully submitted all the required documentation related to your application and acceptance thereof, we will send a preparation pack with further details about the project and your travel.

This youth exchange is an opportunity to discover new places and friendships, and who knows, discover new things about yourself! We hope you will have a fruitful and fun experience!

The HELP organising team



# What is a Youth Exchange?

During a youth exchange, groups of young people from different countries meet, live together and work on shared projects for short periods. Youth exchanges take place outside the school environment. On a youth exchange you can expect to participate in activities such as workshops, exercises, debates, role-plays, outdoor activities and more. You will confront various themes while learning about each other's countries and cultures. You will develop your competencies, discover new cultures, customs, and lifestyles through peer-learning; and strengthen values like solidarity, democracy, and friendship.

## Project information HELP

The main objective of the project is to motivate and empower young people to engage in activism activities by giving them an opportunity to experience different types of volunteering activities and equipping them with basic tools and knowledge about activism.

The following organisations will participate in HELP:

- Centro pa Desaroyo di Aruba - Aruba (Host)
- Ocean Znanja u Republici Hrvatskoj - Croatia
- Association Perspectives Femmes Et Avenir Guyane - French Guiana
- Naturkultur EV - Germany
- Caribbean Education and Culture Foundation - St. Maarten
- Kinoniki Sinetairistiki Epicherisi Elliniki Summetoxi Neon - Greece

All country groups consist of 7 people, of which:

- Germany & Greece can bring 6 participants + 1 group leader
- French Guiana & St. Maarten can bring 5 participants + 2 group leaders
- Croatia can bring 4 participants + 1 group leader + 2 facilitators

## Participant Profile

Participants should be:

- young people (aged 18 - 23)
- interested in activism and familiar with relevant social issues
- motivated to participate in this project
- interested in gaining new skills and knowledge
- willing to actively participate for the entire duration of the exchange
- sharing the learning with their peers
- active English speakers or motivated and open to practicing the English language.

Diverse groups will be formed to create a greater level of mutual learning and exchange. The participants will be chosen regardless of their sexual, political, or religious orientation or race and we strive for a gender-balanced group.

## Profile Group Leader

To make sure leaders have relevant skills and knowledge for the tasks, they will need to comply with the following criteria:

- experience in Erasmus+ programmes, especially in youth exchanges
- solid communication and writing skills in English and their native language
- solid management and group leading skills
- experience in the field of youth activism
- experience in working with young people with fewer opportunities
- 18+of age

We aim to include as team leaders, the youth workers that initiated this project idea on the partnership building activity in Germany.

## What do we expect from you?

This youth exchange will be, for the most part, led and facilitated by young people themselves. Even though we use the term facilitators, in this Youth Exchange, we chose to divide the responsibility of facilitating the sessions among the country groups, so each person and group can give their unique stamp to the project. The official facilitators (Branimir and Mirko) will be there to guide the groups in their responsibilities. This youth exchange is owned by all of us together, we will make sure to create an atmosphere in which you and every other participant can contribute to the project and its success.



## Service & care groups

Apart from facilitating the sessions, we all have responsibility for the accommodation and venue where the youth exchange takes place. That is why we introduce the "Service & Care groups".

This task is introduced so that everybody can experience how it is to be the organiser of a youth mobility project.

## The accommodation & venue



Washington Youth Center is a youth community center in the northern part of Aruba. All project activities, except those off-premises, will take place here. It is a basic accommodation and venue, but there is lots of space for our activities. The accommodation is close to several supermarkets, restaurants, take-aways, fast food shops and snack trucks. The nearest beach is about 20 minutes walking.

The accommodation is in shared rooms. Each room will be shared by 4-6 participants has 2 private showers and toilets. Participants will share a bedroom with others of the same gender. There are strict house rules related to the no drugs and alcohol policy, that we have to comply with while staying at the accommodation. We expect everyone to abide by these rules.



## Meals

There will be a private chef who will prepare daily meals for us during the youth exchange in the large kitchen at the youth center. Breakfast will be prepared by the country groups every morning, supported by the chef. Your dietary preferences will be taken into account.

## About Aruba

Aruba is an independent country in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, with a population of approximately 120,000. The island is 33 km long and has an area of 193 km<sup>2</sup>.

Aruba is situated 12 degrees 30' north of the equator. The weather is tropical but not extreme, with a median and fairly constant temperature 28 degrees Celsius and a cooling breeze.



<https://www.visitaruba.com/about-aruba>



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