

Sinal do Vale

MATA ATLÂNTICA-BRASIL



Learning Journey at Sinal do Vale

An immersion on sustainability, community resilience,
and regeneration in the Atlantic Rainforest

www.sinaldovale.org

Venture into the rainforests of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and deep into the world of sustainability with an immersive experience in the living laboratory of Sinal do Vale

Experience

Our Learning Journeys are designed to give participants an immersive and meaningful experience in the field of **sustainability** and see first-hand both the beauty and challenges of the **Atlantic Rainforest**. Through a multi-day, hands-on journey around the Rio Green Belt and the city of Rio de Janeiro itself, we explore the burning issues surrounding rainforest conservation, urban encroachment, resilient communities, and sustainable business .

About us

At the gateway between the iconic city of Rio de Janeiro and the majestic but highly threatened Atlantic Rainforest (Mata Atlântica), Sinal do Vale is a living laboratory made of an **organic farm, a reforestation and community resilience project and an education center**.

As an international learning community for social entrepreneurs, we offer motivated young people the **hands-on experience** to learn about the major issues of sustainability and to join us in finding **innovative solutions** through experimental learning in our living laboratory.

The May 2017 Learning Journey includes...

- **In-the-field activities** with SINAL's local projects in community development and forest restoration
- **Discussions** with inspiring speakers and organizations working in business, social entrepreneurship, and the arts in Rio de Janeiro
- **Group learning and reflection** on how to apply sustainability experiences in participants' home communities
- **Exploration** of the spectacular beauty and biodiversity of Mata Atlântica
- **Joining** SINAL's international community of social entrepreneurs



Our Projects

Participants will have a first-hand opportunity to see, learn about, and take part in SINAL's core initiatives.



1. Regeneration of the Atlantic Forest

With our Rio Green Belt reforestation project – an experimental initiative with the Rio de Janeiro State Institute for Environmental Education (INEA) – students plant native Mata Atlântica trees, monitor, and track biodiversity, and learn about the policy and methodology of restoration and reforestation.

2. Sustainable Agriculture

Students get their hands dirty in our organic gardens and food forests, growing the food they eat each day and learning firsthand about innovative agricultural techniques that restore the soil and preserve the rainforest.



3. Resilient Community Development

Sinal works to prototype community-based solutions in Santo Antonio that address key issues around resilient infrastructure, water sanitation, bio-construction, and trash and recycling. SINAL's role as hub helps to convene local leaders and mobilize public and private resources in order to implement meaningful projects.

4. Nature-based Education

Our SINAL das Crianças (SINAL for the Children) project works directly with the local schools to provide children an opportunity to reconnect with nature and nutrition. Students come to learn how to grow food, plant trees, and use art to celebrate their environment.



2017 Program

Tuesday, May 23: Arrival and welcoming session at SINAL - tour of the organic gardens, agroforests, and ecological waste water treatment systems

Wednesday, May 24: Resilient Infrastructure and Landscape Restoration: a multi-sectoral approach to the challenges and opportunities for sustainability; Visiting speakers from local innovators in business and government.

Thursday, May 25: Trip to Rio - visit to AfroReggae, renowned music and arts program in Rio favela; touristic visit to Christ the Redeemer; serve food to homeless citizens of Rio in innovative training center, Gastromotiva

Friday, May 26: Activities in SINAL and Santo Antonio (the small town next to SINAL): community engagement and reforestation day

Saturday, May 27: Activities at SINAL - Sustainability in practice: using art as a form of recycling

Sunday, May 28: Day trip to Rio - Morning: Visit Museum of Tomorrow; Afternoon: Explore and tour Rio de Janeiro beaches

Monday, May 29: Wrapping up and final reflections on the learnings at SINAL

Tuesday, May 30: Departure

Lodging and Meals

- All meals while at SINAL will be included and prepared by our on-site eco-chef, with food grown fresh from our gardens.
- Participants stay in comfortable lodges scattered throughout our property, allowing groups to be immersed in the natural beauty of the Atlantic Rainforest.



Rio de Janeiro

- Though SINAL is embedded deep in the rainforest, it is still just a short distance away to explore the city of Rio de Janeiro and the famous Guanabara Bay. It is usually a 45 min-1 hour ride, depending on traffic.
- The learning journey will take participants into the city of Rio to learn about urban social and environmental initiatives taking place. They will also have the chance to enjoy the famous tourist sites and experience the vibrant Brazilian culture.

Our Founder : Thais Corral

Thais is a renowned Brazilian **social entrepreneur** in the fields of sustainability, gender, and global leadership. She is the founder and current director of Sinal do Vale, as well as two nationally recognized non-profit organizations in Brazil: Rede de Desenvolvimento Humano (**REDEH**) and Communication, Education and Information on Gender (**CEMINA**).

She is the co-chair of the Global Leadership Network and the Chair of LEAD-Brazil.

Together with American Congress representative, Bella Abzug and Nobel Award winner, Wangari Mathai, she founded **WEDO** (Women's environment and Development Organization). Thais was recognized as «**Woman of the year 2001**» by the Brazilian National Council of Women.

Thais holds master's degrees from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and University of Chicago. She also serves on the advisory board of **Ethical Market Place**, Mercado Etico and Akatu Institute.



Email contact@sinaldovale.org for more information.

Visit our website at www.sinaldovale.org to learn more about our projects, services and story.

