

Program Year: January - December 2015

Workcamp / Short-Term Volunteering (STV) Program

Program Year: January to December 2015

An Overview of FSL-India

FSL-India, (Field Services and Inter-cultural Learning - India) is a youth development organisation focused towards Inter-cultural Learning through Voluntary Services. It is a non-political, non-profit making voluntary organisation.

FSL-India was set up to promote global understanding by providing opportunities to the youth to work in different cultural contexts to appreciate Inter-cultural learning. Thereby, reducing boundaries and bringing people to work together in harmony by understanding the Inter-cultural aspects focusing towards development of people and society through youth mobility and volunteerism.

FSL-India was founded in the year 2000 and legally incorporated in 2001 as a Trust under Indian Trust Act 1882. FSL-India was formed with the support of like-minded National and International Organizations with a primary purpose to bring about global transformation, progress and growth through youth exchange programs.

FSL-India is headquartered in Bangalore, with regional offices in Karnataka (Bangalore, Mysore and Kundapur), Tamil Nadu (Chennai), and Pondicherry. FSL-India is well equipped with experienced associates who support developmental activities across the country with the help of Local and Regional Partners.

Annually, FSL- India mobilizes movement of 1500 youth from across the globe with the support of International Partners and local NGOs.

Network and Collaborations:

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By virtue of its affiliation, FSL- India is a member of Network for Voluntary Development in Asia (NVDA) and Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS-UNESCO). Besides, FSL-India collaborates and networks with Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organizations (Alliance) and Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF) on youth volunteering and development programs. FSL- India networks with like-minded organizations across the world to promote youth mobility and Inter-cultural learning. It acts as a support structure for youth and social organizations engaged in various development programs such as: 1) Asia - Europe Young Volunteers Exchange (AEYVE), 2) European Voluntary Service (EVS), 3) World Heritage Volunteers (WHV), and 4) Weltwaerts.

FSL - India works in various fields in cooperation with Archaeological Survey of India, ministry of Women and Child Welfare, Ministry of Health, Education, Forest and Wildlife Departments and Local Self-governance Bodies.

FSL- India has been implementing CSR projects, titled Happy Move Global Youth Volunteers and Dream Village Project in Tamil Nadu, South India. The project is sponsored by Hyundai Motor Company (HMC), South Korea. Recently, FSL-India has also developed a partnership with Samsung Electronics, South Korea in implementing their CSR project in Tamil Nadu and Delhi.

Apart from this FSL-India also undertakes self-funded Projects under Home Based Projects like the Sea Turtle Conservation, Environmental Education, Eco Tourism and Eco Clubs, Tent School for Migrant community.

Our Programs:

- LTV - Long Term Volunteering (more than 3 months)
- MTV - Mid Term Volunteering (up to 2 months)
- WC - Short Term Volunteering or Work Camps (WC) (Up to 3 weeks)
- OB – Outbound Program
- HBP – Home Base Projects.
- CSR – Corporate Social Responsibility
- STUDEX – High School Student Exchange Program
- YDP - Youth Development Program

Areas of Interest:

1. **Youth Leadership and Experiential Learning**: training programs for youth; social inclusion projects; social awareness and promotion of youth leadership;

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2. **Society and Culture:** *Tibetan Culture, Ethnic Tribal Development, Promoting and Conserving Traditional Folk, Art and Culture*

3. **Rural Development:** *Promotion of Model Village, formation of Self Help Groups, organise women and youth for microfinance/micro-enterprise development and livelihood promotion, skill development, and employment generation.*

4. **Urban Development:** *Slum Development, Construction and Renovation work.*

5. **Medical & Health Care:** *Health & Hygiene, HIV/AIDS, Disability, Medical Outreach Camps, Yoga and Ayurveda*

6. **Environment and Conservation:** *Sea Turtle Conservation, Rain Water Harvesting, Agriculture, Environment Protection, Eco-Tourism, Eco-clubs, Heritage Conservation, Water and Sanitation, Environment Education*

7. **Education:** *creative and interactive education, teaching of English language, developing teaching and learning aids, capacity development of teaching faculty, improve learning levels and cognitive skills of children.*

8. **Women & Childcare Development:** *Orphanages, Women Empowerment, Street Children, and Tent School Project for children of migrant workers*

In addition, FSL-India also works on a range of self-initiated Home Base projects. We have been engaging youth to supplement national and global efforts for attainment of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Our Vision

To promote world peace, mutual respect and inter-cultural exchange by facilitating international voluntarism among youth in the field of Natural Resource Management and Socio Economic Development of local community.

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Our Ideology

We believe that the experience of living and working with people from varied cultural backgrounds creates understanding and respect, something that we should all work on and feel responsible for, in this world!

Volunteering is the heart of our work and activities. We initiate our programs together with local communities in building a more peaceful and self-content society. By placing volunteers throughout India and the world in various communities, we show interest in the work and lives of people, which in turn encourages them to take up their own initiatives and find local solutions to the problems. We also hope to make people more aware of the world in which they live and its unlimited possibilities.

Through this endeavour, we help open the minds of local communities towards internationalism in an age of globalization. It further encourages exchange of individual experiences and points of view among all the participants involved. It also creates awareness and reflection on one's own culture.

By providing opportunities to participate in our programs, FSL- India considers that volunteers will get access to "Alternative Education" which includes a number of approaches to learning process other than mainstream education. Alternative education with a blend of local and global perspectives would vary widely, often emphasizing the value of close relationships between international volunteers and local communities with adequate means for inter-cultural learning and exposure. This opportunity would also enhance the global competency of international volunteers as well as local youth, who are also expected to contribute substantially to bring the global dimension to local situations and place the local issues in the global scenario.

Our Approach

During the last 13 years, FSL-India has grown to become one of the largest volunteer hosting organizations in the country, organising various volunteer and development projects throughout India mainly through Short Term Work camps and Long Term Volunteer (LTV) placements. Most of the projects are carried out independently, and some are undertaken in cooperation with local NGOs. This is because local NGOs are aware of the development work that needs to be undertaken in an area. We support them in their efforts to address the issues and problems of the local community.

Our support sometimes consists of financial support, but quite often our support goes in terms of placing volunteers from different countries to participate in the projects where they are interested to learn, share and are willing to work together for improvement and understanding.

We are part of a worldwide network of like-minded organisations that strive to make a difference by encouraging youth on the values of service through our programs for the local communities. We send and receive young people from all across the globe, by giving an opportunity to everyone to make a

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difference in his/her own life and in the lives of others through the field of social work.

Objectives of Workcamp / STV Program:

- To promote international understanding and cultural exchange.
- To encourage voluntary service as a means to encourage peace, equality and mutual respect.
- To spark new ideas for socio-economic development for the rural youth.
- To stress importance on natural resource management.
- To support community development and bring an inter-cultural dimension to community projects.
- To help and conserve our nature.
- To bring global issues to local community.
- To create self-awareness and personal development among youth in particular.
- To facilitate Global Education through Experiential Learning.

What is needed to be an STV ?

We welcome anybody who is interested to participate in our voluntary programs regardless of age, sex, religious belief, ethnicity or sexual orientation. Most of our programs do not require any specific skills. But as the work is development and humanitarian in nature, we encourage volunteers to be:

1. Open Minded:

It is essential to be open to new ideas, situations, morals, values and ways of doing things. Things may be different from what you are used to or your existing expectations. If you remain "open minded" then you will have new opportunities and new avenues. Broadening one's mind is a pre-requisite and the heart of inter-cultural exchange.

2. Flexible:

Remaining flexible to ideas, people, situations and encounters are important. While working at development projects, you will be dealing with people and different working culture. Taking a flexible approach is often the best way to deal with such situations.

3. Creative:

Innovating and adopting a creative approach to your volunteer placement and work maintains motivation and prevents routine and boredom for yourself and the project. When you start to think creatively it is amazing what can be achieved.

4. Committed:

As we are a voluntary organization committed in bringing international volunteers and local communities together, we understand that sometimes it will be challenging for you to adjust to the local conditions. For this reason, we expect you to realise that this requires a strong commitment towards your program.

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However, we also feel that by completing your program, you have a lot to gain personally in terms of experience and understanding yourself better.

Expectations from the Volunteers

FSL-India expects all volunteers to:

- Read and understand the information sheet and to attend the preparation meeting organized by the sending organization.
- Understand the values of service and volunteerism.
- Be committed to voluntary work and understand that this is not tourism.
- To take initiative and participate in the various activities that promote "Community Living" in our workcamps.
- Cooperate with FSL-India by adapting to the new culture.
- Cooperate with the work camp team leader, who is in-charge at all times of the volunteer's security.
- Show responsibility towards their work.
- Adjust to the way of life in the project and camp surroundings.
- Realize that the living conditions are many times different than at home (no warm water/air-conditioning, no easy access to international phone or internet, no easy transportation at all times, insects and mosquitoes etc.)
- Be open-minded, flexible, leave prejudices behind and show initiative.
- Understand that a lot of time will be spent with local people who do not speak English fluently. Volunteers should make an effort to communicate in the local language; this shows their interest.
- Be creative. Ideas for the work, discussions, the campsite, excursions, and free time are expected to come from the group during the camp. Share your thoughts and ideas!
- Only English is accepted when others are around, even if they do not join in the conversation.
- Behaviour and dress code should be culture sensitive, especially while in the village or schools.

Moreover, being part of FSL-India team means that you are a member of an international community of volunteers from all over the world, which represents a unique and enriching experience for the youth. Besides, gaining new skills of communication, practical knowledge and hands-on experience, volunteers become aware of the importance of being socially active.

Costs Involved:

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FSL- India is a non-profit organisation and does not depend on public or external funding. All costs of FSL- India are sustained through the participation fees from volunteers. Therefore volunteers are expected to pay the participation fee mentioned below besides all their personal costs needed to come to India (travel / visa / vaccinations etc.).

All work camps conducted by FSL-India last for two or three weeks.

FSL-India Work Camps

Two Weeks: 12,000 Indian Rupees (approximately 150 Euros depending on the exchange rate)

FSL-India Special Work Camps (SPL)

Two Weeks: 14,000 Indian Rupees (approximately 175 Euros depending on the exchange rate)

Three Weeks: 18,000 Indian Rupees (approximately 225 Euros depending on the exchange rate)

The Participation fee will be collected from the volunteers during the first day of the workcamp. The amount will be collected only in the local currency (Indian Rupees). We do not accept any payments in foreign currency.

FSL-India Special Work Camps (SPL):

FSL-India organizes Special Camps in order to facilitate further improvement and to go an extra mile to maintain a stronger relationship with its local partners. Special camps deliver extra support to the communities. For example: Happy Hearts, building play parks, construction, painting, distribution of materials for education, medical aid, depending on the specific needs of the present situation. Some special camps are conducted for a period of three weeks.

What does our program participation fee cover?

We are a non-profit organization, and therefore we have kept our prices as affordable as possible. FSL- India is a non-profit body registered under the Indian Trust Act. We receive absolutely no financial support from the government of India or from any other foreign agency. The main source of income available for FSL-India is the participation fee that is collected from the volunteers.

Our income is spent as follows (from the most to the least expensive item):

1. Project development: this is the money that is spent to identify and set up projects and travel to the different locations. Some projects require more expenditures than others.

2. Volunteers hosting payments: FSL- India pays for the food, accommodation, local transportation for participants, which differs from project to project.

3. Running the camp: This includes all the materials needed for the project, tools, and professional charges for masons, plumbers, carpenters and so on. Happy hearts for the teaching projects is also included in the Project running cost.

4. Office expenses: including salaries, telephone, internet, postage, photocopy, printing, stationery, electricity, gas, food and telephone allowance for staff, and office equipment.

5. Rent: for the offices and guest-house in Bangalore, Kundapur, Mysore, Chennai and Pondicherry.

6. Scholarships for Indians sent to projects abroad: FSL- India sends Indian volunteers abroad on a sponsored voluntary program.

7. Support expenses: of local Indian youth trained and supported by us.

8. Donations to local social projects: apart from supporting local NGOs by the placement of volunteers and

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by organizing short-term work camps, FSL- India also makes occasional donations (in kind or in cash) to its partner NGOs.

9. Local transportation costs for staff to visit volunteers and projects: in order to visit their volunteers, the FSL- India LTV coordinators have to travel regularly to the locations of the projects throughout the country.

10. International travel costs to attend Conferences and international meetings: FSL- India sends representatives to statutory meetings and conferences to interact with its worldwide partners and develop its activities.

11. Participation fees for international conferences and meetings: on such occasions, FSL-India also has to pay a participation fee.

12. International membership fees: every year, FSL-India has to pay a fee to remain a member of international networks and platforms of like-minded organizations.

13. Promotional Material and Website costs

Other Important Details

- All Camps start on a Monday.
- The info sheet will contain the general work details as per each project as well as information on the meeting points, contact information and other guidelines. The info sheets shall be sent at least one month before the camp starts. **We expect you to read it at least once before joining the Work Camp.**
- The volunteers should subscribe to their own health insurance and take care of medical vaccinations needed for the specific area.
- The social contact in the camp is as important as the work itself and respect for the local environment and community is expected at all times.
- Initiative, Creativity and involvement are expected and could give the camp the personal direction of that group. So work together with the camp leaders in creating a successful project.

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- The participation fee must be paid on the first day of the camp to the Team Leader and in the local currency (Indian Rupees).
- Since the budgeting of the camp is made in advance, as a strict policy there will be no refund of the participation fee.

FSL-India Workcamp List - 2015

CAMP CODE	DATE	LOCATION	THEME	DURATION
JANUARY – 2015				
FSL-WC-574	5th to 18th January	Pondicherry	Organic farming / Kids / Festival	2 Weeks
FSL-WC-575	12th to 25th January	Kundapur	Sea turtle conservation / Organic Farming / Environment	2 Weeks
FSL-WC-576	12th to 25th January	Kolkata	Social / Environment / Kids	2 Weeks
FEBRUARY – 2015				
FSL-WC-577	9th to 22nd February	Kundapur	Sea turtle conservation / Organic Farming / Environment	2 Weeks
FSL-SPL-246	9th to 22nd February	Jodhpur	Environment / Kids / Culture	2 Weeks
FSL-SPL-247	9th to 22nd February	Goa	Environment / Festival / Kids	2 Weeks
MARCH – 2015				
FSL-SPL-248	9th to 22nd March	Kundapur	Yoga / Sustainable Agriculture / Culture	2 Weeks
FSL-SPL-249	9th to 29th March	Dharamshala	Animal care / Tibetan culture / Kids	3 Weeks
APRIL – 2015				
FSL-SPL-250	6th to 26th April	Dharamshala	Animal care / Tibetan culture / Kids	3 Weeks
FSL-SPL-251	13th to 26th April	Kundapur	Yoga / Sustainable Agriculture / Culture	2 Weeks
JUNE – 2015				
FSL-SPL-252	1st to 14th June	Kundapur	Yoga / Sustainable Agriculture / Culture	2 Weeks

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FSL-SPL-253	8th to 28th June	Dharamshala	Environment / Construction / Tibetan culture	3 Weeks
FSL-SPL-254	15th to 28th June	Jodhpur	Environment / Kids / Culture	2 Weeks
JULY – 2015				
FSL-SPL-255	6th to 19th July	Hampi	Heritage conservation / Awareness	2 Weeks
FSL-SPL-256	6th to 26th July	Dharamshala	Environment / Construction / Tibetan culture	3 Weeks
FSL-SPL-257	13th to 26th July	Kundapur	Yoga / Sustainable Agriculture / Culture	2 Weeks
FSL-SPL-258	13th to 26th July	Jaipur	Environment / Kids / Culture	2 Weeks
AUGUST – 2015				
FSL-SPL-259	3rd to 23rd August	Dharamshala	Animal care / Tibetan culture / Kids	3 Weeks
FSL-SPL-260	3rd to 23rd August	Mysore	Health on stage	3 Weeks
FSL-SPL-261	10th to 23rd August	Kundapur	Yoga/ Sustainable agriculture/ Culture/ Kids	2 Weeks
FSL-SPL-262	17th to 30th August	Mahabalipuram	Heritage conservation / Awareness	2 Weeks
SEPTEMBER – 2015				
FSL-SPL-263	7th to 27th September	Dharamshala	Animal care/ Tibetan culture/ Kids	3 Weeks
FSL-SPL-264	7th to 20th September	Jodhpur	Environment/ Kids/ Culture	2 Weeks
FSL-SPL-265	14th to 27th September	Kundapur	Yoga/ Sustainable agriculture/ Culture/Kids	2 Weeks
OCTOBER – 2015				
FSL-WC-578	5th to 18th October	Kundapur	Sea turtle conservation / Organic Farming / Environment	2 Weeks
FSL-SPL-266	5th to 25th October	Dharamshala	Environment / Construction / Tibetan culture	3 Weeks
NOVEMBER – 2015				



FSL-WC-579	2nd to 15th November	Kundapur	Sea turtle conservation / Organic Farming / Environment	2 Weeks
FSL-WC-580	2nd to 15th November	Pondicherry	Organic farming / Kids / Festival	2 Weeks
FSL-SPL-267	2nd to 22nd November	Dharamshala	Animal care/ Tibetan culture/ Kids	3 Weeks
DECEMBER - 2015				
FSL-WC-581	7th to 20th December	Kundapur	Sea turtle conservation / Organic Farming / Environment	2 Weeks
FSL-WC-582	7th to 20th December	Kolkata	Social/ Environment/ Kids	2 Weeks

REGULAR CAMPS

1.

1. **Kolkata (Social / Environment / Kids) : FSL-WC-576, 582**

2.

3. **The Project:**

4.

5. A city of Joy and Love, Grandeur and Glory, Kolkata also known as Calcutta, is full of life and bustle, verging on the chaotic as traditional occupations rub shoulders with ultramodern industries. Kolkata is India's second largest city, the capital of West Bengal and the former capital of British India (1772-1912).

6. While Kolkata is a city with a great deal of charm, it is also greatly affected due to a terrible lack of hygiene, illiteracy and unemployment are rampant, and the first to suffer from these poor living conditions are the children. Most of the schools located near the slums in Kolkata lack

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basic infrastructure like school building, education material, playground and drinking water. Through this workcamp, volunteers can make a big difference in the daily lives of these children by providing the necessities listed above.

- 7.
8. The work camp will involve teaching children from poor and marginalized community in the formal and non-formal schools about basic English and Mathematics, Health and Hygiene, and Environmental protection through creative learning methods like art, music, games etc. There will also be house visits in the slum areas and meetings with local people as part of inter-cultural learning and to give awareness on health and hygiene. Volunteers can take the school children to places in the town like picnics and exposure visits. In addition, volunteers also will get a chance to take part in simple renovation work at local schools/orphanages and engage in activities like painting, tree plantation, making a Kitchen Garden, simple toilet and kitchen repair work etc. As part of the cultural exchange, volunteers will witness and participate in the cultural programs with local community.
- 9.
10. **Location:**
- 11.
12. Kolkata/Calcutta is located in the state of West Bengal. Accessible by air, Kolkata has a domestic and an international airport. Trains and buses operate on a daily basis from many major towns/cities in India. The exact Meeting Point will be mentioned in the info sheets.
- 13.
14. **Accommodation:** At a rented Guest House or Hostel with shared rooms.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 3. **Kundapur - Karnataka (Sea Turtle Conservation / Organic Farming / Environment) : FSL-WC-575, 577, 578, 579, 581**
 - 4.

The Project:

Kundapur is a town situated near the beach on the west coast of Karnataka state, and is very close to the Western Ghats (a mountain ridge). The Western Ghats is India's prime zone for bio-diversity and known for its animal and plant species in this region. FSL-India has been involved in developing projects for many years in this region and has now formed a very strong network of local partners and local volunteers.

In 2004, FSL-India started a Marine Turtle protection project in collaboration with the Forest and Wild Life Department of the State of Karnataka. Over a 60 kilometer stretch of beach, surveys are conducted and turtle nests are protected until the hatching of the eggs. In 2011, more than 1500 baby turtles reached the ocean safely thanks to the effort of our volunteers. This year again we will aim to improve our performance. The Work Camp will focus on creating awareness to the general public, fishermen community and to the schools about the importance of turtles in the bio-diversity. Awareness programs for the local community will involve Beach walks and house visits, Puppet shows, Dramas and plays, Mural Painting etc. The volunteers will also be involved in building Turtle Information Centre huts along the beach.

In August 2014, FSL India initiated the Sustainable Agriculture Project (SAP) at its newly constructed Training

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center in Kundapur. The vision of this project is to evolve a model of sustainable agriculture for sustainable livelihood. This involves integrating different farming systems for efficient use of conservation and management of Natural Resources. Depending on the season, the volunteers will be engaged in any of the following SAP activities – Crop cultivation, Composting, Azolla cultivation, Kitchen garden, Medicinal plants cultivation, Nursery management, Fruit and forestry plantation etc.

The workcamp also involves teaching children in the local schools about Basic English and Mathematics, Health and Hygiene awareness, and Environmental protection through creative learning methods like art, music, games etc. There will also be house visits and interactions with local rural people and as part of the cultural exchange, volunteers will witness and participate in the cultural programs with local community.

15. **Location:**

16.

17. Kundapur is a coastal town in Udupi district, Karnataka state in South India. Cities near to Kundapur include: Udupi (35 kms), Mangalore (95 kms) and Bangalore (435 kms). People coming to Kundapur fly into Mangalore or Bangalore International Airport. The nearest airport is Mangalore International Airport, around 100 kilometers from Kundapur. Kundapur also can be reached from Mumbai, Goa, Bangalore and Kerala by train/bus. The exact Meeting Point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

18.

19. **Accommodation:** In the FSL-India Training Center with shared rooms.

1.

2.

3. **Pondicherry (Organic Farming / Kids / Festival) :**
FSL-WC-574, 580

4.

The Project:

Pondicherry, also known as Puducherry, is one of the former French Colonies. It is one of the most touristic places in the region and has a lot to offer to the visitor. Its laidback atmosphere and amazing beaches give it a very distinctive touch. It is a prime location for learning yoga and meditation in one of its many ashrams. It is also the home of Auroville, the famous international community created by the Guru Sri Auro Bindo.

Of late in India there has been increasing importance given to organic farming. Organic means farming activities without the use of chemicals either pesticides, fertilizers of any kind. Fertilization is achieved with compost, vermi-compost and numerous other techniques for maintaining soil fertility and balance. There has been a strong Organic farming movement spearheaded by NGOs across India. During the camp, volunteers will participate in the organic farming activities and get exposure to various methods of organic cultivation.

In the past years our cooperation with local partner NGOs has allowed the success of many camps in which schools and villages have benefited from the work done, including the 2004 Tsunami-hit regions. In addition _____ to

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Organic farming activities, the volunteers will be involved in various activities ranging from creative and entertainment activities in schools and kindergartens and spreading awareness on issues related to education, environment protection, health and hygiene awareness, teaching basic English and Math through creative learning methods like games, art, music etc. The volunteers will improve the infrastructure in the schools by taking up simple renovation work like painting, tree plantation, making a Kitchen garden, toilet and kitchen repair work etc.

As part of the cultural exchange, volunteers will witness and participate in the festivals and cultural programs with local community. The camp in Pondicherry is conducted in January and October, so the volunteers will have the chance to celebrate Pongal in January and Diwali in October. Pongal is a four day harvest festival celebrated at the end of the harvest season in Tamil Nadu state. Diwali – the festival of lights – is an ancient Hindu festival that signifies the victory of good over evil, knowledge over ignorance, light over darkness and hope over despair.

Location:

Pondicherry is located approximately 200 kilometers south of Chennai (Madras), Tamil Nadu State. Pondicherry is accessible by bus from Chennai and Bangalore. There are domestic and international airports in Bangalore and Chennai. The exact meeting point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: In a rented Guest house or Hostel, with shared rooms.

1.

1.
2.

3. **SPECIAL CAMPS:**
4.

FSL-India has been organising Special Camps at different locations with strategic partners all over India. The difference to the regular camps is that they are conducted with special topics, which are distinctive from the regular work that FSL-India does in other locations. These projects are planned with a long-term sustainable goal and therefore involve works that are intended to change the lives of many people who deserve special care and attention. These camps are special since the work itself will be initiated and run by FSL-India with a long term mission. In addition, the materials, planning and preparations requires more investment in terms of financial resource.

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FSL-India conducts Special Camps in order to facilitate further improvement and to go an extra mile so as to maintain a stronger relationship with its local partners. Special camps deliver extra support to the communities. For example: Happy Hearts, building play parks, construction, painting, distribution of educative materials, medical aid, depending on the specific needs of the present situation. Some special camps are organized for a period of three weeks.

5.

Dharamshala (Animal Care / Tibetan Culture / Kids) : FSL-SPL-249, 250, 259, 263, 267

The Project:

Valleys of the Himalayas - This small paradise on earth is home to His Holiness Dalai Lama and to a significant Tibetan settlement in India. Dharamshala is set in the backdrop of the snow-clad peaks of Dhaulathar Mountains. It is the capital of the Tibetan Government in exile and the residence of the Dalai Lama.

FSL-India has been conducting regular workcamps in McLeodganj, Dharamshala for almost 8 years now and has formed a good network of local partners in the region. In the first two weeks of the camp, the volunteers will take part in the Equine (Horses) Welfare Project. Equines were the backbone of the Indian and British army. Since Equines are reared by local communities in hilly areas for transportation of goods, the Army released the Equines and handed them over to retired army personnel for rearing. An evaluation was conducted after 10 years and it was found that the equines were reared in miserable conditions. Therefore, an Equine Welfare Program was started with the main objective of improving the management and welfare of Equines by promoting awareness among owners. In this workcamp our volunteers will be involved in construction and maintenance of stables for equines, maintenance of pathways, medical care, and maintenance of toilets for the horse rearing community. Through interactions with local families and Women's Self Help Groups, the volunteers will gain a better understanding of various livelihood generation activities based on Natural Resource Management, like Irrigation, Vegetation measures, Dairy Development, Fodder production etc.

The volunteers will also take part in Education activities in a local school and will teach children basic English and Mathematics, Health and Hygiene awareness, and Environmental protection through creative learning methods like art, music, games. In addition, the volunteers will improve the infrastructure in the schools by taking up simple renovation work like painting, tree plantation, toilet and kitchen repair work etc.

During the Camp, volunteers will get the opportunity to learn about Tibetan culture and the different issues related to the exile of its people and the re-settlement in India. There will be cultural activities, daily visits

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important cultural sites and exchange with the Tibetan Youth with the support of the Tibetan Welfare Office. On the third week of the camp volunteers will take part in a four-day trekking activity around the mountains of Dharamshala and Triund.

Location:

Kangra district in lower Dharamshala. Dharamshala is located in the state of Himachal Pradesh, North India, 500 kilometers from Delhi. Dharamshala is accessible by bus on a daily basis from New Delhi and other smaller cities of North India. The nearest railway stations are Pathankot and Kangra Mandir. Delhi is the nearest international airport. The exact Meeting Point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: In a rented Guest house or Hostel, with shared rooms.

20. **Dharamshala (Environment / Construction / Tibetan Culture) : FSL-SPL-253, 256, 266**

The Project:

Valleys of the Himalayas - This small paradise on earth is home to the His Holiness Dalai Lama and to a significant Tibetan settlement in India. Dharamshala is set in the backdrop of the snow-clad peaks of Dhaulathar Mountains. It is the capital of the Tibetan Government in exile and the residence of the Dalai Lama.

FSL-India has been conducting regular workcamps in McLeodganj, Dharamshala for almost 8 years now and has formed a good network of local partners in the region. In the first two weeks of this workcamp, the volunteers will support the activities of our local partner in this region, on a "Watershed and Sustainable Mountain Livelihood" program. The volunteers will assist in construction of community ponds, cleaning tanks and check-dams, construction of community toilets, maintenance of pathways, plantation to avoid landslides, maintenance of Kitchen Gardens and Poultry sheds for community livelihood. Through interactions with local families and Women's Self Help Groups, the volunteers will gain a better understanding of various livelihood generation activities based on Natural Resource Management, like Irrigation, Vegetation measures, Dairy Development, Fodder production etc.

The volunteers will also support a local school by conducting Education activities to teach children basic English and Mathematics, Health and Hygiene awareness, and Environmental protection through creative learning methods like art, music, games.

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During the Camp, volunteers will get the opportunity to learn about Tibetan culture and the different issues related to the exile of its people and the re-settlement in India. There will be cultural activities, daily visits to important cultural sites and exchange with the Tibetan Youth with the support of the Tibetan Welfare Office. On the third week of the camp volunteers will take part in a four-day trekking activity around the mountains of Dharamshala and Triund.

Location:

Kangra district in lower Dharamshala. Dharamshala is located in the state of Himachal Pradesh, North India, 500 kilometers from Delhi. Dharamshala is accessible by bus on a daily basis from New Delhi and other smaller cities of North India. The nearest railway stations are Pathankot and Kangra Mandir. Delhi is the nearest international airport. The exact Meeting Point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: In a rented Guest house or Hostel, with shared rooms.

Goa (Environment / Festival / Kids): FSL-SPL-247

The Project:

Situated on the west coast (Arabian Sea), Goa was the former Portuguese colony in India. It is one of India's most cherished and prominent locations for travelers since many years for its remarkable palm-fringed beaches.

During this workcamp, volunteers will be involved in teaching children about basic English and Mathematics, Health and Hygiene awareness, and Environmental protection through creative learning methods like art, music, games etc. In addition, volunteers will get a chance to improve the infrastructure of a local school by taking up simple renovation work like painting, tree plantation, making a Kitchen Garden, simple toilet and kitchen repair work, etc.

As part of the cultural exchange, volunteers will witness and participate in the Goa Carnival which is a three day festival. The Carnival was introduced by the Portuguese who ruled over Goa for four centuries. Huge parades are organized throughout the state including colorful floats and troupes of costumed revelers with live bands, dances and floats on the streets and non-stop festivity. During the Carnival, our volunteers will help the local people in running and managing their food stalls, which is a good opportunity for the volunteers to interact with the locals.

Location:

South Goa. Panjim is the capital of the state of Goa and is accessible by air. Domestic and some international airlines fly directly to Panjim Airport. The nearest international airports are Mumbai and Bangalore. Trains and buses operate on a daily basis from Mumbai and Bangalore to Goa. The exact meeting point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: In a rented Guest house or Hostel, with shared rooms.

1. **Hampi (Heritage Conservation / Awareness) : FSL-SPL-255**

The Project:

Located in the central part of the state of Karnataka, in the southern part of India, Hampi is definitely one of the most interesting travel destinations on the map of India. It is famous for its ruins belonging to the erstwhile medieval Hindu kingdom of Vijaynagar, now declared a UNESCO World Heritage site. The temples of Hampi, its monolithic sculptures and monuments are breath-taking. The Hindu style of architecture found at Hampi speaks of the splendour of the Vijaynagar Empire.

FSL India has been conducting workcamps in this region since 8 years and has formed a good network of local partners in this region. FSL-India has also organized four "World Heritage Volunteers" camps in Hampi with the cooperation of UNESCO World Heritage Center, which deals with activities aimed at sensitising young people about World Heritage.

The main objective of the workcamp in Hampi would be to spark interest among the local

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community by involving children and international volunteers in activities that promote sensitivity and respect towards the World Heritage site in Hampi. The work camps in Hampi will focus on the protection of the cultural heritage and the sites of historical importance and on creating awareness among the locals, school children, tour-guides and tourists.

FSL India will organize activities for the school children within the boundaries of World Heritage Site:

A. Clean up activities around the monuments in Hampi, which is most visited by tourists and Pilgrims. The objective is to spark interest among the local community by involving local and international volunteers in activities that promote sensitivity and respect towards the World Heritage site.

B. Preparation of Nursery: Planting saplings at the nursery. One child will be identified to look after each sapling. It would be a good activity to address this change and involve the local children to plant trees and teach them to look after them till they can survive.

C. Organizing Drawing competition for the school children and opening it up to local people by setting up an open gallery. Involve local Authorities, Tour Guide Association, teachers, and any other potential local partners. This would help build partnership for later work.

D. Awareness Walk/ Street Play with locals – The volunteers and locals will prepare a skit on heritage conservation and environment issues. The Street Play involves imparting of messages on Heritage conservation through acting and miming. The Awareness Walk will be a procession in the main area and we will spread messages on ecology, hygiene and conservation.

E. Initiate active participation of youth by encouraging school children to become “Young Guardians / Ambassadors” of the Heritage site. To achieve this, we will form a “Heritage Club” in the school.

Location:

Hampi is located in the state of Karnataka, 350 kilometers from Bangalore, and 13 kilometers from Hospet. Hampi is accessible by bus from Bangalore and Goa. The nearest railway station is in Hospet which is about 13 kilometers away from Hampi. The nearest international airports are Goa, Bangalore and Mumbai. The exact meeting point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

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Accommodation: In a rented Guest house or Hostel, with shared rooms.

2. **Jaipur - Rajasthan (Environment / Kids / Culture)
: FSL-SPL-258**

The Project:

Jaipur, the fascinating capital of the marvelous state of Rajasthan, is one of the well-planned cities of its time. The graceful architecture of the City that runs across in pink colour has earned Jaipur the title of "The Pink City". Jaipur is predominantly known for its musicians, artisans and craftsmen. Today, it is flocked by masses for its fine jewelry, varied textiles and sumptuous cuisine. The growth of the City is also contributed by the rapidly developing social infrastructure with super-specialties hospitals and medical centers, institutions of higher-learning and schools.

FSL-India cooperates with several local NGOs in assisting various government schools by creating awareness on relevant issues as well as undertaking simple renovation work to improve the infrastructure in the schools.

The aim of this workcamp is to:

- Organize a multi-purpose project to involve the local community and sensitize them about the Environment, Health & Hygiene problems.
- Educate children to build a better and more conscious society.
- Education and awareness on environmental issues to children and villagers.
- Assist the activities of other NGOs working in community service projects.

The work camp involves teaching children from poor and marginalized community in the non-formal schools about basic English and Mathematics, Health and Hygiene, and Environmental protection through creative learning methods like art, music, games etc. There will also be house visits and meetings with local people as part of inter-cultural learning and to give awareness on health, education and hygiene. Volunteers also will get a chance to take part in simple renovation work at local schools and engage in activities like painting, making Kitchen garden, tree plantation, renovation of toilet and kitchen etc. As part of the cultural exchange, volunteers will witness and participate in the cultural programs with local community.

Location:

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Jaipur has a close proximity with Delhi, the national capital and is well connected to other parts of the country through air, rail and road. Jaipur International Airport is located 13 kilometers from Jaipur. Jaipur is well connected by bus and trains to most of the major cities in India. Regular deluxe and AC buses are available from Delhi to Jaipur. The exact Meeting Point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: In a rented Guest house or Hostel, with shared rooms.

Jodhpur – Rajasthan (Environment / Kids / Culture) : FSL-SPL-246, 254, 264

The Project:

Jodhpur is a popular tourist destination featuring many palaces, forts and temples. The city is known as the “Sun City” for the bright sunny weather it enjoys all year. It is also referred as the “Blue City” due to the indigo tinge of the whitewashed houses around the Mehrangarh Fort.

FSL-India cooperates with several local NGOs in assisting various government schools by creating awareness on relevant issues as well as undertaking simple renovation work to improve the infrastructure in the schools.

The aim of this workcamp is to:

- Organize a multi-purpose project to involve the local community and sensitize them about the Environment, Health & Hygiene problems.
- Educate children to build a better and more conscious society.
- Education and awareness on environmental issues to children and villagers.
- Assist the activities of other NGOs working in community service projects.

The work camp involves teaching children from poor and marginalized community in the non-formal schools about basic English and Mathematics, Health and Hygiene awareness, and Environmental protection through creative learning methods like art, music, games etc. There will also be house visits and meetings with local people as part of inter-cultural learning and to give awareness on health and hygiene. Volunteers will get a chance to take part in simple renovation work at local schools and engage in activities like painting, making Kitchen garden, tree plantation, renovation of toilet and kitchen etc. As part of the cultural exchange, volunteers will witness and participate in the cultural programs with local community.

Location:

Jodhpur is located in the state of Rajasthan and is accessible by domestic airlines. Jodhpur is connected by air to major airports in Delhi, Mumbai, Jaipur, Udaipur. The airport is about 5 kilometers from the city center. Trains and buses operate on a daily basis from New Delhi and Mumbai. The exact Meeting Point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: At a rented Guest House or Hostel with shared rooms.

3. **Kundapur – Karnataka (Yoga / Sustainable Agriculture / Culture / Kids) : FSL-SPL-261, 265**
- 4.

The Project:

Kundapur is a town situated near the beach on the west coast of Karnataka state, and is very close to the Western Ghats (a mountain ridge). The Western Ghats is India's prime zone for bio-diversity and known for its animal and plant species in this region. FSL-India has been involved in developing projects for many years in this region and has now formed a very strong network of local partners and local volunteers. Invariably this is one of the prime locations for FSL-India to initiate development interventions in partnership with the local NGOs and civil society organisations.

Yoga is a complete science of life that originated in India many thousands of years ago. It is the oldest system of personal development in the world encompassing the entire Body, Mind and Spirit. It is the union between a person's own consciousness and the universal consciousness. The classical techniques of Yoga date back more than 5000 years. The word Yoga means "to join or yoke together," and it brings the body and mind together into one harmonious experience. During the workcamp, volunteers will learn the basics of Yoga. Every day there will be topics covered by a professional master, which will be practiced by the volunteers.

In August 2014, FSL India initiated the Sustainable Agriculture Project (SAP) at its newly constructed Training center in Kundapur. The vision of this project is to evolve a model of sustainable agriculture for sustainable livelihood. This involves integrating different farming systems for efficient use of conservation and management of Natural Resources. Depending on the season, the volunteers will be engaged in any of the following SAP activities –

Baseline Survey and Mapping;

Conservation of Natural resources - Soil and water conservation, Live hedge fencing, Fruit and forestry plantation;

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Implementation of sustainable Agriculture practices - Crop cultivation, Composting, Kitchen garden, Medicinal plants cultivation, Nursery management;

Maintenance and management - After care, Basin making, watering, pruning, protection etc;

Post-harvest practices - Threshing, cleaning;

Documentation of local traditional practices;

The workcamp also involves teaching children in the local schools about Basic English and Mathematics, Health and Hygiene awareness, and Environmental protection through creative learning methods like art, music, games etc. There will also be house visits and interactions with local rural people and as part of the cultural exchange, volunteers will witness and participate in the cultural programs with local community.

Location:

Kundapur is a coastal town in Udupi district, Karnataka state in South India. Cities near to Kundapur include: Udupi (35 kms), Mangalore (95 kms) and Bangalore (435 kms). People coming to Kundapur fly into Mangalore or Bangalore International Airport. The nearest airport is Mangalore International Airport, around 100 kilometers from Kundapur. Kundapur also can be reached from Mumbai, Goa, Bangalore and Kerala by train/bus. The exact Meeting Point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: In the FSL-India Training Center with shared rooms.

5. **Kundapur – Karnataka (Yoga / Sustainable Agriculture / Culture) : FSL-SPL-248, 251, 252, 257**
- 6.

The Project:

Kundapur is a town situated near the beach on the west coast of Karnataka state, and is very close to the Western Ghats (a mountain ridge). The Western Ghats is India's prime zone for bio-diversity and known for its animal and plant species in this region. FSL-India has been involved in developing projects for many years in this region and has now formed a very strong network of local partners and local volunteers. Invariably this is one of the prime locations for FSL-India to initiate development interventions in partnership with the local NGOs and civil society organisations.

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Baseline Survey and Mapping;

Conservation of Natural resources - Soil and water conservation, Live hedge fencing, Fruit and forestry plantation;

Implementation of sustainable Agriculture practices - Crop cultivation, Composting, Kitchen garden, Medicinal plants cultivation, Nursery management;

Maintenance and management - After care, Basin making, watering, pruning, protection etc;

Post-harvest practices - Threshing, cleaning;

Documentation of local traditional practices;

There will also be house visits and interactions with local rural people and as part of the cultural exchange, volunteers will witness and participate in the cultural programs with local community.

Location:

Kundapur is a coastal town in Udupi district, Karnataka state in South India. Cities near to Kundapur include: Udupi (35 kms), Mangalore (95 kms) and Bangalore (435 kms). People coming to Kundapur fly into Mangalore or Bangalore International Airport. The nearest airport is Mangalore International Airport, around 100 kilometers from Kundapur. Kundapur also can be reached from Mumbai, Goa, Bangalore and Kerala by train/bus. The exact Meeting Point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: In the FSL-India Training Center with shared rooms.

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7. **Mahabalipuram (Heritage Conservation / Awareness) : FSL-SPL-262**

The Project:

Mahabalipuram, also known as Mamallapuram, is an ancient historic town famous for its stone carvings and cave temples. It was a bustling sea port - ancient Indian traders who went to countries of south-east Asia sailed from the sea port of Mahabalipuram. The structures here, mostly carved straight out of granite, are among the oldest existing examples of Dravidian (South Indian) architecture. Mahabalipuram was declared as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1984.

The main objective of the workcamp in Mahabalipuram would be to spark interest among the local community by involving children and international volunteers in activities that promote sensitivity and respect towards the World Heritage site. The workcamp in Mahabalipuram will focus on the protection of the cultural heritage and the sites of historical importance and on creating awareness among the locals, school children, tour-guides and tourists.

FSL India will organize activities for the school children within the boundaries of World Heritage Site:

A. Clean up activities around the monuments in Mahabalipuram, which is most visited by tourists. The objective is to spark interest among the local community by involving local and international volunteers in activities that promote sensitivity and respect towards the World Heritage site.

B. Preparation of Nursery: Planting saplings at the nursery. One child will be identified to look after each sapling. It would be a good activity to address this change and involve the local children to plant trees and teach them to look after them till they can survive.

C. Organizing Drawing competition for the school children and opening it up to local people by setting up an open gallery. Involve local Authorities, Tour Guides Association, teachers, and any other potential local partners. This would help build partnership for later work.

D. Awareness Walk/ Street Play with locals – The volunteers and locals will prepare a skit on heritage conservation and environment issues. The Street Play involves imparting of messages on Heritage

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conservation through acting and miming. The Awareness Walk will be a procession in the main area and we will spread messages on ecology, hygiene and conservation.

E. Initiate active participation of youth by encouraging school children to become “Young Guardians / Ambassadors” of the Heritage site. To achieve this, we will form a “Heritage Club” in the school.

Location:

Mahabalipuram is located in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, 60 kilometers from Chennai, and 100 kilometers from Pondicherry. Mahabalipuram is accessible by bus from Chennai and Bangalore. There are domestic and international airports in Bangalore and Chennai. The exact meeting point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: In a rented Guest house or Hostel, with shared rooms.

8. **Mysore (Health on Stage) : FSL-SPL-260**
- 9.

The Project:

Public health dialogue on public health issues is becoming increasingly important in India to improve the health status of the people. The project “**Health on Stage**” is the continuation and the follow up of global effort spearheaded by Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF) and FSL India to mobilise the local community for public health dialogue. It is a unique model that attempts to pool up young international volunteers and engage them in intensive dialogue with local community by using “**forum theatre**” as the medium for communication.

Health on stage will be implemented in rural areas in Mysore. Water related issues and water borne diseases will be the important components of Health on Stage programme. Initially, the volunteers will visit slums and interact with the local community to survey and study health related issues. Based on the survey findings, the volunteers with the help of a forum theatre expert will rehearse and design a street play to communicate the message and promote Health on Stage.

After a brief inter-cultural exchange and learning the applications of 'forum theatre', the volunteers of "Health on Stage" will perform for three weeks focusing on public health with all its social and cultural dimensions. Under the broader framework of Water and Public Health, a wide range of local issues will be taken up for dialogue and seek solutions. Hygiene and sanitation, waterborne diseases, preventive and curative aspects of health, water and environment, water conservation, indigenous water purification measures will be the issues to be dealt with.

The forum theatre will not be so much with language based. It will predominantly be body language and action based communications. Initially the volunteers would spend time in social mapping to identify the local water and health issues and through forum theatres analyze the issues with the community and design locally available solutions. This will trigger the thought of the people they would realized that it is they who are principally responsible to find out locally available solutions to their numerous water and public health problems. A local person skilled in form theatre will work with the volunteers throughout the workcamp.

Location in Mysore: Mysore Rural & Urban, South India.

Mysore is about 140 kilometers from Bangalore. It is accessible by air, domestic and international airlines fly directly to Bangalore International Airport. Trains and buses operate on an everyday basis from almost all major towns/cities in South India. The exact Meeting point will be mentioned in the info sheets.

Accommodation: At a rented Guest House or Hostel with shared rooms

