



## INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMP PROGRAMME

### LATVIA 2016

## **Introduction to YOUTH FOR SMILE**

Youth association «Youth for Smile» is non-profit non-political youth organization established in 2005. Our organization's mission says that we are strong and value-based children and youth non-governmental organization that in achieving its targeted goals, objectives and basic principles, act as impetus for the growth of society and the basic principles of civil society strengthening. Our main aims are unite children's and youth to promote their participation in non-formal education, in order to develop far and wide skills and abilities active take part within social processes in local, national and international level.

All our activities are close with our values: fairness and equality; mutual understanding and tolerance; active and healthy way of living; development of personality; understanding and creative atmosphere; be friend of environment.

Our target group are children and youth in Bauska, Iecava, Rundāle and Vecumnieki municipalities. Within our strategy we point out five directions of our activities. 1. DEVELOPMENT OF ASSOCIATION. Association's development vision is based on three core elements - members of the organization's, the image of organization and professional capacity. Our members are children and youth, and youth work professionals. 2. YOUTH POLICY. In collaboration with national youth non-governmental organizations and institutions responsible for youth, we want to encourage a stronger role of youth work in the region. It has continued to work in close cooperation with local governments, educational institutions, non-governmental organizations and young people. 3. PARTICIPATION. Young people are the base for a local community development. Enhancing participation will be based on a number of key areas - social inclusion, creativity, cultural heritage identification, entrepreneurial development, and volunteering, local and international camps. 4. INFORMATION. One of the priorities is to promote the awareness of young people. 5. INITIATIVES. We are working with scouting methods. In regular activities we use as well outdoor education and adventure pedagogic methods. We are working on establishing support centre for youth and outdoor education centre.

### **Source of incomes.**

Our incomes consists mainly of received grants for the projects from foundations like Erasmus+ programs, EU funds etc. Part of our incomes comes from contributions and subscription fees from participants in our programs. We do not receive any support from the state.

## General information

With our work camps we want to introduce volunteerism as a part of development of active citizenship in local community. All camp leaders will be prepared in special training programme where will be included intercultural learning, team building, and conflict management etc.

## Activities

Our work camps last about 2 weeks and take place from July to August. The number of international volunteers in the camp varies from 6 to 8. We try to avoid having more than 2-3 people of the same nationality in the camp. All camps have English as communication language. As a rule volunteers have to do the activities 5-7 hours a day 5 days a week for the benefit of local community. Hosts provide food and accommodation as well as social and cultural activities in return.

## Conditions for participation

Volunteers should be over 18 years old. We can host 1 – 2 volunteers who are 15-17 years old. There is no maximum age limit. Usually there are no special skills required from volunteers, except camps dealing with kids. Participants should be motivated to do volunteer, be ready to meet realities of local life and have enough flexibility to accept it, be tolerant and open for the new experiences.

## Camp leaders

As a rule in the camp there are one or two leaders, whose task is to be a coordinator and a link between the participants and the host. Leaders participate in daily life equally with volunteers.

## Insurance

In our camps insurance is not provided, therefore volunteers have to bring their own insurance against illness, accident and third party risk. Participants from EU countries should bring EU health insurance form.

## Some practical matters

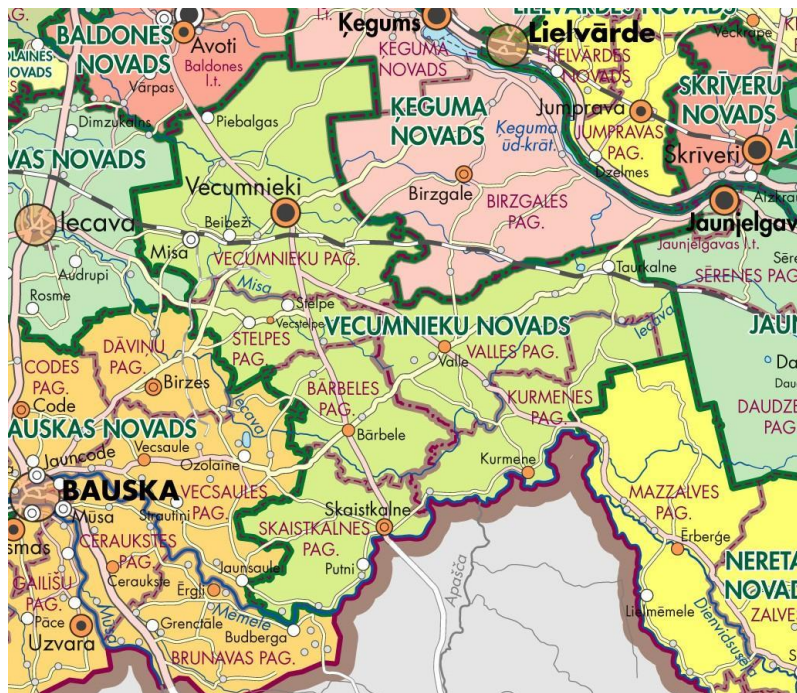
For the majority of camps volunteers have to bring sleeping bag, work clothes and gloves, summer clothes and swimming suit, but also warm clothes and rain-gear as weather in Latvia is very changeable and really unpredictable. Our volunteers can be accommodated in clubs, schools or tents. It is vital to have a mosquito cream.

Volunteers are also asked to bring information about their country, photos, music, games, musical instruments, etc.

## YOUTH FOR SMILE

### LATVIA CAMPLIST 2016

CODE	NAME	TYPE	DATES	VOLS	FEE
YS 01	Youth for Smile	SOCI/KIDS	04/06/2016 – 18/06/2016	8	40 Euro
YS 02	Outdoor education centre	ENVI / MANU	04/07/2016 – 17/07/2016	8	40 Euro
YS 03	Youth for Smile	SOCI/KIDS	18/07/2016 – 31/07/2016	8	40 Euro
YS 04	Latvian sauna culture	CULT / ENVI	01/08/2016 – 14/08/2016	8	40 Euro



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YS 01	Youth for Smile	Bārbele	04/06/2016 – 18/06/2016	SOCI/KIDS	8	(18+)
YS 03	Youth for Smile	Bārbele	18/07/2016 – 31/07/2016	SOCI/KIDS	8	(18+)

### ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will help to organise outdoor activities for social disadvantaged children in Vecumnieki municipality. In the first days of work camp participants will have preparation training for outdoor activities with children, for example, orientation, tourism sport, low and high ropes, non-formal education methods for team building, conflict management. Volunteers will assist in integration and consolidation activities for children in age 7 till 15. These activities will be organised in different villages in Vecumnieki municipality (Stelpe, Barbele, Vecumnieki, Misa, Skaistkalne and Valle). We made an ecological garden. Volunteers will help as well in gardening.

### ACCOMMODATION & FOOD

Living conditions are very basic. The volunteers are accommodated in the tents. Toilets and washing facilities are provided. Cooking is done by volunteers themselves on camp fire.

### LOCATION

Work camp will be organized at Vecumnieki municipality. The Vecumnieki municipality borders with Iecava, Bauska, Nereta, Ķegums, Baldone and Jaunjelgava municipalities and the Republic of Lithuania. The municipal territory consists of Kurmene, Valle, Bārbele, Skaistkalne, Stelpe and Vecumnieki parishes. The administrative centre of the municipality is Vecumnieki, located 50 km from Rīga and 30 km from Bauska.

### TERMINAL

Arrival terminals are Riga international airport or Riga international bus station. By request YOUTH FOR SMILE can organize meeting on arrival place. If it is necessary YOUTH FOR SMILE can help in finding for accommodation before and after project

### LEISURE TIME

During work camp we will have possibilities as well to visit different cultural and historical places. Volunteers will have possibilities to organise intercultural events etc.

YS 02	Outdoor education centre	Bārbele	04/07/2016 – 17/07/2016	ENVI / MANU	8	(18+)
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## ACTIVITIES

In 2010 YOUTH FOR SMILE start to work on development outdoor education centre. As we are working mainly with outdoor education methods and adventure pedagogic methods it is necessary to have camp place for trainings and seminars. As well our scouting and guiding groups need place for practical learning. In outdoor education centre we are planning to make low and high ropes routs, different tracks for team building and learning scouts and guides arts. Volunteers will help to clean territory of planed outdoor education centre – it is forest and meadow. We have a plan to build as well camp fire place, toilets, educational tracks etc. Cleaning will be cutting shrubs, cleaning ditch, mow grass etc.

During camp volunteers will help as well in renovation our house – build heating system, doing gardening in nearest territory of our house.

We made ecological garden. Volunteers will help as well in gardening.

## ACCOMMODATION & FOOD

Living conditions are very basic. The volunteers are accommodated in the tents. Toilets and washing facilities are provided. Cooking is done by volunteers themselves on camp fire.

## LOCATION

Work camp will be organised in Barbele, Vecumnieki municipality.

The Vecumnieki municipality borders with Iecava, Bauska, Nereta, Ķegums, Baldone and Jaunjelgava municipalities and the Republic of Lithuania. The municipal territory consists of Kurmene, Valle, Bārbele, Skaistkalne, Stelpe and Vecumnieki parishes. The administrative centre of the municipality is Vecumnieki, located 50 km from Rīga and 30 km from Bauska. The total area is 845,53 km<sup>2</sup>.

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YS 04	<b>Latvian sauna culture</b>	<b>Bārbele</b>	01/08/2016 – 14/08/2016	CULT / ENVI	<b>8</b>	<b>(18+)</b>
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### ACTIVITIES

The project "LATVIA \* SAUNA \* CULTURE" are part of initiative to promote our culture and teach community about way of living in past. Our biggest treasures are culture and nature and both are still alive. In this project volunteers will help to develop Culture Park. As sauna is part of our culture we will build kind of sauna. Volunteers will have possibility to learn Latvian sauna culture, use of different nature materials in sauna procedures and of course to try Latvian sauna which are connected with culture and nature.

### ACCOMMODATION & FOOD

Living conditions are very basic. The volunteers are accommodated in the tents. Toilets and washing facilities are provided. Cooking is done by volunteers themselves on camp fire.

### LOCATION

Work camp will be organized at Vecumnieki municipality. The Vecumnieki municipality borders with Iecava, Bauska, Nereta, Ķegums, Baldone and Jaunjelgava municipalities and the Republic of Lithuania. The municipal territory consists of Kurmene, Valle, Bārbele, Skaistkalne, Stelpe and Vecumnieki parishes. The administrative centre of the municipality is Vecumnieki, located 50 km from Rīga and 30 km from Bauska.

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