

Corporate Volunteering in the GLAS Community Gardens

At Global Action Plan we believe that durable change comes from within. We assist companies in their efforts to engage their employees in the complexities associated with the journey towards true sustainability.

Informed by demand from large and small companies, our business programme is made up of a range of services, providing practical support for staff learning and engagement initiatives. We provide bespoke learning options, thematic workshops and action-led, data-driven programmes.

GAP Business Programme



Sustainable Development workshops



Employee Engagement



Volunteering and team building



Climate Competition

Our in-house workshops cover a range of issues, including topics such as the Sustainable Development Goals, off-setting carbon, global citizenship and understanding the climate crisis.

As an organisation focused on driving behaviour change, our range of employee engagement opportunities - besides educational workshops - also includes skills based volunteering options, team building activities in our community gardens in Ballymun and Blanchardstown, and employee-giving schemes. In addition, we deliver bespoke digital Climate Challenges to businesses.

Volunteering in our community gardens (be that in <u>our award-winning GLAS Community Garden in Ballymun</u>, in our new <u>GLAS @ TU Dublin garden in Blanchardstown</u> or in our partner community gardens in Cork and Waterford) gives employees the opportunity to learn new skills in organic gardening, in the knowledge that they are also supporting our work with families, young people and communities.

We welcome corporate volunteers, in groups of 5-25 people, for sessions of 2-3 hours.

Sessions are led by our expert gardeners, who will instruct all visitors on the background of the GLAS garden programme, relevant health and safety measures, and the tasks at hand. None of the tasks assigned to volunteers require previous experience, and GAP provides all necessary equipment.

Sessions cost between €800 - €1,000, depending on group size and duration.

GLAS community garden



Research has shown that regular contact with nature has positive effects on people's mental health and wellbeing. In the GLAS community gardens, wellbeing, social inclusion, and connection to nature are as important as the food we grow.

We therefore take great joy in our ability to offer access to nature and gardening to families, individuals and children who otherwise have limited access to green spaces. We work with families in direct provision, emergency accommodation, as well as school, community and business groups.

Part of the ethos of Global Action Plan is that our programmes aim to have a multiplying effect, where we empower people to become 'community champions' who pass on their knowledge, skills and passion to other community members.

Informed by this ethos, and based on our experiences with the successful 'Eco Team' programme implemented by GAP International in a number of countries, Global Action Plan Ireland established the Green Living and Sustainability Community Garden (GLAS) in 2012 to promote sustainable, local and organic food production, wellbeing, and community engagement. The GLAS @ TU Dublin garden began in 2022.

Your company's support to the GLAS project means that we can keep the garden open and accessible to people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.



For more information, see www.globalactionplan.ie