



IYIP INTERNSHIP 2024-2029

Internship location: Porto-Novo, Bénin

Host organization: [Réseau d'Appui aux Initiatives Locales – ONG RAIL](#)

RAIL is a Beninese nongovernmental organization officially founded in 2014, though it has been active in Porto-Novo since 2003. Its mission is to improve the living conditions of families in need in Porto-Novo. The organization develops projects focused on empowering the population and building technical and organizational skills geared toward entrepreneurship, innovation, and creativity, particularly for women and youth. RAIL supports and implements initiatives on gender equality to create a more prosperous, equitable, and just world.

Position Title: Organic Market Gardening Intern

Language: advanced level of French (both written and spoken) is required.

Mandate: During this three-month internship, the intern will assist the NGO RAIL with its research, training, and capacity-building activities. The intern will also work hands-on alongside the RAIL team on organic market gardening activities.

The intern will have the opportunity to carry out the following activities, in addition to other related tasks depending on the needs of the partner organization:

- Collaborate with the RAIL gardener to analyze current practices in organic market gardening
- Contribute to the development of a skills-building plan based on identified needs and local climate challenges
- Support the gardener in training youth as part of the organic market gardening training project
- Participate in leading practical and theoretical training sessions for the youth
- Support the RAIL team in developing illustrated training modules on organic agriculture

Required Skills: The candidate must have a strong interest in international solidarity, as well as training or experience in agronomy, agroecology, or a related field. The candidate must speak French.

Training before departure and upon return from the internship

Before departing, selected candidates must participate in a two-week (10 business days) pre-departure training program in Montreal, conducted in French by trainers who are recognized experts in their fields. The program will cover a variety of topics. A shorter online training program, conducted in English, may also be offered.

The IYIP also aims to help participants enter the job market upon their return. As part of this, the program includes workshops designed to improve interview skills and strengthen job search strategies.

In addition, participation in the IYIP covers:

- Airfare;
- Accommodation costs in the host country;
- Visa fees, if required;
- Required vaccinations*;
- Emergency medical insurance;
- Monthly living stipend;
- Personalized follow-up throughout your stay abroad.

Duration of the internship abroad: 3 months

However, **IYIP is a comprehensive 4–5-month commitment** that will take you through pre-departure training (2 weeks), an international internship (3 months), and post-return components including employability training and a mandatory public engagement activity.

To be eligible for the International Youth Internship Program (IYIP), the candidate must:

- Be 18-30 years old
- Be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident
- Not have previously completed an IYIP Placement ([see our FAQ](#))

The International Youth Internship Program (IYIP) is particularly aimed at youth facing barriers to employment: those who belong to or identify themselves as members of a group that faces discrimination, such as people living with disabilities, Indigenous peoples, racialized youth and members of the 2SLGBTQI+ community.

To register, please access the form below by clicking on apply.

- Only candidates who submit both a CV and a motivation letter in PDF format via the registration form will be considered during the selection process.

Information: psij@alternatives.ca

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