

EU Aid Volunteers – FORESTS VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The requirements for the announcement are precisely laid down in COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 1244/2014 of 20 November 2014 laying down rules for the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps ('EU Aid Volunteers initiative'), annex I, number 2.

This Word document shall help you to complete all required information in collaboration with your project partners offline before you copy the descriptions and dates in the required fields of the EU Aid Volunteers Platform and submit the vacancy

Title of the vacancy: Senior volunteer for COMMUNITY ORGANIZING FOR SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY MANAGEMENT_ economic interest grouping

Region, Country : Ghana, Accra and travels in forest areas

for publication on the Platform.

Senior Volunteer

Website : <https://www.france-volontaires.org/nos-actions/forests/missions-a-pourvoir/>

Information about Eu Aid Volunteers Initiative:

Funded by the European Commission, European Union Aid Volunteers Initiative (EUAV) programme and managed by the European agency EACEA. Its deployment component brings together specialized volunteers and organizations from different countries dedicated to in crisis prevention and post-crisis recovery situations to strengthen the resilience of communities affected by disasters.

As a EUAV Volunteer, you will have the opportunity to make a real difference by getting involved in humanitarian aid projects where your help is most needed.

Project description:

EUAV FORESTS focuses on building the resilience of the communities living in these territories, through the civic engagement of European volunteers and local communities in Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Congo and Vietnam. The action that mobilises EUAV volunteers is divided into 5 strategic axes:

→ A comprehensive approach to resilience, by carrying out a mapping study aimed at identifying, at all levels with the active participation of each of the communities concerned, the various factors of vulnerability to disasters and crises.

→ Support provided by volunteers to vulnerable populations, which will allow the direct development of human capital so that they can reduce the impact of climate change and human induced pollutions cope and install an adaptation process.

→ Activities to mobilize future generations, to help to develop the social capital of their communities, to limit future risks and, in return, to promote community development activities that will strengthen individual resilience.

→ Dissemination of information, strengthening of social ties and support for local populations to set up projects that complement awareness-raising activities.

Operational details and security context: *Please provide a short summary of the project as well as details of the operational and security context and/or information as to whether the sending and/or hosting organisations are faith-based organisations.*

→ A last workstream is ensuring sustainability, awareness raising and fundamental change of attitudes through the involvement of young people in projects and advocacy campaigns around the rights of communities living in forest areas. After a rigorous selection procedure, the 27 EU volunteers selected for FORESTS will have the opportunity to travel to these countries to carry out junior or senior expert roles in climate change adaptation, forest resource management, awareness raising, communication and advocacy and project management. The working languages will be English and French.

Humanitarian context

Ghana, an English-speaking country in West Africa with an estimated population of 28.8 million in 2017 (source: World Bank), is a country of 238,537 km² surrounded by Côte d'Ivoire to the west, Burkina Faso to the north, and Togo to the east. It is a constitutional democracy with relatively well-functioning political and administrative institutions. The main cities are Accra, Kumasi, Sekondi-Takoradi and Tamale. The official language is English, and there are more than fifty local languages: Twi, Ewe, Ga-adangme, Dagbani, Dagare. The currency is the Ghana cedi. During the rainy season (March to June/July and then September and October), Ghana can suffer major flooding due to ageing urban development patterns, particularly in the working-class areas of Accra.

Security context

The security situation in Ghana is stable despite its northern border with Burkina Faso, whose surveillance has been strengthened. However, increased vigilance remains necessary in this area. The condition of roads in the capital and those connecting to major cities is relatively good but can be saturated and damaged in places. Traffic regulations are poorly respected by some drivers, sometimes leading to traffic accidents (speeding, overtaking on the right, no right-hand priority...). Driving at night is not recommended. During holiday periods (cultural/artistic celebrations, end of year celebrations), robberies, burglaries... are recorded. A welcome guide prepared by the Espace Volontariats du Ghana will be given to the volunteer upon arrival. This guide will contain information on safety, health, administrative and installation procedures, as well as all practical information to help the volunteer integrate better. In addition, the volunteer will be registered at the Consulate/Embassy of his/her country of origin, or, failing that, as a European, he/she will be registered at the French Consulate in Accra.

Organisational context

France Volontaires is the French platform of Volunteering for International Exchange and Solidarity which is the fruit of a cooperative effort by public sector and nonprofit sector stakeholders engaged in national solidarity. As an implementing agency of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, it brings together State, local and regional authorities and associations within the framework of a mission of general interest: the development and promotion of volunteer and solidarity commitments around the world. France Volontaires is present in various countries in Africa, Asia and South America. Its missions are among others to inform, orient and serve as a link between various stakeholders (sending organizations, host organizations, volunteers and potential volunteers). In Ghana, France Volontaires welcomes French volunteers and encourages and accompanies young Ghanaian volunteers on missions in France, and work closely with the French Embassy in Ghana and the Alliance Française d'Accra. We also work with Ghanaian volunteer actors such as COVOG (Coalition of Volunteering Organizations in Ghana), National Service Scheme... as well as with the volunteer corps present in Ghana (Peace Corps, Jica...).

Our office - called the Espace Volontariats - is located within the premises of the Alliance Française d'Accra.

The Espace Volontariats du Ghana is led by a National Representative based in Togo, Mr Moussa Bah (moussa.bah@france-volontaires.org) and is daily runned by a Ghanaian Volunteering Development Support Officer and a French International Solidarity Volunteer working on Communication and Partnership relations.

The volunteer will directly work with the organization EcoCare Ghana (<http://www.ecocareghana.org/>). EcoCare Ghana is a rights-based campaign and advocacy organization duly registered and licensed to operate as a local non-governmental organization. They focus on policy and practises around community rights and forests, and how it relates to development, climate change, wildlife conservation, agriculture and other land-use options. EcoCare Ghana seek to positively impact the livelihoods of resource communities for them to meaningfully contribute and equitably benefit and develop from resource use. EcoCare work to transform decision-making processes of natural resources so that resource owners obtain fairer benefit from their inheritance. EcoCare Ghana aims to create space through constructive citizen mobilization for the participation of local communities and other stakeholders in decision making processes on natural resources and environment. They work to support and enhance their contributions to those processes and strengthen mechanisms that will ensure that the decisions made are people-centred and reflect the voices of the people.

The mission is based in Accra, with travel to be foreseen in the areas of intervention of the NGO.

The EU volunteer will be welcomed by the Espace Volontariats du Ghana team and possibly by the National Representative of France Volontaires Ghana as well as by members of the COVOG NGO. He/she will be tutored by the National Representative of France Volontaires Ghana and will be accompanied throughout his/her integration process and mission (arrival interview / mid-term review / final review, presentation to partners, administrative and consular procedures...).

Description of the tasks to be performed by the EU Aid Volunteer:

Under the supervision of France Volontaires Ghana, the volunteer will work in close collaboration with others EU Aid Volunteers, local partners and national volunteers to support community engagement on sustainable forestry management promotion

1. Support to Community engagement for sustainable forestry management

- Raise awareness of the populations settled in forest areas about the protection of forest ecosystems;
- Supporting the creation of forest economic and environmental interest groups (especially women and young people) ;
- Strengthen their organizational operational capacities: rules of procedure, governance, equipment, resource and financial management, etc;
- Support for the definition of an action plan: communication plan, awareness-raising activities and mapping of areas to be targeted;
- Participate in the creation of a network of stakeholders and enhance exchanges of practices within it;
- Support for the dissemination of good practices at local and national level.

2. Support to the implementation of FORESTS activities at national level

- Participation in the preparation of documents and meetings related to the implementation of the project;
- Participation in the follow-up, monitoring and periodic reporting of the activities carried out in Ghana (FV Ghana);
- Strengthening the capacities of France Volontaires Ghana in the field of climate change and forest conservation;
- Consolidation of existing partnerships with CSOs (associations; cooperatives; enterprises, etc.) and public actors and identification of new opportunities for intervention in the field of environmental volunteering;
- Contribute to the networking of EUAV FORESTS volunteers and host organizations;

3 - Participation to the visibility of FORESTS project and to advocacy or community engagement actions ;

- Promoting the role of EUAV international volunteering in disaster risk reduction, prevention and response;
- Promote partnerships and collaboration between local and European organisations on climate change adaptation issues;
- Contribute to the publication of articles or other materials (videos, podcasts, etc.) on the experience of EUAV volunteers in the field and on their activities, in cooperation with the project partners' teams and local actors;
- Collecting audio-visual material produced in the framework of the project activities for promotion and capitalisation purposes.

Apprenticeship: N/A for EUAV FORESTS

Required competencies: Please read carefully this section and eligibility criteria before apply!

Studies :

Masters degree in environmental/forestry/climate sciences, economics, international development, political sciences or related field with research experience. Lower qualifications might be accepted if the candidate has a longer experience.

Skills and knowledge :

- Strong Analytical and diagnostic skills ;
- Strong writing, and synthesis skill ;
- Good command of project cycle management;
- Strong organizational capacity to meet deadlines ;
- Good knowledge related to humanitarian issues and specifically related to climate crisis;
- Knowledge of forestry governance and environmental policy ;
- Good knowledge or demonstrated interest on agricultural economics or development economics ;
- Strong interest and community-based approach and gender issues mainstreaming in project activities;
- Knowledge of EU funding procedures would be an asset.
- Knowledge of Ghana or Central Africa would be an asset.

General skills:

- Intercultural communication skills
- Good interpersonal skills
- Leadership
- Team working
- Autonomy
- Dynamic and proactive attitude
- Adaptability to changing contexts

Languages:

High proficiency in English; Good command of French, an asset

Experience:

Minimum of 5 years experience of which at least 3 in project management or program coordination
 Previous working or volunteer experience in developing countries and/or NGO strongly encouraged;
 Previous experience in research or knowledge management an asset;
 Previous experience or strong interest in capacity building and community-based forest management and protection ;
 Demonstrated experience in research or data processing and communication and information technologies;
 Willingness to commit to safeguarding sensitive ecosystems and improving community adaptation to climate change and its attendant humanitarian risks.

Selection criteria: Applications are made directly within the sending organisation, please check out the how to apply section.

- You must be an EU citizen or long-term resident in an EU Member State;
- You must be at least 18 years old. Online volunteering is open to volunteers of any nationality;
- Being available full-time is an important commitment. You must be available for the duration indicated in the vacancy notice, which can range from 6 months to 12 months.
- You do not necessarily need to have experience in the field of humanitarian aid to apply for an EU volunteer position. The EU Aid Volunteers programme is open to people with a wide range of backgrounds and experiences.
- You must, however, meet the requirements of each volunteer position, which you will find in each EUAV FORESTS mission advertisement.

As a candidate, you commit to:

- Be available during the selection process (starting in May 2020);
- Complete the online (1 week) and presential (9-12 d) training modules scheduled by EACEA (Summer 2020);
- Provide the administrative and medical documents that will be requested within the time limits (July-August);
- To take part to the pre-deployment induction organized by sending organisations (ESI LABS! and France Volontaires) (September).

Conditions of Service:

Learning Opportunities:

Development of technical skills in areas related to linking relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD), sustainable forestry management, protection and/or resilience;
Development of intercultural knowledge;
Development of professional and human skills;
Learning one or more local languages.

Working and Living Conditions:

An allowance according to each country and in adequacy with EUAV standards will be proposed;
Transport and visa fee included;
Availability of furnished/ equipped accommodation, secured, insured;
Electricity, water and gas costs borne by project;
Meals: taken care of by the volunteer;
Coverage / insurance and obligatory vaccinations: supported by the project.

Selection process:

Shortlisting and Interviews:

- To apply, the candidate shall send her/his application including: the Application Form online, attach the CV, a Motivation Letter and the Self-Assessment Questionnaire, to: PROJET.FORESTS.EUAV@france-volontaires.org. Please note that applications sent directly to the host organisations as well as incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Shortlisting and interviews of the candidates: from 01/09/2020 to 30/11/2020.
- In case of calendar changes, the candidate will be notified by sending organisations.

Interview Process:

- All the interviews will be done online. The interviews have the aim to explore both the competences and the motivations of the candidates;
- The candidates selected for the training will be notified at least one month before the training. The date of the notification may vary according to the number of applications received;
- The selected candidate/s will attend an online and in-presence training, which are part of the selection process;
- Please note that more than one candidate per position will attend the training;
- The final decision about the candidate to be deployed will be taken by sending and hosting organization after the training;
- For the selected candidates, a pre-departure session will be hold in France.

Expected date decision on outcome:

Final decision is due on 31/11/2020.

Timetable:

Date of training:

From 01/09/2020 to 30/11/2020

Apprenticeship Placement:

n/a

Pre-deployment preparation and induction:

November 2020

Deployment:

01/12/2020 to 01/12/2021

Post-deployment activities:

December 2021 to January 2022

Sectors:

Climate
Disaster Risk Reduction
Linking Relief, Rehabilitation And Development (Lrrd)
Livelihoods
Resilience