



CISV International

Building global friendship

Statement from CISV International

It is with deep regret that CISV International has made the difficult decision to **suspend our International December 2023 and January 2024 programmes**. This amounts to 18 camps. This decision was not made lightly, as we fully understand the disappointment it will cause for eager participants, parents, and volunteers. However, after thorough consideration of all options and scenarios, we determined this is a necessary step to secure the long-term sustainability and future growth of CISV.

The global pandemic has impacted organisations worldwide, and CISV is no exception. Over the past few years, we have faced many challenges and we are striving to rebuild. While we remain committed to our mission of building global friendship and intercultural understanding, we now recognise that we must take more time to rebuild and strengthen our foundations before we can continue delivering the high-quality programmes that participants expect.

This pause will allow time for our network of dedicated volunteers and staff to focus efforts on vital preparations for 2024 and beyond. We are a small charity, with a huge global community. With the support of our community, we are confident CISV will emerge stronger and be able to provide amazing programmes and events for decades to come. CISV International is dedicated to supporting our volunteers through this process. Participants will benefit from improvements in training, policies, and procedures, as we ensure we deliver high-quality and safe programmes.

We understand parents and participants will feel disappointed or frustrated, and we empathise with you. Please know this decision was made purely in CISV's and its participants' best interest for long-term sustainability, and we hope you will consider participating again when programmes resume in 2024. In the meantime, ask your local Chapter for ways you and your child can get involved and learn valuable skills whilst having incredible experiences with CISV locally or nationally.

While international programmes will not be going ahead, local, and National events can continue! Please support your local Chapter and National CISV organisation.

It is important to remember that CISV is a volunteer-run organisation. The hundreds of local Chapters around the world exist thanks to the passion and dedication of volunteers who believe in our values and mission. While we aim to provide amazing travel opportunities, our priority is on building global friendships and peace education. CISV relies on volunteers to enable the best experiences possible for participants. During this transitional period, we will need parents' continued support and engagement with their local Chapters, even if your child's travel opportunity is postponed this season. We encourage families to talk through this with each other. Although this pause is disappointing, there can be light in finding other ways to engage with and support your local CISV organisation. Our volunteers and small staff work tirelessly to deliver our programmes, and this pause will allow time to rebuild needed capacity and training so we can continue operating sustainably. By supporting your local Chapter, you ensure CISV can keep providing life-changing experiences for years to come. This break is an investment in our long-term viability, and we need our community behind us. Together we will grow and build an even brighter future.

