



## VOLUNTEERING POLICY

At Mahouts Elephant Foundation we treat all volunteers with respect and value them as individuals, recognising the valuable contribution that they are making to the communities we work with and Foundation.

**Safety** – we take safety seriously, especially working with elephants and in remote locations. Our staff are knowledgeable in first aid and Emergency Action Plans have been put in place in the event an emergency should occur.

**Respect** – we work by the 4 R's – respect the community, respect the elephants, respect the environment and respect one another.

**Support**- We provide support leading up to and during our volunteers stay. Providing them with detailed information prior to arrival, supporting them throughout their stay and providing information on 'how to can stay connected' with the foundation once they have left the project.

**Equality**- Everyone connected to the foundation is treated as equals and that is extended to our volunteers. We wish for our volunteers to treat all associated with the foundation with the same thought and care.

**Knowledge**- Our staff and community members are highly knowledgeable in the area that we work, we wish to impart that knowledge onto our guests. We seek to educate and train volunteers in the many areas relevant to our program.

**Impact**- We practice low impact community based tourism. We want to be able to make positive changes within the community without affecting their traditions or culture. This means, activities are centered around what benefits members of the community not the volunteers needs.

**Confidentiality**- We store all guest information in a safe and secure location. We do not share information with outside sources without obtaining the volunteers permission first.

**Feedback** – we welcome feedback on all areas of our work, believing that there is always room for improvements and growth.