



November 2018

Introduction to European Solidarity Corps



Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport.
The Erasmus+ UK National Agency is a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK.

Content



- Introduction to European Solidarity Corps
- Actions Supported
 - Quality Label
 - Volunteering
 - Traineeships and Jobs
 - Solidarity Projects
- Budget and award criteria
- When to apply

What is European Solidarity Corps?



- New European Union initiative
- Aims to provide placements where young people are most needed
- Builds on the success of the European Voluntary Service
- Two different strands of funding:
 - Volunteering strand
 - Occupational strand
- Address solidarity-related topics

Objectives



- To promote solidarity as a value, mainly through volunteering
- To enhance engagement of young people and organisations in solidarity activities
- To strengthen cohesion, solidarity, democracy and citizenship in Europe
- To ensure participation of young people with fewer opportunities
- To contribute to European cooperation relevant to young people and raising awareness of its positive impact

Who is responsible for European Solidarity Corps?

Overall management:
European Commission

Centralised activities

European Agency:
Education, Audiovisual and Culture
Executive Agency

Decentralised activities

UK National Authority
(Department for Education)

UK National Agency:
British Council and Ecorys UK

Which countries can take part?

Participating Countries

can fully take part in all the Actions

Partner Countries

can also participate, but only in certain activities

Full list of different categories of countries and any restrictions on participation will be specified in the 2019 Call European Solidarity Corps Guide

Who can take part?

- PARTICIPANTS: young people between 18 and 30 years of age
- APPLICANTS:
 - Any public or private organisation (some restrictions apply)
 - A group of young people (Solidarity Projects only)

Please check specific eligibility criteria before you apply

What are the benefits?

Young people

Develop interest in social action

Broaden cultural horizons

Boost confidence

Develop language skills

Personal and professional development

Meet new people and make new friends

Organisations

Better opportunities for engaging young people

Share and discover good practice

Greater understanding of social and cultural diversity

More dynamic and committed professional environment

Communities

Increased ability to address societal changes

Better responsiveness to social, linguistic and cultural diversity

Social inclusion in action



Actions supported

What is supported under the Corps?

- Quality Label
- Volunteering
- Traineeships and jobs
- Solidarity projects

Solidarity activities that bring positive and long-lasting effects on the participants, organisations and communities

Organisations



Quality Label



Volunteering

Traineeships
and Jobs

Young people



Solidarity Projects

What is Quality Label?



- Compulsory for all organisations involved in Volunteering, Traineeships and Jobs
- It certifies that the organisation is able to ensure necessary framework conditions for the participants
- Different Quality Labels for Volunteering and Occupational strands
- Existing European Voluntary Service and Erasmus+ volunteering accreditation can be used for Volunteering projects
- Applications can be made at any time during the year

What is Volunteering?

- Voluntary unpaid activity for a period of up to 12 months
- Opportunities for young people to gain skills and competences through non-formal and informal learning
- Activities can be in-country or cross-border
- Individual volunteering placements and Volunteering teams

What are Traineeships and Jobs?

- Opportunities for work practice or employment
- Activities can be in-country or cross-border
- Type of activities:
 - Traineeships – a period of full time work practice between 2 to 6 months (renewable once)
 - Jobs – full-time work period of between 3 to 12 months, remunerated by the organisation employing the Corps participant
- Should ensure non-formal learning experience

What are Solidarity Projects?



- In-country solidarity activity initiated, developed and implemented by young people themselves
- Should be directly linked to the local community they live in
- Should clearly demonstrate European added value
- Should ensure non-formal learning experience
- May involve support by a coach for the group

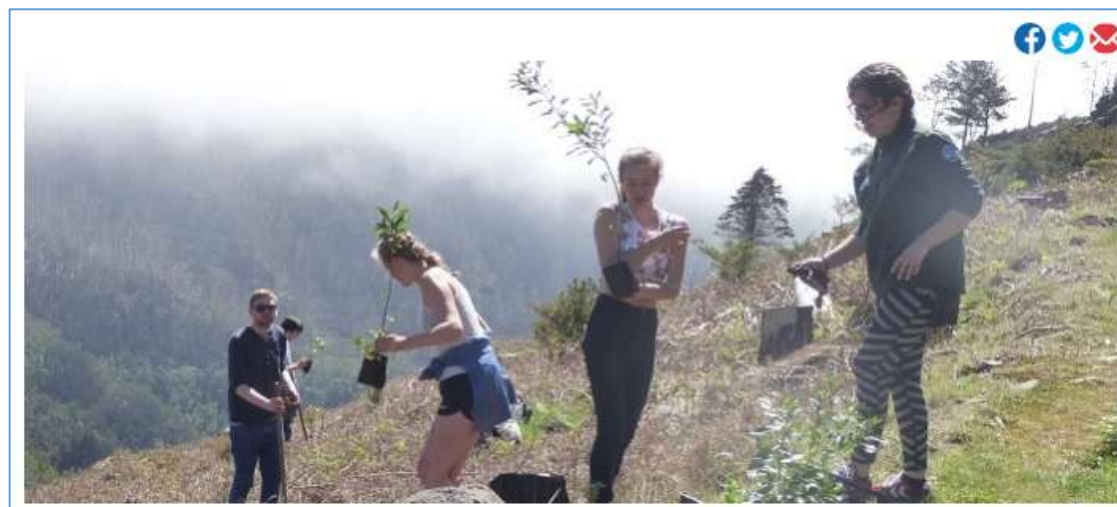
Activity durations



Action	Eligible activities	Activity duration	Project duration
Volunteering	Individual volunteering	2 to 12 months	3 to 24 months
	Volunteering teams	2 weeks to 2 months	
Traineeships and Jobs	Traineeships	2 to 6 months	6 to 24 months
	Jobs	3 to 12 months	
Solidarity Projects	n/a	unrestricted	2 to 12 months

Volunteering stories

International Voluntary Service
Tackling geographical and cultural isolation
in young people



<https://www.erasmusplus.org.uk/stories/international-voluntary-service>

Volunteering stories

Leonard Cheshire Disability
Mickley Hall



<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/eplus-project-details/#project/2014-2-UK01-KA105-001441>

A photograph of two women smiling and laughing together. The woman on the left has short grey hair and is wearing a purple headband and a green shirt. The woman on the right has long, dark, curly hair and is wearing a green shirt. They are outdoors, with green foliage in the background. A wooden stick is visible in the foreground. The bottom of the image is overlaid with a blue banner containing the text "Budget and award criteria".

Budget and award criteria

Budget

There are two different budget types:

Unit Costs - where funding is calculated on a per participant basis, with set rates for different elements

Actual Costs - where funding is specified by you and justified within the application, and for which you will need to submit receipts

Budget Breakdown: Volunteering, Traineeships and Jobs



Budget item	Funding type	Description
Travel	Unit costs	Return travel costs of participants, including accompanying persons.
Organisational Support	Unit costs	Management and implementation of placement activities (e.g. planning, preparation, coordination, monitoring, validation of learning outcomes, dissemination).
Inclusion Support	Unit costs	Costs directly linked to the implementation of activities involving young people with fewer opportunities.
Pocket Money/ Relocation Allowance	Unit costs	Contribution to additional personal expenses for participants.

Budget Breakdown: Volunteering, Traineeships and Jobs



Budget item	Funding type	Description
Linguistic Support	Unit Costs	Costs linked to support offered to improve participants' knowledge of the language they will use to carry out project activity tasks.
Exceptional costs	Real costs	Financial guarantee, if requested by the NA: 75% of eligible costs. Expensive travel costs: up to 80% of eligible costs. Other costs: 100 % of eligible costs.
Complementary Activity Costs	Real costs	Costs of organising activities designed to complement and strengthen the strategic impact of the project. 80% of direct costs plus 7% of indirect costs.

Budget Breakdown: Solidarity Projects



Budget item	Funding type	Description
Project Management	Unit costs	Management and implementation of the project (e.g. preparation, implementation of activities, evaluation, dissemination and follow-up).
Coaching Costs	Unit costs	Costs linked to the involvement of a coach.
Exceptional Costs	Real costs	Costs to support the participation of young people with fewer opportunities: 100% of eligible costs.

Award Criteria



Volunteering Projects	Traineeships and Jobs	Solidarity projects
Relevance, rationale and impact (max. 30 points)	Relevance, rationale and impact (max. 30 points)	Relevance, rationale and impact (max. 40 points)
Quality of project design (max. 40 points)	Quality of project design (max. 40 points)	Quality of project design (max. 40 points)
Quality of project management (max. 30 points)	Quality of project management (max. 30 points)	Quality of project management (max. 20 points)

Thank you!

Get in touch

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for events, publications and promotion

Find us online

-  eusolidaritycorps.org.uk
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