



EU Aid Volunteers Pilot Projects 2013/2014

Alianza por la Solidaridad

Facts & Figures

- **Project Leader:**
Alianza por la Solidaridad
- **Project Start:**
September 2013 (18 months total duration)
- **24 EU Aid Volunteers:**
16 young professionals and 8 experts in teams of three
- **Call for vacancies:**
January 2014
- **Deployment Period:**
up to 6 months missions starting May 2014
- **Deployment Countries:**
Burkina Faso, Palestine, Haiti, Colombia, and Centroamerica
- **Focus of the Project:**
reinforcing local capacities in volunteering management



The Project

The project '*Bridging the gap with volunteers: EU Aid Volunteers in LRRD missions*' is coordinated and lead by Alianza por la Solidaridad (Spain). Link for more information: <http://www.alianzaporlasolidaridad.org>.

Participating partner organisations are:

- Gruppo di Volontariato Civile GVC (Italy), <http://www.gvc-italia.org>
- Arbeiterwohlfahrt International (Germany), <http://www.awointernational.de/>

The general objective is to increase opportunities for European citizens willing to volunteer in the field of resilience building, and to link relief and development. The specific objective is to reinforce local capacities so that volunteerism becomes a qualifying tool in the activities of preparedness, strengthening of resilience, disaster risk reduction, or post crisis-recovery.

The Volunteers

- 16 young professionals and 8 experts
- Deployments: up to 6 months missions in Africa, Middle East, Central & South America

European Commission –
Humanitarian Aid and Civil
Protection

B-1049 Brussels, Belgium

Tel.: (+32 2) 295 44 00
Fax: (+32 2) 295 45 72
email:
echo-info@ec.europa.eu

Website:
<http://ec.europa.eu/echo>

The Project Cycle

Step 1

Identification of Missions

- Operational and technical needs of the local organizations will be identified and analysed
- Criteria to be "expert volunteer" will be defined; these volunteers will also coordinate the young professionals
- Volunteer's activities will be decided and technical sectors will be assigned

Step 3

Training and Final Selection (March 2014)

- The training will include two complementary parts:
 - a theoretical one through an online platform and
 - a practical face to face part at each sending organisation's country (Germany, Spain and Italy)
- 24 EU Aid Volunteers will be selected: 16 young professionals and 8 experts

Step 5

Evaluation & Follow-up

- At the end of each phase of the project an evaluation meeting will be held, involving the steering committee, associates and also volunteers
- The evaluation will focus on three key areas:
 - Volunteer management cycle
 - added value of volunteers in humanitarian action
 - Contribution to a European humanitarian volunteer's model

Step 2

Preparation and Screening

- Depending on the assessed criteria, the volunteer assignment profile will be matched to each vacancy in the country of deployment
- During an interview process commencing in January 2014 the candidates will be evaluated according to several issues (e.g. fitness for the mission, context adaptation, teamwork, skills and abilities)
- The best candidates will commence with a pre-selection training

Step 4

Deployment of EU Aid Volunteers

- The deployment of volunteers will be in teams of three volunteers comprising all nationalities (German, Spanish and Italian) and start in May 2014.
- The hosting organisations are located in Burkina Faso, Palestine, Haiti, Colombia and Central America
- Details about the missions, organisations and local communities will be provided by hosting organisations
- Deployment will last up to 6 months depending on the type of placement