

Global Platform El Salvador Study Trip

GLOBAL PLATFORM EL SV

El Salvador Global Platform (ESGP) is an organization that promotes meetings and exchanges between human rights defenders to train and involve them in social and political transformations, through the strengthening of capacities and skills, using alternative, innovative methodologies, non-violent and participatory.

ESGP has more than 15 years supporting and inspiring defenders, prioritizing youth to actively lead governance and advocacy exercises that allow the transformation of narratives, practices and processes that change their own realities through a human rights and environmental approach and gender, promoting democracy and citizen participation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposal to this process is to equip to the participants with knowledge and critical understanding of the context to be able to analyze structural causes of poverty and inequality locally, nationally and globally. Using the skills to gain perspective in a solidarity and cooperation way, as well linking the world together in a common struggle for sustainable development

To inspire an attitude in the participants of the importance of being responsible, active global citizens together with others. Both in the solidarity work they do at their placements and the active role they can play in affecting global structural change through volunteering with ActionAid Denmark (AADK) once they are back home. Adding to that are attitudes of openness and respect, self-efficacy and tolerance of ambiguity. To inspire values in the participants of the importance of human dignity and human rights, of the intrinsic value of cultural diversity and of democracy, fairness and equality in order to create a sustainable world for all.

Participants will engage in thematic sessions that seamlessly from one to another, covering topics such as local culture and power structures, interactions with local communities structures, historical places of El Salvador, interactions with local communities, exploration of urban and rural livelihoods, and insights into marginalized communities and their challenges.

METODOLOGY



The training methodology will be based on the “learning by doing” principle, under which course participants will complete the process by strengthening their leadership skills and assuming a critical role to encourage active global citizenship from a political perspective based on the intersectionality of people, countries and contexts.

The teaching process will focus on field visits with organizational partners and workshop sessions in a dynamic and interactive process so that knowledge is a construction from experience and the context of reality aimed at having critical and first-hand knowledge.

One of the central interests of the work of the process is the strengthening of capacities through the use of alternative, participatory and empowerment methodologies.

LEARNING PRINCIPLES

- PARTICIPATORY METHODS **Learn together**
- POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT **Analyze and change power structure**
- LAERNING BY DOING **Act, reflect, learn, apply**
- PUBLIC ACTION **LEARNING Use society as a classroom**
- FEMINIST LENS **Challenge patriarchy and inequality**
- DREAMING BIG **Be creative, seek alternative**

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Identify power structures locally, nationally and globally that create and further inequality and violation of rights
- Actively use practical tools like teaching techniques, project design, workshop planning, tutoring and communication skills, at their volunteer placements to be able to add value
- Understand AAI and AADK’s Theory of change and HRBA work as a ‘new’ paradigm within international development work
- Navigate respectfully in new cultural and social settings
- Differentiate between cultural practices and social structures and know how these relate to each other.
- Identify AADK as a community of action where they can engage themselves further in the struggle for a more equal world.



THEMES

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE PROGRAM AND GLOBAL PLATFORM

This session is to introduce the Platform's staff and the Platform. Also to give the participant the space to introduce themselves and speak a little bit more about their likes and lives. This session is also made to talk about the rules inside the Platform and about the program and flow of the course.

2. RACE TO SUCHITOTO

This session gives the volunteers the chance to know Suchitoto town and get in touch with the local people. Is a good way to make them start introducing to the culture and the language, due to they have to make questions in Spanish. Is a great tool to build confidence on them.

3. CULTURE and SENSITIVE

Reflect about concepts of culture and culture of violence, this one will be slightly linked with history. The participants will be introduced into a "new" culture related to gender, inequality, patriarchy, religion. A mutual understanding throughout none verbal communication.

4. LATIN AMERICA CONTEXT

This session will help to the participants to have an overall view of the context of Latin America. Looking out for information by themselves, also turning back in history with some events that the "museum of history" reflects. This will give a clearer understanding about the reason of many existing problems in the region and some root causes of poverty, exclusion, injustices, etc.

5. TRIP TO CINQUERA

This session is a continuation with the last session, the participants will have the meet a place where the war happened, also an experience lived by former guerilla member. A 2 hours walk where the war took place and the main tiny city. This city was isolated because the repression was so hard that people were forced to flee. After peace agreement between government and guerilla in 1992 people came back to the city which at that point was a "ghost town".

6. SECURITY OF EL SALVADOR

This session gives the participants an historical background to what are "gangs" and how United states and Salvadoran government policies have contributed to created them and strengthened them. We also look into how weak institutions could affect a country in terms of poverty, security an inequality and above all let s to analyze how is perceiving the security in the nowadays with the bukeles administration



7. URBAN COMMUNITY VISIT

A group- space to get to know an urban community to deepen the phenomenon of violence, its causes and the stigmatization of communities that face violence.

8. CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

This session gives the participants the chance to interact with local youth, to know how they think according to their principles and values about different taboo topics in Latin America, and also share their opinion to them. This session let the participants create a debate and gives them a clearer intercultural understanding by knowing how people think different in some cases, but having clear is not wrong, is just part of a culture different from their own.

9. VISIT TO THE RURAL COMMUNITY

This activity will help the volunteers to learn about culture, history, social and political reality through a real life experience. The activity will be divided in three topics

1. *Community organization*
2. *Agroecological alternatives*
3. *Make graffiti*

10. POWER RELATIONS

During this session the participants will reflect about power relations and the way they work in all levels of human relations, world scale and also the way it affects in local way. Participants will have the chance to propose more fair relation and the way that can be used in an specific context. Volunteering. Volunteers will analyze the way the world is structured based on power relations it will also contribute to have a better view taking into account the historical process.

11. HUMANS RIGHT BASED APPROACH)

This workshop ensures that the participants understand the link between HRBA and social and structural change, as well as the work that the national/regional AA organizations and Activist do. Furthermore, they will work with solidarity, empowerment and campaigning/advocacy work in a practical way and there by understand the power of volunteering to impact change.

12. GENDER EQUALITY

The workshop will begin with the analysis of gender depending on the reality of each participant. We will do an energizer related to gender, then we will watch a short documentary related to abortion laws in El Salvador.

13. VISIT TO COLLECTIVE FEMINIST

we will visit an organization do a debriefing about the women situation in the country, then we will present some facts about gender in their destination countries. We will ask some solutions they may offer to this situation.



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