

# Terms of Reference for SEYN mentors



Sustainable Energy Youth Network

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The [Sustainable Energy Youth Network \(SEYN\)](#) is looking for mentors with knowledge - and potentially some experience - in renewable energy, particularly solar energy.

The immediate objective is for mentors to gain a first contact with our Youth Energy Academy and our educational approach and to provide support to participants during our next Youth Energy Academy. Ultimately, some of these mentors may become trainers and lead workshops and Academies in the future.

Below we share our views of the world and the role we believe energy can play in it. We tell you a bit of our history and offer some details on this opportunity to be part of our network and support young people to take an active role in the energy transition.

### Our Manifesto

To the child in you. The Young. The Small. The Overlooked.

**Small is Beautiful. Youth is Power.**

We see your light: Energy.

Not created. Never lost. Ever transforming.

**Changing.**

Imagine. Dream Big. Start small. Step forward. Now!

Forget the Fear to Fail. Take small steps.

Trust us: It will be Fun!

We give you our hands. You give us your light.

Others will join. All welcomed.

**Together we'll do big things.**

Come! Before it's time to leave this spaceship.

### The change we want to see in the world - Our vision

A world in which all humans have access to reliable energy and can start locally-appropriate, self-sustaining, and environmentally and socially-responsible projects.

### How we aim to contribute to that change - our mission

To foster youthful, active, and collaborative citizens who take a holistic approach towards energy and contribute to sustainable transitions in their communities.

## About SEYN

SEYN is a movement, we aim to inspire change. Our mission is to foster youthful, active, and collaborative citizens who take a holistic approach towards energy and contribute to sustainable transitions in their communities. Legally, we are a non-profit organization, based in Portugal, but working globally with a focus on Southern Europe and Asia.

Through our actions we want to build capacity and empower young people to implement distributed renewable energy projects and actively participate in the energy transition.

SEYN has been running Energy Academies and workshops since 2015 and is now in a phase of internal restructuring, which includes a full rebranding and a new website to be launched soon. So, these are exciting times from a communications perspective, with the new intern having the opportunity to participate in this new phase and help shape how SEYN communicates to the world.

## What we do

Through training, mentoring and knowledge sharing, SEYN aims to inspire, provide skills and tools for young people to actively participate in solving the world's energy challenges and start their own renewable energy projects.

SEYN's Youth Energy Academies and the Energy Mastercourses provide a unique setting to learn about setting up Renewable Energy (RE) cooperatives, social business models, innovative financing, as well as, installing a solar PV system, Do-it-Yourself solar heaters or biodigestores.

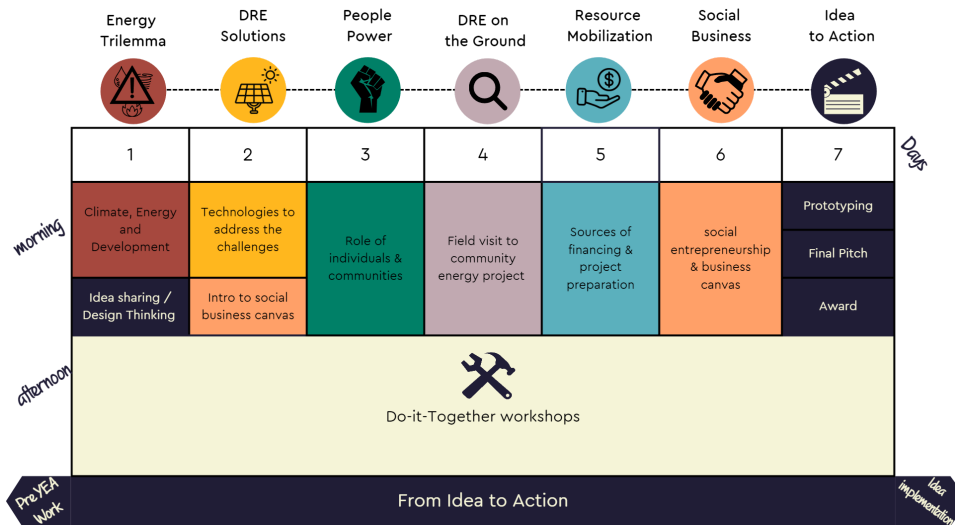
By teaching soft and hard skills, SEYN does more than raising awareness about climate change and energy, it actually gives people the control and the confidence to take action, to start a project and to involve their communities. The positive environment created in the training events and the sense of achievement of actually building simple RE systems is a unique feature of SEYN's work, with benefits that extend beyond energy and climate action. By empowering and fostering an entrepreneurial mindset, we are also building skills for young people to take an active role in society.

## The YEA

The Youth Energy Academy (YEA) is a 7-day programme that offers a model for young people with a curious mind to learn about the challenges around the energy transition in the context of the climate and development challenges that we face. YEA offers a model for disruptive learning aspiring to build a network of young people with the sensibilities and basic skills to engage in the energy-transition debate and take steps towards developing locally appropriate solutions. YEA is itself the result of youth-led collaborative efforts to co-design a learning community and network of youthful individuals around these subjects.

Below is an overview of the **7 thematic modules** that are covered during the mornings of the 7 days of the Academy. In the afternoons along the week participants work together building simple energy systems.

## Youth Energy Academy Programme Overview



**YEA participants** are young people between the ages of 18 and 35, from all walks of life and backgrounds, often with little or no knowledge about energy, but all share a passion for sustainability, grassroots community initiatives and renewable energy. Our experience shows us that the richness of our programmes it's in the diversity of the people that join and the view that anyone can take an active part in the energy transition.

For more on the YEA check out the videos from the [YEA 2019](#) and [YEA 2022](#) in Asia organized in partnership with the Asian Institute of Technology.

## Becoming a SEYN trainer

Regardless of the background and experience, a SEYN trainer should first experience attending one of our Academies. So, the first step in becoming a trainer is to attend a full YEA as a mentor.

Mentors are expected to observe how the Academy unfolds, join in sessions and exercises and, whenever possible, provide some support to the participants in the Academy.

After the YEA, SEYN will assess the mentors' potential to become a trainer and select those that best fit the profile. Those that demonstrate an interest to continue will be invited to a debriefing meeting and mentoring sessions, will be part of this growing community and be included in SEYN's trainers' roster. As we secure funding to develop Academies and workshops, we will draw on this pool of trainers to help us deliver our activities in Europe and beyond.

## Is it you we are looking for?

It is if you:

- Read the manifesto and our mission statement and identify with what we do;
- Are passionate about sustainability, community development and want to use renewable energies to create a positive social impact;
- Like to know how things work, building, assembling (and disassembling) things;
- Enjoy communicating, sharing knowledge, have a good dosis of patience and agree with the popular phrase that “there is no such thing as a stupid question”
- Are aged between 21 and 40 (ideally – it is not an exclusion factor)
- Are based in Europe
- Have a background in engineering, energy systems, renewable energy applications, electrical engineering, environmental engineering, and alike (a bachelor’s or a MSc on these topics is nice, but not a requirement)

## What’s in it for you?

- Attend the next Youth Energy Academy (at no cost) and get an attendance certificate from the Asian Institute of Technology.
- Training on SEYN’s methodology, contents and approach
- Free SEYN membership for 1 year (upon submission of the membership form)
- Inclusion in SEYN’s trainers’ roster (upon completion of the whole training process)
- Potentially become a paid trainer in future YEAs and other SEYN workshops

What do we expect from you?

- Read the Trainers’ Manual and supporting resources (readings, recordings) - Required
- Provide support to YEA participants in Asia (under the supervision of SEYN’s team) - Desirable
- Prepare and deliver one presentation (could be on a topic of your choice) - Desirable

## Still interested?

If you have read it this far and are still interested, please submit your expression of interest [here](#). If you have any questions please contact [susana@seynetwork.org](mailto:susana@seynetwork.org)

For more background on our work check [www.seynetwork.org/](http://www.seynetwork.org/)