We, the associations adherent to the hereinafter charter, declare that there is, beyond the diversity of our practices, a set of common values that constitutes the basis of voluntary and solidarity commitments internationally.

These values—solidarity, commitment, equality, freedom and universality—are all guides to improve the quality and richness of these commitments.

These commitments, free and responsible, enable anyone to be at the disposal of a non-profit organisation to contribute to an action of general interest. It expresses itself through different forms of international volunteering, most notably:

- Volunteering for cooperation, support for development and humanitarian action
- Volunteering for knowledge and skills exchange
- Volunteering for initiation and exchange which relates to young people or people living their first experience of mobility in the field of international solidarity.
- Volunteering for immigration, support for development and humanitarian action which aims to build the qualifications, competences and experiences of an individual at the service of a partner, a job that is suitable for about 1 or 2 years. Their human and cultural dimension involves immersion in the host country. Reciprocal commitment and operating conditions of the mission are formalised in a contract.

We affirm that the different forms of international volunteering favour the dynamics of co-operation and exchanges between countries, populations, cultures, and people. Based on human relationships, international volunteering and reciprocity, international volunteering constitutes an original approach towards international solidarity.

It contributes to the reinforcement of civil society and inscribes its actions in the dynamics of social change.

The charter in its entirety can be seen on www.france-volontaires.org
France Volontaires is the platform for international volunteering commitments and solidarity. It was established in 2010, at the government and voluntary sector’s initiative.

### Missions

Pursuing its programme of sending volunteers internationally, France Volontaires sees itself as endowed with a mission of special interest, namely, preparing and developing the different commitments of international volunteering (IV) and contribute to their implementation. This mission is expressed in compliance with the values set out in the common charter, to which all volunteer-sending organisations, as well as the volunteers themselves, adhere (Article 1 of the statutes).

Consequently, its missions are:
- facilitating networks of collective players: CLONG Volontariat, FONJEP, COTRAVAUX, thereby to be a decision support tool for the control and the evolution of public policies in this field.
- improving the knowledge of French Citizens’ different forms of involvement in the field of international volunteering (I.V) and contribute to their implementation. This mission is expressed in quality and quantity, the numbers of international volunteering programs, while pursuing its mission of sending volunteers internationally;
- supporting volunteer-sending organisations in their missions to mobilise, prepare, monitor, manage and reintegrate volunteers upon return;
- involving the international volunteering field;
- helping strengthen public policies in France.

France Volontaires’ missions are specified in the agreement signed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development.

France Volontaires is also a founding member of the Civic Service Agency, created in May 2010. A convention specifies the contribution of France Volontaires in the implementation of the international Civic Service commitments.

France Volontaires’ missions are specified in the agreement signed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development.

Who are we?

FRANCE VOLONTAIRES (France Volontaires) is the platform for international volunteering commitments and solidarity. It was established in 2010, at the government and voluntary sector’s initiative.

The observatory for voluntary and solidarity commitment

The France Volontaires observatory, set up by France Volontaires, initiated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Solidarity and France Volontaires’ associate members, its purpose is to improve the knowledge of French Civic志愿 volunteer commitments of the various forms of international solidarity. Its ambition is to become a reference in terms of observation and analysis of the sector and thereby to be a decision support tool for the control and the evolution of public policies in this field.

The observatory is a facilitator for networks of collective players: CODIVolontariat, FONIVOLONTAIRES, REINE, CCOTRAVAUX, AJOCD, COSE, SOLIDARITE LUNAI, INFOSIV, etc. but also of partners oriented to the territories, particularly those in relation with territorial authorities engaged in the decentralised cooperation.

Through its collection, analysis and valorisation, the Observatory contributes to the dynamics of the sector, share knowledge about the practices of each player, pool expertise and methodology on volunteering, and results of experiments, the diffusion of innovation, the promotion of a quality approach.

www.observatoire-volontariat.org

In France

The public
- High school students
- Young professionals
- Working professionals
- Retired
- Engaged citizens

Inform
- about the different possible forms of volunteering to developing countries, as well as the forms and conditions for visa missions.

Guide
- people is relation to their profile, availability, experience, competency, associate sensitivity towards one form of volunteering or another. (The choice between a local or volunteering (I.V) or towards centralist (national or regional) or even European, local).

Give value
- contribute to improving the visibility and recognition of International Volunteering in developing countries, particularly through a creation of a support fund for initiatives promoting volunteering.

The international Civic Service commitments

It is an international commitment with a duration chosen, intended for young people aged from 16 to 25 years.

This commitment can be pursued in a non-profit organization in public law or local authorities.

France Volontaires participates in France and internationally in the implementation of public youth policies, in the definition of strategies for the development of international volunteering (IV) and contribute to the implementation, the promotion and management of the scheme, and in the mobilisation of different non-profit bodies and local authorities (North-South).

In the host country

A local presence

France Volontaires local representatives are capable to support French international volunteering bodies in the identification of partners and missions, hosting volunteers, guiding them. They can equally facilitate relations with national authorities as well as French diplomatic representations (embassies, consulates) upstream, they can also transmit all the information required for visa conditions or a successful mission.

France Volontaires, contributes to improve collective knowledge of French citizens’ voluntary commitments worldwide.

Finally local officials assure the monitoring of France Volontaires’ volunteers as well as the protection and negotiation for new volunteering opportunities.

A network of Volunteer areas

On site, volunteers, partners, international volunteering bodies... are waiting for information, exchanges from French mission meetings. They need to have easier access to certain services (language learning, knowledge of the socio-cultural environment or public administrations...). Therefore for their part, associative and civil society organizations who host volunteers want to get better knowledge of the French volunteering offer.

In response, France Volontaires develops a "Volunteering centred network" places: coordination, guidance and networking. As of the end of 2014, 72 are open. They offer specific characteristics to any structured network, but are adapted to the context and specificity of each host country.

Who is interested?

France Volontaires concentrates on associations and civil society organizations. It is the platform for volunteer-sending organisations.

www.service-civique.gouv.fr

www.observatoire-volontariat.org

FRANCE VOLONTAIRES

The players
- Associations
- Local authorities
- Public bodies
- Companies, foundations
- Individuals

Facilitate
- networking between international volunteering bodies and France Volontaires, in conjunction with local authorities, state institutions, public policies; France Volontaires develops, within the territories, a permanent network of staff and volunteers.

Support
- the development of international volunteering by operational capabilities (identification of missions, mobilisation, training, monitoring).

Innovate
- by giving impetus to a culture of experimentation within international volunteering families.

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