



Argos, Greece

Greenovation

Volunteering Teams

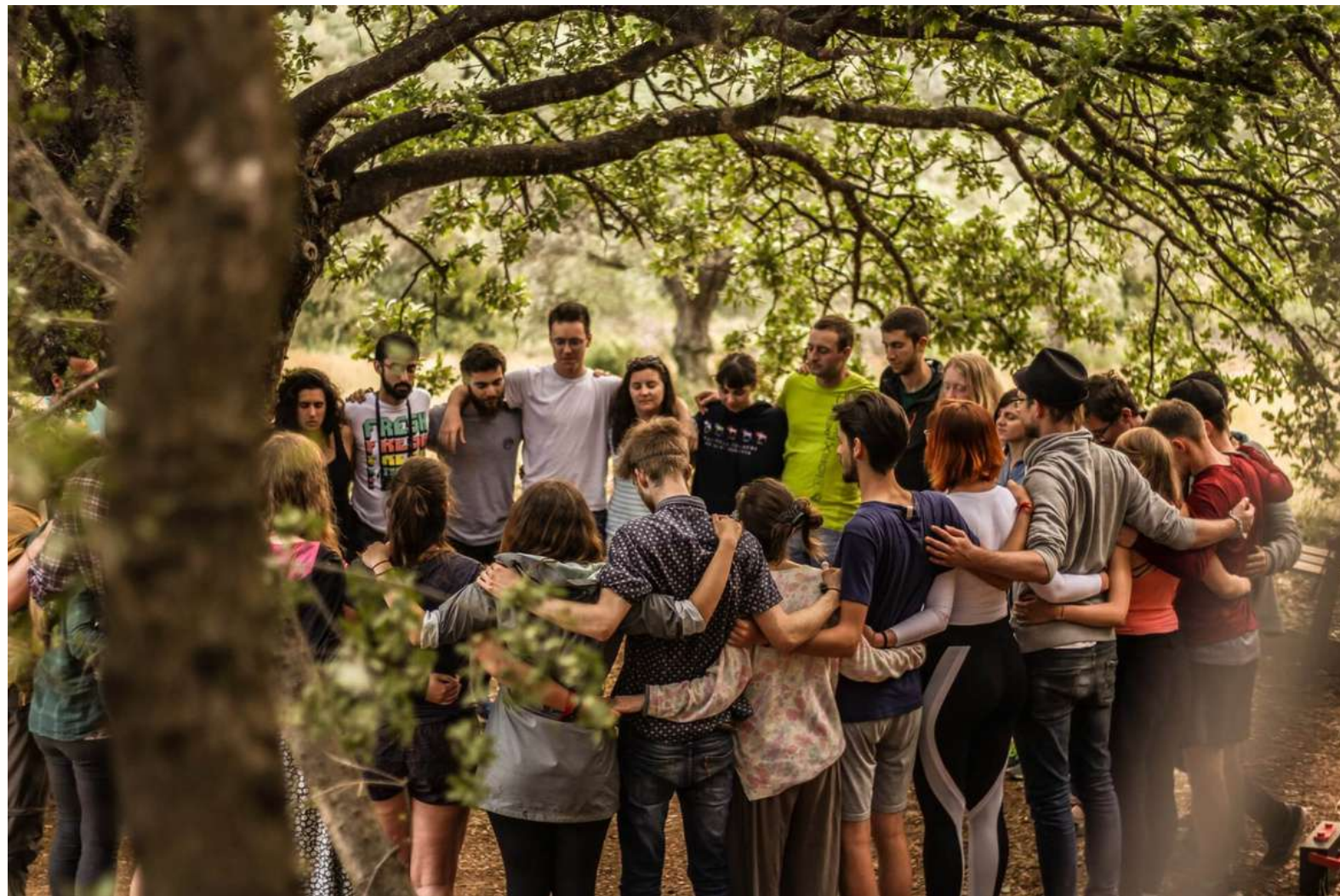
Phase 1: 1 June–17 July

Phase 2: 13 August – 26 September





Be a Greenovator



Live for 2 months in Hopeland, a 7-acre eco place in southern Greece focusing on sustainability and co-create your dream community with 15 more volunteers from around Europe.

Use your **hands**, your **mind**, your **creativity** and any other skills you might have to support into **hosting group trainings and residencies**, into the **enhancement of the place** and into **outreaching the local community** of Hopeland.



Hopeland - Context

Hopeland eco-training center is located in a **rural remote area** in the south part of Greece. The venture is built with lots of love and (mainly) with natural materials from volunteers, visitors and guests who visited the place the last 10 years with **a vision to create a place where sustainability meets tradition, culture and personal development.**

The dream is that Hopeland is a place that belongs to its at-the-moment residents. It took many years for the local community around Hopeland to understand the whole idea and dream. Since 2017, we have started hosting Erasmus+ projects in place and this shifted a lot the general mindset around us. So, at the moment we decided **to co-host for the first time a Wine festival together with the local association.**

Unfortunately, Covid hit the place too. October 2019 was the last time an international group had the chance to visit Hopeland for a residential learning activity.

20 months later, Hopeland is reopening by hosting Greenovation Volunteering Teams and it is ready to **restart, for one greener world.**





Greenovation - Context

Greenovation Volunteering Teams is a dual project.



50% of the project is focusing on 4 pillars supporting Hopeland and its activities happening in place or together with the surrounding community.



50% of the project is focusing on creating a sustainable temporary eco-community consisting of the volunteering teams' participants.

Pillars of the project

- 01 Restart & Upgrade
- 02 Host groups and activities
- 03 Outreach the local society
- 04 Leave your own mark and beyond



Restart & Upgrade



Hands-on actions and activities focusing on the improvement of the place.

It can be **eco-building, farming, opening paths, making wooden constructions** and in general improving the **infrastructure, the facilities** and the **sustainability factors** of the place.

Extras: We plan to have a group of experts in eco-building in order to train all of us in eco-building techniques.



Host groups and activities



Covid allowing, during the summer we will have several groups visiting Hopeland for learning activities. Most of these activities are connected in one way or another with the idea of sustainability.

As part of the Hopeland team, you will be asked to **support hosting these groups in several ways and according to your skills.**

It can be **preparing the place, cooking, delivering workshops** or activities, **tutoring** them into task-related activities and in general **supporting the hosting of those groups.**



Outreach the local society



Wine Festival: In September, covid-allowing, we are planning **together with the local association to host the first-ever wine festival** in the nearby village of Maladreni. This festival requires lots of planning, promotion and preparation therefore expect to be involved in the support of the festival.

General Outreach: Unable to confirm that the festival will take place, we are anyhow planning **to reach out and connect with the local community and the local initiatives of the surrounding area.** We aim to build strong partnerships and plan common activities in general and during Greenovation.



Leave your own mark and beyond



By joining this project you are already **considered a “Hopelander”**, the place also belongs to you. In order to support you with that, we encourage everyone alone or in groups **to leave their mark** in Hopeland.

It can be really anything as far as it is in line with the vision of Hopeland. It can be from a **piece of furniture made of used pallets**, a **piece of art from repurposed materials**, a **drawing**, to a **video about Hopeland**, a **future project**, a **tree that you planted**, a **strong partnership with another local or international initiative**, a **recipe book**, a **new NGO** etc.

This includes initiatives **not only during your stay** at Hopeland but also afterwards for example to create a project for your community. **Here the sky's the limit.**



For Whom?

We are offering this opportunity to **13 international participants** and **2 Greek residents** to ensure the intercultural dimension of the project.

There are several requirements from the programme itself and a profile that we would like to focus on.



Profile

- 18–30 years old
- Legal residents of one of the Erasmus+ programme countries and they do not require a visa to enter Greece
- Eager to learn or already have the knowledge or experience with the thematics of the project
- Enthusiastic with hands-on activities.
- Eager to take initiatives and create opportunities for themselves and society.
- Ready to live in a rural environment with basic conditions for 6 weeks.
- Ready to be challenged into aligning together with people from different cultures into making together a sustainable community.
- People with a clear plan and vision regarding their participation in the project and beyond.
- Extreme priority will be given to those that are facing or faced any kind of troubles in life

Special skills

- We are also looking for a couple of volunteers with media skills such as photography and filmmaking for documenting this whole experience for everyone but also support Hopeland activities and the Festival in branding, digital marketing and promotions.



Hopeland - the Venture



Hopeland is a venture that aims at creating and supporting activities for parents, children and adults regarding the Environment, Tradition, Culture and Personal Development, while promoting sustainability at all levels.

It aims at setting an example of self-sufficiency in practice. Some of its main objectives are natural building, natural farming, recycling, respect for nature and reducing the ecological footprint.



Hopeland - the location

Hopeland is situated **on a hill** near the village Malandreni and **located 130km** (approximately 2h) **south of Athens**. The nearest town is **Argos** which **is 12 km** away where you can find anything from small shops to supermarkets, banks, post offices, and bus stations. Closer to Hopeland and **4 km away** you can find **small shops for shopping and coffee**. Shops there are limited and unfortunately, it's not in walking distance so smart and **sustainable planning of supplies is needed**.

Hopeland center/estate, is located in a 7.7-acre piece of land, with old olive trees, almond and other trees, native herbs and it is surrounded by a forest and boasts, 5 oversize yew trees (which are protected by the local Forest Protection Service), as well as a 400- year-old oak tree.



Accommodation & Facilities

Facilities in Hopeland are basic but made with lots of love and work from previous Hopelanders



- * There is a two-storey open area with shared decks **in basic conditions guesthouse** and has been built with the strawbale eco-building technique.
 - * Additionally, there is a **camping area** and we plan to develop a **new camping area during the project**.
 - * In the beginning, you are **going to be hosted altogether in the guesthouse** and you will **support the development of the new camping area** where new **tipi tents with pallet beds** are going to be created. With this, you will have the opportunity to level up your privacy and accommodation.
 - * The guesthouse is also going to be available throughout the project **exempt from the times that another group is hosted** in Hopeland.
 - * The guest house has **2 indoor toilets**, an **indoor shower** and **two more outdoor showers**. Additionally, there are two more toilets and showers in the camping area and two compost toilets around the estate.
 - * The whole venture **runs in solar panels**, therefore, **electricity is limited** and on rainy days or days with strong consumption of electricity, we can run out of electric power (the first is very unlikely, the second very possible!).
 - * There is a **separate kitchen building** and a roofed dining area with all the necessary equipment for cooking and dining.
 - * Hopeland is a **vegetarian, no-drugs venture**. We believe that human beings can reach the utmost of their potential without the consumption of substances.
 - * Due to that fact, there is **no possibility of using hair dryers** and **washing of clothes can only be done in the traditional way**.
 - * There is **wifi** in the area but **very limited** because **it is a 4G connection**. For this, we recommend using your own 4G or mindfully use the wifi.
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Get a glimpse from Hopeland

01 Greenovation [June 2018]



02 Symposium [May 2018]



03 Tree of Life [October 2019]





the dates

	Phase 1 – Restart	Phase 2 – One Greener World
Focus	Upgrading the place	Reaching out to the community
Arrival	1 June	12 August
Start of the programme	2 June	13 August
End of the programme	16 July	26 September
Departure	17 July	27 September

- Depending on at that moment Covid restrictions It is ok if you want to arrive earlier or you want to depart later from the project but you will have to cover your own costs for those days.



Practicals



Pocket money

You are going to receive 5€/day for your living money



Food money

You are going to receive a weekly budget for all the group in order to cook altogether (for sustainability reasons)



Reimbursement

Your travel costs are going to be reimbursed according to the distance between your home and Hopeland.

* **Insurance** Besides the European Health insurance card you are going to be offered a private insurance too

Youthpass You are entitled to receive a YouthPass certificate where you are expected to self-assess your own learning



Covid-19

The programme is originally designed without the influence of COVID-19 however sometimes plans need to be changed in order to adapt to the reality for this reason:

- We are going to follow all the current Greek legislation and take any required measures in order to prevent the spread of the virus.
- You are asked to follow all the "at the time"/latest regulations to enter Greece according to the Reopen EU <https://reopen.europa.eu/>.
- We are going to use all the necessary precautions "at the time" needed interacting with groups (masks, gloves, sanitiser etc.)

We are going to adjust together (if needed) the activities of the programme in order to fit the "at the time" COVID-19 regulations of the Greek Government.





Instead of Conclusion

What is Sustainability for us



Sustainability for us is the holistic idea to protect the **environment**, the **economy**, and the **people around us**. This means that yes, we look for greener solutions in our lives and the communities around us but also creating a balanced and harmonious connection with each other and the people around us.

Hopeland has done some steps towards being sustainable, the place is off the grind, most of the buildings are with eco-building techniques, it is a vegetarian place. However, we are fully aware that we are not yet an eco-community nor 100% sustainable.

Our vision is to make **every day a step towards** this direction by **shifting mindset through experiential learning** and we are inviting you to also contribute to this action plan. We are also aware that flying people from around Europe to work on sustainability is unsustainable so we invite you to be conscious even before coming on your own travelling options and be ready to contribute with ideas and actions on how we can balance it during the programme.

We are looking forward to creating this **greener world together**.



Are you the next Greenovator?

If what you've read so far resonates with you and you are ready to live and work for 2 months in Hopeland, then...

[APPLY HERE](#)



Build your Greenovation myth in Greece



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