

## European Voluntary Service (EVS)

AN INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEER OR A GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS CARRIES OUT DIFFERENT TASKS AND PROJECTS IN AN ORGANISATION ABROAD, TO PROMOTE SOLIDARITY AND TOLERANCE, AND GAIN VALUABLE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE



### AN EXAMPLE OF EVS

*A boy from Denmark that has dropped out school does an EVS in a nature reserve in the UK, exploring new paths for preserving environment and raising awareness on ecological issues. With his new experience, the volunteer brings back a valuable knowledge and perspective, as well as better English language skills, that may improve his social and professional situation back home.*

The regular duration of an EVS is between 2 and 12 months. For inclusion projects this can be for periods from 2 weeks and longer and extended to a maximum of 12 months.

There is the possibility to do an Advanced Planning Visit, together with the volunteer, to get acquainted with the project.

If the volunteer needs extra attention, reinforced mentorship can be funded if requested and justified in the application form.

Volunteers can be exceptionally younger than 18 (16-17) if they are from disadvantaged backgrounds, and with appropriate support.

There is a list of organisations in the EVS database that are willing to host a volunteer with special needs  
> <http://ec.europa.eu/youth/evs/aod/>

How to adapt EVS to the needs of the volunteer? Check out our booklets, such as the 'Use Your Hands to Move Ahead' booklet

> [www.salto-youth.net/UseYourHands/](http://www.salto-youth.net/UseYourHands/)

## Youth Initiatives

A PROJECT RUN BY YOUNG PEOPLE AT LOCAL LEVEL, OR AT TRANS-NATIONAL LEVEL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH YOUTH GROUPS ABROAD, TO DEVELOP THEIR SENSE OF INITIATIVE AND CREATIVITY

> For Youth Initiatives run by young people with fewer opportunities, a coach can support the group and some extra money can be requested for this work in the application.

> More about coaching in the SALTO Coaching Guide

> [www.salto-youth.net/CoachingGuide/](http://www.salto-youth.net/CoachingGuide/)



### AN EXAMPLE OF A YOUTH INITIATIVES

*A group of young people from Bruges, Belgium, develop a workshop with different educational activities to raise awareness about discrimination, homophobia and intolerance and offer these workshops to local youth organizations and schools.*



## Important when working with Young People with Fewer Opportunities!

- ★ Know the needs, obstacles and challenges of the young people
- ★ Adapt your working methods accordingly
- ★ Provide adequate preparation, support and follow-up
- ★ Involve the young people actively in the project
- ★ Know and show what they can learn from the project
- ★ Demonstrate your educational competences and inclusion experience
- ★ Build a strong partnership and good communication with partner organisations

If you are working day-in day-out with young people with special needs, you are probably quite used to the approach outlined above, but it is also important to put this on in your project application to increase your chances to get funded!

## The End is not the end!

A project is not just a project for the young person(s). It is important to multiply this experience and have the greatest impact possible.

If you have great and ambitious ideas to develop specific products or approaches that help spreading the results of your project, and make them used, you may even benefit from extra funding for these activities.

European Commission - Youth in Action programme  
How to participate > <http://ec.europa.eu/youth/>

SALTO Inclusion Resource Centre  
Working to make inclusion easier  
> [www.salto-youth.net/inclusion](http://www.salto-youth.net/inclusion)  
> [inclusion@salto-youth.net](mailto:inclusion@salto-youth.net)

Contact your 'Youth in Action' Agency for more information and guidance.  
National contacts: > [http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth/contacts\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth/contacts_en.htm)

A great deal of additional information on the European Union is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server (<http://europa.eu>).



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Education and Culture DG  
'Youth in Action' Programme



Youth in Care  
Poor youth  
Minorities  
Ex-offenders  
School drop-outs  
Young people with a disability  
Young people with health issues  
Young people from difficult urban areas  
Rural & isolated youth  
Gays, Lesbians, Bi or Trans  
ALL!

# Get me in!

## YOUTH IN ACTION PROJECTS FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE!

Everybody should have the chance to take part in an exciting youth project, locally or abroad, even if that doesn't seem so easy at first...



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## Get me in!

If you are working with young people with fewer opportunities (like the examples given above), Youth in Action projects can be a useful tool for your inclusion work. Why not try a European project with the young people that could benefit most from such an experience?



*Go abroad • get to know other cultures • get new skills • have fun  
• foreign language contacts & practice • change perspective  
• take a break from routine • social skills • personal development  
• new motivation & inspiration • set up an own project and much more!*

The inclusion of 'young people with fewer opportunities' is a priority of the 'Youth in Action' programme, and there is extra money & support for such 'inclusion projects'.

## Youth in Action an EU programme for ALL young people

The 'Youth in Action' programme (2007-2013) supports projects organised internationally (or locally) FOR and WITH young people (13-30 years old), and the people working with them.



*International Youth Exchanges • European Voluntary Service • Youth Initiatives  
Democracy Projects • Youth Workers Support • Youth Policy Cooperation*

Young people, supported by a youth worker, can develop a programme of activities and apply for funding to the National Agency in their country (or to the Executive Agency in some cases). After each of the 5 deadlines per year at national level, a selection committee decides on the different applications. Inclusion projects get priority.

Contact your 'Youth in Action' Agency for more information and guidance.  
National contacts: [http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth/contacts\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth/contacts_en.htm)

# Get me in!

YOUTH IN ACTION PROJECTS  
FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE!

## What are Inclusion projects?

'Inclusion projects' are EITHER youth projects involving young people with fewer opportunities (see explanation below) OR projects that focus on how to create more opportunities for these young people.

'Young people with fewer opportunities' are those that face some obstacles compared to their peers, which make it less obvious to do an inter-national project *because of social problems, discrimination, economic situation, disability, low qualifications or school results, different cultural background, health issues or geographical disadvantage, etc.*

**Each country in Europe is different:** young people from a specific target group (facing one of the obstacles/situations above) in one country might be disadvantaged, but not in another. In any case, no one concerned by the above obstacles/situations should be excluded!

## Extra support for Inclusion projects

Inclusion is a priority in the Youth in Action programme. If there are 2 projects of equal quality, the inclusion project will get priority.



*It is up to you to explain clearly in your application  
why you think that your project is an inclusion project!*

The same general rules apply as for any Youth in Action project, but you can get some extra support for an inclusion project if justified.

- Exceptional costs: if you have extra costs because of working with disadvantaged groups, you can claim these expenses in your application.
- Flexible procedures: if you are working with young people with special needs, your National Agency can give you more support in applying and can be more flexible in the application procedure
- Multi-measure agreements: it is possible to apply for several activities (youth exchanges, youth initiatives...) at the same time in one application
- Youthpass: every young person has the right to get a Youthpass certificate recognising the learning done in the project – this can be used in CVs, for job interviews or for access to education.

## Youth Exchanges

YOUTH GROUPS OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES MEET AROUND A SPECIFIC THEME OF INTEREST TO THEM, THEY LEARN ABOUT EACH OTHER'S CULTURE AND PLAN THEIR EXCHANGE TOGETHER

Youth Exchanges are preferably carried out between youth groups of 3 or more countries. However in the case of inclusion projects or first time applicants, projects between 2 countries are accepted.

An Advanced Planning Visit is advised (and supported) to prepare the inclusion projects with the different partner organisations.

> Also have a look at 'Going International' a SALTO Inclusion booklet for setting up youth exchanges with young people with fewer opportunities

> [www.salto-youth.net/GoingInternational/](http://www.salto-youth.net/GoingInternational/)



### AN EXAMPLE OF A YOUTH EXCHANGE

*Groups of young girls from immigrant background from Estonia, Spain and Romania meet in Tallinn to do creative work on identity, culture and their position in society. At the end of the week, the young people perform street theatre about the situations they face and show creative solutions.*

## Training and Networking

ACTIVITIES FOR THOSE WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE, TO EXCHANGE IDEAS, TO IMPROVE SKILLS AND SET UP PARTNERSHIPS.



### AN EXAMPLE OF SEMINAR

*An organization working with young people with disabilities in Slovakia, sets up an international partnership building seminar to find partners to do exchanges or EVS afterwards. This gives the chance to discuss with disability youth workers from different countries to get to know each other better and to see how they could develop projects together.*

Organise your own international training or networking project with some international partners: e.g. training courses, seminars, job-shadowing, study visits, partner-finding seminars, networking.

Participate in existing European training related to inclusion organised by SALTO-YOUTH, Youth in Action National Agencies, NGOs... Find an overview in the European Training Calendar or contact your National Agency  
> [www.salto-youth.net/Training/](http://www.salto-youth.net/Training/)

Download the SALTO Inclusion for ALL booklets about working with specific target groups or with specific youth work methods  
> [www.salto-youth.net/InclusionForAll/](http://www.salto-youth.net/InclusionForAll/)

Find inspiration for new inclusion youth work methods and exercises in the Toolbox for Youth Work and Training  
> [www.salto-youth.net/Toolbox/](http://www.salto-youth.net/Toolbox/)

Register for the SALTO Inclusion newsletter to keep updated about European inclusion projects, tools and developments  
> [www.salto-youth.net/InclusionNewsletter/](http://www.salto-youth.net/InclusionNewsletter/)

