

**ERASMUS+**  
**EVS - EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE**



**Call for Sending Organisations**

(Programme Countries Only)

**01/10/2015 - 01/10/2016**

**ECOS – Cooperative of Education, Cooperation and Development, CRL**

**Faro, Portugal**



## INTRODUCTION

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### **Dear Sending Organisations,**

We would like to inform you about our European Voluntary Service Projects that we have developed as a coordinating organisation in partnership with local non-governmental organisations in Faro - Portugal and develop the possibility of you becoming a Sending Organisation.

The overall EVS project – Activating Youth – it's an idea of involving organisations with different backgrounds and themes, within the area of Faro, where the volunteers will be offering their voluntary service but at the same time, having joint activities throughout their voluntary service in order to promote the capacity building of organisations working with youth and informing and promoting mobility, learning, voluntary and training opportunities to the local youth.

We are cooperating with 8 different EVS projects, but at the moment, we are only looking for volunteers for 5 of them.

Please consult the document “EVS Call\_Volunteers\_Faro-Portugal\_PartI” sent together with this one, for further details about Activating Youth, where you can find relevant information that can assist you and your volunteers in understanding our project(s) and decide whether you as sending organisations would be interested in this collaboration and the volunteers if they would be genuinely interested in participating in the activities proposed.

**Please read thoroughly our suggestions, the respective roles and the commitments that form part of our potential cooperation.**



## WHO ARE WE?

### ECOS – Cooperativa de Educação, Cooperação e Desenvolvimento

<b>Org. Info:</b>	ECOS – Cooperativa de Educação, Cooperação e Desenvolvimento
<b>Address:</b>	Universidade do Algarve Campus de Gambelas, Pavilhão A5 Faro 8005-139, Portugal
<b>EIRef:</b>	2012-PT-31
<b>Web:</b>	<a href="http://www.ecos.pt">www.ecos.pt</a> (under construction) <a href="https://www.facebook.com/activatingyouthfaro">www.facebook.com/activatingyouthfaro</a>
<b>EVS themes:</b>	EU Citizenship, EU awareness Media and communications/Youth information
<b>Activity dates:</b>	Start: Start: 01/10/2015 End: 01/10/2016

ECOS – Cooperative of Education, Cooperation and Development, CRL has its main goal of action on the promotion of non-formal education for social inclusion. Through our activities, we try to contribute to the development of a more human, sustainable, fair, inclusive, participative, democratic, equitable, solidary, cooperative, dialogical, diverse and integrated society.

Our main areas of Intervention are:

- Creation of spaces for structured dialogue, cooperation and collective construction among different actors, such as, social, business and institutional actors.
- Promotion, design, implementation and evaluation of playful, educational, social, cultural and sustainable development projects, in formal and non-formal spaces, through non-formal education, always in a way that it complements formal education and contributes to life-long learning.



- Development of the development of the organisations to do a more efficient management of their resources and projects through training and new technologies of information and communication.
- Monitoring, support, assessment and consultancy to individuals, organisations, institutions and respective educational programmes and social intervention projects.
- Promotion, recognition and validation of non-formal education and other alternative pedagogical methodologies that contribute to social transformation.

ECOS was officially established at the beginning of 2010 by a group of experienced educators and youth workers in the national and European education arenas. A significant number of members of the organisation have been or still are actively involved in structures such as the European Youth Forum, International youth NGOs active on the European youth policy making and on the Portuguese National Youth Council. This group of young people is decided to bring their experience to their local and regional levels. ECOS together in cooperation with other partners around Europe and Portugal tries to bring different European dimensions of work to our local and regional communities.

ECOS main motivation for this project is to be able to develop a new culture of youth participation at local level in the region of Algarve. Mainly through the capacity building of organisations working with youth and through assuring that local young people have access to the existing learning & mobility opportunities.

We believe that the diverse range of experiences among the members of ECOS will be an added value for the overall success of this long-term cooperation project. In our organisation staff team we have a team of 7 persons with relevant experience in project management, in youth training and also on coaching. Our members are active in different pool of trainers such as the pool of trainers of the National Agency for the management of the Youth in Action Programme (Portugal), the pool of trainers of DYS of Council of Europe, the pool of trainers of European Youth Forum. We can say that we have recognized experience in supporting the learning process of young people within organisations and other learning environments.

Our activities reach a quite diverse range of actions according to the intervention axes of the cooperative. However, we have recently focused our main field of work on youth participation in decision-making process where throughout the cooperation with several local authorities in the region we have been supporting the implementation of



youth councils and other spaces and instruments for the development of local and regional youth policies. We have been providing training for both youth leaders and people with responsibility over youth. We have also researched projects on the field of youth rights and finally, we provide training and consultation to several institutions and organisations on the field of entrepreneurship competences development.

## EXPECTATIONS FROM SENDING ORGANISATIONS

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We would like to build long lasting, trustful and beneficial relationships with our sending organisations. We are fully aware of the importance of the role that sending organisations have and we are assuming that this role will be taken accordingly.

Acceptance of the call (Part I – Volunteers, + Part II – Sending Organisations) from the sending organisations is what we use as an agreement.

We are expecting:

- Timely responses to our queries in regards of bureaucracy but also other possible issues.
- Effort to get to know the potential volunteers in order to make the right match between project and volunteers. It is very important to have physical contact and not publish open calls just to involve volunteers with whom you will have no real contact at all.
- Proper preparation of the volunteers, including:
  - ✓ Use of the EVS volunteers Info-Kit.
  - ✓ Information about ERASMUS+.
  - ✓ Information about the philosophy, and rules of EVS (EVS Charter, roles of partners, AXA, Youthpass).
  - ✓ Create awareness about non formal learning.
  - ✓ Introduce volunteers to intercultural learning, culture shock and facing challenges.
  - ✓ Explore the hopes, fears and expectations of the volunteers
  - ✓ Create a learning plan for their EVS experience
  - ✓ Empower and motivate the volunteers for the experience that is awaiting them.
  - ✓ Facilitate the contact of EVS volunteers with other EVS volunteers currently located in the sending countries.
  - ✓ Regular contact and support to the volunteers during and after the project.
  - ✓ Supply the volunteers with the Portuguese Language books (Grammar + exercise book) we will suggest plus dictionaries from and to Portuguese (that will be deduced from the sending activity costs).
  - ✓ Support the volunteers with finding the right transportation to and from Portugal (following the amount stated by the rules of the program ERASMUS+).
  - ✓ Register the volunteers in AXA.





- ✓ Support the volunteers upon their return home in taking advantage of the EVS experience.
- ✓ Arrange volunteers' participation in the final evaluation meeting (Annual EVS Event).

**All of the above form part of what we consider a proper preparation for the volunteers and it is of great significance to us to trust that the sending organisations will play this role accordingly.**

We have a plan of constant training of the volunteers for their personal development through which they can enjoy further the benefits of the unique international volunteering experience that EVS is offering.

The project will be 12 months long and taking into consideration the responsibilities, tasks and financial contribution from the sending organisation to support the volunteer, the sending organisations will receive 4% of the organisational support as sending activity costs, which in the case of Portugal correspond to 24 Euros per months (288 Euros for 12 months). The money will be transferred to the sending organisation at the end of the EVS project and as soon as we have the original invoices, tickets and boarding passes related to the transportation costs of the volunteer. The cost of the Portuguese books and dictionary will be deduced from the sending costs.



## APPLICATION & FURTHER COMMUNICATION

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**Volunteer applicants** should fill the application form [HERE](#) and send the CV to [evs@ecos.pt](mailto:evs@ecos.pt) with the subject “EVS Activating Youth VI [your name]”

Deadline for applications: **14<sup>th</sup> of April**

ECOS is committed through its Equal Opportunities Policy to ensure that all volunteer applicants are considered on a fair, unbiased and lawful basis. Our final decision will be made upon an interview between the volunteers and the projects’ supervisors.

We are looking forward to your applications, expression of interest and queries.

Ineligible organisations and incomplete expressions of interest most likely will not be addressed or replied to.

**All your communication should be directed to:**

**ECOS - Cooperativa de Educação, Cooperação e Desenvolvimento, CRL**

**Ana Teresa Santos  
EVS Coordinator**

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**EVS Webpace of ACTIVATING YOUTH**

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