

Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue is seeking volunteers for 2022 and 2023. Located on the edge of a lush forest in Cameroon (west-central Africa), Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue provides sanctuary for 77 orphaned chimpanzees who are survivors of the illegal bushmeat and pet trade rampant in Cameroon and surrounding countries.

Founded and directed by an American veterinarian, the sanctuary offers an unforgettable opportunity to live and work in close proximity to a number of amazing animals. Volunteers are needed throughout the year to assist with day-to-day operations of the sanctuary and to pitch in wherever needed most. Positions are for 6 months with shorter stays sometimes possible (see below).

**Tasks include but not limited to:**

- assisting with feeding chimpanzees during meals & snacks
- washing, cutting & distributing fruit/vegetables
- painting cages & maintaining camp equipment
- buying food & supplies in town
- helping care for baby chimps as needed
- working with Cameroonian staff (most speak French)

**Important note:** SAFE & limited contact with chimpanzees of all ages occurs during daily feedings AFTER one month of training. Depending on the status of our rescues, there is sometimes a need for volunteers to help care for baby chimpanzees, if any are currently in our care. Primary care of baby chimpanzees before integration with older chimpanzees is handled by our full-time Cameroonian staff to ensure stability in the orphans' lives.

**Qualifications:**

- Minimum 21 yrs and paid work experience
- Fluent in English or French. If fluent in French, basic conversational English is required; if fluent in English, basic conversational French is preferred
- Good general health and physical stamina; able to lift up to 40 lbs
- Able to adapt easily to changing tasks/schedules and to basic living conditions in an isolated setting

**Prefer:**

- University degree
- Work experience as part of a group or project team
- Experience living, or spending extended time, in a developing country (preferably Africa)
- Prior experience working with chimpanzees or other great apes

*For veterinarians, medical personnel, mechanics, and engineers, qualifications, length of stay and fee are negotiable - please inquire*

**Salary/funding:**

This is an unpaid position. Travel expenses, visa, vaccinations, etc. are paid by the volunteer. No research grants or stipends are provided. If accepted as a volunteer, there is a sliding fee scale based on length of stay: US \$300 for 6 month stays; US \$600 for 5-6 month stays; US \$800 for 4-5 month stays; US \$1000 for 3-4 month stays.

**Support provided:**

Lodging and food for vegetarian meals are provided at the site at no cost to volunteers

**Term of Appointment:**

6-month stays are strongly preferred; shorter stays are considered based solely on sanctuary needs. Minimum stay is 3 months.

**Application Information:**

Open all year - email Rebecca Pool to request an application: [rebecca@sanaga-yong.org](mailto:rebecca@sanaga-yong.org)

**Website:**

<https://www.sychimprescue.org/>