



'Youth in Action' Programme

გინდათ ევროპაში?

– ხართ 18-30 წლის ახალგაზრდა?

– ფლობთ ინგლისურ ენას (საბაზისო დონეზე)?

– ხართ დაინტერესებული იცნობდეთ მსოფლიოს და გიყვართ მოგზაურობა?

– გაინტერესებთ სხვადასხვა ქვეყნების კულტურა, მოგწონთ ადამიანების გაცნობა, ენების შესწავლა და ახალი სამუშაო გამოცდილების შექმნა?



– თქვენ გეძლევათ ეს შესაძლებლობა, თუ გახდებით მოხალისე და ჩაერთვებით **EVS** (ევროპის მოხალისეთა სამსახური) პროგრამაში.

– ამრიგად თქვენ შეგიძლიათ ერთი წლის განმავლობაში მიიღოთ სამუშაო და საზოგადოებრივი ცხოვრების გამოცდილება ევროპაში, რაც იქნება თქვენი ცხოვრების ძალიან სასიამოვნო თავგადასავალი.

– იცით როგორ შეიძლება ამ ოცნების ახდენა?

– თქვენ მხოლოდ მოგიწევთ **EVS** საინფორმაციო შეკრებაზე მოსვლა 4 მარტს 4 საათზე ფონდის “ღია საზოგადოება საქართველო” ოფისში (საკონფერენციო დარბაზი, მე-2 სართული).

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YOUTH IN ACTION Programme: Action 2

EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

What is European Voluntary Service?

The European Voluntary Service (EVS) is Action 2 of the Community YOUTH IN ACTION Programme. It supports transnational voluntary service by young people. Its aims are to develop solidarity and promote tolerance among young people, primarily so as to sustain social cohesion in the European Union. It encourages active citizenship and enhances mutual understanding among young people. These general objectives will be achieved by:

- helping young people participate in various forms of voluntary activities, both within and outside the European Union;
- giving young people the opportunity to express their personal commitment through voluntary activities at European and international level;
- involving young people in projects fostering solidarity between citizens of the European Union;
- involving young volunteers in a non-profit-making, unpaid and full-time activity for the benefit of the general public in a country other than their country of residence.

The European Voluntary Service is a “learning” service: through non-formal learning experiences young volunteers will improve and acquire skills for their personal, educational and professional development, and add to their general social integration.

This Infokit gives guidelines on how to apply at centralised level to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency.



Who can participate in the European Voluntary Service?

EVS is open to all young people between the ages of 18 and 30, regardless of their background, who are legally resident in a Programme or in a Partner Country.¹

Each EVS project is based on a partnership made up of the following:

- one or more volunteers (up to 100 in the same project)
- one or more sending organisations
- one or more host organisations
- one coordinating organisation, which applies on behalf of the partners. This can be a sending or a host organisation.

Each EVS project and activity must involve at least one EU Member State.

¹ See geographical scope: page 2

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How long does an EVS project last?

EVS project, including preparation, EVS activity, evaluation and follow-up: up to 24 months

EVS activity: between 2 and 12 months

What kind of project does EVS allow?

An EVS activity can take place in a variety of areas: culture, youth, sports, social care, cultural heritage, arts, civil protection, environment, development cooperation, etc. The activity must demonstrate clear European or international added value. It must also include contact with the local community. This activity can be carried out individually or in groups.

Where is the EVS carried out?

An EVS activity supported by EACEA can be carried out in a Programme Country,² in a Neighbouring Partner Country³ or in an "Other Partner Country of the World";⁴ but always in a different country from the country of residence of the volunteer.

A volunteer from a Programme Country can carry out her/his service in another Programme Country, a Neighbouring Partner Country or another Partner Country of the World. A volunteer from a Neighbouring Partner Country or from another Partner Country of the World must carry out her/his service in a Programme Country.



² *Programme Countries*: 27 EU Member States, Turkey, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway

(the participation of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway is subject to the entry into force of the relevant EEA Joint Committee decision).

³ *Neighbouring Partner Countries*:

- South East Europe (SEE): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia;
- Mediterranean Countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Syria and Tunisia;
- Eastern Europe and Caucasus (EEC): Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine.

⁴ *Other Partner Countries of the World*:

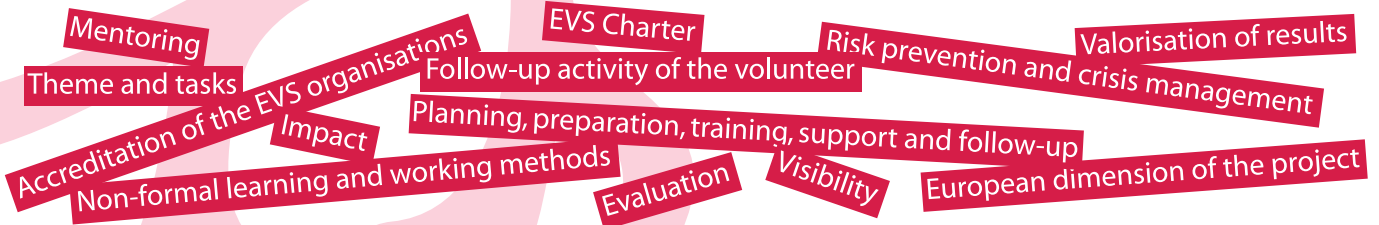
- Latin America, Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), Asia.

See the complete list at: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/faq/other_countries_en.htm

What do you need to know before planning an EVS Project?

A number of other key issues need to be considered before applying for an EVS project.

See the Programme Guide Action 2.



What are EVS priorities?

Over and above the general priorities of the YOUTH IN ACTION Programme (participation, cultural diversity, European citizenship and social inclusion) and the annual priorities set out in the Programme Guide, the European Commission wants to encourage EVS projects which

- involve young people with fewer opportunities,
- include partner organisations participating for the first time in an EVS activity,
- develop established partnerships in an effort to improve the quality of the voluntary service.

What about young people with fewer opportunities?

Special efforts are made and incentives given to allow young people with fewer opportunities, including young people with disabilities, to take an active part in EVS. A number of specific measures have been devised:



Age

“Inclusion” activities are open to 16-30 year-olds, provided that tailor-made preparation, accompaniment and follow-up are ensured.

Duration

In the case of EVS activities involving young volunteers with fewer opportunities, where duly justified, a minimum duration of two weeks is allowed.

Advance Planning Visit

An Advance Planning Visit to the host organisation prior to the actual voluntary activity is particularly encouraged and may receive support by way of the Community grant.

Reinforced mentorship

Provision might be made for additional mentoring to increase individual support by the sending and hosting organisations, shared according to their responsibilities.

Exceptional costs

Exceptional costs may cover, for example: medical attendance, health care, additional linguistic support, additional preparation, special premises or equipment, additional accompanying person, etc.

Who does apply to the Executive Agency?

Regardless of the number of sending/host organisations and volunteers involved, or the number and duration of the activities, there is only one application, one financing decision and one grant agreement per project. The coordinating organisation applies on behalf of the partnership.

Youth

Applications **must** be sent to the Executive Agency if:

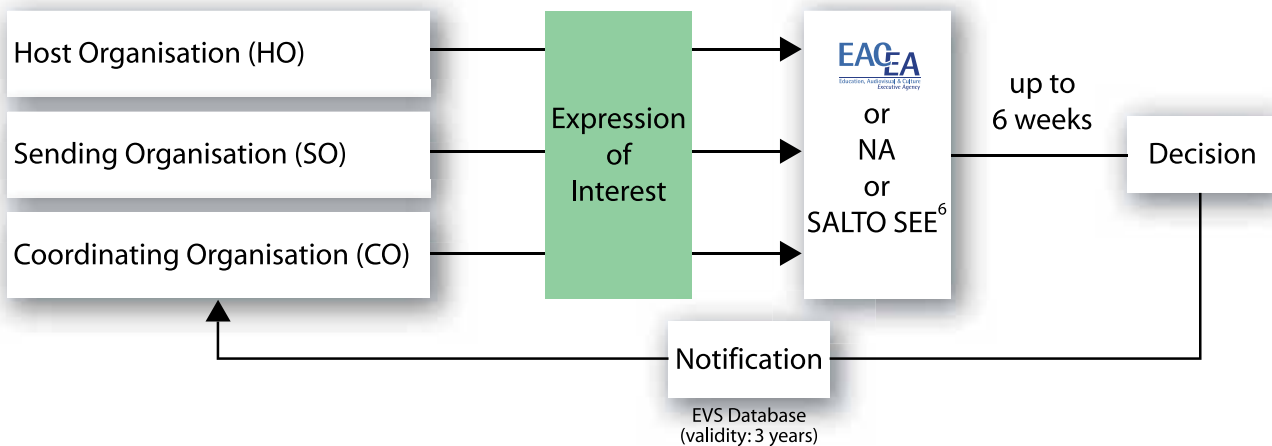
1. the applicant is an accredited European Non-Governmental Organisation (ENGOS) legally established in one of the Programme Countries that has members/branches in at least eight Programme Countries;
2. the applicant is an accredited organisation legally established in a South East Europe (SEE) country;
3. the applicant is an intergovernmental organisation or a profit-making organising body of an event;
4. the project involves organisations or volunteers from "Other Partner Countries of the World";
5. the project is linked to large-scale European or international events (e.g. European Capital of Culture, European Football Championship, World Cup, Olympic Games, a major natural or man-made disaster).

The EVS step by step: implementation of an EVS project with the EACEA

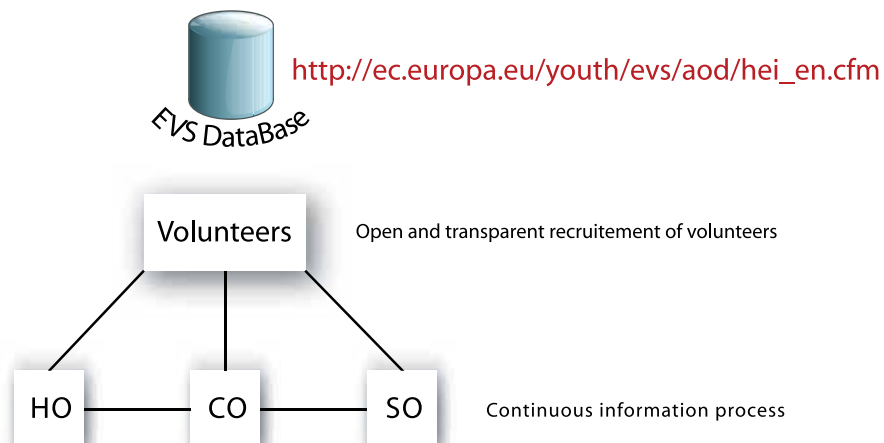
How is the activity financed?

Community financing of an EVS project is based on the principle of co-funding, with other public and/or private contributions.

Step 1: Accreditation⁵



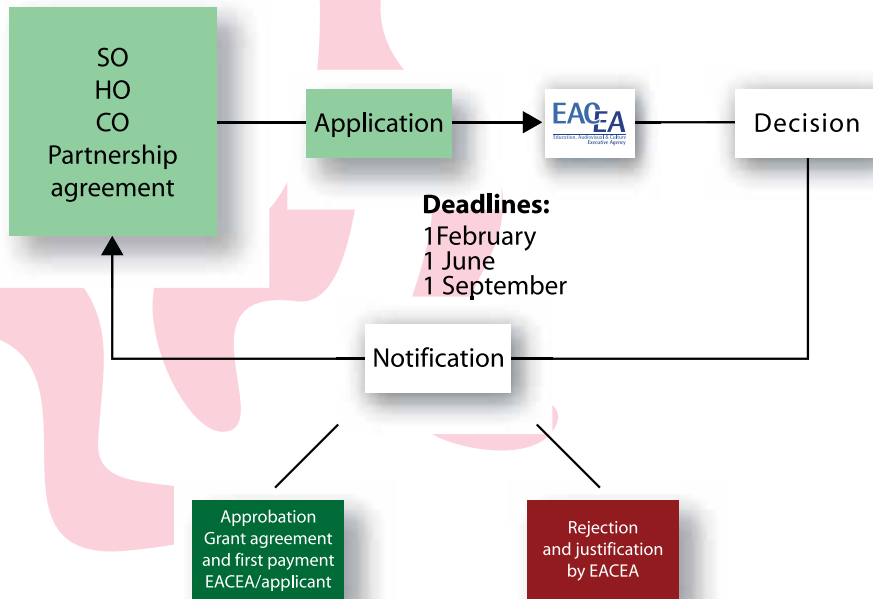
Step 2: Research for Partners



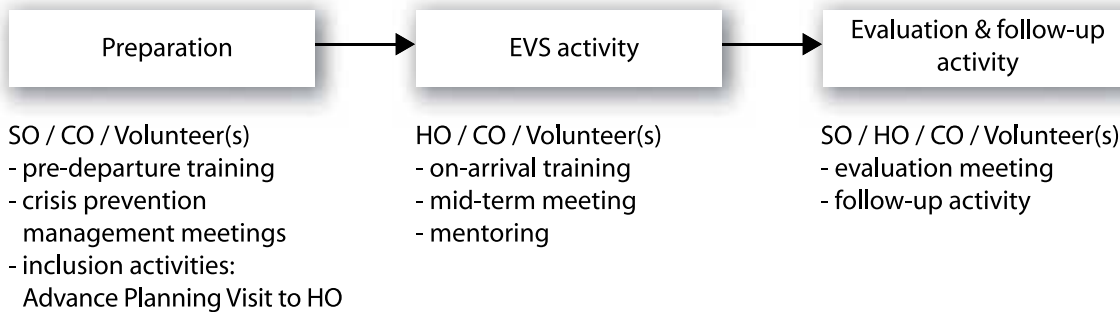
⁵ The accreditation is compulsory only for EVS organisations established in Programme Countries and in South-East Europe Countries.

⁶ To EACEA = ENGOS, Intergovernmental organisation, profit making bodies
To National Agencies (NA) = Organisations in Programme Countries
To SALTO-SEE = Organisations in South East Europe

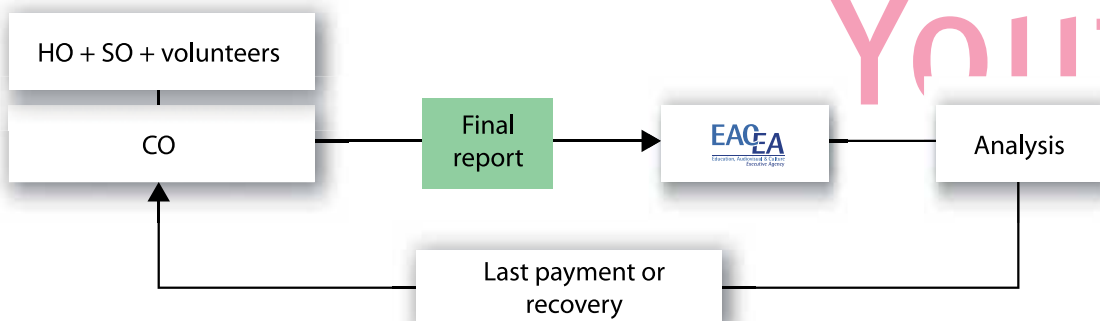
Step 3: Application



Step 4: EVS Project



Step 5: Final report



The Community grant is a combination of contributions to actual costs, flat-rate amounts and amounts based on scales of unit costs.

Breakdown:

- Travel costs: 100% of eligible costs
- Sending activity costs: €450 per volunteer
- Host activity costs: €450 per volunteer per month
- Visa costs, visa-related costs and vaccination costs: 100% of eligible costs
- Volunteer's allowance: country-specific
- Pre-departure training, mid-term meeting and evaluation meeting: 100% of actual costs, up to €500 per participant
- On-arrival training: 100% of actual costs, up to €900 per participant
- Coordination costs: €180 per partner organisation + €150 per volunteer
(not granted in projects with only one host and one sending organisation where one of them is the coordinating organisation).
- Dissemination and exploitation of results: 100% of eligible costs, up to €500 x number of partners

For projects involving young people with fewer opportunities

- Advance Planning Visit (APV): 100 % of eligible travel costs + €48 per night (max 2) per participant of sending organisation
- Reinforced mentorship: €250 per volunteer per month
- Exceptional costs: up to 100% of eligible costs

What support is available in the EACEA – YOUTH Department?

Further information on Action 2 – EVS

Programme Guide available in 20 languages (Action 2: chapter D):
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/programme/index_en.htm#guide

Accreditation of EVS organisations:
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/programme/action2_accreditation_en.htm

Expression of interest and application forms:
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/forms/index_en.htm

Database of approved EVS organisations:
http://ec.europa.eu/youth/evs/aod/hei_en.cfm

Other documents relating to Action 2 (EVS Charter, EVS facts, EVS training guidelines):
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/library/evs_en.htm

Helpdesk

The Helpdesk provides information, advice and support about the European Voluntary Service. It acts as an additional contact point, and as backup for advisers, counsellors, mentors and volunteers.

Information: youth@ec.europa.eu

Accreditation, insurance, crisis management and visa support: youthhelpdesk@ec.europa.eu

Phone number: +32 2 29 68724

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