



Jane Goodall Institute

Roots & Shoots Volunteer Programme ©

Frequently asked volunteer questions

1. Who are we?

Roots & Shoots is a global movement, founded in 1991 by Dr. Jane Goodall, which aims to inspire, empower, and encourage young people all over the world, to work for the environment, animals, and people. It supports young people's power and encouragement; promotes local, national, and global projects. Roots & Shoots provides an environment where children and youth can follow their curiosity, act together, and can create the change the world needs. It contributes to efforts about learning to live in peace and harmony, not only with each other but with all the elements of the world.

2. Who is Jane and why is she important?



Jane Goodall

English primatologist

janegoodall.org

Dame Jane Morris Goodall DBE, formerly Baroness Jane van Lawick-Goodall, is an English primatologist and anthropologist. [Wikipedia](#)

Born: 3 April 1934 (age 88 years), Hampstead, London, United Kingdom

Education: Newnham College, University of Cambridge (1962–1965), Darwin College, University of Cambridge

Dr Jane Goodall DBE single handily led the study of man's closet animal relative the Chimpanzee and has made a huge contribution to the study and conservation of great apes to the degree that the Definition for mankind in the dictionary was changed based on her discoveries.

She remains important as she is an advocate for peace and understanding of all living creatures and as a woman who contributed greatly to science and man in her early days without a degree when she started researching chimps, but still was able to accomplish so much out of pure love and passion.

She is now an ambassador of peace for the United Kingdom and sits in on UK governance.

3. How many roots and shoot groups exist in the world and South Africa?

R&S exists within four provinces Gauteng, Capetown, now Mpumalanga, and KZN joining.

We have over 25 R&S groups from schools to independent individuals and churches with over 4500 members.

4. What are the requirements to volunteer?

The ability and drive to want to make a difference within one's community and the world. All ages are welcome and no education requirements, it's an open and inclusive community of all ages, genders, and abilities.

5. What does it mean to be a Roots and Shoots volunteer?

It means you uphold R&S values and ethics and take part in existing projects, start your own R&S projects or group with R&S guidance and support. One can volunteer from home by joining us to assist with admin tasks, social media and more. All that matters is a willingness to be part of something greater and better for the environment, people, and animals.

6. Is partaking in Roots and Shoots paid?

Volunteering for R&S is unpaid but does open up opportunities for individuals and groups to be supported by donors through R&S funded projects.

7. Can I add Roots and Shoots to my cv or professional resume?

As an R&S official (Holding a letter of confirmation) member one is more than welcome to add volunteering for the Jane Goodall Institute South Africa Roots and Shoots as part of their portfolio and we are willing to confirm the period of volunteering, activities involved, etc.

8. What are the benefits of volunteering for your organization instead of another?

Exposure and experience into the world of conservation through community upliftment, working, and exposure to other private and government organizations we work with in all departments from agriculture to healthcare. Experience being part of and working in a team environment with a common goal and like-mindedness.

9. Where are Roots and Shoots offices based?

R&S South Africa offices are based at the chimpanzee sanctuary – Chimp Eden based on the R40 number 47 15 minutes outside Nelspruit towards Barberton.

10. What is Roots and Shoot's relationship with Chimp Eden and other chimpanzee sanctuaries?

As a Jane Goodall Institute, our flagship animal is the chimpanzee as the founder Dr Jane has an affinity to them with her many years of research and is an expert on the species. She founded the Tchimpounga chimpanzee sanctuary in Tanzania and adopted chimp Eden as the second, these sanctuaries safely house orphaned, abused, and trafficked chimpanzees. At Chimp Eden guests may come on tours to learn more about chimps. Only trained staff are allowed to work in the sanctuary with the chimps, and volunteers may visit on tour and only take part in Roots and shoots events that may be held at the sanctuary.

11. What type of campaigns and projects can I join?

Depending on your ability and passion there are a few campaigns and projects to join which are animal, environment, or community based, alternatively you may start your own group register with R&S as a group, and start your own projects and campaigns guided by R&S staff.

12. I want to start a Roots and Shoots program in my community but don't know how!?

This is best done by identifying where you want to base the group, gathering friends and participants, identifying a starting point or problem in your community focussed on the environment, animals or people and reaching out to R&S staff through email, WhatsApp or website to assist in finding solutions and ways to implement solutions to this identified problem of interest.