


## HOSTING and SENDING a young international volunteer for Civic service to France



Saroueth from the Phare Ponleu Selpak Association, on a volunteering mission with "A Petits Pas", France

 Petits Pas

Opening to others, sharing and cultivating our differences,  
enriching our relationships and our actions

# Roles played by key stakeholders

## The Civic Service Agency

[www.service-civique.gouv.fr](http://www.service-civique.gouv.fr)

- ✓ Validates French host structures
- ✓ Pays a monthly stipend of 472.97 €
- ✓ Ensures the volunteer's social protection
- ✓ Pays the host structure 100 € per month towards the volunteer's accommodations and tutoring
- ✓ Financing a training on civic and citizenship as well as first-aid training session for 100 €

## France Volontaires

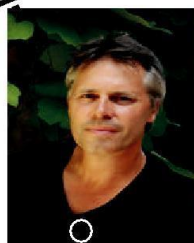
[www.france-volontaires.org](http://www.france-volontaires.org)

- ✓ Informs, guides and advises stakeholders
- ✓ Facilitates relationships between stakeholders and partners
- ✓ Mobilizes additional operational and financial partners
- ✓ Participates in selecting volunteers
- ✓ Takes care of administrative paperwork
- ✓ Contributes to training the volunteer before departure
- ✓ Ensures that the volunteer is actively monitored in France

## How can I host and send an international volunteer to France?

### Host structure in France

- ✓ You are an association, a foundation, a public institution, a central administration
- ✓ You have been approved by the Civic Service Agency or by the regional and local departments of youth, sports and social cohesions for local structures
- ✓ You define the content of the mission of general interest the volunteer will have in the fields of education, health, social aspects, environment, agriculture, sports, culture, languages, etc.
- ✓ You participate in selecting candidates
- ✓ You participate in facilitating paperwork for the visa
- ✓ You are in charge of all expatriation expenses (transport, visa, repatriation insurance, additional health insurance) as well as accommodation and search for/ mobilise additional partners
- ✓ You ensure the hosting, insertion and tutoring of the volunteer
- ✓ You pay 107.58 € per month, in cash or in kind, towards expenses the volunteer will have for equipment, accommodation, transportation or food



**Régis Tirlémont, the President of the "A Petits Pas" Association in Ruisseauville (62), in partnership with the "Phare Paleu Selpak" Association, who hosts Saroeurth, a Cambodian volunteer:**

"These exchanges are beneficial to young foreigners, but also to students and young adults in our area, as they also become familiar with another universe."

### How to send a volunteer to the partner country

#### Several players are possible either in solo or collectively

- ✓ A partner structure in the framework of country to country cooperation (associations, municipalities, public institutions)
- ✓ National volunteering organisation of the country that has entered into a partnership with France Volontaires
- ✓ The France Volontaires Volunteering Centers, present in 24 different countries

## Role of sending structure with the host structure in France

- ✓ Participates in defining the content of the mission
- ✓ Identifies and selects the volunteer
- ✓ Takes care of the administrative paperwork for visas
- ✓ Contributes to expatriation expenses (transportation, visa, health and repatriation for medical reasons insurance)
- ✓ Takes care of the volunteer's first days
- ✓ Contributes to training the volunteer before departure
- ✓ Participates in remote tutoring for the volunteer
- ✓ Hosts the volunteer and contributes to his or her future project
- ✓ Allows a time for the mission in the country before and after the time in France



**Omar Agbangba, the General Manager of the Togolese National Agency of Volunteering**

"International volunteering is beneficial for young adults. It develops their potentials, their skill set and their capacity, which in turn makes them more competitive on the job market. Engagement sparks a turning point in the volunteer's mentality, and promotes entrepreneurship."

## Volunteers

- ✓ Were born in a country which hosts French volunteers (reciprocity principle)
- ✓ Between the age group of 18-25 years
- ✓ Commit themselves to a mission of general interest of between 6 to 12 months maximum
- ✓ Have no specific level of education
- ✓ Want to commit themselves, have open minds, are interested in meeting other people, have the capacity of being a part of
- ✓ a team that is culturally different, like communicating and explaining the realities of their home country
- ✓ They can contribute in many ways: strengthening cooperation links, enriching and diversifying specific skills, developing educative activities on being a good citizen, developing international solidarity, bringing in new things, being ambassadors of their culture
- ✓ Volunteering will strengthen their personal capacities, their professional skill set and their civic commitment



**Prekshaa, an Indian volunteer at the Brettes-les-Pins Agricultural High School (72)**

"My mission was to open the minds of the young students here towards another culture. I showed them India, through its civilisation, its cooking, its cinema, yoga, the tie & dye technique, how to play cricket, folk art, henna flowers, etc. I was also a teacher's assistant in English for conversation courses. This volunteering experience allowed me to be introduced to teaching techniques by observing the other teachers, and by organising workshops and I was also trained. This was a very enriching experience."

# The France Volontaires International Volunteering and Reciprocity Programme

## Contextual elements

In this ever-changing world, where living together is proving more and more challenging for all societies, the principle of reciprocity in civic commitments is necessary to nourish better balanced relationships between countries.

When you work together, crossing social and professional cultures, based on a mutual enrichment through cultures and shared differences, this promotes open mindedness, respect of others, otherness and creativity, all of which help societies to change and promote peace amongst their inhabitants.

For over 50 years, young French adults have been able to show their solidarity to populations in partner countries in the framework of volunteering missions, but young adults from these countries did not have the same opportunity in France.

Since 2010 this has been possible in France, with a law on civic service which allows all countries that host French volunteers to send young adults to France to do a civic service commitment.

## Goals

- Allowing young adults in partner countries to have a volunteering experience in France in the spirit of cross-cultural and global citizenship, blending commitment and acquisition of skills.
- Promoting international solidarity in France, through original partnerships, to French citizens and broadly speaking, to young international citizens.
- Sparking an ambitious reflection on how to host international volunteers in France

## Achievements and partners

### 2016 achievements

France Volontaires contributed to 51 volunteer missions in civic service commitments in France with volunteers from 13 countries: Benin (2), Burkina Faso (4), the Central African Republic (1), Ivory Coast (3), Guinea (Conakry) (2), Haiti (4), India (2), Mali (3), Morocco (2), Senegal (1), Togo (2), Tunisia (14), Vietnam (1).

### Additional operational and financial partners

- They are municipalities, ministries, nationwide volunteering agencies, French institutes for international organizations, investors and companies.
  - They participate in funding for training sessions, expatriation, accommodations and rolling out missions.
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## Contact us

- Pierre SOETARD,  
Head of the Volunteering and Reciprocity programme  
[pierre.soetard@france-volontaires.org](mailto:pierre.soetard@france-volontaires.org)
- Fabiola RIVAS,  
Officer for development of missions in Europe and International at the Civic Service Agency  
[fabiola.rivas@service-civique.gouv.fr](mailto:fabiola.rivas@service-civique.gouv.fr)

## In France

- Christophe RESSIGUIER:  
Person in charge of the Regions of Brittany, Loire River and New Aquitaine  
[christophe.ressiguier@france-volontaires.org](mailto:christophe.ressiguier@france-volontaires.org)
- Lucie LOMBARD:  
Person in charge of the Regions of Normandy, Hauts-de-France, Greater Eastern Region in France  
[lucie.lombard@france-volontaires.org](mailto:lucie.lombard@france-volontaires.org)
- Michel DE MARCH:  
Person in charge of the Regions of Ile-de-France, Burgundy, Franche Compté, Centre, Loire Valley  
[m.demarch@france-volontaires.org](mailto:m.demarch@france-volontaires.org)
- Pierre REVEL:  
Person in charge of the Languedoc-Roussillon-Midi-Pyrénées, Auvergne, Rhône-Alpes, Provence-Alpes, Côté d'Azur  
[pierre.revel@france-volontaires.org](mailto:pierre.revel@france-volontaires.org)
- Noémie DO LINH:  
Head of the Volunteering, Development and International Solidarity Department  
[noemie.dolinh@france-volontaires.org](mailto:noemie.dolinh@france-volontaires.org)

## Abroad (Africa, Middle East, Asia, Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean Area)

In partner countries where France Volontaires has a Volunteering Center, please contact the National Representative

[www.france-volontaires.org](http://www.france-volontaires.org)  
[@FVolontaires](http://www.evvf.org)



*Translation from French to English by UN Volunteer Mme. Jacque Bridonneau*