

MOBILITY PROJECT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUTH WORKERS

The main budget of this Action is allocated to support transnational activities involving organisations and participants from Programme Countries. However, around 25% of the budget available for this Action can fund international activities including organisations and participants from Programme and Partner Countries neighbouring the EU (regions 1 to 4; see section "Eligible countries" in Part A of this Guide).

In 2017, in the selection of projects, emphasis will be put on:

- reaching out to marginalised young people, promoting diversity, intercultural and inter-religious dialogue, common values of freedom, tolerance and respect of human rights as well as on projects enhancing media literacy, critical thinking and sense of initiative of young people as well as
- equipping youth workers with competences and methods needed for transferring the common fundamental values of our society particularly to the hard to reach young people and preventing violent radicalisation of young people as well.

In this regard, taking into account the critical context in Europe - and considering the fact that youth work, non-formal learning activities and volunteering can significantly contribute to address the needs of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants and/or increase awareness about this issue within local communities – particular attention will also be given to support youth mobility projects involving or focussing on the refugees/asylum seekers and migrants.

Two types of projects can be supported under this Action:

- Mobility projects for young people and youth workers that can comprise of Youth Exchanges, European Voluntary Service and/or Youth Workers activities.
- Mobility projects for young people focusing on European Voluntary Service activities for experienced EVS Coordinating Organisations.

Detailed description of each of these two types of projects is found in the two sections below.

MOBILITY PROJECTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUTH WORKERS THAT CAN COMPRISE OF YOUTH EXCHANGES, EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE AND/OR YOUTH WORKERS ACTIVITIES.

A mobility project can combine one or more of the below activities:

Mobility of young people:

▪ **Youth Exchanges:**

Youth Exchanges allow groups of young people from at least two different countries to meet and live together for up to 21 days. During a Youth Exchange, participants, supported by group leaders, jointly carry out a work programme (a mix of workshops, exercises, debates, role-plays, simulations, outdoor activities, etc.) designed and prepared by them before the Exchange. Youth Exchanges allow young people to: develop competences; become aware of socially relevant topics/thematic areas; discover new cultures, habits and life-styles, mainly through peer-learning; strengthen values like solidarity, democracy, friendship, etc. The learning process in Youth Exchanges is triggered by methods of non-formal education. The rather short duration makes the involvement of young people with fewer opportunities appropriate; as such a Youth Exchange offers an international mobility experience in the safety of a group with the possibility of having an adequate number of group leaders to take care of the participants. A Youth Exchange can also be a good setting for discussing and learning about inclusion and diversity issues. Youth Exchanges are based on a transnational cooperation between two or more participating organisations from different countries within and outside the European Union.

The following activities are not eligible for grants under Youth Exchanges: academic study trips; exchange activities which aim to make financial profit; exchange activities which can be considered as tourism; festivals; holiday travel; performance tours.

▪ **European Voluntary Service:**

This activity allows young people aged 17-30 to express their personal commitment through unpaid and full-time voluntary service for up to 12 months in another country within or outside the European Union. Young volunteers are given the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations dealing with youth information and policies, young people's



personal and socio-educational development, civic engagement, social care, inclusion of disadvantaged, environment, non-formal education programmes, ICTs and media literacy, culture and creativity, development cooperation, etc. Young people with fewer opportunities can receive additional support to enable their participation and would also be allowed to go on EVS for a shorter duration of time (from 2 weeks and up).

A project can include between 1 and 30 volunteers who can do their voluntary service either individually or in group.

Participating organisations are responsible for:

- arranging subsistence, lodging and local transports of volunteers;
- envisaging tasks and activities for volunteers that respect the qualitative principles of the European Voluntary Service, as described in the EVS Charter;
- providing to volunteers an on-going task-related, linguistic, personal and administrative support throughout the duration of the activity.

The participation in an EVS activity must be free of charge for volunteers, with the exception of a possible contribution for travel costs (if the Erasmus+ grant does not fully cover these costs) and additional expenses not linked to the implementation of the activity. The essential costs for volunteers' participation in the EVS activity are covered by the Erasmus+ grant or through other means afforded by the participating organisations.

Besides the support provided to the volunteers by the participating organisations, the National Agencies or regional SALTOS organise a Training and Evaluation Cycle⁵⁰ to be attended by each volunteer and consisting of: a) an on-arrival training for voluntary services lasting 2 months and longer; b) a mid-term evaluation, for voluntary services lasting 6 months and longer.

The following activities are not considered as a European Voluntary Service within the framework of Erasmus+: occasional, unstructured, part-time volunteering; a work placement in an enterprise; a paid job; a recreation or tourist activity; a language course; exploitation of a cheap workforce; a period of study or vocational training abroad.

Mobility of youth workers:

▪ Youth workers' training and networking:

This activity supports the professional development of youth workers, through the implementation of activities such as transnational/international seminars, training courses, contact-making events, study visits, etc. or job shadowing/observation periods abroad in an organisation active in the youth field. All these activities are arranged by the organisations participating in the project. The participation of youth workers in such activities contributes to capacity building of their organisation and should have a clear impact on youth workers' daily work with young people. The learning outcomes should be further disseminated in the youth field.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF ORGANISATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THIS PROJECT?

Participating organisations involved in the mobility project assume the following roles and tasks:

- Coordinator of a youth mobility project: applying for the whole project on behalf of all the partner organisations.
- Sending organisation: in charge of sending young people and youth workers abroad (this includes: organising practical arrangements; preparing participants before departure; providing support to participants during all the phases of the project).
- Receiving organisation: in charge of hosting the activity, developing a programme of activities for participants in cooperation with participants and partner organisations, providing support to participants during all the phases of the project.

Young volunteers doing a European Voluntary Service lasting two months or longer are eligible to receive linguistic support. Online linguistic support is being gradually implemented in the course of the Programme. It is made available by the European Commission to eligible participants to assess their foreign language competences and to offer, where necessary, the most appropriate language learning before and/or during mobility (for more details, see Annex I of this Guide).

⁵⁰ Detailed information can be found in the document "EVS Training and Evaluation Cycle Guidelines and minimum quality standards": http://ec.europa.eu/youth/programme/mobility/documents/evs-training-evaluation-guidelines_en.pdf

WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA USED TO ASSESS THIS PROJECT?

Here below are listed the formal criteria that the mobility project must respect in order to be eligible for an Erasmus+ grant:

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

<p>Eligible activities</p>	<p>A youth mobility project must comprise one or more of the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth Exchanges; ▪ European Voluntary Service; ▪ Youth workers' training and networking.
<p>Eligible participating organisations</p>	<p>A participating organisation can be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a non-profit organisation, association, NGO; ▪ a European Youth NGO; ▪ a social enterprise; ▪ a public body at local level; ▪ a group of young people active in youth work but not necessarily in the context of a youth organisation (i.e. informal group of young people). <p>as well as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a public body at regional or national level⁵¹; ▪ an association of regions ; ▪ a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation; ▪ a profit-making body active in Corporate Social Responsibility. <p>established in a Programme Country or in a Partner Country neighbouring the EU (regions 1 to 4; see section "Eligible Countries" in Part A of this Guide).</p>
<p>Who can apply?</p>	<p>Any participating organisation or group⁵² established in a Programme Country can be the applicant. This organisation applies on behalf of all participating organisations involved in the project.</p> <p>A youth mobility project is funded in a specific way (see the section "funding rules") if the applicant is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a public body at regional or national level⁵³; ▪ an association of regions; ▪ a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation; ▪ a profit-making body active in Corporate Social Responsibility.
<p>Number and profile of participating organisations</p>	<p>A mobility activity is transnational and involves at least two participating organisations (sending and receiving organisation) from different countries. If a Youth mobility project foresees only one activity, the coordinator must also act either as sending or receiving organisation except if the activity is a European Voluntary Service. If a youth mobility project foresees more than one activity, the project coordinator can – but not necessarily has to – act as sending organisation or receiving organisation. In all cases, the coordinator cannot be an organisation from a Partner Country neighbouring the EU.</p> <p>Activities within Programme Countries: all participating organisations must be from a Programme Country.</p> <p>Activities with Partner Countries neighbouring the EU: the activity must involve at least one participating organisation from a Programme Country and one participating organisation from a Partner Country neighbouring the EU.</p>

⁵¹ In this context a public body at national or regional level is considered a public body that 1) provides services or has an administrative area of competence that covers the whole national or regional territory and b) has a monopoly, in the sense that there are no other bodies that carry out the same functions in the country or region (typical examples: Ministries, State Agencies, Regional public authorities, etc.). In this sense, schools, universities or other bodies, even if they are established by national law, are excluded from this category and qualify as public bodies at local level.

⁵² In case of an informal group, one of the members of the group who is at least 18-years old assumes the role of representative and takes responsibility on behalf of the group).

⁵³ See previous note.



Duration of project	From 3 to 24 months.
Where to apply?	To the National Agency of the country in which the applicant organisation is established.
When to apply?	Applicants have to submit their grant application by the following dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 February at 12:00 (midday Brussels time) for projects starting between 1 May and 30 September of the same year; ▪ 26 April at 12:00 (midday Brussels time) for projects starting between 1 August and 31 December of the same year; ▪ 4 October at 12:00 (midday Brussels time) for projects starting between 1 January and 31 May of the following year.
How to apply?	Please see Part C of this Guide for details on how to apply.
Other criteria	A timetable for each of the activities planned in the project must be annexed to the application form.

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR YOUTH EXCHANGES

Duration of activity	From 5 to 21 days, excluding travel time.
Venue(s) of the activity	The activity must take place in the country of one of the organisations participating in the activity.
Eligible participants	Young people aged between 13 and 30 ⁵⁴ resident in the countries of the sending and receiving organisations. Group leaders ⁵⁵ involved in the Youth Exchange must be at least 18-years old.
Number of participants and composition of national groups	Minimum 16 and maximum of 60 participants (group leader(s) not included). Minimum 4 participants per group (group leader(s) not included). Each national group must have at least one group leader.
Other criteria	In order to maintain a clear link to the country where the National Agency is based, at least one of the sending organisations or the receiving organisation in each activity must be from the country of the National Agency to which the application is submitted. Advance Planning Visit (APV): If the project foresees an APV, then the following eligibility criteria must be respected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ duration of the APV: maximum 2 days (travel days excluded); ▪ number of participants: 1 participant per group. The number of participants can be raised to 2 under the condition that the second participant is a young person taking part in the activity without having a role as a group leader or trainer.

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Accreditation	All participating organisations involved in a European Voluntary Service activity must hold a valid EVS accreditation at the relevant application deadline (for more information, please consult the EVS section of the Annex I of this Guide).
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⁵⁴ Please consider the following:

- lower age limits - participants must have reached the minimum age at the start date of the activity.
- upper age limits - participants must not be older than the indicated maximum age at the application deadline.

⁵⁵ A group leader is an adult who joins the young people participating in a Youth Exchange in order to ensure their effective learning, protection and safety.



Duration of the service	<p>Long-term EVS: From 2⁵⁶ to 12 months, excluding travel time.</p> <p>Short-term EVS: From 2 weeks to 2 months⁵⁷, excluding travel time. Condition: short-term EVS can be organised for activities involving at least 10 volunteers who are doing their service together (group service) or where there is an equal participation or majority of young people with fewer opportunities in the activity.</p>
Venue(s) of the service	<p>A volunteer from a Programme Country must carry out her/his service in another Programme Country or in a Partner Country neighbouring the EU.</p> <p>A volunteer from a Partner Country neighbouring the EU must carry out her/his service in a Programme Country.</p>
Eligible participants	<p>Young people aged between 17 and 30⁵⁸, resident in the country of their sending organisation.</p> <p>A volunteer can take part in only one European Voluntary Service⁵⁹. Exception: volunteers who carried out a short-term EVS can take part in an additional European Voluntary Service.</p>
Number of participants	<p>Maximum 30 volunteers for the whole project.</p>
Other criteria	<p>In order to maintain a clear link to the country where the National Agency is based, at least one of the sending organisations or the receiving organisation in each activity must be from the country of the National Agency to which the application is submitted.</p> <p>Advance Planning Visit (APV): only for EVS activities involving young people with fewer opportunities.</p> <p>If the project foresees an APV, then the following eligibility criteria must be respected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ duration of the APV: maximum 2 days (travel days excluded); ▪ number of participants: 1 participant per Sending Organisation. The number of participants can be raised provided that all additional participants are volunteers with fewer opportunities taking part in the activity.

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR MOBILITY OF YOUTH WORKERS

Duration of activity	<p>From 2 days to 2 months, excluding travel time.</p> <p>The minimum 2 days must be consecutive.</p>
Venue(s) of the activity	<p>The activity must take place in the country of one of the organisations participating in the activity.</p>
Eligible participants	<p>No age limits. Participants, with the exception of trainers and facilitators, must be resident in the country of their sending or receiving organisation.</p>
Number of participants	<p>Up to 50 participants (including, where relevant, trainers and facilitators) in each activity planned by the project.</p>
Other criteria	<p>In order to maintain a clear link to the country where the National Agency is based, at least one of the sending organisations or the receiving organisation in each activity must be from the country of the National Agency to which the application is submitted</p>

Applicant organisations will be assessed against the relevant **exclusion and selection criteria**. For more information please consult Part C of this Guide.

AWARD CRITERIA

Projects will be assessed against the following criteria:

⁵⁶ Long-term EVS is as from 60 days, excluding travel days..

⁵⁷ Short-term EVS is up to 59 days, excluding travel days.

⁵⁸ See note above on age limits.

⁵⁹ This applies for EVS under Erasmus+ and previous programmes.



<p>Relevance of the project (maximum 30 points)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The relevance of the proposal to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the objectives of the Action (see section "What are the aims of a mobility project"): - the needs and objectives of the participating organisations and of the individual participants. ▪ The extent to which the proposal is suitable of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reaching out to young people with fewer opportunities including refugees, asylum seekers and migrants; - promoting diversity, intercultural and inter-religious dialogue, common values of freedom, tolerance and respect of human rights as well as on projects enhancing media literacy, critical thinking and sense of initiative of young people; - equipping youth workers with competences and methods needed for transferring the common fundamental values of our society particularly to the hard to reach young people and preventing violent radicalisation of young people. ▪ The extent to which the proposal is suitable of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - producing high-quality learning outcomes for participants; - reinforcing the capacities and international scope of the participating organisations.
<p>Quality of the project design and implementation (maximum 40 points)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The clarity, completeness and quality of all the phases of the project proposal (preparation, implementation of mobility activities and follow-up); ▪ The consistency between project objectives and activities proposed; ▪ The quality of the practical arrangements, management and support modalities; ▪ The quality of the preparation provided to participants; ▪ The quality of the non-formal learning participative methods proposed and active involvement of young people at all levels of the project; ▪ The quality of arrangements for the recognition and validation of participants' learning outcomes, as well as the consistent use of European transparency and recognition tools; ▪ The appropriateness of measures for selecting and/or involving participants in the mobility activities; ▪ In case of activities with Partner Countries neighbouring the EU, the balanced representation of organisations from Programme and Partner Countries; • The quality of cooperation and communication between the participating organisations, as well as with other relevant stakeholders.
<p>Impact and dissemination (maximum 30 points)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The quality of measures for evaluating the outcomes of the project. ▪ The potential impact of the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - on participants and participating organisations during and after the project lifetime; - outside the organisations and individuals directly participating in the project, at local, regional, national and/or European levels. ▪ The appropriateness and quality of measures aimed at disseminating the outcomes of the project within and outside the participating organisations.

To be considered for funding, proposals must score at least 60 points. Furthermore, they must score at least half of the maximum points in each of the categories of award criteria mentioned above (i.e. minimum 15 points for the categories "relevance of the project" and "impact and dissemination"; 20 points for the category "quality of the project design and implementation").