



Solidarity with emerging and developing countries: Which future for European volunteering?

Conference at the European Parliament
8th November 2011 in Brussels

The organizers: Who are we?

CLONG Volontariat

CLONG Volontariat (Comité de Liaison des ONG de Volontariat, Liaison Committee of French International Volunteering NGOs) is a platform of French NGOs involved in international volunteering, founded in 1979. It works on subjects related to international volunteering and other development personnel. The CLONG Volontariat is a founding member of Coordination SUD, the French platform of International development and humanitarian NGOs. Our objectives are:

- To share information, ideas and capacities between its members,
- To lead research initiatives about international volunteering and development personnel,
- To strengthen its members advocacy actions,
- To represent and promote its members to public or private institutions.

Our action led to considerable progress in the recognition by the French government of international volunteering's importance in development cooperation: for example, in February 2005, the government adopted a law to define and improve the status of *Volontaire de solidarité internationale* (International Solidarity Volunteer).

All the members of CLONG send about 1900 volunteers every year.

GIZ

GIZ, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Since 1 January 2011, GIZ has brought together under one roof the capacities and long-standing expertise of DED, GTZ und InWEnt.

Our registered offices are in Bonn and Eschborn.

Working efficiently, effectively and in a spirit of partnership, we support people and societies worldwide in creating sustainable living conditions and building better futures.

GIZ's purpose is to promote international cooperation for sustainable development and international education work.

As a 100% federally owned, public-benefit enterprise, we support the German Government in achieving its objectives in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development.

GIZ counts around 1,110 development workers and 820 *weltwärts* volunteers.

France Volontaires

France Volontaires is a platform of French organizations aiming at promoting and developing various forms of international volunteerism for exchanges and solidarity. It mobilizes various stakeholders worldwide – government, local authorities, sending organizations, partner associations– in order to:

- Support sending and welcoming organizations in their tasks (establishing partnerships, designing assignments, recruiting, training, managing volunteers), especially through sharing experiences and networking,
- Widen people's knowledge about international volunteerism,
- Strengthen the recognition of international volunteers and organizations,
- Inform and guide people willing to get involved in international projects on a voluntary basis.

France Volontaires also sends long term volunteers involved in international cooperation and solidarity projects, about 200 every year.