**Gender Matters!**

**Training for dealing with Gender-based conflicts in Volunteering Camps**

**23-29 November 2020 – either offline in Switzerland or online**

**Background of the training**

As [research in SCI as part of the project “Gendered Realities”](https://www.sci.ngo/images/Gendered_Realities/Time_to_face_Gendered_Realities_compressed.pdf) in 2019 has shown, we have a lot to do in terms of making our volunteering camps safer spaces in terms of gender and sexual orientation. Gender-based conflicts around gender stereotypes, distribution of care work and manual labour, sexual harassment as well as sexism, homophobia and transphobia exist and are common. Camp coordinators, camp organizers and local project hosts sometimes don’t feel equipped to handle these situations.

With this project, we would like to train people active in SCI branches and partner organisations to make their camps safer spaces. The training is targeted towards experienced camp coordinators, camp organizers, experienced local project hosts as well as staff from your organisations.

Participants will get both general training in how to handle gender-based conflicts as well as how to create safer spaces in camps. Some of the topics that we will address are roles and responsibilities in a volunteering camp, group dynamics, conflict management, care work in camps, gender and food, gender-based discrimination in camps and how to react, creating an exciting study part on gender based on non-formal education and inclusion of LGBTIQ participants.

As an outcome, we will create a gender checklist for camp coordinators for the 2021 camp season that we would like to distribute in all of the SCI network.

**A training despite Corona?**

**Who knows what will happen in autumn?** At the moment of writing this (June 2020), it is not clear yet, if we will be able to organise this training. Switzerland has opened its borders to countries within the Schengen area again and we hope that by November 2020, it will be possible to travel also from other countries with a low number of COVID-19 cases.

**Online would be our Plan B!** We will decide at the end of August 2020, whether we will organise the training offline with participants traveling to Switzerland and with the then-appropriate hygiene and security measures. In case it is not possible, we will organise the training in an interactive and fun way with lots of group exchange and different digital facilitation methods online at the same dates.

**Participant’s profile**

All participants selected for this project must meet the following criteria

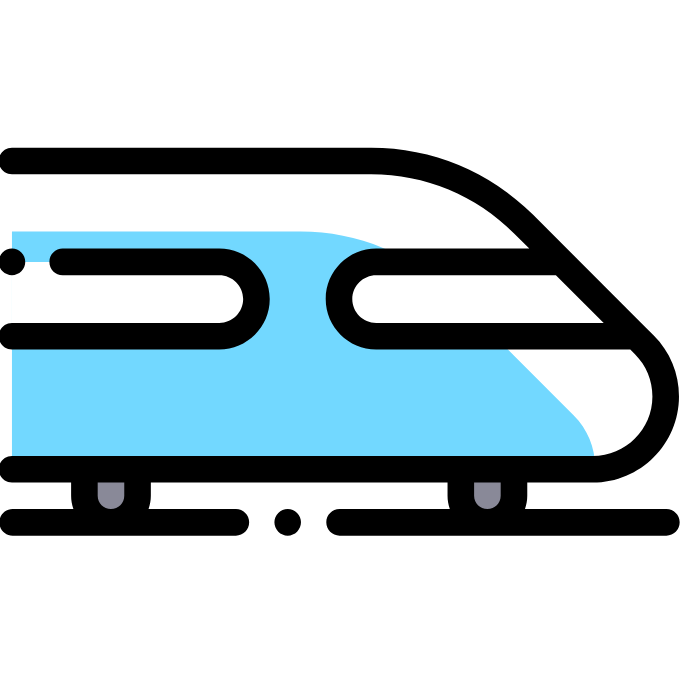
* be 18 years old or older
* have attended, coordinated and/or organized volunteering camps
* be able to work in English
* be interested in the training topics (gender and sexual orientation) and have a strong motivation to act as a multiplier
* commit to implement the learned knowledge and skills in practice in their sending organisation
* commit to actively participate from the beginning to the end of the training, no matter if it takes place online or offline in Switzerland

All participants will be expected and stimulated to contribute to the activities and discussions. There is also space for participants to come up with their own ideas and present some methods or workshops they are experienced in and they want to share.

We explicitly encourage participants of all genders, sexual orientations, abilities, races and ethnic backgrounds to apply. We are not certain yet if the venue will be wheelchair-accessible.

Please note that on some days, the training also foresees evening sessions. The training will take place in simple living conditions, rooms are shared between 4 to 8 people. Travel costs up to 400 CHF, accommodation, food and program are covered through a grant by Movetia.

**Sustainable food:** The food we provide will be vegan. This is not just a practical decision, but also an ideological one: SCI believes in the values of sustainability and climate justice – and if we want to contribute to a more peaceful planet, we need to move on from animal agriculture and its destructive effects on our planet.

**Sustainable travels?:** This is also why we ask you to come to this project through more sustainable means of transport rather than flying (e.g. by train or bus), if somehow possible. We will give you more guidance on how you can reach the venue, once you are accepted to the project.

**How to apply?**

Applications should be sent to your sending organization, which will each select their own participants and then forward the applications to SCI Switzerland. All those accepted will later receive a detailed infosheet (incl. info on how to get to the venue, how to book your travels, more info about the agenda of the project). **Deadline for applying is 31 August 2020.**

**Contact**

If you have any questions regarding the project and your application, don't hesitate to contact us at [gender\_matters@scich.org](mailto:gender_matters@scich.org).

We are looking forward to your application :-)

Sara, Loretta, Thomas and the SCI Switzerland team

**Application form**

**Gender Matters! - 23-29 November 2020**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Last name |  | | |
| First name |  | | |
| Is your official name in your passport different? If yes, please let us know: |  | | |
| Gender |  | | |
| Birth date |  | | |
| Nationality |  | | |
| Personal Address (Street, city, country) |  | | |
| Phone Number |  | | |
| E-mail |  | | |
| Emergency person |  | | |
| Contact Emergency person  (phone / email) |  | | |
| Special food needs?  (Allergies, intolerances, diet, etc.) |  | | |
| Other needs you would like to communicate  (e.g. Want to sleep in room with people of the same gender, disability, health conditions, etc.) |  | | |
| Passport Number, Date of Issue and Date of Expiry  (only if visa required) |  | | |
| English skills | Very good | Good | Poor |
| Speaking |  |  |  |
| Writing |  |  |  |
| Understanding |  |  |  |
| Name of your sending organisation |  | | |

For the following questions, please write briefly your most important arguments. This will help us to design the seminar according to your and the whole group‘s needs.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Experiences** | |
| How long have you been involved in your organisation and what have been your roles and tasks? |  |
| What are your experiences with organising and coordinating volunteering camps? |  |
| **Motivation and expectations** | |
| What are the main reasons you wish to participate and what are your expectations for the project? |  |
| How do you want to use the acquired tools and knowledge in the future? |  |
| **Further information** | |
| You can state here any other information you would like to share: |  |

**Declaration and commitment**

I am fully aware that my participation in this activity is an investment of the organisers (in terms of logistics, finances, time and personal involvement of all people engaged) in my personal learning experience.

1. I declare that the information provided in my application is true and I commit myself to participate actively in the whole duration of the project, no matter if it takes place online or offline.

2. I promise to share the experiences gained in the project with other people from my sending organisation and/ or other people in my professional/ private / volunteer environment;

3. I promise to implement learned experience at the local level;

4. I commit to attending the project in full, with no late arrival and early departure or leaving sessions;

I read and understood text of the declaration.