## Projects in Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>NICE-18-06031</td>
<td>Rikuzen-takata1</td>
<td>Iwate</td>
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<td>06/03</td>
<td>06/09</td>
<td>AGRI, KIDS, SOCI</td>
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<td>99</td>
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### Summary
Providing support in the affected areas of reconstruction by the force of international volunteers!

### Background
This work camp is organized together with some local people. A giant earthquake occurred in the Tohoku area on the 11th Mar 2011. That caused unprecedented damage. 80% of the houses were damaged in Rikuzen-takata and some people still have to be living in temporary houses. We started the special workcamps in Tohoku area for reconstruction work with over 600 vols. (including international ones since 2011 Apr). That did great work! But we still need a lot of vol. Volunteer can encourage locals!

### Work
The volunteer will help local fisherman (oyster) and farmers (tea, apple, vegetable), people damaged by the tsunami such as reclaim, cutting grass and harvesting as well as organize some activities for children in kids centers and do anything else needed.

### Accommodation
Home stay at Local host’s house. Simple self-catering. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary. Share room.

### Study theme
Disaster area visit and getting to know about disaster damage prevention.

### Other activities
Exchange party with locals

### Location
South east edge of Iwate prefecture (very near from Miyagi). Forestry, agriculture and fishing are used to be the main industry, but were severely damaged and may take several years to be rehabilitated. From Tokyo, 6hours by bullet train or 10 hours by bus.

### Terminal
The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 6 hours by bullet train or 10 hours by bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita or Haneda) by 7:00 by the first day and can leave there after 19:00 on last day (If you will take bullet train).

### Requirement
High motivation to work for disaster area and respect to the local culture and way of the local’s organization! Motivation letter is required. Not have any criminal or sexual or physical abuse record!

### Participation fee
No fee

### Language
Camp language is English, but knowledge in Japanese is welcome.

### Other
None
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<tbody>
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<td>06/04</td>
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<td>EDU,ENVI</td>
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**Summary**
Let’s organize cooking/English speaking classes in the primary school of the depopulated area! Create a sunflower field with the kids:) Enjoy healthy & tasty vegan!

**Background**
This workcamp has been organized since 2016 with the local group, coordinated by the ex. Director of NICE who lives here since 2015. Shinko district is surrounded by the mountains and has serious ongoing depopulation and aging, that is a common issue in most of the country sides (or even the whole country!) of Japan. In 2016, volunteers worked for nature farming and creating a trail in the mountain where we can enjoy amazing view of Japanese northern Alps! In 2017, they helped to run some classes in the primary school which is in crisis to be closed down by the shortage of children. So, this year, we will continue our activities in the school to promote their global education, to increase the attraction of the school and to activate the community.

**Work**
Volunteers will 1) seed the sunflowers with the students (age 6-12) in the abandon field which will be converted into oil after the harvest as renewable energy as a pilot project toward a future industry/employment, 2) help to run the cooking and English speaking classes and 3) work in the organic rice fields with full of biodiversity and continue the trail maintenance.

**Accommodation**
Public hall. Meals (attention: only vegan food is possible!) will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**
How can we maintain the schools in the depopulated area?

**Other activities**
Experience program to cook local dishes, farm stay, etc.

**Location**
Shinko district has about 2,000 inhabitants and is located in the south west of Nagano city, in the north east of Nagano prefecture. The climate is colder than low land especially in the evening and morning. Rice and apples farming is the main industry.

**Terminal**
The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point, it takes 3 hours by the bullet train or 5 hours by bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita or Haneda) by 08:00 on Jun. 04 and can leave there after 19:00 on Jul. 17.

**Requirement**
High motivation to work with kids and outside. Similar types of experience and Japanese speaking skill are welcome! Volunteers need to accept and enjoy vegan food. Motivation letter is needed!

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**
None
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**Summary**

Let's preserve the beautiful forests in the World Natural Heritage!

**Background**

This project has been organized together with Shirakami Mountains Preservation Society (SMPS), since 2006. The Shirakami Mountains is one of Japanese valuable preserved natural forests consisting primarily of beech trees, registered as a World Natural Heritage in 1993. SMPS aims to preserve the natural beauty of the Shirakami Mountains by nurturing seedlings of beech trees, planting them, training mountain guide, etc. SMPS hosts tree-planting ceremony every June for preserving and promoting the value of it. They also preserve the forests near the Mutsu-bay, famous as production of scallops. Due to climate change, the sea water temperature increased abnormally in 2010, the most of scallops were dead, so SMPS started to preserve the forest there to let nutrient water flow to the ocean.

**Work**

Volunteers will do various types of nature conservation works such as 1) cutting glasses to improve ecological richness of the forest and 2) helping the tree planting ceremonies including preparation such as carrying the plants and tools, and cleanup after the event. We will also help local farmers. The contents of work might be changed due to weather condition, so volunteers need to be flexible!

**Accommodation**

Volunteers will stay in shared room of old elementary school. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Please bring a sleeping bag.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of history and culture of Shirakami, and skills of conservation forests in Japan.

**Other activities**

cultural exchange parties with local people, hot spring, etc.

**Location**

Volunteers will work in Ajigasawa town and Hiranai town in Aomori prefecture. Aomori is located on the northernmost tip of Honshu Island. Shirakami Mountains located in southwest and the Mutsu-bay nestles between the eastern Shimokita and western Tsugaru Peninsulas.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point in Aomori pref., it takes 7 hours by bullet train or 10 hours by bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda) by 19:00 PM on Jun. 14th and can leave the airport after 22:00 PM on Jun. 25th.

**Requirement**

Volunteers should prepare to work hard outside in good and bad weather and have high motivation for work in the forests actively with local people.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

None
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**Summary**

New workcamp in mountainous area with full of nature! Join the healthy, organic rice farming that keeps water even in winter to enrich the biodiversity.

**Background**

This workcamp is newly organized with the local NGO named "Group to create the rice fields where fireflies can live in". The leader got inspired by the nature farming on TV, so started rice farming and created the group in 2004. He now maintains 1.1 ha of the field without using any chemicals nor cultivating, but with keeping water even in winter, so various types of living including fireflies can co-exist and earth worms fertilize the land. 160 "students" including the rice farmers learn his farming and the group also sometimes organizes the open events to gather the mothers, children and other people widely to experience planting rice together.

**Work**

Volunteers will help and join the organic farming without using any chemicals by planting the soya beans and weeding in the rice field. The workcamp aims to promote the ecological farming as well as to activate the hosting community through the exchange between the volunteers and local people.

**Accommodation**

Big room (about 20 tatami size) of the training hall. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**

Agricultural situation in each country

**Other activities**

Exchange with the local people, possibly fireflies watching event with the consumers of his organic rice living in the cities, etc.

**Location**

Takayama village is 1 hour distance by car, north from Nagano city which is located in the north east of Nagano prefecture. The climate is colder than low land, so even in summer, it may be cool in the evening and morning.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point, it takes 3 hours by the bullet train or 5 hours by bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita or Haneda) by 06:00 on Jun. 25 and can leave there after 21:00 on Jul. 04.

**Requirement**

High motivation to work hard in the muddy fields. High interest in the organic/ nature farming as well as food and health issue

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

None

**Picture (Area)**  **Picture (Work)**  **Picture (Accommodation)**

Not available due to the new project
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Summary**

Volunteers will help with the "International Volunteer Festival" in Tokushima and support "Hyotan island Water Festival" by running an Eco station!

**Background**

A summer event "Hyotan island Water Festival" is held by a local Non Profit Organization every year in Tokushima. The volunteers will prepare and run an Eco station to help minimize our carbon footprint at the festival and work with local people to make the festival more lively and fun for everyone. Also, there is another festival "International Volunteer Festival," an event held by a local radio station, FM BIZAN. This festival is organized by another local NPO to let people in Tokushima know how volunteers are helping the community and to celebrate all volunteers around the world.

**Work**

1) Volunteers will support the local group that organizes river boat services and organize the Eco station where visitors come to separate garbage.
2) Set up and support the "International volunteer festival." Volunteers will help organize entertainment and also be on a local radio program.

**Accommodation**

Shared house the organizer manages. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get chance to interact with energetic local people who want to activate the small city.

**Other activities**

Welcome party, Interactive party with locals.

**Location**

Tokushima city, Tokushima pref.

**Terminal**

Takamatsu (3 hours by train). You need to arrive at Takamatsu airport by 10:00 on 4th and can leave there after 17:00 on the 18th. If Kansai airport (5 hours by train), you need to arrive by 07:00 on the 4th and can leave there after 21:00 on 18th.

**Requirement**

Positive attitude, a willingness to work hard and communicate with Japanese local people

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

We are also welcoming long-term volunteers throughout the year!

--- 5 ---
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<th>Type</th>
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<th>Max age</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Summary**

Village in the sky "Mimuragaoka", support preserving this beautiful village, reviving abandoned fields and taking care of the Fujibakama flowers!

**Background**

A community center and lodging facility "Mimuragaoka" is in Mima city in Tokushima prefecture located in Shikoku region. The very first workcamp in Mima city will be held here. This facility is located on the altitude of 500m and there is a view of the magnificent Asan mountains in the north and a beautiful panoramic view to the south. The large 6,895 m² facility is in a village that has a depopulation problem. They need support from the youth to help them preserve the village and the beautiful views and to help farm at the household with elderly farmers.

**Work**

Volunteers will stay at the village in the sky "Mimuragaoka" and support the village by pulling weeds from abandoned fields and help with pruning trees in the forest around the village, in order to preserve the beautiful view and so on. Also, you will take care of the flowers called Fujibakama. This flower is known for its sweet scent that attracts beautiful chestnut tiger butterflies.

**Accommodation**

A community center and lodging facility "Mimuragaoka". Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is unnecessary.

**Study theme**

Preserving village life in a depopulating area.

**Other activities**

Interactive party with locals.

**Location**

It is in Mima-city, Tokushima prefecture.

**Terminal**

It takes about 45 mins from the closest airport, Takamatsu airport. The closest station is JR Anabuki station which is 35 mins away from "Mimuragaoka" by car. The volunteers will be picked up at JR Anabuki station.

**Requirement**

Positive attitude, and energy.

Have a good time interacting with local people!

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English, Japanese is also welcomed!

**Other**

"Mimuragaoka". Please check it out where it's located! http://www.city.mima.lg.jp/kankou/kankouannai/tomaru/0001.html

Mamma Mima TV! https://youtu.be/VHX3cr6gmA0

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**Picture (Area)**

![Image of Mimuragaoka area]

**Picture (Work)**

![Image of work at Mimuragaoka]

**Picture (Accommodation)**

![Image of Mimuragaoka facility]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Start</th>
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<td>18</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
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**Summary**

Revive the beautiful lake as 100 years ago through our small, but valuable step by forest maintenance and protection of islands! The place and food are so beautiful here:

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized with Onuma Milestone 22, a local NGO made by President of Fishermen's Cooperative and Director of international exchange association since 2004. Though Onuma lake has been a popular tourism spot for a long time because of its beautiful scenery, it has been polluted by over use of agricultural chemicals in cattle farming and erosion from abandoned forests with alien trees. President of Cooperative has bought a forest and wants to revive it to original nature with native trees! Volunteers will work and live together with the mid term workcampers (Jul. 20-Sep. 16) which volunteers are also recruited.

**Work**

Volunteers will 1) work in the forest (removing some alien conifer trees that disturb growth of other plants and animals, maintain the foot paths, etc.), 2) put many small stones on the shores of the small island in the lake to protect them from the waves caused by the motor boats, 3) help to run the lake festival and 4) possibly promote to use eco sponges with which you can wash most of the dishes without using detergent.

**Accommodation**

Rooms of the apartment. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary. By the kind offer from the rental shop, each volunteer can use a bicycle that is very convenient to explore the area! Wi-Fi is available at the visitors center nearby.

**Study theme**

Lecture of the environmental issue. Workshop to plan the 25 years plan of Onuma toward 2040

**Other activities**

Excursion to Hakodate city, nature walk along the lake, exchange parties with local people, etc.

**Location**

Onuma is located in Nanae town in the southern Hokkaido island, 30-60 min. distance by train from Hakodate city which is famous for the romantic view in the night, especially for sweet couples!

**Terminal**

The nearest airport is Hakodate to which LCC (Vanilla air) flies from Narita, Tokyo. Volunteers need to arrive at Narita airport by 05:00 on Jul. 20 and can leave there after 16:00 on Jul. 29. Volunteers can also fly to Sapporo, then take an express train for 3 hours.

**Requirement**

Motivation to actively work for the protection of the forest and lake with local people!

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/n2-68394244 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
<table>
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<th>Code</th>
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**Summary**

Run the kids camp in the beautiful nature of Hokkaido island with the local specialized NPO! Volunteers will spend a time with the children for 24 hours a day:)

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized with Buna-no-mori Shizen Gakko (nature school with beech forests) since 2003. BSG was started in 1998 to promote quality and quantity of ecological education for kids and run various kinds of kids programs. They have a summer vacation program around 26/07-15/08 with about 20-25 kids aged 8-15 where they enjoy canoe, playing in the coast and river, camping, etc. and want to put global colors which should grow understanding and passion to different cultures in those kids.

**Work**

Volunteers will help to run this summer program by playing with kids, running cultural programs such as teaching your dance, songs, arts, sports, games, cooking, etc. and helping house works such as cleaning and cooking with professional staffs and other vols. You won’t have much free time.

**Accommodation**

Old school (Volunteers will sleep in the same rooms with the kids by turns). Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**

Life of kids in each country to be introduced to the kids there. Bring some info.!

**Other activities**

Exchange parties, excursion, etc.

**Location**

South west of Hokkaido island. Full of beautiful nature with national reserve of beech forests, a river and wetland. Main industry is cattle farming.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Sapporo. From Sapporo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 3 hours by express train. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Shin-Chitose airport by 12:00 on Jul. 20 and can leave there after 18:00 on Aug. 15.

**Requirement**

High motivation to work with kids all day and to run outdoor activities even in rain. Similar types of experience and Japanese speaking skill are welcome! Motivation letter is needed!

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/n1-68295484 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
**Summary**
International FAMILY workcamp in the mountain village of great nature and beautiful houses! Meaningful work, super clean water and Dinosaur museum are waiting!!

**Background**
This workcamp has been organized with Ohara Eco Project (OEP) in cooperation with Katsuyama city government since 2009. There were 600 inhabitants in Ohara village with 90 houses 100 years ago, but now only 1 elder! OEP was founded by the local people in 2006 and has rehabilitated 7 houses of cultural heritage. They maintain and revive the trails and fields, organize the workcamps with NICE and run various eco tour, so got the best prize in the award of "Creating Home Town" by the national government in 2016! The family workcamp started since 2013 (President of NICE keeps joining as a leader with his kids) and hosted a lot of families from Japan, Asia, Europe and Americas with great success.

**Work**
Volunteer will help to 1) maintain the old houses by cleaning up, drying many sleeping mats, etc., 2) do farming (weeding in the green tea field that was abandon, cultivating, planting and harvesting potatoes) and 3) do other community work (e.g., construction, chopping woods, trail maintenance). Children sometimes work with adults and other times play in the nature (river, etc.) by the assistance of some parents (by turns) and supporting vols.

**Accommodation**
A few rooms of the traditional renovated house! Meals will be cooked by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary. Simple shower rooms. Clean toilets. You can see how the village looks like at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzGZvho8fVQ

**Location**
200 km north east of Osaka. Katsuyama is an agricultural city and famous for dinosaurs discovery. Ohara village is located at 500 m a.s.l. and surrounded by the mountains with very rich nature (e.g., the spring water is drinkable and very tasty!).

**Terminal**
The nearest international airport is Osaka. From Osaka/ Tokyo to the meeting point, it takes 3/ 5 hours by the bullet train and 5/ 11 hours by bus. If Tokyo, Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Narita or Haneda by 05:00 on Jul. 24 and can leave there after 23:00 on Jul. 30.

**Language**
English

**Participation fee**
7,000 JPY per child for the meals (to be paid on the arrivals). No fee for the parents!

**Requirement**
Only families (Children should be 6-12 years old) can join this program. Basically up to 4 persons (2 adults) per family. High motivation to work and cooperate. Respect to the local culture and way of the organization! Speaking Japanese language is welcomed!

**Other**
Please see the presentation of the volunteer for the IVS contest in Japan 2016 https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/e1-67951349 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
<table>
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<th>Code</th>
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**Summary**

Supporting local Summer event though 'Eco station', raise awareness of garbage issues!!

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized with NPO, ‘Bizan Daigaku’ since 2015. “Yoshino gawa” is the name of a river which is one of the 3rd biggest rivers in Shikoku area. The local festival “Yoshino gawa festival” is one of the famous festival in Tokushima which is supported by local people voluntary. More than 20,000 people come to this festival every year, and the amount of garbage is huge. During the event, the local group keeps trying to give visitors awareness about the environment though organizing "Eco station" where visitors throw away and separate trash.

**Work**

Organizing "Eco station" where visitors come to separate garbage. Washing reusable cups, picking and separating rubbish during/after the festival.

**Accommodation**

Local empty house in Tokushima city. Breakfast will be prepared by volunteers. Lunch and dinner will be provided. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get chance to interact with energetic local people who want to activate the small city.

**Other activities**

Join the festivals, Exchange parties, experiencing Japanese cultural dance Awa Odori, etc.

**Location**

Tokushima city, Tokushima pref.

**Terminal**

Takamatsu (3 hours by train). You need to arrive at Takamatsu airport by 10:00 on 25th and can leave there after 17:00 on the 1st. If Kansai airport (5 hours by train), you need to arrive by 07:00 on the 25th and can leave there after 21:00 on 1st.

**Requirement**

Positive attitude to working hard, communication with Japanese local people

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/17-82095303 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
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**Summary**
The empowerment of local traditional festival in the region facing aging and depopulation.

**Background**
This project is newly organized with Nagakura Tanabata Festival (NTF) executive committee in Hitachiomiya city. Tanabata festivals (Star Fest) are traditionally held throughout Japan in July, a date based on the old Chinese calendar. However, these festivals have been abolished in many places due to shortage of successors. Nagakura area is also facing aging and depopulation problems nowadays, and NTF committee is trying to preserve traditional NFT, which has been started since 1953 to activate the area after World War II.

**Work**
There are 2 mainly works. Schedule of work might be changed due to weather condition.
1) Helping a small but valuable traditional Tanabata Festival, such as cutting bamboos and making traditional bamboo decorations, setting up and cleaning up festival facilities.
2) Helping the local organic farmers to work on their farm such as cutting glasses or harvesting.

**Accommodation**
Volunteers will stay in one house and shared room. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is needed.

**Study theme**
Volunteers will get knowledge about Japanese traditional festival and organic farming.

**Other activities**
Cultural exchange party with local people and onsen (hot spring). Volunteers will also have opportunities to talk and work with local high school students.

**Location**
Nagakura area of Hitachiomiya city. Nagakura has once thrived as the post ‐ town along the old road. Hitachiomiya is northwest of Ibaraki prefecture.

**Terminal**
The nearest international airport is in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda). From Tokyo to the meeting point, it takes 3 hours by bus. You need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda) by 9:00 AM on the first day and can leave there after 17:00 PM on the last day.

**Requirement**
Interested in Japanese culture, adaptability to simple living condition, and positive attitude to work outside in hot weather.

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**
Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/ss-84510879 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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<td>08/12</td>
<td>KIDS</td>
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**Summary**

Let's support experience of rural life for kids!

**Background**

This project has been organized together with Abukuma Nature School Network (ANSN) since 2010. Their theme is learning from soil and nature, and live together. Many kids in Fukushima pre. are forced to stay indoors for the fear of health risks from radioactivity having been released in the air by the nuclear disaster since March 2011. After disaster ANSN started to organize "Fukushima kids camp" It is for kids who lives in disaster area in Fukushima.

**Work**

Volunteers will support kids camp during this workcamp. Main works are playing with kids in mountain area, cooking outdoor foods, taking care of animals, farming etc.. Kids will create activity by themselves too. Volunteers will support their meeting and activities too.

**Accommodation**

In dormitory of the nature school. During kids camp, volunteers will stay with kids in same room (But it depend on case!). Cooking with kids too.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of good ways of interaction with kids.

**Other activities**

Visiting the historical sites, exchange party, sports, hot spring, etc.

**Location**

Small village in the forest area, the population is about 5,000, surrounded by rich nature. The temperature in winter can be minus 5-10 though the inside buildings are warm enough! 75km far from Fukushima nuclear power plant.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda). From Tokyo to the meeting point, it tales 3 hours by bus. Volunteers need to arrive Narita/Haneda airport by 28th morning. You can leave project site on 12th morning.

**Requirement**

Interest to communicate with kids! Motivation letter is needed.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Nothing
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</table>

**Summary**
Volunteering for outdoor kids camp in summer and feel beautiful nature!

**Background**
This project has been organized with "Kodomo-mura Project" since 1998. "Kodomo-mura Project" has been organized a summer kids camp named ‘Kodomo-mura’ (means Kids Village) for 30 children aged of 8-15. Children will join some outdoor programs, cook for themselves and live in the tent to learn about independence, sensitivity, group cooperation, global understanding and interest in different cultures. Volunteers need to prepare to spend 24 hours with children for this period (except for a few days off).

**Work**
Volunteers will help out and live together with children in the Kids Village, supporting activities and sharing your culture. Volunteers will encourage the children’s independence and creativity by letting them plan the schedule. Volunteers need to respect their ideas and understand the educational approach of Kids Village!

**Accommodation**
Shared room in the local community school and tents, please bring your sleeping bag. Volunteers will cook for themselves by turns.

**Study theme**
Seminar about how to manage the outdoor activities for children.

**Other activities**
Excursions, exchange parties, etc.

**Location**
Small village in the mountains, in the very center of Kyushu Island

**Terminal**
The nearest international airport is in Fukuoka. From Fukuoka to the meeting point, it takes 3 hours by express train. You need to arrive at Fukuoka airport by 11:00AM on the first day and can leave there after 18:00 on the last day).

**Requirement**
Volunteers need to have strong motivation for working with kids for a long period. Volunteers also need to speak and understand some Japanese language (daily conversational level). **Detailed motivation letter is required.**

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
Mainly Japanese and some English

**Other**
None
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**Summary**

Let's be a volunteer for nature kid summer camp in beautiful World Natural Heritage!

**Background**

This project has been organized together with Shirakami Nature School (SNS) since 2006. Shirakami Mountains is one of Japanese valuable preserved natural forests consisting primarily of beech trees, registered as a World Natural Heritage in 1993. SNS has a summer vacation program for children aged 7-12. Children will play and live in the nature to grow their independence, cultivate sensitivity, and learn group cooperation. This is also good opportunity for children to learn about international culture through communication with international volunteers. Volunteers need to be ready to spend 24 hours with children during kids camp except some free times.

**Work**

Volunteers will help out and live together with children all the time in the summer program, such as supporting some activities in nature, and showing your culture, performance. Volunteers also help some other needed works such as forest maintenance and cleaning. The contents of work will be changed due to weather, so please be flexible!

**Accommodation**

Volunteers will stay in shared room of old elementary school. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Please bring a sleeping bag.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of history and culture of Shirakami.

**Other activities**

Cultural exchange parties with local people, hot spring, etc.

**Location**

The Shirakami Mountains, located in the northern part of Honshu Island, is a huge mountainous area (130,000 hectares on the border between Aomori and Akita Prefectures).

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point in Aomori pref., it takes 7 hours by bullet train or 10 hours by bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda) by 19:00 PM on July 30th and can leave the airport after 22:00 PM on Aug. 11th.

**Requirement**

Volunteers should love kids and speak/understand some Japanese language. Responsibilities, group cooperativeness and high motivation are necessary! Volunteers have experienced the activity with kids are welcome! Motivation letter is required.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English and basic Japanese

**Other**

none
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### Summary
Rejuvenate the depopulated village though working and interacting with local people!

### Background
This workcamp will be organized for the first time with Association for Promotion of Regional Development in Nishiyama area, Kumano city which is depopulated area in Mie prefecture. There are 220 residents of which 73% is over 65 years old in Nishiyama area where volunteers mainly stay in. One youth who has joined international workcamp before, has started and been organizing weekend workcamps since 2012 in Nishiyama area. After 5 years, local people have been getting open-minded to youths from outside of the area. Local people are getting too old to maintain public place such as parks or ruins of a castle, so they need hands from young people!

### Work
Volunteers will mainly help local people to maintain Nishiyama area such as grass cutting at parks and community center etc.. Also maintenance of ruins of castle such as making stairs beautiful!

### Accommodation
Community center. So please bring your sleeping bag. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

### Study theme
Volunteers will learn and feel about situation of seriously depopulated area in Japan.

### Other activities
Party with local people, etc.

### Location
Nishiyama area, Kumano city, Mie prefecture. It is more than 200km far both from Osaka and Nagoya.

### Terminal
The nearest airport is Chubu Centrair Int. airport (Nagoya) or Kansai int. airport (Osaka). To the meeting point, it will take about 4.5 hours by train from Chubu and 6 hours from Kansai. Volunteers are recommended to arrive at the airport one day before workcamp starts.

### Requirement
Positive attitude to enjoy rural, remoted area. Open mind to respect and communicate with local people

### Participation fee
No fee

### Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### Other
Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/w4-67954841 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)

---

**Picture (Area)**

**Picture (Work)**

**Picture (Accommodation)**
The empowerment of the local festival together with locals in the region facing the depopulation and aging.

This project has been organized together with a local NGO for community development named KOBOSHA since 1996. Volunteer will join the summer festival called ‘TORO NAGASHI’ that is a memorial service for ancestors by making lanterns named TORO and floating them down a river. Volunteers will make large TORO (2 x 2 meters) for the festival in this workcamp. Project aims to mobilize the local community with workcampers. Through workcamps, the local community will be much more activated, redeveloping pride for their community and revival FUKUSHIMA!

Volunteer will mainly help and join the festival by making four big lanterns ‘TORO’ (2 x 2 meters) and hundreds of small lanterns together with local students. You can design your own large ‘TORO’ in this festival. It will be physically challenging work.

Local community building, very simple life style. Volunteer stay a Japanese style room. Share room. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

Activate the isolated community with suffer from depopulation through the festival and good practices in your country

Experience of Japanese Drum, sports, exchange parties, hot spring, etc.

Small town in the southern part of Fukushima. The population is about 9,000. The town is famous for beautiful flower, named Dahlia in Aug. to Oct.

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda). 5 hours from Tokyo by bus. You need to arrive at Narita airport by 07:30 on first day and can leave there after 20:00 on last day.

Interest in Japanese culture, making big lanterns (‘TORO’) and working with locals!

No fee

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

None
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**Summary**
Beautiful rich nature welcome you! There are special works for improving and enjoy the Japanese historical village. (Renovation, traditional lantern festival and so on)

**Background**
NICE have been organized together with "Ohara Eco Project (OEP)" and Katsuyama city government since 2009. There were 600 inhabitants in Ohara village with 90 houses, but now only 1 elder! OEP was founded by the Foresters cooperative and local people in 2006 and have rehabilitated 7 houses of cultural heritage. Depopulation problem is serious in most of mountain parts in Japan. Many fields and forests are abandoned, so we will try to improve the situation by voluntary power!

**Work**
Volunteer will do various work to activate this village and preserve their culture and nature. Main work are 1) help to renovate the old traditional house by carrying the stuff, changing the floor, etc., 2) do other work for the community (e.g., reviving the abandon fields, chopping the fire woods, maintaining forest paths) and 3) supporting the local festival in the village (e.g., making paper lanterns). And do some other work for the community.

**Accommodation**
Renovated house (Japanese traditional house!). Simple shower room. Clean toilet. You don't need to bring your sleeping bag. Volunteers sometime prepare the meals by themselves and sometime the meals will be provided. Wi-Fi are not connected basically.

**Study theme**
We may have time for discussion about “Best practice to revive depopulated areas in each country and their networking”.

**Other activities**
Exchange parties, visit to the Dinosaurs Museum, local festival, etc.

**Location**
About 200 km north east of Osaka. Katsuyama is an agricultural city and famous for dinousaurs discovery. Ohara village is located at 500 a.s.l., and surrounded by mountains, so very isolated, but very beautiful place. (https://goo.gl/maps/vVNx8xxrzD2)

**Terminal**
The closest International airport is Osaka (Kansai) airport. It takes 4 hours to the meeting point by express train. From Tokyo, 4.5 hours by express train/ 8 hours by night bus (you need to arrive by 1st Aug. afternoon/ can leave campsite after 15th noon.)

**Requirement**
High motivation to work hard and simple mountain life in the isolated area and respect to the local culture and way of the local organization! Speaking Japanese language is welcomed!

** Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English

**Other**
Volunteers get knowledge about actions for developing local village. Also the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.

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[Picture (Area)](image1)
[Picture (Work)](image2)
[Picture (Accommodation)](image3)
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<th>Code</th>
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**Summary**

Join and help for activating the community by supporting kids camp and local festival.

**Background**

This project has been organized together with a local group formed for this project since 1999. Aso city is located in the center of Kyushu, famous for Mt. Aso, is a large active volcano in Japan. The mountain’s caldera, created by multiple gigantic eruption in the distant past, is with a circumference of over 100 kilometers one of the largest in the world. In spite of the wonderful landscape, depopulation is a serious problems here similarly with many other parts of the country side in Japan. This project aims to activate the area by helping some local activities and make opportunities of intercultural exchange between locals and international volunteers.

**Work**

Volunteers will help some local activities as the below. 1) **Kids camp**: Volunteers will support 2 days Kids camp, by playing with them and showing your culture. 2) **Summer festival**: Volunteers will join traditional summer festival, setting and cleaning up the venue. 3) **Environmental preservation**: Volunteers will help cutting glasses in the garden of youth center.

**Accommodation**

Volunteers will stay in a shared room of community center, very simple facility. Please bring your sleeping bag. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will learn about culture and ecosystem of Mt. Aso.

**Other activities**

Local school visit, hot spring, and one-day homestay.

**Location**

Aso in Kumamoto pref. is a city with rich nature. Aso-Kuju National Park is one of Japan's oldest national park. Volunteers can enjoy splendid view of Mt. Aso and natural hot spring!

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is Fukuoka airport. From Fukuoka to the meeting point, it takes 3 hours by express train. You need to arrive in Fukuoka by 09:00 AM on first day and can leave after 17:00 on last day. The nearest domestic airport is in Kumamoto.

**Requirement**

Interest in revitalization the community, and activities with children.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

None
### Background

Newly organized together with "Yuuhidea Shizen Taiken Zikko linkai", founded by local people for maintain the forest and teaching nature value to children. This group try to organizing many event for family and maintain the Satoyama forest. They also hope that this area will be improve with Multi-generational people. They need international voluntary power for new ideas! (Website: http://www.yhdr.jp/)

### Work

We will do various work for preserve culture and nature. Main work is (1) maintaining the mountain fields (cutting grasses and bamboo), (2) playing with Children in the nature(cooking, nature activity) and do some other work for the community.

### Accommodation

Volunteers stay in kindly host house. There are clean toilet, shower room and kitchen. You share the room with other (Not private room). Please bring sleeping bag! Volunteers prepare the meals by themselves. Wi-Fi are not connected basically. There is a dog in this accommodation.

### Study theme

Volunteers have time for discussion about “How to interchange and dispatch about Satoyama forest’s enlivening”.

### Other activities

Trekking, enjoy historical kanazawa city and so on.

### Location

Ishikawa prefecture is almost middle of Japan. Campsite is located in South part of Ishikawa prefecture. This village is small and surrounded nature (https://goo.gl/maps/RkFfsMUNDU82)

### Terminal

Komatsu is nearest airport. The closest International airport is Osaka (Kansai). It takes 4 hours by express train. From Tokyo (Narita/Haneda airport), 4.5 hours by express train/ 8 hours by night bus (you need to arrive by 7th Aug. afternoon/ can leave campsite after 12th noon.)

### Requirement

High motivation to work and enjoy simple countryside life. Need idea for local revitalization. Speaking Japanese language is welcomed!

### Participation fee

No fee

### Language

English

### Other

Volunteers get knowledge about actions for developing local village and forest. Also the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.
Let's be of help for the traditional organic tea farming in beautiful little Machu-Pichu in Gifu!

This project is newly organized together with local organization named ‘National Daily-tea and Tea seeds Support Network (NDTSN)’. Kasuga area in Ibigawa town is one of the rare place of production of Japanese teas in traditional farming without any use of pesticides. On the other hand, it has been facing serious aging and depopulation problems, so the number of retired farmers has been increasing rapidly. NDTSN has been trying to revive the abandoned cultivated lands and making wholesome oil produced from tea seeds as a new local specialty. NDTSN also has been trying to organize some projects for interaction between urban and rural areas for activating the community.

Volunteers will mainly support for elderly local farmers to work on their tea farm such as cutting glasses or harvesting. Volunteers will also help maintenance of footpath to the scenic spot for hiker’s safety. The schedule of work will be changed due to weather condition, so you need to be flexible!

Volunteers will stay in shared room in a old house. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

Volunteers will get knowledge of history and culture of Japanese tea.

Volunteers will join the local traditional summer festival!

Kasuga area of Ibigawa town in Gifu prefecture. It’s surrounded by beautiful mountains. The beautiful scenery of tea farms in highland there is called 'little Machu-Pichu in Gifu'.

The nearest international airport is in Nagoya (Chubu Centrair International Airport). From Nagoya to the meeting point (Ibi sta.), it takes 2 hours by train. You need to arrive at the airport in Nagoya by 9:00AM on the first day and can leave there after 18:00 on the last day. From Tokyo to the meeting point, it takes 4.5 hours by bullet train.

Interest in organic tea farming and high motivation for working outside.

No fee

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)
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**Summary**

Dance hard, work hard! Massive tourist needs your help for tour boats on the local river!

**Background**

Since 2014, this workcamp has been organized with the local group for taking care of local river called "Shinmachi river." They have been cleaning river for more than 20 years and dirty river became clean, so now they are organizing local tour boat services on Shinmachi river to let local people enjoy river. During this workcamp, Tokushima prefecture has one of the most popular festivals called “Awa Odori festival” that more than 1,000,000 visitors come from all over Japan (even abroad!). The visitors also enjoy the boats that needs a lot of help to organize!

**Work**

Prepare and support for local event “Awa Odori festival” with local people to activate the area. The volunteers will support the local group that organizes local boat services which many tourists make a long queue for. Volunteers will also clean up the river and roads in the city during the festival.

**Accommodation**

Shared house the organizer manages. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get chance to interact with energetic local people who want to activate the small city.

**Other activities**

Awa Odori Festival, Exchange parties, experiencing Japanese culture, etc

**Location**

Tokushima city, Tokushima pref.

**Terminal**

Takamatsu (3 hours by train). You need to arrive at Takamatsu airport by 10:00 on 10th and can leave there after 17:00 on the 17th. If Kansai airport (5 hours by train), you need to arrive by 07:00 on the 10th and can leave there after 21:00 on 17th.

**Requirement**

Positive attitude to working hard, communication with Japanese local people

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the presentation of the camp leader for the IVS contest in Japan 2015 [https://prezi.com/e48fm-3cjw74/tokushima-awaodori/](https://prezi.com/e48fm-3cjw74/tokushima-awaodori/) (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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### Summary

Making Soba noodle, Japanese drum festival, Cutting bushes in the beautiful island.

### Background

NICE have been organized together with “Morito”, a local voluntary group in Sado Island, since 2001. They maintain the school forest called “Furusato-no-mori Park” in Ogi town, on the southern part of the island. They make it possible for the community to enjoy the forest in every season. They are now trying to focus on caring for the forest in a joint effort with the community. They hope youth and foreign volunteers will mentally and physically help to empower this area.

### Work

Volunteer’s main works are (1) cutting bushes in the school huge forests by Brush-cutter machine (2) practicing make soba (buckwheat Japanese noodles) every night and selling soba at famous art festival “Earth Celebration” during 3 days with local people, and (3) supporting the local small festival “Ogi Matsuri” as player the Japanese drums. (Vols. need to practice to play it)

### Accommodation

Cottage in the school forest. Please bring your sleeping bag! Everyone sleep together. Volunteers prepare the meals by themselves. Internet cannot be connected in the campsite. There is simple toilet, kitchen and shower room. Please be ready for simple forest life!

### Study theme

Best practice to revive depopulated areas in each country and their networking.

### Other activities

Exchange parties, fishing, swimming in the sea etc.

### Location

300 km northeast of Tokyo. Sado Island is famous for gold and the Japanese crested ibis. Ogi village is in the southern part beside the beach, where you can enjoy fishing and the hot spring! (https://goo.gl/maps/wSCq3PyfZT32)

### Terminal

The closest International airport is Tokyo (Haneda/Narita airport). It takes 3 hours by express train/ 8 hours by highway bus and take ferry for 2 hours. You need to arrive by 9th Aug. afternoon/ can leave campsite after 30th Aug. noon.

### Requirement

Interest in nature protection & exchange with a community. Adaptability to enjoy a simple forest lifestyle, and hard physical work during day and night!

### Participation fee

Free

### Language

English (Speaking Japanese language is welcomed!)

### Other

Volunteers get knowledge and skill about making Soba and playing the Japanese drum. Also the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.
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**Summary**
Let’s expand the local green tea brand “Wazuka tea” with the energies from all over the world!

**Background**
This workcamp has been organized with a Non-profit organization for the study of producing organic Japanese tea since 2001. There are some farmers who produce organic tea in Wazuka town. The situation of organic farming within Japan is still very challenging, so that getting help from volunteers is important. The brand of the tea in Wazuka is getting famous and the farmers are hoping that this tea will make this rural area famous enough to invite tourists. Volunteers will also learn about the history of tea in Japan!

**Work**
Volunteers will help tea farmers to take care of organic farms. Weeding is one of the most important and needed works. We will also organize one day event in Wazuka for cultural exchange such as cooking and sharing international meals, playing games, and music, etc. The event will be a chance to interact with local people and make them open-minded to international relationships.

**Accommodation**
Volunteers will stay public house. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**
Volunteers will get knowledge of tea farming and also tea processing.

**Other activities**
Exchange parties, experiencing Japanese culture (especially tea), home stay, etc.

**Location**
The most southern part of Kyoto prefecture, close to Nara prefecture.

**Terminal**
Kansai international airport (KIX-Osaka). From Osaka city to the meeting point, it takes 1 hour by train. You need to arrive at KIX by 10:00 on Aug. 11 and can leave there after 17:00 on Aug. 26. From Tokyo to Osaka, 5 hours by bullet train (Shinkansen) or 11 hours by midnight bus.

**Requirement**
Interested in Japanese culture, positive attitude to work outside in hot weather

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**
None
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**Summary**

Helping for summer kids camp. Let's share your culture, smiles, and friendship with children!!

**Background**

This project has been organized together with a local group 'Upple' since 2007. Every year, Upple held a summer kids camp with local college students for around 30 kids in age from 8 to 15 in Hiraodai, one of the largest karst plateau in Japan. This kids camp is a great opportunity for children not only to enjoy nature, foster their independence and group cooperativeness but also experiencing cross-cultural learning with international volunteers. Volunteers need to prepare for spending 24 hours with children for this period except for a few days off.

**Work**

Volunteers will live together, supporting activities in nature and sharing your culture with children. Volunteers will activate the children's independence and creativity by letting them take care of themselves as far as possible and letting them plan for activity, so volunteers will need to respect their ideas!

**Accommodation**

Volunteers will stay in a shared room of community center. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Please bring your sleeping bag.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of good ways of interaction with kids.

**Other activities**

Excursion to calcareous cave, cultural exchange parties with local college students, etc.

**Location**

Hiraodai in Kitakyushu city, It is located in the northern part of Fukuoka prefecture, famous for beautiful nature like as calcareous cave.

**Terminal**

The closest International airport is in Fukuoka. From Fukuoka to the meeting point, it takes 3 hours by express train. You need to arrive at Fukuoka airport by 10:00AM on the first day and can leave there after 15:00 on the last day.

**Requirement**

Volunteers should love children. Responsibility, group cooperativeness and high motivation to work with children are necessary! Some Japanese language skill (beginners level or more) and Motivation letter is required.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English and some Japanese

**Other**

None
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**Summary**

Working in the forest of a beautiful village! You can also fully enjoy richness of nature and the night studded thick with stars.

**Background**

This project has organized together with a local group formed for this project since 1999. Hoshino village has received the first prize at the national contests for visibility of beautiful stars in the sky and terraced paddy fields. In spite of the town’s natural heritage, depopulation, especially of youth, is a serious problem here similarly with many other parts of the country side in Japan. This project aims to activate Hoshino village by helping forest conservation and organizing cultural exchange events with locals and international volunteers.

**Work**

Volunteers will work in the forests for helping maintenance by cutting underbrush with instruction by the local Forestry Cooperative. Volunteers will also do some various work needed in the community such as cleaning activity, cutting glass in public institutions. Organizing cultural event with locals is also one of the important role of volunteers.

**Accommodation**

Volunteers will stay in a shared room of community center. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Volunteers needs to bring own sleeping bag (and mattress if they want). Volunteers need to enjoy staying in a simply basic accommodation.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of conservation work in a forest.

**Other activities**

Star watching, hot spring, cultural learning about Japanese tea, and so on. Volunteers can also enjoy cooking Japanese traditional food with local people.

**Location**

Hoshio village is a small but beautiful place surrounded by mountains, about 50 km southeast of Fukuoka. It is famous for production of tea leaves named ‘Hoshino-cha’ and beauty of starry sky.

**Terminal**

The closest International airport is in Fukuoka. From Fukuoka to the meeting point, it takes about 2 hours by express train. You need to arrive at Fukuoka airport by 10:00AM on the first day and can leave there after 17:00 on the last day.

**Requirement**

Interest in preservation of forest is required. Volunteers need to enjoy simple lifestyle!

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/e2-67954554 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**
Support zero-waste movement and local tea farms in the least populated town in the Shikoku region!

**Background**
Kamikatsu town has the smallest population out of all the 4 prefectures in the Shikoku region. This town became famous because of its zero-waste movement. Residents divide rubbish into 34 categories for recycling and then they bring that garbage to the collection point in town. This movement gets a lot of attention because of its innovativeness, however, it can make things difficult for households with elderly people. Kamikatsu is also famous for "Awa bancha" tea. Farmers need help with leaf picking season because of depopulation and aging. Shall we make this unique town in Tokushima a more beautiful place together?

**Work**
1) Visit farmers at their houses and help them with picking the local tea leaves "Awa bancha". 2) Visit households of old people and support them with the zero-waste movement, such as repurposing garbage into resources, separating rubbish into 34 categories and bringing them to the rubbish station. 3) Interact with local children!

**Accommodation**
Accommodation the organizer manages. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**
Leaning about the famous zero-waste movement and preserving village life in a depopulating area

**Other activities**
Interactive party with locals, you might have a chance to go kayaking!

**Location**
Kamikatsu town is in Tokushima prefecture. It is famous for the local tea and its zero-waste movement.

**Terminal**
It takes about 50 minutes from the prefectural government office by car. You will see a chain of mountains which has a 1439m high mountain as the highest one. Most of the town is mountainous land and terraced fields.

**Requirement**
Motivation, cooperativeness, interest in the lifestyle of rural areas!

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English, Japanese is also welcomed!

**Other**
Webpage for Kamikatsu town
http://utsukushii-mura.jp/kamikatsu/

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**Summary**
Organizing English kids camp in a small city beside the ocean! Cleaning up the pilgrim road and organizing some events related to it!

**Background**
This workcamp has been organized with local group for International workcamp in Imabari since 2015. Imabari city is depopulated area so that kids in this city don’t have much chance to have international exchanges, which are important for kids’ growth to understand cultural diversity. Through this workcamp local group hope that volunteers can activate local kids, people and community in Imabari.

**Work**
Volunteers will help local group to organize international exchange programs for local kids. During the programs, they will organize activities such as games, dances, songs and crafts. And also, they will clean the Pilgrim road and organize or join some events related to it.

**Accommodation**
Kindergarten. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Please bring Sleeping bag!

**Study theme**
Volunteers will get knowledge of good ways to interact with kids.

**Other activities**
Cycling in Shimanami kaido, and local firework festival, etc.

**Location**
Imabari city, Ehime prefecture. About 300 km south west of Osaka. Near Seto Island sea.

**Terminal**
Matusyama airport. It will take 1 hour by train to get the meeting point in Imabari. You can also come from Kansai international airport in Osaka (7-8 hours by bus) or Takamatsu airport in Kagawa (2hours by train).

**Requirement**
Positive attitude to communicate with others.

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English (Japanese is also welcomed to communicate with kids!)

**Other**
Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/w4-67954841 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)

![Picture (Area)](image1)
![Picture (Work)](image2)
![Picture (Accommodation)](image3)
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**Summary**

Organizing non-formal International class for kids in a remoted area, and helping local people to clean local shrine and temple!

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized with local group for International workcamp in Hirata since 2001. Hirata town is depopulated area in Izumo city and they doesn’t have much chance to have an international interact, which is important for kids growth. Also number of people who maintain the environment in this town is getting decreasing. Through this workcamp they hope that volunteer can activate local people and community.

**Work**

Volunteers will have private school for elementary school kids for and organize international exchange classes. Also volunteers will clean local area such as shrine or temple, and do weeding in tea farm if local people need it. Also planning international exchange day and invite local people to interact.

**Accommodation**

Local community center. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of good ways of interaction with kids.

**Other activities**

Exchange parties, experiencing Japanese culture, home stay, etc.

**Location**

Hirata town, Izumo city, About 250 km north west of Osaka. Near the Sea of Japan

**Terminal**

The nearest int'l airport is Kansai(Osaka). From Osaka to the meeting point in Shimane, it will take 6.5 hours by bus. Volunteers are recommended to arrive at the airport one day before workcamp starts. Hiroshima airport is also available, it takes about 4 hours to the meeting point.

**Requirement**

Positive attitude to communicate with kids.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at [https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/17-82095353imabari](https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/17-82095353imabari) (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**

Workcamp caravan in Hokuriku area! Various work in three prefectures and promoting about workcamp!

**Background**

NICE HOKURIKU OFFICE (the local branch of NICE) is organizing this caravan with some local cooperative organization. Since 2013, NICE have started many new project in Hokuriku area (Niigata, Toyama, Ishikawa and Fukui prefecture) and also we will try to more cooperation with existing and new local organization. So, NICE want volunteer to feel attractive of traditional Hokuriku area and promote about workcamp to the local people though this workcamp caravan! This is Hokuriku office’s 5th anniversary special caravan!

**Work**

Volunteer visit 3 or 4 campsite in 3 prefectures and work for these village. (1)Maintaining the forest, (2) Agriculture in the vegetable field and (3) Promoting NICE and international workcamp in the culture exchange party. And do some other work for the community.

**Accommodation**

Renovated house (Japanese traditional house!). Simple shower room. Clean toilet. You don't need to bring your sleeping bag. Volunteers prepare the meals by themselves. Basically, Wi-Fi is not available.

**Study theme**

Best practice to revive depopulated areas in each country and their networking.

**Other activities**

Cultural party with local people, hot spring and beautiful nature.

**Location**

Hokuriku area (Toyama, Ishikawa and Fukui) is almost middle of Japan. Each campsite are very small village located in the mountain. There are rice fields, historical shrine, and beautiful nature!

**Terminal**

Komatsu is nearest airport. The closest International airport is Osaka (Kansai). It takes 4 hours by express train. From Tokyo (Narita/Haneda airport), 4.5 hours by express train/ 8 hours by night bus (you need to arrive by 16th Aug. afternoon/ can leave campsite after 3rd noon.)

**Requirement**

High motivation to work and simple mountain life in the isolated area, Also respect to the local culture and way of the local organization. The skill for promotion is welcomed!

**Participation fee**

No Fee

**Language**

English (Speaking Japanese language is welcomed!)

**Other**

Volunteers get knowledge about actions for developing local village. Also the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.

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**Picture (Area)**

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**Picture (Work)**

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**Picture (Accommodation)**

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**Summary**
Help to prepare and run the summer festival of the children Home in Kamakura which was a capital city of Japan in the 13th-14th centuries. Nice beach is also near.

**Background**
This workcamp has been organized with Happy Kids Team (HKT) in NICE and Kamakura Children Home (KCH) since 2004. HKT was started in 2004 since child abuse was getting more serious (5,000 cases were reported in 1997 and 120,000 cases were done in 2016). They used to organize various actions, but now focus on only KCH by organizing the weekend workcamps every month and international ones once a year. KCH accommodates 80 children aged 2-18, who lives in the smaller units of 10 children. They cannot live with their families by various reasons, but many cases are by abuse. The workcamps have been creating great impact to empower their hopes and confidence, to grow friendship and personality and to support the staff members.

**Work**
Volunteers will work in KCH mainly to prepare/ run/ clean up their bon dance festival on Aug. 26 especially constructing the stage (where Volunteers and others will show performance during the festival) and running the shops. Volunteers will also do some other things like playing with the children in the playground, a dinner with a few elder children, etc.

**Accommodation**
Possibly, a room in the residential building for staff members of KCH. Meals (besides lunch) will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**
Child abuse situation and activities in each country and global cooperation

**Other activities**
Excursion on a free day (e.g., Yokohama), walking around Kamakura city in a free time (beach, shrines), party with KCH staff (that may cost around 3,500 JPY), etc.

**Location**
30 km from Yokohama. Kamakura is an old capital city of Japan in the 13th-15th centuries and popular tourism spot with a lot of attractions like old temples, green hills and a beach.

**Terminal**
The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 60 min by slow train. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita or Haneda) by 11:00 on Aug. 19 and can leave there after 17:00 on Aug. 28.

**Requirement**
High motivation to work with the children with special background. Similar type of experience is welcome! Motivation letter is needed! Vols. need to be ready that the main work will be construction and playing with the kids.

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**
Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/ss-82084539 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**

Let's be of help for the local elderly farmers in a beautiful country side in Japan! After working, you can also enjoy a relaxing time in natural hot spring.

**Background**

This project is organized together with Ono Agriculture Union in Nishiwaga (OAUN), since 2014. Nishiwaga is a rural town surrounded by the beautiful nature such as forests and lake. On the other side, it has been facing serious aging and depopulation problems. Over 45% of villagers are over age of 65, and the number of retired farmers are increased. OAUN has been trying to revive the abandoned cultivated lands and organizing some projects for interaction between urban and rural areas for activating the community. Since 2017, they have been starting to make a biotope for promoting sustainable organic farming.

**Work**

Volunteers will mainly support to make a biotope and help for elderly local farmers to work on their farm such as cutting glasses or harvesting. Volunteers also work in a facility for the people with disabilities. The schedule of work will be changed due to weather condition, so you need to be flexible! Volunteers will ride rented bicycle between accommodation and working place.

**Accommodation**

Volunteers will stay in shared room in an old house (newly-renovated). Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is NOT necessary.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of history and culture of Nishiwaga, and have time for sharing ideas how to activate the depopulated area.

**Other activities**

Hot spring!! Volunteers can also join for cultural exchange parties with locals, and activity with nursery school kids.

**Location**

Nishiwaga town, center of Tohoku area (north part of Japan), and located in border between Iwate and Akita prefecture. It surrounded by beautiful mountains, and famous for hot spring (there is one even in a train station)!

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point (Hot Yuda sta.) in Iwate, it takes 5 hours by bullet train or 9 hours by night bus. You need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda) by 19:00PM on Aug. 21st and can leave there after 09:00AM on Sep. 1st.

**Requirement**

Interest in community development, cultural exchange with a local community, and agricultural works.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/e3-67954577 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**

Let's join for revival of beautiful traditional terraced rice field!

**Background**

This project has been organized with Association for Activating Hiratsuka area (AAH) since 2017. AAH is formed by local farmers with the aim of utilization local resources to increase the attractiveness of Hiratsuka area by maintaining the hiking trail, making a local sightseeing map, helping to organize local festivals and so on. AAH also has cooperated with Tennen-mura for revival of abandoned farmland such as traditional terraced rice fields. Tennen-mura (means 'Natural Village') is an institution providing city people opportunities to experience of farming and country life. They need power of young international volunteers for vitalizing the aging community.

**Work**

Volunteers will help local farmers to take care of terraced rice fields by weeding and harvesting. Volunteers will also help cutting the grass in the abandoned farm, making herb garden, and woodworking in the village. The contents of work will be changed due to weather, please be flexible!

**Accommodation**

Volunteers will stay in shared room. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is NOT needed.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge about agriculture of terraced rice fields.

**Other activities**

Cultural exchange party with local people, hiking, and traditional hand crafts etc.

**Location**

Kamogawa city is located in southern Chiba pref. It takes only 2 hours from the central Tokyo by bus, however, you can enjoy its rich nature such as beautiful coastline and terraced rice fields.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda). From Tokyo to the meeting point, it takes 1.5 hours by bus. You need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda) by 9:00 AM on the first day and can leave there after 17:00 PM on the last day.

**Requirement**

Interested in Japanese agriculture, positive attitude to work outside in hot weather.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

None
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**Summary**

Let's organize cooking/English speaking classes in the primary school of the depopulated area! Create a sunflower field with the kids:) Enjoy healthy & tasty vegan!

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized since 2016 with the local group, coordinated by the ex. Director of NICE who lives here since 2015. Shinko district is surrounded by the mountains and has serious ongoing depopulation and aging, that is a common issue in most of the country sides (or even the whole country!) of Japan. In 2016, volunteers worked for nature farming and creating a trail in the mountain where we can enjoy amazing view of Japanese northern Alps! In 2017, they helped to run some classes in the primary school which is in crisis to be closed down by the shortage of children. So, this year, we will continue our activities in the school to promote their global education, to increase the attraction of the school and to activate the community.

**Work**

 Volunteers will 1) harvest the sunflowers with the students (age 6-12) in the abandon field which will be converted into oil as renewable energy as a pilot project toward a future industry/employment, 2) help to run the cooking and English speaking classes and 3) work in the organic rice fields with full of biodiversity and continue the trail maintenance.

**Accommodation**

Public hall. Meals (attention: only vegan food is possible!) will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**

How can we maintain the schools in the depopulated area?

**Other activities**

Experience program to cook local dishes, farm stay, etc.

**Location**

Shinko district has about 2,000 inhabitants and is located in the south west of Nagano city, in the north east of Nagano prefecture. The climate is colder than low land especially in the evening and morning. Rice and apples farming is the main industry.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point, it takes 3 hours by the bullet train or 5 hours by bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita or Haneda) by 08:00 on Aug. 27 and can leave there after 19:00 on Sep. 09.

**Requirement**

High motivation to work with kids and outside. Similar types of experience and Japanese speaking skill are welcome! Volunteers need to accept and enjoy vegan food. Motivation letter is needed!

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

None

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**Picture (Area)**

[Image of sunflower field]

**Picture (Work)**

[Image of volunteer activities]

**Picture (Accommodation)**

[Image of volunteer accommodation]
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**Summary**

Let's enjoy rich nature in Iwaki! Maintain forest around Mt. Yunodake area!

**Background**

Organized together with Iwaki no Mori ni Shitashimukai (IMS) since 2016. IMS start on October 3, 2001 at Mt. Yunodake in Iwaki city. IMS is a NPO maintaining forest and organizing activities there for children. They aim to revive SATOYAMA forest by citizen's hands and they hope people enjoy satoyama safely and freely. IMS think it is necessary to know the forest and the soil which are the source of life to understand the essence of the environmental problem.

**Work**

1) Maintenance and restoration of chestnut garden. Grass cutting/shrubs clearance where we have planted maple trees. 2) Maintenance of Yunodake mountain retreat nature walk course used for nature observation sessions and nature games, including grass cutting/undergrowth clearance. 3) Maintenance of the coastal forest damaged by the tsunami in the Great East Japan Earthquake.

**Accommodation**

Volunteer stay a Japanese style room. Rooms for men and women. Cooking done in turns. All basic facilities are provided.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of nature, revive from huge earthquake.

**Other activities**

Communicating with member of IMS and local university students.

**Location**

Iwaki City is a city located in the southern part of Fukushima Prefecture. It has the largest population and area in Fukushima Prefecture. Yunodake is located about 10 km southwest of the city center city.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo (Narita/Haneda). From Tokyo to the meeting point, it takes 3 hours by bus, You need to arrive Narita/Haneda airport by 28th morning You can leave project site on 11th morning.

**Requirement**

Interest to protect nature and to exchange with people.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

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**Summary**

Organic farming in the wonderful community with challenged people in beautiful nature. They have got the best prize of mountain cheese contest in the world!

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized with Kyodo Gakusha since 1998, a cooperative community where about people with various backgrounds such as mentally disadvantaged, people who are tired of city life, who wants to learn farming, just want to live in the nature, etc. They have 5 communities in Tokyo, Nagano and Hokkaido and grow animals and vegetables in ecological, organic way with utilizing bacterium and charcoal. Shintoku farm has 60 ha of land and 60 inhabitants including children. Their cheese got the 1st prize in the global contest and highly appreciated by the French President at the G8 Summit 2008! Volunteers will join and empower their great practice and share the spirit.

**Work**

Volunteers will 1) join the farm work (weeding and harvest in the vegetable, corn and Japanese noodle fields) and other community work especially cooking, 2) do some work that is hardly done by the daily work of the community with the supervision of the specialists (last year, it was maintenance of pasture) and possibly 3) help to prepare/ run the harvest festival.

**Accommodation**

The community (female and male are separated). Meals will be cooked by volunteers together with the community people by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**

Similar types of communities in each country and networking (Social farms)

**Other activities**

School visit, joining a summer festival (tugs of war), exchange and birthday parties, lecture and discussion with the community leader who has very big visions, etc.

**Location**

Shintoku town is an agricultural country side with big scale of nature and farms, at the foot of "Mt. Milk" and located in the center of Hokkaido island, near Obihiro and 120 km east of Sapporo. -20 degree in winter and 20 in summer.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Sapporo. From Sapporo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 2 hours by express train. Volunteers need to arrive at Shin-Chitose airport by 11:00 on Aug. 29 and can leave there after 18:00 on Sep. 11.

**Requirement**

Interest and motivation to work and live in this type of community. Respect to their life.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

They also recruit LMTI (Long and Middle Term Individual voluntary projects). Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/n0-68540773 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**
Cutting trees in SATOYAMA forest to keep biodiversity and encourage sustainable life!

**Background**
Organized together with local NPOs, ‘Association to protect nature in Tondabayashi’ and ‘Hamuro club’ since 2009. 67% of land in Japan is covered with forest and 40% of them is human-made planted forest called SATOYAMA, where people used to get many things to live such as foods and energies. SATOYAMA need to be taken care of to maintain its biodiversity and to keep water adjustment function. Our ancestors had protected and utilized the forest in ecological and sustainable way, which was neglected by modernization. We will try to revive it by global voluntary power!! Most of the members of local groups are aged 50-70, so they expect our participation of youth and foreign vols. to activate both mentally and physically.

**Work**
In the morning, volunteers will work in the forest to maintain it. Cutting woods, pealing skins, cutting bamboos, sometimes chopping firewood. In the afternoon, volunteers will have activities such as discussion about environmental issues, bamboo craft, having a lecture about SATOYAMA.

**Accommodation**
Very simple renovated house and a log house constructed by local people. Cooking with firewood. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**
Volunteers will get knowledge of conservation work in a forest.

**Other activities**
Exchange parties, experiencing Japanese culture, home stay, etc.

**Location**
Tikyani fudo, Tondabayashi city in Osaka. 60 km south of Osaka city

**Terminal**
Kansai int’l airport. To the meeting point, it will take about 1 hour by train. You need to arrive at Kansai airport by 10:00 on 31st and can leave there after 18:00 on 14th.

**Requirement**
Interest in nature conservation. Adaptability to enjoy a simple lifestyle is needed!

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**
None
### Code | Name | Location | Country | Start | End | Type | Vols. | Min age | Max age
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
NICE-18-09021 | Onuma 2 | Hokkaido | Japan | 09/02 | 09/16 | ENVI | 8 | 18 | 99

### Summary
Revive the beautiful lake as 100 years ago through our small, but valuable step by forest maintenance and protection of islands! The place and food are so beautiful here:

### Background
This workcamp has been organized with Onuma Milestone 22, a local NGO made by President of Fishermen’s Cooperative and Director of international exchange association since 2004. Though Onuma lake has been a popular tourism spot for a long time because of its beautiful scenery, it has been polluted by over use of agricultural chemicals in cattle farming and erosion from abandoned forests with alien trees. President of Cooperative has bought a forest and wants to revive it to original nature with native trees! Volunteers will work and live together with the mid term workcampers (Jul. 20-Sep. 16) which volunteers are also recruited.

### Work
Volunteers will 1) work in the forest (removing some alien conifer trees that disturb growth of other plants and animals, maintain the foot paths, etc.), 2) put many small stones on the shores of the small island in the lake to protect them from the waves caused by the motor boats, 3) remove the alien glasses and collect the garbage and 4) possibly promote to use eco sponges with which you can wash most of the dishes without using detergent.

### Accommodation
Rooms of the apartment. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary. By the kind offer from the rental shop, each volunteer can use a bicycle that is very convenient to explore the area! Wi-Fi is available at the visitors center nearby.

### Study theme
Lecture of the environmental issue. Workshop to plan the 25 years plan of Onuma toward 2040

### Other activities
Excursion to Hakodate, joining a local festival with carrying the portable shrine and enjoying a lot of food and drinks, exchange parties with local student (age 8-9), etc.

### Location
Onuma is located in Nanae town in the southern Hokkaido island, 30-60 min. distance by train from Hakodate city which is famous for the romantic view in the night, especially for sweet couples!

### Terminal
The nearest airport is Hakodate to which LCC (Vanilla air) flies from Narita, Tokyo. Volunteers need to arrive at Narita airport by 05:00 on Sep. 02 and can leave there after 16:00 on Sep. 16. Volunteers can also fly to Sapporo, then take an express train for 3 hours.

### Requirement
Motivation to actively work for the protection of the forest and lake with local people!

### Participation fee
No fee

### Language
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

### Other
Please see the long term goal of this project as “Local SDGs” at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/n2-68394244 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**
Organizing camp program at local elementary school for kids and their parents. Maintenance of mountain and forest by cutting trees and grass to restore the forest’s condition!

**Background**
Organized together with local community center in Ino area. Ino area is very remote area in Shimane, and faces the problem of depopulation. Local group is trying to reactivate this area by inviting people from another area of Japan and even from another countries. Especially kids here don't have enough experience of international interests, which local group think it's important for kids' growth. During this workcamp, volunteers are expected to make this area fun! And also, local group is trying to turn mountain area to place where people can have a fun each other. To achieve the goal, they keep maintaining the nature of mountain and forest. Volunteers are also required to support these activities.

**Work**
Volunteers will organize some camp program which means staying at local elementary school overnight for kids and their parents to provide an opportunity having international interests. And they will do some various kind of works to maintain the nature of forest and mountain. For example, cutting down trees and grass, lopping off dead branches.

**Accommodation**
Local empty house. Local people might prepare beds for you, but you are recommended to bring your own sleeping bag in case. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

**Study theme**
Volunteers will get knowledge of good ways of interaction with kids.

**Other activities**
Izumo shrine, cultural exchange

**Location**
Ino area, Izumo city in Shimane prefecture

**Terminal**
Osaka. From Osaka to the meeting point in Shimane, it will take 9 hours by midnight bus. You need to arrive at Kansai airport by 18:00 on 28th and can leave there after 15:00 on 5th. From Tokyo, 6 hours by Shinkansen or 12 hours by midnight bus.

**Requirement**
Positive attitude to communicate with kids, love nature.

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**
Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/w1-67954652 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**

Kids camp in the beautiful village. You can enjoy very beautiful nature and Japanese traditional culture with lovely Kids! You feel REAL JAPAN!

**Background**

NICE have been organized together with Shizentaiken Ozuchi Mura since 2013, founded by local people to keep the Japanese original landscape. There were 140 inhabitants with 20 houses in 1916, but now only 2 people live there! Still 10 houses are remained and the area was designated as Nation's Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings. This group try to improve this depopulation situation by young voluntary power. Volunteers have been tried to (1) agriculture, (2) maintain the forest, (3) organize the event of culture exchange for local people and (4) exchange of ideas for improvement regional development though workcamp.

**Work**

Volunteers will work for activate this area. Main work is organizing and preparing for "Kids/Junior English camp". From 6 to 18 years old children join and enjoy international days in the beautiful nature. And we possibly also support "maintaining rice fields and vegetables' fields" for sustainable life, and do some other work for the community.

**Accommodation**

Renovated house (Japanese traditional house!). Simple shower room. Clean toilet. You don't need to bring your sleeping bag. Volunteers prepare the meals by themselves. Wi-Fi is not available. There is a cat in this village.

**Study theme**

Best practice to revive depopulated areas in each country and their networking.

**Other activities**

Exchange parties with local people, trekking to the mountain and activity in the river etc.

**Location**

The southwest part of Ishikawa prefecture. Ozuchi village is surrounded by mountains, so very isolated, but you can enjoy mountain life in the very beautiful/traditional place. Charcoal making was main industry. (https://goo.gl/maps/kPUu666yx292)

**Terminal**

Komatsu airport is nearest. From Osaka (Kansai) airport (4 hours by express train). From Tokyo, 5 hours by express train/ 8 hours by night bus (For Narita airport, you need to arrive by 4th Sep. afternoon/ can leave campsite after 18th Sep. night.)

**Requirement**

High motivation to work hard and simple mountain life in the isolated area, Also respect to the local culture and way of the local organization. Speaking Japanese language is welcomed!

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English

**Other**

Volunteers get knowledge about actions for developing local village. Also the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.

Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/w2-67954709 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**

Working in rice fields in the small village, and gathering various kinds of ideas to make the village attractive to visitors!

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized together with Ojiro Tourism Association since 2009. Ojiro is depopulated, aging small village located at the middle of north-west of the Hyo-no mountain in Hyogo prefecture. Nature in this area is really beautiful even though the area is not famous. Local people hope that the people in the cities can enjoy this beautiful nature as well as wonderful local culture. Volunteers are also expected to find attractive points of this village from different points of view of various countries!

**Work**

Maintain the rice field called “tanada”, a traditional Japanese rice field in the mountain area. Tanada here was selected as one of “the 100 most beautiful tanada” in Japan. We will also do some farming work or any work that local people need. We might make signpost of the area for tourists. Discussion about how to make this village attractive.

**Accommodation**

Local community center. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

**Study theme**

You will get the knowledge how to activate a remoted area and make it attractive.

**Other activities**

Party with local people. hiking, Hot spring, excursion to sandhill in Tottori pref.

**Location**

Ojiro-ku, Kami town, located in the north-west the Hyogo prefecture, the middle of the Hyo-no mountain.

**Terminal**

Osaka. From Osaka city to the meeting point, it will take for 3-4 hours by train and bus. You need to arrive at Kansai airport by 8:00 on the first day and can leave there after 21:00 on 14th.

**Requirement**

Love nature, flexibility for many types of works

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the presentation of the camp leader for the IVS contest in Japan 2015 [https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/w2-54718837](https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/w2-54718837) (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**

Painting the long fences, harvesting rice, enjoy local festival. You can make Kamimamakuchi village encourage by ART!

**Background**

NICE have been organized together with "Satoyama Shizen Gakko Komatsu Takigahara (nature school)", founded in 2011 to teach attraction and importance of Satoyama forest. Depopulation (especially of youth) is a serious problem here similarly in many other country sides. This village have only 20 families and few young people. It is difficult to keep traditional culture, so we aim to help keeping this landscape/cultures and telling Satoyama’s attraction by young power! This village have welcomed volunteers since 2013, and they tried to starting new project with them. Local people really welcome to coming the new people!

**Work**

Main work is (1) painting the fences (more than 1km!), (2) harvesting rice, (3) cutting brush and grasses for landscape preservation and (4) supporting the local events. We may possibly also support to event with kids/local people and do some other work for the community.

**Accommodation**

The community center in the village. There are clean kitchen and toilet. Volunteers take a shower in the kindly local people's houses. Please bring sleeping bag! Volunteers prepare the meals by themselves. Wi-Fi is not available.

**Study theme**

Volunteers have time for discussion about "How to interchange and dispatch about Satoyama forest’s enlivening".

**Other activities**

Exchange parties with local people, trekking and hot spring etc.

**Location**

Ishikawa prefecture is almost middle of Japan. Campsite is very small village located in South part of Ishikawa prefecture. There are rice fields, historical shrine, and beautiful nature.(https://goo.gl/maps/JBr8Py5WowS2)

**Terminal**

Komatsu is nearest airport. The closest International airport is Osaka (Kansai) . It takes 4 hours by express train. From Tokyo (Narita/Haneda airport), 4.5 hours by express train/ 8 hours by night bus (you need to arrive by 6th Sep. afternoon/ can leave campsite after 18th noon.)

**Requirement**

High motivation to work hard and seriously and enjoy simple countryside life. Need idea for local revitalization. Speaking Japanese language is welcomed!

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English

**Other**

Volunteers get knowledge about actions for developing local village. Also the basic knowledge of the Japanese language and local culture.

Please see the long term goal of this project as "Local SDGs" at https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/17-82429832 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**

Working in nature such as world heritage silver mine, local river and mountain. Making great opportunity for local kids and youth to having international exchange!

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized with Organization of Green and Water (OGW) since 2007. OGW was established in 1992 to advocate the importance of prairies and forests in our ecosystem. Iwami Ginzan, a silver mine, was registered as a World Heritage site in 2007. However, the recent lack of maintenance of satoyama forests has caused the unwanted spread of bamboo forests which could destroy stone walls and degrade the scenery. To revitalize the whole city, they are not only working for tangible side such as maintenance of the mine, but also they contribute intangible aspects such as supporting mentally-challenged local youth, environmental and international exchange education at elementary school, etc.

**Work**

Volunteers will do various kinds of work such as maintenance of the bamboo forest around the Iwami Ginzan (cutting down trees and converting into chips), cutting grass in the local mountain to conserve biodiversity, visiting elementary schools to organize classes for international interact, playing sports with youths who are isolated from regular society, cleaning a river, etc.

**Accommodation**

Public house where OGW's office is in. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of conservation work in a forest.

**Other activities**

Visiting the historical sites, exchange party, sports, hot spring, Matsue castle

**Location**

Oda city, Shimane prefecture. About 250 km north west of Osaka. Near the Sea of Japan

**Terminal**

The nearest int'l airport is Kansai(Osaka). From Osaka to the meeting point in Shimane, it will take 6.5 hours by bus. You are recommended to arrive at Kansai on 8th since the bus leaves early morning. Hiroshima airport is also available, it takes about 4 hours to the meeting point.

**Requirement**

Interest in nature conservation.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the presentation of the camp leader for the IVS contest in Japan 2015 https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/w3-54718867 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**

Working hard for cutting and carrying trees in SATOYAMA forest to keep biodiversity and encourage sustainable life!

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized with ”Akame no SATOYAMA wo Sodateru kai”, a local environmental NPO for conservation of SATOYAMA forest since 1999. Since this area is close from big cities Osaka and Nagoya, there were plans to build a golf field and an incinerator, but local people have stopped those plans by the movement called ”National Trust”. They founded the group in 1996 to collect donations to buy and protect lands, to accept people who want to enjoy nature, to maintain forests, to create a pond for dragonflies, to host national copse meeting, etc. SATOYAMA needs to be maintained by humans for its biodiversity and water adjustment function. Our ancestors had protected and utilized the forest in ecological and sustainable way, which was neglected by modernization. We will try to revive it by global voluntary power!!

**Work**

Volunteers will cut down trees in the forest and carry them out so that SATOYAMA forest can keep healthy condition for biodiversity. For work, volunteers need to use blades and sometimes machineries with lecture how to use. Work is quite hard from morning to evening even in rain if it’s not so heavy. Sometimes, we may interact with mentally challenged people who are working everyday for the same things as you will do.

**Accommodation**

Volunteers will stay in a log house. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

**Study theme**

Volunteers will get knowledge of conservation work in SATOYAMA forest.

**Other activities**

hiking, cultural exchange parties, etc.

**Location**

Workcamp is held in Kami-mitani area, Nabari city, Mie prefecture, about 60 km from Osaka. There are famous falls nearby that many hikers visit.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is Kansai int. airport(Osaka) or Chubu Centrair Int. airport(Nagoya). To the meeting point, it will take about 1.5 hour by train from both. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport by 10:00 on 11th and can leave there after 19:00 on 25th.

**Requirement**

Strong motivation and Physical strength are highly needed.

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

Please see the presentation of the camp leader for the IVS contest in Japan 2015 https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/w55 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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**Summary**
Reconstruct the paths in the mountain and preserve the environment in a hidden hamlet overlooking the clouds!

**Background**
This is the very first workcamp organized by a local group "Aruse Tsukushi Kai". Aruse elementary school, located in West Iya region in Miyoshi city used to have more than 100 students, however, as time went on more and more youth and children left the village until finally they had to close the school. People in the village said "We have to do something!" "Let's rebirth the school!" then they started the movement. Volunteers will stay at Aruse elementary school which was reborn in 2016 with the precious memories of the local people. The volunteers are expected to preserve the environment of the village and reconstruct the old paths that connect Tokushima and Kochi prefecture.

**Work**
Reconstruct the paths in the mountain with the local people in order to preserve the environment of the region. The volunteers will be pulling weeds along the paths, creating signs on the paths and helping farmers in the village with pulling weeds and picking vegetables.

**Accommodation**
Aruse elementary school -inn. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns and also served sometimes. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**
Reconstruction of a village

**Other activities**
Welcome party with locals.

**Location**
Aruse village is in Miyoshi-city, Tokushima prefecture.

**Terminal**
It takes about 15 minutes from the closest JR station, Tosa iwahara station in Kochi prefecture. The volunteers will be picked up at Tosa iwahara station.

**Requirement**
Positive attitude, and energy!

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English, Japanese is also welcomed!

**Other**
People at Aruse elementry school-inn!
http://aruse-inn.com/introduction/
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<th>Code</th>
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Summary

Organic farming in the wonderful community with challenged people and beautiful nature. Feel and appreciate the values of food and life!

Background

This workcamp has been organized with Kyodo Gakusha since 2015, a cooperative community where about people with various backgrounds such as mentally disadvantaged, people who are tired of city life, who wants to learn farming, just want to live in the nature, etc. They have 5 communities in Tokyo, Nagano and Hokkaido and grow animals and vegetables in ecological, organic way with utilizing bacterium and charcoal. Tateya Farm has 40 members and NICE started LMTV projects here since 2014. NICE also organizes workcamps and LMTV projects in Maki and Shintoku farms of Kyodo Gakusha.

Work

Volunteers will help their organic farm (harvesting/threshing rice, planting vegetables, taking care of animals, etc.) and their house work especially cooking. Volunteers will also carry the things in the mountain to the Maki farm and harvest rice there. Be ready to work for quite a long time (05:30-18:00 with some brakes) and hard.

Accommodation

Building for the volunteers and a few members, 5 min. walk from the farm. Meals will be cooked by volunteers together with the community people by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary.

Study theme

Similar type of communities in each country and their networking

Other activities

Exchange program, Excursion on a free day (possibly to Hakuba, a famous tourism spot), etc.

Location

Otari village is a small village located in the region of stunning natural beauty in the northern part of Nagano Prefecture, Japan. It is beautiful village near “Japanese Northern Alps”.

Terminal

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 5 hours by express bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita or Haneda) by 06:00 on Sep. 18 and can leave there after 24:00 on Sep. 29.

Requirement

Good Japanese language is not necessary, but still welcomed. Volunteers need to be physically strong and flexible to respect the way of the local host. Motivation letter is needed!

Participation fee

No fee

Language

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

Other

Please see the presentation of the camp leader for the IVS contest in Japan 2015 https://www.slideshare.net/nice-workcamp/e4-54764427 (only Japanese for the moment, but you can at least enjoy the pictures!)
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<td>Japan</td>
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<td>10/07</td>
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**Summary**
Help farming at a steep slope farming field which is registered as a Japanese Agricultural heritage and be an organizer for its new special program!

**Background**
This is the very first workcamp held in Fuchimyo village. The village is in Mima city. Its steep slope farming field is considered so rare in the world that it’s one of the candidates for the world agricultural heritage of the United Nations. Local people such as "The Nakamura village Preservation Group” stood up for preserving the village way of life and precious farming heritage. In 2017, "The Farmer’s Restaurant FUWARI" was opened. There they serve delicious meals featuring the vegetables of local farmers. This gave the villagers a place to eat out and an opportunity to revitalize the community that is facing depopulation and aging.

**Work**
Support picking and planting seasonal vegetables on a steep slope farming field. The volunteers will also be pulling weeds on the roads and fields in the village. In order to revitalize the region through not only agriculture but also tourism, they are trying to invent a program which allows people to stay in the village long-term.

**Accommodation**
Homestay at a house in Fuchimyo village. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**
Learning a steep slope farming system on a 30 degrees hill and a movement to reconstruct a marginal hamlet.

**Other activities**
Interactive party at The Farmer’s Restaurant FUWARI.

**Location**
Fuchimyo village is in Mima-city, Tokushima prefecture and registered as an Agricultural Heritage site in Japan in 2016.

**Terminal**
The volunteers will meet at JR Anabuki station. It takes about 1 hour from JR Tokushima station to Anabuki station. It takes about 1 hour from Anabuki station to Fuchimyo village (12km away).

**Requirement**
Positive attitude, and energy!

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English, Japanese is also welcomed!

**Other**
Fuchimyo village. https://youtu.be/7pi54EEM8W0
Mr. Koizumi the organizer of the workcamp.
Mamma Mima TV! https://youtu.be/lDE4fonLmVM

**Picture (Area)**

**Picture (Work)**

**Picture (Accommodation)**
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**Summary**

Let's prepare and join a local festival related to Shintoism to activate people in remoted area and to hand over traditions to the next generation!

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized with the local group, “an executive committee of Light and Tradition festival” since 2011. Recently, aging and depopulation of the area is getting very serious as well as many other rural villages in Japan. They expect the workcamp to activate local traditional festivals related to Shintoism, which is Japanese traditional religion. This event is combined with 2 events called “Bamboo Lantern Festival” and ”Gaku-uchi” which locals play Japanese drums and flute with walking around the village to wish for the productiveness of grain. Local people want us to know their traditional cultures to be succeeded to the next generation.

**Work**

Volunteers will mainly prepare and join the local festival. Cut bamboos to make lanterns and some small tools to be used in the festival. Volunteers will also need to practice traditional (but easy) music in every evening with local people to play and walk around the village at the festival. Volunteers will also organize a program in the elementary school to promoting both inter-cultural learning and also the festival to the children.

**Accommodation**

In the local community center. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.

**Study theme**

You can get the knowledge about Japanese traditional festivals and customs.

**Other activities**

Japanese Shinto music and dance, home stay, lecture about traditional cultures.

**Location**

Misato-cho located in the middle of the Shimane prefecture, famous for Iwami silver mine as a world heritage. There is hot spa, beautiful nature.

**Terminal**

The nearest int'l airport is Kansai (Osaka). From Osaka to the meeting point in Shimane, it will take 6.5 hours by bus. You are recommended to arrive at Kansai one day before workcamp starts Hiroshima airport is also available, it takes about 4 hours to the meeting point.

**Requirement**

Interested in Japanese old culture, positive attitude to communication with local people

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

None
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**Summary**

Organic farming and nature life in the beautiful and traditional mountain communities in Japan. No road for cars, the only way to reach there is by walk for 1.5 hours!

**Background**

This workcamp has been organized with Kyodo Gakusha since 2000, a cooperative community where about people with various backgrounds such as mentally disadvantaged, people who are tired of city life, who wants to learn farming, just want to live in the nature, etc. They have 5 communities in Tokyo, Nagano and Hokkaido and grow animals and vegetables in ecological, organic way with utilizing bacterium and charcoal. Maki Farm has about 10 members (including 2 families with small children!) and is located in a very isolated area (not accessible for cars and we have to walk 4 km in the mountains), so once it became an abandon village in 1970s and revived by the community. The popular documentary film for this place was broadcasted in 2015 [arayashiki-movie.jp/en/](http://arayashiki-movie.jp/en/)

**Work**

Volunteers will help their organic farm by cutting thatch, threshing rice, selecting beans, taking care of goats and chicken and also carry the things from the town, renovate the trails, help their house works especially cooking, etc. Be ready to work for quite a long time (05:30-18:00 with some brakes) and hard.

**Accommodation**

Building for the volunteers in the farm. Very beautiful cultural heritage! Meals will be cooked by volunteers together with the community people by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary.

**Study theme**

Similar type of communities in each country and their networking

**Other activities**

Exchange program, Excursion on a free day (possibly to Hakuba, a famous tourism spot), etc.

**Location**

Very isolated, but beautiful place near “Japanese Northern Alps”. About 900 meters asl. There are something remained here that most of Japanese areas have lost in modernization.

**Terminal**

The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 5 hours by express bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita or Haneda) by 04:00 on Oct. 17 and can leave there after 24:00 on Oct. 28.

**Requirement**

Good Japanese language is not necessary, but still welcomed. Volunteers need to be physically strong and flexible to respect the way of the local host. Motivation letter is needed!

**Participation fee**

No fee

**Language**

English (Japanese is also welcomed!)

**Other**

None

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*Picture (Area)*

*Picture (Work)*

*Picture (Accommodation)*
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**Summary**
Providing support in the affected areas of reconstruction by the force of international volunteers!

**Background**
This work camp is organized together with some local people. A giant earthquake occurred in the Tohoku area on the 11th Mar 2011. That caused unprecedented damage. 80% of the houses were damaged in Rikuzen-takata and some people still have to be living in temporary houses. We started the special workcamps in Tohoku area for reconstruction work with over 600 vols (including international ones since 2011 Apr). That did great work! But we still need a lot of vol. Volunteer can encourage locals!

**Work**
The volunteer will help local fisherman (oyster) and farmers (tea, apple, vegetable), people damaged by the tsunami such as reclaim, cutting grass and harvesting as well as organize some activities for children in kids centers and do anything else needed.

**Accommodation**
Home stay at Local host’s house. Simple self-catering. Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns. Sleeping bag is not necessary. Share room.

**Study theme**
Disaster area visit and getting to know about disaster damage prevention.

**Other activities**
Exchange party with locals

**Location**
South east edge of Iwate prefecture (very near from Miyagi). Forestry, agriculture and fishing are used to be the main industry, but were severely damaged and may take several years to be rehabilitated. From Tokyo, 6 hours by bullet train or 10 hours by bus.

**Terminal**
The nearest international airport is in Tokyo. From Tokyo to the meeting point near the project, it takes 6 hours by bullet train or 10 hours by bus. Volunteers need to arrive at the airport in Tokyo (Narita or Haneda) by 7:00 by the first day and can leave there after 19:00 on last day (If you will take bullet train).

**Requirement**
High motivation to work for disaster area and respect to the local culture and way of the local’s organization! Motivation letter is required. Not have any criminal or sexual or physical abuse record!

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
Camp language is English, but knowledge in Japanese is welcome.

**Other**
None

--- 49 ---
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<th>Code</th>
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**Summary**
Support farmers with picking buckwheat and pulling weeds while staying at "Yamanto no Sato" which is a renovated old wooden school!

**Background**
This will be the very first workcamp organized by "Hyakusho ikki no kai" which manages farmer's markets in this region. "Yamanto no Sato" was renovated into a community center from an old wooden elementary school located between this region and Kagawa prefecture. The Yamanto people live everyday with their experiences and knowledge by communicating with and utilizing nature. They pick buckwheat by hand since they cannot use machines on the steep slope farming fields. However, the village's working population is declining due to an aging community.

**Work**
Support picking buckwheat in the fields by hand.
Also, the volunteers will be pulling weeds on the roads and in the fields in the village.

**Accommodation**
A community center and lodging facility "Yamanto no Sato". Meals will be cooked by volunteers by turns.
Sleeping bag is necessary.

**Study theme**
Picking buckwheat and making buckwheat noodles
Preserving village life in a depopulating area.

**Other activities**
Interactive party at "Yamanto no Sato"

**Location**
"Yamanto no Sato" is in Mima city, Tokushima prefecture.

**Terminal**
It is about 20 minutes (9km) away from the closest station, JR Sadamitsu station. It takes about 1 hour and 20 minutes to Sadamitsu station from JR Tokushima station.

**Requirement**
Motivation and energy!

**Participation fee**
No fee

**Language**
English, Japanese is also welcomed!

**Other**
Webpage for "Yamanto no Sato" http://yamantonosato.com/
Please check them on youtube(Mr.Kubota) Mamma Mima TV https://youtu.be/ASQ03s3JazI
https://youtu.be/cBe3uB9-L2M