



SCOUTS[®]
Creating a Better World

World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout
Всемирная Организация Скаутского Движения
Organización Mundial del Movimiento Scout
المنظمة العالمية للحركة الكشفية

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Circular N°

TO: International Commissioners

Circular 24/04.09

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Dear friends

European Voluntary Service (EVS): get accredited for funding to host or send volunteers

The **European Voluntary Service (EVS)** is one of the opportunities offered by the Youth in Action (YiA) Programme of the European Commission. This possibility was also presented in Circular N°01/01.09 "*Funding events with a European or International dimension*".

The EVS is an activity that enables young people to carry out voluntary service for up to 12 months in a country other than their country of residence. It fosters solidarity among young people and is a true 'learning service'. For detailed information about the EVS please check out the Programme Guide of the YiA: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth-in-action-programme/doc443_en.htm.

Why get accredited? Existing and future EVS Projects

Some NSOs/NSAs around Europe are already accredited to EVS and are now running projects or have done so in the past. The WOSM-European Region is accredited as a co-ordinating and hosting organisation. At the moment we are still waiting for the approval of our first EVS project.

As described in **Circular N°22/04.09 "Better Reaching Out: using European Funds"**, the European Region wishes to propose a new process to better support NSO/NSAs in order to help them to identify relevant, useful and sustainable funding in the area of Reaching Out. The first step that was identified to work on this issue will be a collective EVS project coordinated by the European Regional Office. This project can be submitted only if NSO/NSAs interested are accredited. So, the earlier, the better!

If you are interested in joining this project, other projects and/or to create new ones, the European Region warmly suggests to NSOs/NSAs to get the accreditation for EVS. The accreditation doesn't imply any cost and it last three years!!!

How to take part in an EVS project?

Any NSOs/NSAs wishing to benefit from this action needs to become an EVS project promoter in order to send or host EVS volunteers or to coordinate an EVS project and must be accredited. To be accredited, a promoter must submit an *Expression of Interest* form (EI) describing their general motivation and ideas for EVS activities.

See the Commission webpage http://ec.europa.eu/youth/yia/forms/forms_yia_en.html).

This form must be submitted to the relevant bodies responsible for accreditation (see below). The same promoter may request one or more types of accreditation - as a Sending, as a Host, or as a Coordinating Organisation.

Expression of Interest forms can be submitted at any time (no deadline). However, promoters are strongly invited to submit their request within reasonable time before the submission of the EVS project application, in principle, at least 6 weeks before. This is in order to avoid the EVS project being rejected by the National or Executive YIA Agency due to the fact that some of the promoters involved in it are not accredited by the time the application is assessed.

Accreditation is carried out by:

- the **National Youth in Action Agency** of the country of the promoter, for all other project promoters located in Programme Countries
- **SALTO SEE Resource Centre** for all other project promoters located in South East Europe.

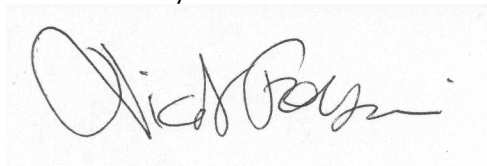
Note: The EI form must be completed in English.

Of course the European Regional Office in Brussels will be available to provide more information and offer suggestions and advice, therefore if you are interested, please don't hesitate to contact Nicolò, the Funding and Project Support Officer at npranzini@scout.org

If your NSO/NSA is already accredited to EVS please send a message to Nicolò; this will allow the Region to create an official list that could be used each time that there is the need of partners for EVS projects. Of course the list will be available as well to NSOs/NSAs that are looking for partners !!!

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicolò Pranzini', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Nicolò Pranzini
Funding and Project Support Officer