

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS**“VolunTEAM”****(Cooperate with volunteers in the organizations)**

Key Action 1: Training Course

**Duration:**

9 days (travel days included)

From 25th of June to 3d of July 2018

Location:

The training course will take place in a vacation center, in a quite mountainous area of France. The participants will be hosted in « Matrassière » center in Saint Julien en Vercors, a little village in the Drôme departement, located one hour away from Grenoble and 2 hours from Lyon.

The participants will sleep in big tents around the vacation center, every tent comorting 6 or 8 beds. The tents are equipped with wood stoves in case of cold weather.

The participants will share the public bathroom and toilets in the center right closed to the tents area.

Meals will be also be served in the center, in the dining room and prepared with bio-based products by a team of cooks.

The participants will have several rooms at their disposal for their activities.

Keep in mind that the accomodation site is quite rural and isolated.

Some excursions may be organized during the week to discover the beautiful surroundings.

Participating countries:

France, Estonia, Spain, Romania, Turkey, Portugal

Participants:

18 participants: 3 participants from each country. Plus 2 trainers from France. Groups of participants from each country should be gender balanced.

Target group: Young people from 18 years old working or cooperating with volunteers. Interested in developing their skills and knowledge in the area of cooperation with volunteers in the organisations.

Good knowledge of English language would be useful to be able to actively participate to the training.

Language: English

Background of the project:

Concordia is an organisation of non-formal education, which promotes intercultural exchanges. Our traditional activity is the organisation of international workcamps, and one of its main goals is to allow participants to get open-minded and develop non-formal skills as autonomy and self-confidence, by meeting and living during few weeks with people from all over the world with different cultural and social background and doing a voluntary work. We also involve a lot of long-term volunteers (service civic, EVS and 'benevoles') into the activity of our organization.

This Training Course comes from our wish to mix intercultural exchanges with the topic of cooperation with volunteers.

Involving volunteers in our activities is an important part of our daily work. To make this involvement successful, we need to instore cooperation, to create a structure where the volunteers would be really considered, and would be fully part of the organisation.

We hope that the participants will be motivated to tackle this issues of cooperation with volunteers, will be eager to share and discuss their experiences and points of view, and will be motivated to gain new skills in this sphere.

Themes and short presentation**Inclusive volunteering:**

- How to welcome volunteers into the organizations
- How to make a team together with volunteers: values, tools and technics for efficient cooperation
- How to take decisions and organize in a democratic way inside the organizations

The course will explore wide range of questions concerning involving volunteers into the activities of the organization. We will explore such aspects of work with volunteers as how to welcome them, how to cooperate with them, how to give a specific place to everyone depending of the profile and the personality, how to favour democracy in all aspects of the cooperation, how to deal with conflicts and how to take decisions all together.

We all want our volunteers to have a great experience and an important part of this is keeping them motivated. This course will help the participants to identify volunteers' motivations and recognise their contribution in a way that's right for them. Support goes beyond simply meeting volunteers regularly, it is about building a positive relationship with volunteers from the start and we will explore together how to enrich this correlation.

The training course is the opportunity for the participants to share different experiences related to these items. It will allow participants to talk about their experiences, but also, thanks to peer-learning process, to exchange ideas and points of view between each other.

By the end of the project the participants will create an overview of their learning outcomes of each day by putting together their guide of Top tips for successful cooperation with volunteers comprising the most essential findings revealed during the project. This guide will serve as a useful tool for all the organisations that involve volunteers in their activities, to instore a real cooperation process inside their organizations.

As a result the participants will acquire the skills and learn about the means that can be used for improving the quality of their work with volunteers.

Methodology:

The methodology (non-formal education, discussions and debates, simulation games, theoretical contributions) and the structure of the training course will encourage an active involvement of each participant in order to develop competences and new tools for personal and social development. Non-formal education tools will be used to create a friendly and caring atmosphere, considering each participant in his or her diversity, personality and culture, so that each person can feel free to express him(her)self, share his or her experiences, teach and learn from the others. Participants will be encouraged to be responsible for their learning process.

The methodology will include interactive activities that will allow to go deeper into the subject along with active involvement of each participant into the process of creating the top tips for successful involving volunteers comprising the most essential findings for cooperation with volunteers revealed during the project.

Financial conditions:

All the costs for food and accommodation as well as the program costs will be covered by organizers.

The travel costs return to Saint Julien en Vercors will be covered within the following limits depending on the departure country (based on the European Union distance calculator):

- France – 20 euros
- Spain, Portugal, Romania – 275 euros
- Estonia, Turkey – 360 euros

Concordia would like to encourage participants to buy travel trickets ASAP to enjoy economical prices. Please do not buy travel tickets until your participation has been approved by Concordia. All the travel costs will be reimbursed around 3 months after the end of the training course.

Please note that the process of reimbursement will be carried out directly with the applicant organizations and not with the individual participants.

We kindly remind all participants to keep the original tickets to be able to send them to us.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 10th of June 2018

The detailed info-pack including the preliminary planning, the logistical details, travel tips will be sent to the chosen participants after the selection

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