

# 2025 IWO KOREA

## International Exchange Program



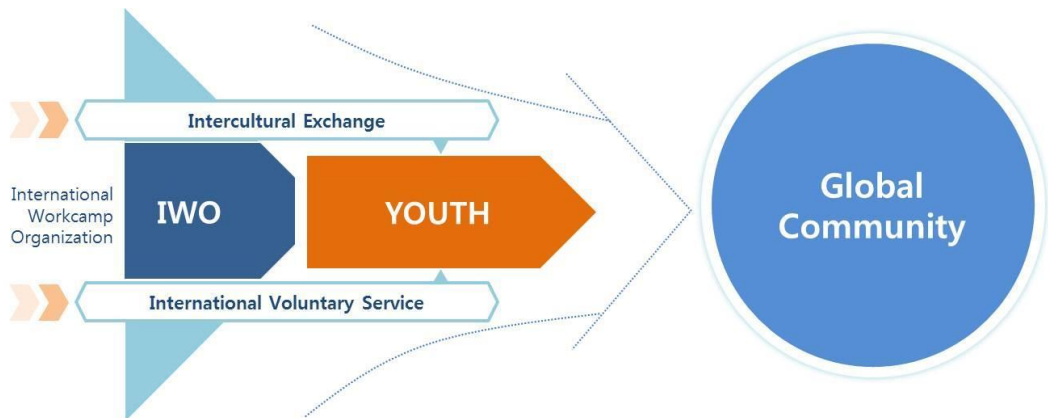
International **W**orkcamp **O**rganization

## 1. Introduction about IWO

IWO is a non-profit and non-governmental organization established in 1999 to promote world peace, global citizenship, youth and community development, and cultural exchange through international voluntary service. We had been an Executive committee member of CCIYS (Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service) at UNESCO Paris, and are a member of NVDA (Network for Voluntary Development in Asia), and a member of Alliance (Alliance of European voluntary service organizations).

### 1.1 Our Vision

**IWO dreams for youth to make contribution to the Global community through international voluntary service and intercultural exchange.**



We believe that we can promote world peace by contributing to mutual respect and capacity for peaceful coexistence among all countries. We offer the youth of all countries the opportunities with international voluntary service projects to understand the cultural differences and diversity of each society. We believe that youth is our bright future in this world.

## 1.2 Our Activities

Our International Voluntary Service Projects offer young people opportunities to participate in community-based projects in over 70 countries worldwide. The projects differ widely ranging from nature conservation, restoration, education, and construction to projects that are more socially based including work with adults and children with special needs, teaching or organizing youth & children's holiday schemes. Our main activities include.

### \* GLOBAL Education \*

- **G**rowing and training youth and volunteers
- **L**eading a new paradigm in the field of non-formal education
- **O**rganizing international voluntary service projects
- **B**uilding intercultural programs
- **A**rranging international conferences and seminars
- **L**earning and understanding diverse culture

## 1.3 Our Aims

The main purpose of IWO STV and MTV projects is the so-called 'Glocalization' which is to bring the world to Korea and provide opportunities for international exposure. Hence, the projects may enhance the cultural interchange between the local residents and international volunteers and also influence positively the host organization and local community by actively fulfilling the missions of each project.



- To provide opportunities to locals so that they can understand other countries and cultures by building friendship with volunteers.
- To help international volunteers understand Korean culture and learn to respect differences and diversity.
- To empower the locals to support civil associations and non-governmental organizations.

- To encourage volunteers to have an active attitude toward responsibility for the environment, youth and society.
- To promote voluntary service activities in cooperation with local communities and NGOs.

## **2. General conditions of projects**

All projects cooperate with local NGOs, local governments, civil society and local volunteers. The locals are pleased with and welcome the international volunteers who have the different cultural, social and educational backgrounds.

### **Short Term Volunteer Projects (Workcamps)**

#### **1) Number of Volunteers & Duration**

- IWO hosts 10-25 volunteers on each workcamp. Each project will have 4-10 Korean participants (Including 1~2 Korean camp leaders) and 10-25 international participants.
- The number of volunteers may alter depending on each project.
- Duration of the project is 6 to 12 days.

#### **2) Project Coordinator**

- Each project has 1~2 camp leaders who have been trained by IWO. They will coordinate the group to achieve the goals of each project. And, the Korean participants also prepare for the project with IWO before the international participants arrive in Korea.

#### **3) Accommodation & Food**

- Meals and accommodation are provided during the project
- Rooms will be shared among participants and sleep on the floor with a mattress (Based on Korean culture)
  - However, participants may have to cook for themselves by turn with given budget. It would bring pleasure to taste different food from different countries
  - Participants are responsible for keeping the accommodation clean during the project at all times because there will be locals visiting the project sites often
  - If volunteers have a unique dietary requirement, they should inform them in advance and they have to prepare for themselves in case the local can't support them.

#### 4) Free Time

- Participants are responsible for organizing their own free time with the camp leaders during free days. Host organizations will share information about local attractions with the participants.

#### 5) Insurance

- IWO provides insurance for **accidents during the project only**. (No dental clinic, illness, 3<sup>rd</sup> party's liability compensation). It covers only a percentage of the cost (co-pay) at a maximum 40% as per the insurance regulation for foreigners in KOREA.
  - Therefore, **participants MUST bring their insurance for health, travel and the 3<sup>rd</sup> party's liability compensation.**
- The first aid kit is provided in the project site and recommend to bring own medicines too if necessary.

#### 6) Transportation

- Korea has a convenient public transportation network over the country; therefore, all participants are advised to arrive at **Incheon International Airport** regardless of the location of their project site.
- By taking a subway and an airport bus, participants can conveniently arrive from the airport to Seoul. There are many convenient public transportation systems from Seoul to each project site.

#### 7) Participation fee

- None

#### 8) Financial Support

- Participant can get the transportation (Round-trip Ferry tickets) after the meeting point.

#### 8) General Requirements

- The primary language is English.
- Be **motivated** and **open-minded to local cultures**.
- Be flexible and be ready for sudden changes in the program according to the local situation.
- Participants aged from 19 to 40 years are acceptable. Exceptions may be negotiated.
- Volunteers should be fully aware that this is **NOT a vacation trip** nor **cheap travel**.

- Verbal and physical sexual harassment and discrimination is a serious crime.
- Smoking is allowed only in a designated area in each project site.
- No illegal drugs are allowed in Korea.
- No drinking alcohol is allowed when you are with children or even in a youth centre.

## 1. Workcamp Project List

No.	Code	Title	Location	Date	Type	No. of Vols.	Age Limit
1	IWO-71	Gumundo_1	Yeosu	27 JUL – 3 AUG	CULT/EDU	20	19+
2	IWO-81	Gumundo_2	Yeosu	10 AUG – 17 AUG	CULT/EDU	20	19+
3	IWO-101	Gumundo_3	Yeosu	19 OCT – 26 OCT	CULT/EDU	20	19+

## 2. Workcamp Description

IWO-71	Gumundo_1	Yeosu	27 JUL – 3 AUG	CULT/EDU	20 vols
IWO-81	Gumundo_2	Yeosu	10 AUG – 17 AUG	CULT/EDU	20 vols
IWO-101	Gumundo_3	Yeosu	19 OCT – 26 OCT	CULT/EDU	20 vols

Geomun Island is a beautiful island located about 1 hour and 30 minutes by high-speed ferry from Yeosu, which is known for having one of the most picturesque harbors in South Korea. While it may seem like a remote island from the mainland, from the perspective of the sea, it holds a strategic position as a gateway to Korea. Because of this, Geomun Island has historical significance—most notably, it was occupied by British forces from 1885 to 1887.

Despite being separated from the mainland, the island has developed its own unique culture over time. Today, it is home to about 300 residents who enjoy a peaceful and happy life. Volunteers come to this island to contribute to the well-being of the community and help enhance the happiness of its residents even further.

**Work:** Participants will spend a night in Yeosu, exploring the city before heading to Geomun Island. There, they will collaborate with professional artists to create artwork using marine debris, household waste, and natural materials. They will also take part in producing artworks that benefit the local community. In addition to these creative activities, participants will have time to enjoy Geomun Island's stunning beaches and beautiful ocean.

Participants will also have the opportunity to share their diverse cultures with local elementary and middle school students through food, games, art, clothing, photography, and more. This cultural exchange will allow both participants and students to experience the joy of diversity and gain valuable insights from different traditions and perspectives.

This experience is perfect for anyone curious about life beyond the city, where the vast sea meets a vibrant island community. It is also an ideal opportunity for those who wish to contribute to local development and foster collaboration within the community.

**Accommodation and Food:** In the local guest house / Meals are provided & Cooked by participants. The accommodation provides air conditioning, bedding, and shower facilities. Each room will be shared by 4 to 5 people.

**Location:**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Z3pWgfAkh3FAxtbs6>

**Transportation**

▶ Meeting point: YEOSU Ferry Terminal (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/2oqBD6q5xNZSoKy57>)

Participants will meet at YEOSU city. The train or bus runs frequently from Seoul to YEOSU a day by KTX (High-speed train) and express bus. It takes about 2 hours and a half by KTX train. From the train station, you may take a bus or taxi. It will take a 20 min by bus and 10 min by TAXI.

After gathering at the meeting point, all participants will move together to the project site by the bus and High-speed ferry following day.(The ferry is quite big and complies with international passenger ship regulations. It is ensuring a safe and comfortable journey for all participants). The transportation fee from meeting point to project site by chartered bus and ferry will be covered by the Host organization

**General information of island:**

<https://www.yeosu.go.kr/en/travel/10tour/geonundo>