



# SDG Youth Programme

Do you often think about how your actions can drive systemic? Have you ever wondered how international NGOs and social enterprises work to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? Each year, the [SDG Youth Programme](#) offers five one-year trainee positions, each in a different organisation, partly in Switzerland and partly abroad.

## Agroforestry & Reforestation Trainee

**Duty station: Toamasina, Madagascar and Neuchâtel, Switzerland**

### About the SDG Youth Programme

The SDG Youth Programme was designed by the Mercator Foundation Switzerland, together with cinfo. It aims to offer students and young professionals the opportunity to gain initial exposure and work experience with an NGO or social enterprise active in international cooperation (IC).

Selected candidates are given the opportunity to work on new topics and innovative projects for one year, both in Switzerland and in an office abroad (or with a partner organisation of the host organisation). During this time, the young professionals can explore their motivation to follow a career path that allows them to contribute to the SDGs. At the same time, they can transfer the knowledge and skills they have acquired to the Swiss labour market. The career development of the successful candidates is at the heart of the programme.

### About CEAS

CEAS is a Swiss-based NGO active in the field of development cooperation since 1980. CEAS encourages the emergence of participatory innovations that enhance local resources, promote human development and respect the environment. In Sub-Saharan Africa, CEAS projects are based on innovative applied research carried out together with the local population. Through its network of partners, CEAS contributes to food self-sufficiency, sustainable development and adaptation to climate change. CEAS generates technological innovation and know-how that is transferred to craftsmen, farmers and agricultural processors, as well as to local authorities and communities throughout the African continent, enabling them to generate their own income. Find out more about the philosophy and history of CEAS at [www.ceas.ch](http://www.ceas.ch) or watch our [video](#) (2 mins).

### Job description

The objective of this one-year paid traineeship with CEAS is to support the project teams in the implementation and further development of biomass supply plans. These supply plans are driven by the need to provide fuel to agro-processing units in Mandialaza and Ampasimbe Onibe communes. These plans are currently being developed and will focus on reforestation and community involvement. Ideally, these plans will also include an agroforestry component and promote indigenous species. As an Agroforestry & Reforestation Trainee, you will

- support the local project teams in the implementation of these plans to make them as ecologically and socially sound as possible.
- have frequent field visits to work directly with local communities and colleagues.



This traineeship is a unique opportunity to:

- Immerse yourself in the rural world of Madagascar and the challenges of fighting deforestation and poverty.
- Get involved in reforestation and ecological restoration activities.
- Learn about the functioning of an NGO, its challenges and opportunities.

### **Your role as Agroforestry & Reforestation Trainee:**

You will work closely with the local project teams by:

- Assisting in the definition of wood-energy supply plans for agro-processing units using biomass based on the models developed.
- Supporting and monitoring of the implementation of biomass supply plans in two different projects and locations in Madagascar.
- Contributing to the development of agroforestry models integrating the wood-energy production dimension.
- Analysing the carbon sequestration potential of reforestation and ecological restoration activities (including biomass supply plans).

The trainee will spend the first month in the office in Neuchâtel in order to understand the functioning and the basics of CEAS. The next ten months will be spent in Madagascar, based in Toamasina with frequent visits to the rural communes of Mandialaza and Ampasimbe Onibe. The last month of the traineeship will be spent in Switzerland to debrief and finalise the work in progress.

### **Skills required**

#### **For the SDG Youth Programme:**

- Swiss nationality or C permit;
- Max. 28 years old at the start of the assignment in September 2023;
- Less than 12 months of relevant professional experience;
- Bachelor's degree (University or FH/HES), or an Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education, or a Federal Diploma of Higher Education;
- Strong interest and intrinsic motivation to contribute to the SDGs;
- Good knowledge of at least one Swiss national language and English.

#### **For this position:**

- Bachelor's degree (University or FH/HES), or an Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education, or a Federal Diploma of Higher Education in forestry, agroforestry or a related field;
- Relevant work or academic experience in forestry or agroforestry in tropical climates and carbon sequestration or Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) schemes.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English and French.

#### **Required competencies:**

- Deep understanding of reforestation and agroforestry
- Excellent analytical and communication skills
- Strong team player with the confidence to make suggestions and the ability to take feedback

#### **Demonstrated interest in:**

- Ecological restoration and/or climate change mitigation measures
- Community-led development programmes
- Intercultural communication



## How to apply?

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<b>Application deadline:</b>	07 May 2023
<b>First round of interviews:</b>	22 to 26 May 2023 (online)
<b>Second round of interviews:</b>	June 2023 at the host organisation's office
<b>Start date:</b>	1 September 2023

**Any questions?** Contact Roman Twerenbold and Sandrina Simoes, cinfo's Recruitment Specialists, [recruitment@cinfo.ch](mailto:recruitment@cinfo.ch).



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## Climate Resilience and Energy Management Trainee

**Duty station: Lausanne (6 months), Sub-Saharan Africa (6 months)**

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### About IDE-E

The Institute for Development, Environment and Energy (IDE-E) – [www.ide-e.org](http://www.ide-e.org) – is a non-for-profit organisation, based in Switzerland and France, aimed to support sustainable options for low carbon, socially inclusive and resilient urban development in low-income countries.

Organized in the form of an international network of experts, IDE-E has supported governments of developing and emerging countries for over ten years in designing and implementing national and subnational strategies to improve climate resilience and support low carbon development in urban and rural areas.

Convinced of the critical role of local authorities in mitigating and adapting to climate change, IDE-E provides strategic advice and technical support to regions, provinces, cities and communities for sustainable energy management, climate resilience and solid waste management. It provides support all along the planning cycle from baseline assessments to the establishment of action plans, project design, financial engineering, and access to finance, implementation oversight, and impact monitoring. While focusing on implementation support at city-levels, the IDE-E works hand in hand with national and sub-national authorities to design and deploy enabling a regulatory framework and public policy.



## Job description

The aim of this one-year paid traineeship with IDE-E is to:

- Support the development of strategic assessments carried out by the organisation in the context of ongoing cooperation projects, potentially including benchmark assessments, progress reports and publishable articles.
- Support the design of new projects and contribute to the development of project proposals to be submitted to various donors (such as REPIC, SECO, GIZ, AFD, World Bank, etc.).
- Contribute to the provision of technical assistance to local authorities in North and/ or Sub-Saharan Africa, focusing on renewable energy production, energy management, climate resilience in urban planning, and waste management.
- Support the organisation of training workshops and webinars to provide a platform for the exchange of strategic approaches (tested in North Africa) among sub-Saharan stakeholders (ministries and agencies in charge of energy management and climate resilience).
- Support the development of communication tools and content for our communication platforms (website, and LinkedIn page).

This traineeship is a unique opportunity to:

- Be involved in all stages of the project cycle: project design/proposal development; financial deal-structuring and fundraising; implementation; monitoring and reporting to institutional partners and international donors; and communication.
- Participate in the design of many of our projects from the beginning, in close collaboration with local partners, based on specific needs and opportunities – and in line with our strategic approaches: Municipal Energy and Climate Management; Integrated Waste Management and Recycling; and Sustainable Islands.
- Become part of a multi-year network of experts and partners in Europe (Switzerland, France), Africa, Vietnam, and Colombia, with whom we design and implement most of our projects, thus gaining valuable insight into culturally different – and politically sensitive – working environments and learning from local experts and partners with a deep understanding of their country contexts.

## Your role as Climate Resilience and Energy Management Trainee

Your contribution to the Institute's activities in Africa may include the following:

- Data collection and analysis to contribute to strategic assessments and analytical reports.
- Drafting of project proposals, budgets, reports, policy briefs, technical reference documents, etc.
- Contributing to the identification of suitable funding partners and technical experts for upcoming and ongoing projects.
- Preparation of training workshops, and training materials and webinars to facilitate knowledge transfer and exchange.
- Organisational support for events (seminars, workshops, etc.).
- Communication tools (short video-clips, project documents, website content, etc.).
- Research on innovative approaches, funding schemes and relevant technical solutions, etc.

## Skills required

**For the SDG Youth Programme:**

- Swiss nationality or C permit;
- Max. 28 years old at the start of the assignment in September 2023;
- Less than 12 months of relevant professional experience;
- Bachelor's degree (University or FH/HES), or an Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education, or a Federal Diploma of Higher Education;
- Strong interest and intrinsic motivation to contribute to the SDGs;
- Good knowledge of at least one Swiss national language and English.



### **For this position:**

- Master's degree (University or FH/HES) recommended, or an equivalent degree in Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education, or Federal Diploma of Higher Education in Energy Management, Environmental Sciences, Engineering and/or Policy, Sustainable Development Studies, or a related field.
- Relevant work or academic experience in energy management, power generation from renewable energy sources, climate resilience, solid waste management, and related fields.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English and French (German is a plus).

### **Required competencies:**

- Cultural and political sensitivity.
- Ability to work autonomously, with remote guidance/coaching.
- Team player: ability to interact with experts and team members in different fields and countries.
- Ability to communicate and interact with public authorities, local partners and stakeholders from different fields and cultural backgrounds.
- Ability to use MS Office programmes (Word, Excel, PowerPoint).

### **Demonstrated interest in:**

- Sustainable energy management and climate policy.
- Climate resilience and natural resource management.
- Sub-national policies, with a focus on municipal and community levels.
- Innovative approaches to support sustainable resource management (energy, water, bio-waste) at the local level.
- Energy and climate finance, including public-private-partnerships.
- Working with and learning from local partners.

### **How to apply?**

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## Sport and Play Project and SDG Impact Measurement Trainee

**Duty station: Biel, Switzerland, and Lira, Uganda**

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### About the Swiss Academy for Development

The [Swiss Academy for Development \(SA4D\)](#) is a non-profit organisation founded in 1991. We use sport and play to transform the lives of disadvantaged young people, in Switzerland and internationally. Our projects contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in key areas such as employment, health, education, environment and integration.

In Uganda, SA4D implements several projects, including the Moving Youth! project in Lira, together with our partner organization Action for Child Social and Economic Transformation (ACSET).

### Job description

The aim of this one-year paid traineeship is to enhance contributions to the SDGs by (a) supporting SA4D's projects on the ground in Uganda and working with our local partners, (b) co-developing innovative education for sustainable development modules (environmental education) using sport and play-based methods, and (c) helping to improve the strategic alignment of all SA4D projects and related Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) efforts to the SDG framework.

Your tasks and responsibilities as SA4D's new Sport and Play Project and SDG Impact Measurement Trainee will include:

- Supporting the implementation and ongoing optimisation of the Moving Youth! project and other projects in Uganda, in collaboration with local partners. This includes various Project Cycle Management (PCM) tasks.
- Developing innovative environmental education modules to be used in projects in Uganda and possibly elsewhere. This would include the creation of new games and play-based approaches, incorporating lessons learned from on-site implementation into the environmental education manual currently being developed.



- Strengthening contributions to the SDGs (SDG 6, 13, and 15 – environment) and other related SDGs (2, 4, 5, 8, and 17) within the projects by better aligning the SA4D sport and play manuals with the SDG framework.
- Contributing to the improvement of the MEL framework and its alignment with the SDGs, in order to more effectively measure contributions to the SDGs.
- Contributing to organisational development as a member of the SA4D team.

Some aspects of this traineeship are worth highlighting:

- SA4D team members are involved in all phases of the PCM. Therefore, the learning curve will be as steep as the trainee wants it to be. Furthermore, there is some flexibility in what exactly the trainee wants to work on within the PCM, in addition to the tasks mentioned above.
- The posting to Lira, Uganda, will follow the secondment of another SA4D team member to Lira between April and November 2023. The project trainee will therefore be able to build on an existing base of experience and working relationships with the local partner and indeed the whole SA4D team.

## Skills required

### For the SDG Youth Programme:

- Swiss nationality or C permit;
- Max. 28 years old at the start of the assignment in September 2023;
- Less than 12 months of relevant professional experience;
- Bachelor's degree (University or FH/HES), or an Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education, or a Federal Diploma of Higher Education;
- Strong interest and intrinsic motivation to contribute to the SDGs;
- Good knowledge of at least one Swiss national language and English.

### For this position:

- Bachelor's degree (University or FH/HES), or an Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education, or a Federal Diploma of Higher Education in environmental or natural sciences, possibly social sciences, or a related field;
- Relevant work or academic experience in education or educational methods, particularly in relation to sport and/or play-based approaches, is an advantage;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English are required; excellent written and oral communication skills in German or other languages are an advantage, but not required.

### Required competencies:

- A strong commitment to teamwork and collaboration;
- Mindfulness and care when working with others, especially across cultures;
- Ability and interest to work independently, be highly responsive to and respectful of guidance and supervision, and produce high-quality, written output.
- A basic understanding of project cycle management is an advantage

### Demonstrated interest in:

- International development;
- Concepts of indicators, measurement, impact assessment;
- Links between individual development (intellectual, emotional, physical; ideally in the context of sport and play) and community development.



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## Trainee: Change Action Promotion in solid waste management

**Duty station: Bogota, Colombia and St Gallen, Switzerland**

### About the SDG Youth Programme

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### About [Skat Foundation](#)

Skat Foundation is a legally independent non-profit organisation based in St. Gallen, Switzerland. Supervised by the Swiss Federal Supervisory Board for Foundations, we hold the Zewo Quality Seal as proof of our transparent, efficient, and effective use of funds and resources. Our vision is that of a world where individuals and organisations can learn and act in collaborative ways to eradicate poverty and contribute to the development of sustainable, diverse, and inclusive societies.

Our mission is to be facilitators of change. We enable our partners to learn from each other and to find solutions to the challenges triggered by poverty and climate change by focusing our work in three thematic areas: Water, Renewable Energies and Sustainable Waste Management. We support our partners to find, adapt and develop solutions that respond to their needs and context. We strengthen their capacities by facilitating on-line and in-person courses, trainings, knowledge-sharing workshops and events, and by developing and sharing knowledge products.

### Job description

The aim of this one-year paid traineeship with **Skat Foundation** is to:

- Contribute to the development of actions to promote sustainable waste management practices in poor urban communities in Bogotá, in the context of the Skat Foundation's *Green Terrace* project.
- Design and implement a community strategy for the efficient collection of organic waste in project-related neighbourhoods.
- Produce communication materials, such as short videos and field notes on the project's achievements.



### **This traineeship is a unique opportunity to:**

- Contribute with knowledge of good practices in solid waste management in Switzerland, and thus make a relevant contribution to the process of cultural change that is beginning in Colombia.
- Contribute to community initiatives aimed at conserving natural resources in Colombia through improved waste management and through the prevention of negative environmental impacts caused by human activities.
- To see the reality of waste management practices in low-income areas and get a closer look on the impact of good practices on the environment and the lives of families.
- To experience Colombian culture, getting closer to the realities of both university students from different parts of the country, as well as low-income communities such as the families and organizations working with the project.
- To support Skat Foundations partners in Colombia in the creative and effective use of digital methods of communication and documentation for the dissemination and multiplication of the practices framed by the project.
- To learn about and contribute to the work of Skat Foundation in Switzerland and in Latin America in the field of solid waste management and its contribution to the climate agenda.

### **This traineeship will consist of three main parts:**

- **1 month in Switzerland:** With the guidance of the Skat Foundation's team the trainee will:
  - Receive an introduction and preparation for the work in Colombia.
  - Make the documentation of solid waste management and recycling community systems – small technologies in Switzerland.
  - Become familiar with the work and communication tools of the Skat Foundation.
- **6 months in Colombia:** Together with Skat Foundation's partner in Colombia-Javeriana University's team from the Social Programme PROSOFI, the trainee will:
  - Develop a strategy to improve community-based systems for the collection and treatment of organics.
  - Support in the preparation and implementation of trainings, knowledge dialogues and workshops for families participating in the project.
  - Support in the monitoring of indicators and their inclusion in the training materials and in the strategy.
  - Develop communication materials to facilitate the replication and promotion of the project in Colombia.
- **5 months in Switzerland:** With the guidance of the Skat Foundation's team the trainee will:
  - Prepare technical field notes on sustainable solid waste for the Colombian context.
  - Support with online trainings, workshops, and webinars.
  - Continue to prepare communication materials.
  - Support the Skat Foundation team in planning the new project phase.

### **Your role as Trainee – Colombia:**

The Trainee will provide the following support:

- Support in the development of actions to promote sustainable waste management in Colombia.
- Design and implement a community strategy for the efficient collection of organic waste in the project.
- Produce communication materials on sustainable waste management practices in Colombia.
- Support in the preparation of trainings (F2F and online).
- Share experiences and knowledge on sustainable waste management practices in Switzerland.
- Learn from the other team members, Skat Foundation experts and partners in Colombia about sustainable waste management practices.



## Skills required

### For the SDG Youth Programme:

- Swiss nationality or C permit;
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- Less than 12 months of relevant professional experience;
- Bachelor's degree (University or FH/HES), or an Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education, or a Federal Diploma of Higher Education;
- Strong interest and intrinsic motivation to contribute to the SDGs;
- Good knowledge of at least one Swiss national language and English.

### For this position:

- Bachelor's degree (University or FH/HES), or an Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education, or a Federal Diploma of Higher Education in Environmental Engineering, Ecology, Biology, or related fields.
- Relevant work or academic experience in solid waste management in Switzerland or abroad.
- Experience in developing communication tools.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in Spanish and English.

### Required competencies:

- Teamwork.
- Good communication skills.
- Ability to synthesise, document and analyse experiences.
- Open mindedness.
- Willingness to get to know and work in vulnerable communities.

### Demonstrated interest in:

- Circular economy, waste management and composting.
- Training, capacity building and workshop facilitation.
- Data and evidence gathering and synthesis.
- Latin American culture.
- Desirable: Urban organic agriculture

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## Trainee Green Skills & Jobs

**Duty station: Maputo, Mozambique**

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### About [Swisscontact](#)

We are a leading organization for the implementation of international development projects. Founded in 1959 and registered under Swiss law, we are an independent non-profit organization, politically and denominationally neutral.

Swisscontact was established in 1959 by important personalities from commerce and science in Switzerland as an independent organization. It is exclusively dedicated to international cooperation and has been implementing its projects and mandates since 1961. Since its founding, Swisscontact has maintained its straits with the private sector.

Swisscontact promotes economic, social, and environmental development by supporting people in their integration into the successful local business life. Swisscontact creates opportunities for people to improve their living conditions because of their efforts. The focus of its systemic interventions in the private sector is the strengthening of local and global value chains. By increasing economic productivity, Swisscontact promotes added value for all involved, the local population and small businesses.

In 2023, Swisscontact, based in Zurich, Switzerland, is active in 39 countries and has approximately 1400 employees..

Swisscontact's work focuses on inclusive growth driven by an innovative private sector that creates jobs and incomes. This is how Swisscontact promotes the development of a private sector that demonstrates its social and ecological responsibility and contributes to the poverty reduction.

As a specialized organization, Swisscontact carries out high quality work in its projects. The cost-effectiveness of its services is proven through well documented and transparent monitoring and quantification procedures. Internal and external recurrent controls are proof of the continuous and sustainable development of its knowledge, skills, and know-how.



## Job description

This traineeship is a unique opportunity to play an active role in the thematic elaboration of one of the most important topics of the current development discourse. The aim of this one-year paid traineeship with Swisscontact is to contribute to the implementation of the Skills to Build project and in particular to the development of green skills and jobs, both on a theoretical and methodological level as well as on a practical level. After a 2-3-month introduction at Swisscontact's head office under the supervision of experienced development professionals, the 9-10-month stay in Mozambique will enable the trainee to apply what she/he has learned directly on site and to integrate it into real-world project activities. The work is relevant to the definition and design of the new phase of the Skills to Build project. The intercultural experience offered will enable the candidate to launch a career in international cooperation.

### Phase 1

For the first 2-3 months, the trainee will be integrated into the Products & Solutions Team at the Swisscontact head office in Zurich for the first 2-3 months. There, she/he will:

- Become familiar with the topic of Green Skills & Jobs;
- Conduct desk research on Green Skills & Jobs activities in Mozambique and similar countries;
- Develop the theoretical basis for a Green Skills & Jobs strategy for the Skills to Build project in Mozambique.

### Phase 2

The trainee will then travel to Mozambique for the remaining 9-10 months, where she/he will:

- Analyse the local context in terms of opportunities for concrete activities in the area of Green Skills & Jobs;
- Support the exchange with various institutions on the topic of Green Skills & Jobs;
- Evaluate the existing VET institutions (infrastructure, operational capacity, curricula, teachers) with regard to Green Skills & Jobs activities;
- Contact companies that are active in the green economy and clarify their skills demand;
- Formulate a Green Skills & Jobs strategy based on the theoretical groundwork and on-site analysis – will be integrated into the new Skills to Build project phase;
- Design a pilot for a Green Skills & Jobs intervention together with the project team;
- Launch the pilot intervention.

## Your role as Trainee Green Skills & Jobs:

You will support the development of a Green Skills & Jobs strategy for the Skills to Build project by providing the following:

- Co-create a strategy to incorporate Green Skills & Jobs in an underdeveloped and fragile economy;
- Support private enterprises to formulate Green Skills demand and Green Jobs potential;
- Transfer skills and knowledge to vocational training institutions;
- Support the Country Director in the implementation of the project and strengthening of the institution (drafting proposals, concept notes, etc.);
- Others to be defined with the trainee.

## Skills required

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- Strong interest and intrinsic motivation to contribute to the SDGs;
- Good knowledge of at least one Swiss national language and English.



### **For this position:**

- Bachelor's degree (University or FH/HES), or an Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education, or a Federal Diploma of Higher Education in climate related, education, economics, sociology or related field;
- Relevant work or academic experience in green economy, green skills, green jobs or green transition;
- Experience in planning and managing research tasks, organising participatory diagnostics;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English (Portuguese or Spanish is an advantage for Mozambique).

### **Required competencies:**

- Ability to work autonomously, with strategic and systemic vision;
- Resilience and ability to cope with difficulties;
- Teamwork in a multicultural environment;
- Creativity and critical thinking.

### **Demonstrated interest in:**

- Green transition;
- Vocational training in technical professions;
- Innovative business models for the green economy;
- Working in intercultural contexts.

### **How to apply?**

You can apply directly for specific positions on our platform [cinfoPoste](#).

You can apply for up to 3 positions. After the screening of the applications, you could be invited for up to 2 interviews.

### **Important details regarding your application:**

Make sure your profile on [cinfoPoste](#) is complete and up to date:

- Motivation letter in English (not more than 3500 characters, to be inserted in the pop-up window when you click on "apply");
- CV in English, including an average % of your employments;
- Work certificates, diplomas and university credentials (as PDF) uploaded under the section 'documents'.

<b>Application deadline:</b>	07 May 2023
<b>First round of interviews:</b>	22 to 26 May 2023 (online)
<b>Second round of interviews:</b>	June 2023 at the host organisation's office
<b>Start date:</b>	1 September 2023

**Any questions?** Contact Roman Twerenbold and Sandrina Simoes, cinfo's Recruitment Specialists, [recruitment@cinfo.ch](mailto:recruitment@cinfo.ch).