

Vacancy: EVS volunteer for 'Global Reboot'; Communications

CATAPA ngo

CATAPA - Comité Académico Técnico de Asesoramiento a Problemas Ambientales, literally Technical Academic Committee for Assistance on Environmental Issues- is a volunteer organization in Belgium.

We are active in the fields of globalization and sustainable development in Latin America and focus on the problems caused by modern open pit mining (ecological disasters, human rights violations, etc.). We support local communities threatened by multinational mining corporations. The mining industry's impact on the social, economic, cultural and ecological level is often disastrous and fundamentally unjust.

How does mining affect the environment? During a mining project, it is not only the external appearance of the landscape that will change drastically. Mining can cause a broad range of different types of pollution and disruptions. Especially water plays a crucial role in this context. During the extraction process, large masses of fresh water are required. The supply of this water causes desiccation, water scarcity and sometimes salinisation of the neighbouring lands.

Moreover, the technology employed for the extraction of minerals use extremely poisonous chemical products that often end up in the ground water. This process is called acid mine drainage and is difficult to stop once it has been activated. As a result, mining constitutes a threat for flora and fauna, the biodiversity decreases drastically and the local population face health problems. Polluted soil and a lack of clean water make agriculture impossible.

We aim to alter these structural causes of poverty and environmental degradation by forming a resolute front with the social society in the North and South. We have partner organizations in three Latin American countries (Bolivia, Colombia and Peru).



Details

Volunteering contract

Full-time

Apply until 12th September 2017

Start date: 13th September 2017

Period: 12 months

Please note: ***We advise to apply as soon as possible, as we may select a candidate before the application deadline.***

More information

www.catapa.be

karolien.burvenich@catapa.be

Employer

CATAPA vzw

Koningin Maria Hendrikaplein 5

9000 Ghent

CATAPA was founded in 2005. We are about 100 young volunteers and over 1000 subscribers strong. We offer a specific, action bound commitment for anyone who believes that another world is possible. By raising awareness, networking, research, lobbying and exchange we intend to make the mining industry as well as the consumption of metals more just for man and environment.

We are looking for an EVS volunteer

You will be working together with another EVS volunteer on the first phase of CATAPA's 'Global Reboot' campaign, which will run until 30 September 2019.

Global Reboot supports our 'Make ICT Fair' project, which will raise issues around the interdependencies and ethics of the Information Communication Technology (ICT) industry, in collaboration with 12 European partners. The action aims to raise awareness & understanding of EU citizens/decision makers about the interdependencies between the Global South and Europe, mobilise EU citizens/decision makers & ICT purchasers/procurers working in the EU Public Sector to improve workers'/communities' rights and conditions in the ICT industry. Each of the European partners has its specific role, and CATAPA will take up its role as expert on the mining aspect of the electronics value chain.

The Global Reboot campaign will support the project on the local, Flemish level, and will focus specifically on young people in higher education. The 2 EVS volunteers will be trained to think critically and spread knowledge of these problems, to hold bodies accountable, and to encourage other young people to become active EU citizens.

Concrete activities will range from enhancing the accessibility of knowledge/information, (preparing educational tools, opening up our network...), promoting educational tools and videos and organizing educational events, lectures and workshops, and supporting initiatives of young people and teachers related to sustainability and the exploitation and depletion of resources. Since CATAPA is a volunteer movement, you will be expected to try to collaborate as much as possible with the volunteers:

Catapistas.

We are looking for one volunteer to work on communication tasks.

Tasks

- Do research and stay up-to-date with the topic of the campaign
- Manage the CATAPA Facebook page, Twitter and website
- Write, revise and proofread articles
- Support volunteers, members, students writing their thesis
- Make promotional material such as flyers and posters
- Support the production of the newsletter
- Help to organise events
- Create and lead communication strategies for events
- Participate actively in meetings of the communication working group

Requirements

Essential

- Interested in learning about the environmental movement and mining issues
- Advanced speaker of one of the three languages: English, Spanish, Dutch
- Able to communicate in English, as this is our main working language
- Independent, proactive worker
- Interest in working with volunteers
- Be familiar with social media and organizing events
- Enjoy reading and writing
- Age below 31 years
- Irish, British or Dutch national (partner countries)

Desirable

- Have experience with environmental movement or in international development
- Background knowledge of mining related problems
- Volunteer management experience
- Have good knowledge of a second language (English, Dutch, Spanish)
- Practical skills in ICT (webinars, online tools...) or interest in acquiring these

Conditions

- The EVS volunteers will be offered a monthly fee of 636 euro to cover for accommodation and daily expenses.

This call is part of the Erasmus+ programme in the European Commission. (<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>). This means that expenses of the volunteers (accommodation, food, transport and languages courses) will be paid.

Interested or more information?

Please send your CV and motivation letter to info@catapa.be before 12th September 2017.

If you have any questions concerning this vacancy, don't hesitate to email to karolien.burvenich@catapa.be or call +32 494453067.

More information at www.catapa.be.