



Ecovillages are typically active in some or all of the following **activities**:

- Participatory design
- Local economic development
- Cooperative social economies
- Building community
- Inclusive decision making process
- Conflict resolution
- Holistic 'whole person' education
- Local organic food production
- Permaculture design principles
- Ecological building
- Renewable energy systems
- Waste management

For more information on the concept of ecovillages or where to find an ecovillage close to you please visit our website:

www.gen.europe.org

TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT US!

JOIN THE NATIONAL ECOVILLAGE NETWORK IN YOUR COUNTRY!

JOIN US AND BECOME A MEMBER!

GEN-Europe | Triad Offices

Alterra (Spain) / Zegg (Germany) / Findhorn (UK)

Contact:

E-mail: info@gen-europe.org

DONATIONS

GEN-Europe is a registered charity association. Donations are tax deductible depending on your country.

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Global Ecovillage Network Europe
**Connecting Communities
for a Sustainable World**



ECOVILLAGES



GEN-EUROPE



THE GLOBAL ECOVILLAGE NETWORK

AN ECOVILLAGE IS A HUMAN-SCALE SETTLEMENT CONSCIOUSLY DESIGNED THROUGH PARTICIPATORY PROCESSES TO SECURE LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY. ALL FOUR DIMENSIONS (THE ECONOMIC, ECOLOGICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL) ARE SEEN AS MUTUALLY REINFORCING, AND ATTENTION TO EACH IS ESSENTIAL FOR HOLISTIC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

An **Ecovillage** can be large or small, rural or urban, intentional or traditional. They are an outcome of citizens who prefer to ‘walk their talk’ in reducing their Ecological Footprint (in the industrialised North), or keeping it low (in the global South), while increasing their sense of belonging and purpose.

Ecovillages are demonstration sites of sustainability in practice, showcasing that it is within human capacity and knowledge to consciously enhance and regenerate previously depleted natural and social environments. **Village networks** can weave **local solutions** into a new tapestry for **resilient societies**.

OVERVIEW

GEN-Europe is a **network** of ecovillages in Europe, Africa and Middle East.

It has **50 full members** in over **26 countries**, and many more supportive members and affiliated projects.

MISSION

GEN-Europe **promotes** the development of sustainable settlements and the building of community and solidarity as core to transition to resilience.

GEN-Europe **works** to make visible and strengthen the capacity of individual ecovillages as well as national ecovillage networks.

GEN-Europe **communicates** the benefits of the ecovillage experience to wider society, to professionals in government, the private sector, and other NGOs.

The **Global Ecovillage Network (GEN)**, set up in **1995**, is an umbrella organisation working to support the experimental creation and preservation of low impact lifestyles across the globe. Through the sharing of best practices and innovative solutions, while honouring deep-rooted traditional knowledge and local cultures, we move towards a diverse yet shared pool of wisdom for sustainable living at a global scale.

GEN-International works through three broad regional organisations: the **Ecovillage Network of the Americas (ENA)**, **GEN Oceania and Asia (GENOA)**, and **GEN-Europe/Africa/Middle East**.

GEN-Europe has supported the emergence of **GEN-Africa** and is currently supporting the emergence of **GEN-Middle East** as independent regional networks within **GEN** in order to make visible the dynamic and impressive work being done on the ground in these regions.

GEN has consultative status with **UN-ECOSOC** (Economic and Social Council) and is a partner of the **UNITAR-CIFAL** initiative to provide training in sustainable development to local government officials worldwide.

To find out more about international activities, please visit: www.ecovillage.org / www.gen-africa.org