



## EU Aid Volunteers Pilot Projects 2012/2013

German Red Cross

### Facts & Figures

- Project Leader  
German Red Cross
- Project Start  
July 2012 (15 months  
total duration)
- 34 to 45 Volunteers  
according to needs of  
the host
- Deployment Period  
1 to 3 months  
From January to June  
2013 for periods of 4  
to 12 weeks (2 or 3  
volunteers at each  
time and a total of 6 to  
10 volunteers)
- Deployment Countries  
South and Central  
America, the  
Caribbean, Asia and  
Africa and online  
volunteering
- Focus of the Project  
Civil protection and  
capacity building

#### More info on:

[http://ec.europa.eu/echo/evaid/volunteers/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/evaid/volunteers/index_en.htm)

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## The Project

The project 'VinCaB - Volunteers in Capacity Building Projects' is coordinated by the German Red Cross, <http://www.drk.de> ([vincab@drk.de](mailto:vincab@drk.de))

The partners are:

- Bulgarian Red Cross, <http://www.redcross.bg>
- Finnish Red Cross, <http://www.redcross.fi>
- Netherlands Red Cross, <http://www.rodekruis.nl>
- German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW), <http://www.thw.de>
- British Red Cross, <http://www.redcross.org.uk>
- Croatian Red Cross, <http://www.hck.hr>
- Croatian National protection and Rescue Directorate (NPRD), <http://www.duzs.hr>
- Latvian Red Cross, <http://www.redcross.lv>
- Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), <http://www.msb.se>

The main objective of the project is to create an effective European Voluntary Humanitarian Deployment at local partner organisations focussing on resilience.

## The Volunteers

- 10 to 15 volunteers with proven national experience will be chosen for practical trainings to gain international experience before deployment.
- 24 to 30 volunteers will be selected for deployments in South and Central America, the Caribbean, Asia and Africa based on their language skills, their performance during the first training, and their international experience, e.g. in team leading or as trainers.
- All activities will be complemented by online volunteering via an online platform for exchange of knowledge and experience. Some Volunteers will engage in online volunteering and trainings instead of deployment.

# The Project Cycle

## Step 1

### Selection of 40 to 45 Volunteers:

- Three host organisations are selected and define their needs in capacity building.
- All partners recruit volunteers from their own organisation according to their expertise and training in national response.
- Multinational groups of 6 to 10 volunteers with complementary backgrounds are compiled for each project.
- 10-15 volunteers are selected for a training exercise in the Balkans.

## Step 3

### Further preparation through online platform

- Volunteers receive access to a social online collaboration platform, with project information, document sharing, email, discussion boards and online conferencing.
- Volunteers further prepare the project before their deployment through the online platform. They also collaborate in the team and with the host organization to share information, write the project plan, and discuss the project before, during and after their deployment.

## Step 5

### Monitoring and Evaluation

- Volunteers as well as host organisations prepare reports and send to project coordinator.
- A technical advisory group reviews reports and answers questions via an online platform.
- The project coordinator of the German Red Cross shares reports with the partner organisations and organises at least one monitoring visit during capacity building projects.
- All recommendations for the future projects will be reported to ECHO.
- An external evaluation will be sub-contracted to an external consultant.
- After the mission, an evaluation workshop with all volunteers and trainers, as well as the host organisations will take place in Croatia in July 2013.

## Step 2

### Training Program

- There will be an online preparation of volunteers
- A first training workshop of 10 days introducing the organisations and the volunteers will take place in November, including general preparation for international missions.
- The simulation of the complete deployment cycle will be as follows:
  - Volunteers will be split into the groups assigned to one host organization and country.
  - Volunteers will receive a country preparation and presentation of the host organization.
  - They will develop a more detailed plan for the capacity building projects including a detailed deployment plan.
  - Volunteers will be observed and evaluated during the training workshop and this is also the last step of the recruitment.

## Step 4

### Deployment of Volunteers

- Three organisations will be chosen to develop capacity building projects and host 6 to 10 volunteers between January and June 2013 (two or three at each time for 4 to 12 weeks).
- Capacity building for volunteers and organisations active in civil protection and humanitarian assistance:
  - Event Services and Mass Casualty Management
  - Search and Rescue (urban, water, mountain, medical)
  - Sheltering and relief
- These organisations have to fulfil certain requirements like to prove needs for capacity building, capacity to manage volunteers (visa, security, accommodation, cost efficiency and others).
- Each EU volunteer will have a "partner volunteer" in the target organisation. Both will be in contact even before deployment and capacity building knowledge will be exchanged from volunteer-to-volunteer.
- From each project team leaders will give regular reports to the project coordinator who will share these with the partners and technical advisory group online.
- The volunteers will conduct trainings, exercises, on-the-job trainings, observations, review of existing standards or give technical advice in their area of expertise.