

inspirando creadores para una vida sustentable

EDE Argentina
diseño en sustentabilidad

Gaia
education

EDE ARGENTINA REPORT 2013

1. GENERAL PRESENTATION

Between July and October 2013, Espacio Eco organized the first **EDE in ARGENTINA, Buenos Aires**. The course was attended by participants from different provinces of Argentina, like Buenos Aires, Cordoba and Entre Rios, and members from foreign countries, like Uruguay and Colombia.



The first EDE in Argentina, took place in San Isidro, province of Buenos Aires. The group began with 29 members and finished with 22, 20 of which will receive the certification. The original group of 29 people was formed by 20 women and 9 men. The ages of the participants ranged from 21 to 63, with various age groups and professional or formation areas.



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We believe that this course brought very precious energy to Buenos Aires, expanding the networks that join the big number of sustainability workers throughout the capital of Argentina and its bioregion; to other countries such as Uruguay and Colombia.

The process was very intense and inspiring empowering the participants to redesign their lives. Some of them made great personal changes in their lifestyles, others left old jobs.

The organizing team was successful in formalizing a scholarship fund and strengthened new partnerships. They also invited participants to join the organization internal support team, creating an opportunity to put into practice what they have learned and get trained as facilitators.



2. COURSE STRUCTURE

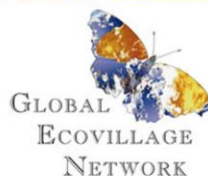
EDE ARGENTINA 2013 - Buenos Aires totaled 200 hours of activities of which 192 were curricular, 152 theory, 40 s of a residential internship and 8 in open especial events. Each module was developed throughout six days of activities: Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and again Saturday and Sunday - Saturdays and Sundays from 10.00am to 19.00pm and Tuesday and Wednesday from 19.00pm to 22.30pm - in 4 dimensions of 38 hours each. The methodological approach has balanced the theoretical lessons offered at Espacio Eco and Pura's space for specials activities, and the practices and experiences by the groups of design, the field trip and the 40h residential internship.



We had several extracurricular classes open to the community so we could share the wisdom of the great international educators and make people acquainted to this type of education for future courses.



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3. SELECTION PROCESS AND PROFILE OF THE CLASS

The disclosure of the course began in the first week of April with the Intro EDE, several months before the beginning of the course. During the period of applications, the EDE team promoted a workshop presenting briefly the four dimensions of the curriculum. We had fifty participants in the workshops and many of them became part of the EDE.



**DOMINGO 19
de Mayo - 16hs
PUNTUAL**

© 3° ENCUENTRO INTRO EDE - abierto y gratuito - inscripción previa enviando tus datos y te confirmamos dirección exacta- Traer frutas secas y frescas para compartir abundancia!

Facilitan: Gabriela Salvaneschi & Juan Sabaté arquitectos - ESPACIO ECO San Isidro



© ENCUENTRO INTRODUCCION A LA PERMACULTURA Amigo/a te invito a un viaje permacultural donde veras que un mundo mejor es posible, donde cada desecho es insumo de otro ecosistema, y una con un ion entre tú y la naturaleza, volver a las raíces ancestrales con la tecnología apropiada, un saludo ecológico y sustentable.

Focaliza: Antonio Moretti - Educador UTN - UNIVERSIDAD TECNOLÓGICA NACIONAL FACULTAD REGIONAL DELTA Y UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE LUTJAN CENTRO REGIONAL CAMPANA

To participate, each candidate had to fill in a registration form and required a personal interview. We received 43 questionnaires and had 30 vacancies available. We offered 3 full scholarships to our partners and 3 partial scholarships.

It was a distinctly South American program, with participants from Argentina, Uruguay and Colombia; Brazil and Argentina Team; and Educators from Argentina, Chile and Brazil.



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4. FACULTY

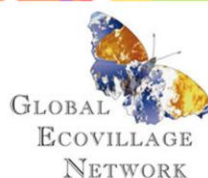
The faculty included 25 educators from national and international origins. Among these, 11 were women and 14 men. In the overall evaluation and individualized for each educator, they were all well graded.



| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| Team Team Gabriela Salvaneschi Juan Sabaté Taisa Mattos Sabrina Fariseo | Faculty May East Taisa Mattos Filipe Freitas Jorge Mello Romeu Mattos Leite Gabriela Salvaneschi Juan Sabaté Ana Estenssoro | Andres Navarro Joaquín Sorondo Ingrid Astiz Nicolás Meyer Mireya Baglietto Virginia Blaistein Antonio Moretti Ricardo Toledo Manuel Linares | Sebastián Homps Majo Sucarat German Doin Angie Ferrazzini Vicky Sostres Eduardo Ferreyra Raul Latronico Silvia Perez |
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5. BUDGET

We operated in a system of solidarity economy, offering differentiated values to facilitate payment, we accepted exchanges of goods and services, and we gave grants to support some participants.

A major challenge was the exchange restriction and inflation in Argentina that limited the number of participants and had to accept many exchanges and support by providing scholarships for several of them.

6. REVIEWS

Questionnaires were customized to include specific aspects for each dimension and each educator and facilitator of the design groups. They were compiled in Survey Monkey, under Gaia education login that could be downloaded (in spanish). In general the class was very satisfied and involved in their collective process.

Link video: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/p8ymeo66t2oujfh/nNKIJVw2EC>

7. INTERNSHIPS

To complement the theoretical possibilities were offered to stage institutions committed with sustainability where the participants could experience 40 hours of immersive work. All stages were offered in rural areas and on projects that could offer an experience of cohabitation.

The stages were:

Argentina:

1. Centro Nakkal -

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.461201817260054.107764.441749372538632&type=3>

Brasil:

2. Terra UNA - www.terrauna.org.br

3. Uniluz - www.nazareuniluz.org.br

4. Instituto Arca Verde - www.arcaverde.org

5. Vila Yamaguishi - www.yamaguishi.com.br

Uruguay:

6. La Tierrita - lucia@ecovillage.org

The group chose to perform internships all together and held in Nakkal, on November 26, 2013 and 20 students presented their reports on the experience.



8. DESIGN GROUPS

Participants chose between 10 possible projects, several of them had representatives in the group. There were 3 definitive choices: 1. EV rural community - 2. Urban local - 3. Bioregional rural area

1. NAKKAL CENTER - Is a rural community in Cañuelas County, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina, about 80 km from Buenos Aires. Their purpose is to develop a sustainable way of living, socially, ecologically and economically, based on a fundamental vital attitude, considering human being as part of nature.

With this vision, they have been building a community, working on the research, practice and dissemination of appropriate technologies for sustainable living, promoting communication, mutual understanding and open access to information.



Natural bioclimatic building, waste recycling, natural farming, rational use of resources, renewable energy technologies, all these activities are part of their daily life, in a context of cooperation and playful interaction.



2. LA COLMENA - Is an open space, organic vegetable garden and sustainable initiatives center, situated in San Isidro County Council, Argentina. Many times, modern world drives us to disconnection with our most deep truths, with each other, and with Mother Earth.

Still, there are subtle links between each other and between human and nature. La Colmena invites us to gather and reconnect, enjoying the wonders of nature, in the here and now.

Free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol, La Colmena invites us to cultivate a healthy lifestyle, allowing our hearts to recognize true fulfillment, by sharing vegetarian meals and playful artistic activities in our center. -

<http://www.lacolmenasomostodos.com/index.html>

3. BALCON VERDE DE PUNILLA - Is a rural area situated in Casa Grande, Punilla Valley, Córdoba Region, Argentina. The project is to create a Natural Reserve, a site designed to promote sustainable mindful living. Balcón Verde is already recognized as a local Protected Area and they are working to consolidate legal and technical tools, to reconcile conservation of biological and cultural diversity with economic and social development. One of their achievements is the foundation of the first "Living and Learning Center" of the area: Tierra Natural Ecocentro, a place ideal to test and demonstrate innovative and permacultural approaches to sustainable development.

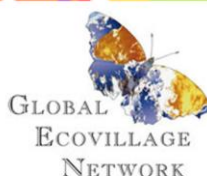


During the course the design groups were request to create and develop tasks associated with each of the four dimensions of the course in order to apply the skills and instruments showed during the theoretical approach of the course.

The deep level of interest and participation and the quality of the reports gave us the feeling that the objectives of the design group exercise were achieved.



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9. COMMUNICATION AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The methodology and bibliographical references and audiovisual works in Spanish were available as PDF files for each participant. Most of the educators teaching materials were made available as PDF files on a Dropbox via password. Also a video, EDE Argentina 2013, with the experiences lived during the course was included for each one.

The files left by the Brazilian educators were translated by our team. As it is the first version of EDE Argentina did not have the required time to translate some materials before class, but ALL have been translated into Spanish to be available for the group.

10. WHAT WORKED

- Alliances with Nazaré, Vila Yamaguishi, Arca Verde, Terra Una, Centro Nakkal, La Tierrita, Civil Asociation La Tierra Sabe, INICIA, Arte & Esperanza, Pura, La Colmena, Mariu Fundation.



- The learning process mobilizing the class.
- The system of recording attendance.
- The adaptation of the curriculum to the local context and educators from Argentina.



- The artistic expressions such as music, dance, theater, visual arts were present during all modules.
- Teachers and facilitators with wisdom and passion



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- A field trip to the Nakkal Center as an activity of ecological module.
- Partnering with Pura for open classes

- Joint group feeding
- Partnership with the Foundation for scholarships for some participants.



- The process of design groups was shared and integrated into the closure with great creativity and inspiration.
- The design groups were able to apply the results obtained during the process of each project.

- The management process of Espacio ECO and the participation of the students in creating the opportunity to put into practice what they have learned to get trained as facilitators.

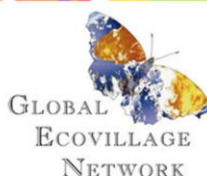
- We created a game with the elements where we apply the principles of leadership through the guards, with an excellent result of harmony and fluidity.
- The group achieved an integration and deep spirit of unity that persists after EDE with meetings and celebrations.



- Generate transition initiatives such as activities with neighbors, through the creation of a community orchard, collective purchasing shares and others.



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- Harmonization of the space. This group was responsible for caring about the space where classes were held. How the environment can become a sacred space to care.
- During EDE's development, the group experimented challenges and could apply the tools learned in the social dimension, ending with a consciousness of unity and love in an atmosphere of great depth and celebration, and so decided to make the Internship all together.

11. PRIORITY REDESIGNS

- Being the first EDE, we had to do a great deal of communication and diffusion as it was not known nor the Gaia Education, or the EDE program; also we had to deal with difficulties to form a team group.
- It was a challenge running an EDE, as in the organization we were only three people and a small team of assistants in charge of development; a larger staff will be necessary.
- Feasibility of a greater diversity of social classes.
- Enlarge the technique tools and skills for designing.
- To create a methodology to monitor and mobilize competences in action after the program.
- Approach in thematic feeding, nutrition and food production.
- Agreements of commitment from the participants to the completion of assessments.

12. CERTIFICATION

Students that have sent the residential internships report (individual) and design group report (collective), and had 90% of presence during the course will be certificated in April, when we will held a ceremony for it.

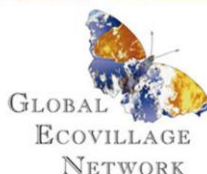
14. EDE ARGENTINA 2014 Buenos Aires and next steps

We are in the process of setting the agendas of next year and will be soon producing the second EDE. We will run the 2014 EDE Argentina in a Buenos Aires city place, definitely more appropriate for the proposal and objectives of the course.

**Love and Gratitude for each and everyone who made this wonderful EDE possible.
We feel very happy because it was fun and sustainable!!!**



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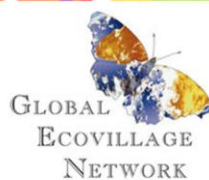
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15. PHOTOGRAPHIC REPORT



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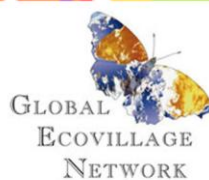
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