



NEXTGEN

ECOVILLAGE YOUTH NETWORK

NextGEN is the youth branch of the Global Ecovillage Network, connection young people through ecovillages, regenerative education, events, eco-projects, and nature-based living. We are united by our youthful spirits, love for the earth, passion for community, and understanding that we need viable, holistic solutions like ecovillages to respond to the current global crisis.

We empower, educate, connect, and inspire young adults to take action, foster community, join ecovillages and build a regenerative world. We focus our work on the strategic areas of inspiration, learning, action, connection, and empowerment.



▶ NextGENOA

- Organized the gathering “Gaia Calling” with 40 earth warriors participating at Gaia Ashram ecovillage in Thailand to share practices for taking care of Mother Earth; followed by the NextGENOA Conference with 15 members making plans, collaborating and strengthening the network.
- Core NextGENOA members joined the European Ecovillage Conference, GENOA Regional Gathering, and Awakening Leadership Training.
- Multiple regenerative youth events like Deep Ecology and Ecovillage Introduction workshops in China, Ecovillage Design Education course in Myanmar, and NextGEN gatherings in South Korea.



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Photo credit to: André Camilo Martinez, Daniela Herrera, Jese Quintero, Leah Vaillant, NextGENNA, CASA Jovenes, NextGENOA, NextGENNA, NextGEN Europe, Mónica Jinete

▶ HIGHLIGHTS FROM NEXTGEN IN 2019

▶ NextGEN Africa

- Constituted an executive council with 6 youth members from 5 African countries working in organisations with an ecovillage set-up.
- Supported 2 members to participate in an Ecovillage Design Education course hosted by Sandele foundation in Gambia.
- Developed first newsletter and set up platforms to engage members through a NextGEN Africa WhatsApp group and Facebook page.
- Set up a NextGEN Africa awards scheme to financially support member projects on the ground, which will start running in 2020.

▶ CASA Jóvenes

- Two Avatar Camps in Proyecto Gaia ecovillage in Santa Sofía, Colombia with 50+ young people in total helping them with tools and knowledge for being and co-creating a new earth.
- Strengthened alliances with Buena Semilla Permacultural and Rights of Mother Earth.
- Two ESPEJO youth gatherings as experiential learning spaces for (social) permaculture, bioconstruction, community, culture and visioning in Colombia.
- Strong presence at the ECCO 2019 in Ecuador to bring the youth voice to this gathering for sustainable communities and Buen Vivir.



▶ Next GEN Europe

- Hosted a youth strand at the GEN Europe Conference with 6 workshops and networking events.
- Provided facilitation and ecovillage education training to 50 participants in two Bridgedale courses.
- Yes to Sustainability project ran 6 youth exchange programs in ecovillages (150 participants) and 5 trainings on creating youth exchanges (120 participants).
- Implemented a project on Biogas production technology in Moldova with a ToT for rural community leaders, 4 trainings, a communication campaign in 3 languages and a National Conference in Chisinau.

▶ NextGENNA

- NVC trainings, healing in community webinars, and ecovillage presentations to over 285 people.
- Strengthened NextGENNA with a transformational whole team retreat.
- Built team capacity by participating in NVC and racism awareness trainings.
- Recruited 3 interns and 3 potential new members to strengthen the team and help youth plug in the ecovillage movement.
- Created 5 videos, 75 Facebook posts, and 4 newsletters to inspire and grow our network.
- Updated website with newest projects, team members and partnerships.

