



Please insert here at least one **PHOTO** of your traineeship stay abroad! Preferred motives are photos of your accommodation, of your work place, of being at work. Attention! Due to legal considerations we kindly ask you to send us only photos that have been taken by yourself!

STUDENT DETAILS

University department / faculty:	Department Agriculture, Ecotrophology, and Landscape Development
Field of study:	M.A. Landscape Architecture
Home university:	Hochschule Anhalt
Nationality:	Indian
Duration of traineeship (from ...to...):	25 oct 2021- 23 march 2022

TRAINEESHIP INSTITUTION

Country:	Netherlands
Name of traineeship institution:	Loas Landscape Architecture
Web page:	www.laoslandschap.nl
Address:	Kerklaan 30, Haren, Groningen
Contact person:	Mathijs Dijkstra
Telephone / E-Mail:	050 52 78 218

EXPERIENCE REPORT (approx. 3 pages + more photos if applicable)

1) Traineeship institution

Please give a brief description of your host traineeship institution.

Loas is a small private landscape architecture firm in the northern part of the Netherlands, in Groningen. Loas works on a variety of projects throughout the Netherlands, from large-scale visions to village designs, city plans, parks and gardens. The studio, which employs both national and international staff, was founded in 2005 by Mathijs Dijkstra. His vision of spatial planning is the foundation of the office. He knows how to trans-late his visions into concrete solutions. He has also worked intensively on the new development of the coun-try. The office collaborates with various talents, including landscape architects, urban planners and media art-ists. One of the most important aspects of the office is the collaboration with other professionals and also the participation of residents is taken into account at every stage of the projects

2) Searching for a traineeship

How did you find your traineeship? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

I got this firm a landscape architecture website called LANDEZINE, interested after seeing their works and I have applied and got selected after the interview.

3) Preparation

How did you prepare for your traineeship in terms of language, intercultural, professional and organisational aspects? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

Loas consist of international employees as well, so mostly english was the medium of communication, mostly client meetings are conducted in Dutch, i tried to learn a bit of dutch language from my colleagues and housemates

4) Accommodation

How did you find your accommodation? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

That was the most hardest part during internship peiod. I got it through Kamernet.

5) Traineeship

Please describe the tasks and / or the projects carried out during your traineeship. In which way were you mentored and integrated? How were the working conditions? Did you have especially positive or negative experiences?

As an intern in Laos, I worked on a variety of different tasks and responsibilities, including: Creating concept sketches both by hand and by software. Fortunately, I had the chance to participate in all phases of the project. Idea development drawings include concept drawings, plans, sections, technical drawings, final plan renderings, and 3D visualisations. I also assisted in designing presentations for client meetings and participated in meetings with the city planning office. I participated in the client meetings where language was a barrier that I could not understand well. Prepared the required research study for the project. Worked on the con-textual analysis and derived conclusions. Some projects required more responsibility and took more time to complete due to revisions and discussions. In the first few days of the internship, I received a few introductory classes on software such as Illustrator, InDesign, and InDesign. This boosted my confidence. The studio was divided into different departments and I had the opportunity to work with both urban planners and land-scape architects. There was a continuous flow in working on each project, even though I worked on three different projects in one week. This also helped to start the thoughts on each project fresh. In all my tasks, I was able to engage well and get clarity on the office's working style and how to collaborate with different people, which also helped me improve my tasks and responsibilities. Another aspect that I gained is more clarity about my strengths and weaknesses. I have had the opportunity to improve my positive skills such as concept development, analytical skills, and creative skills, which has increased my confidence in this feild. I would like to give special thanks to my colleagues who helped me improve my communication skills, which made me gain confidence and positivity. Working on a live project, I learned to think in a systematic way. One of the hardest problem I have was how to present a project, I can feel myself I have improven that as well.

6) Acquired qualifications

Which qualifications and skills could you acquire or improve during your traineeship?

I also learned three new software programmes, which helped to express my ideas more presentable such as Illustrator, InDesign, and InDesign. Even though 20 weeks of internship is a short period of time, I have achieved most of all the goals. I had the opportunity to participate in all phases of the design process. It was a realisation for me to know how important landscape architecture is for the future, especially during this hard time.

7) Country-specific features

Are there any specific traineeship regulations in the target country that affected you as an Erasmus trainee (e.g. France: housing allowance, convention de stage)? If yes, which ones? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

The Dutch insistence on the qualities of space was an inspiration to me. Keeping everything as it is without disturbing its natural quality was new for me. Another interesting aspect for me was how the Dutch preserve the quality of the landscapes in the cities, suburbs and countryside. Especially the city of Groningen, where I lived, stands out for its open landscape, which is so intimidating in all its qualities. It was a good learning session for me to understand how to increase ecological and sustainable value, and especially how water affects the landscape, how to treat water at different levels to create polders, and the importance of peatlands.

8) Visa, residence and work permit (only for international students)

Which prearrangements had to be made in terms of visa, residence and work permit? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

Visa process was done by the office

9) Other

Is there anything else you want to let other students know?

Shortlist offices and apply at the earliest

10) Conclusion

What is the conclusion drawn after your traineeship experience abroad?

The internship abroad was the best decision I made. It boosted my confidence and made me more independent. Ultimately, this time raised awareness, opportunities, and obligations to contribute to a better world for all, and was an eye-opener for me

Declaration of consent

I hereby agree to the publication of this report on the website of the Leonardo Office Saxony-Anhalt.

I assure that the photos used in this report do not violate the rights of other persons or companies (personal rights, copyrights etc.).

Please send this report by email to angela.wittkamp@ovgu.de!
Acceptable file formats: [.doc], [.docx], [.rtf], [.odt].