

## Invitation

European Partner Finding Seminar,  
13 and 14 December 2012, Bornheim/Bonn

# Volunteering and voluntary services in Europe

Creating more opportunities for cross-border volunteering  
for young people



## Background

Crossing the border as a volunteer has a number of positive effects: increase of intercultural competence, self-efficacy, sense of social responsibility and entrepreneurship .... Organisations who are active in transnational networks, who host and/or send volunteers (from) abroad experience positive organisational development and strengthen the organisations' competences in diversity management and European citizenship. However, for volunteer organisations in several countries the possibilities

to send/host cross-border volunteers are limited. One of the accessible instruments European-wide is the European Voluntary Service (EVS). The focus of this partner finding seminar lays on possibilities beyond the EVS: What other national voluntary services are open for volunteers from other (European) countries, which funding instruments can be used to send or host a higher number of volunteers than provided by the limited budget of the EVS?

## Aims

The seminar aims at:

- Offering a forum for cross-border volunteering projects and cooperations for the participating organisations and by this increase the numbers of placements and possibilities for cross-border volunteering
- Contributing to concrete agreements between partners about sending/hosting of volunteers
- Presenting the connection between the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy and the further opening of existing possibilities for cross-border volunteering

## Target group

The contact making seminar is the follow-up of the international high-level seminar "Creating new opportunities for cross-border volunteering of young people" in September 2011 in Berlin. The seminar aims at the participation of volunteering organisations and projects which host and/or send young volunteers across the

border or which would like to start this. Countries with national volunteer services are in the focus as well as the countries which participated in the Berlin conference 2011 (Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Russia, Spain, United Kingdom).



## Registration and Costs

The conference will be held in English.

Please apply through the online application on [www.jugendfuereuropa.de/fortbildung/fortbildungskalendar/874/application](http://www.jugendfuereuropa.de/fortbildung/fortbildungskalendar/874/application). Organisations need to fill in the pre-questionnaire for a successful application.

The expenses for accommodation, boarding and participation in the conference will be covered by JUGEND für Europa. Travelling expenses have to be paid by the participants themselves.

If you have any question regarding the conference please contact:

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## Programme

### Day 1

#### 14.00 | Welcome

by the **Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ)**

#### 14.15 | Welcome

by **JUGEND für Europa, National Agency for the YOUTH in Action programme**; introducing the schedule of the seminar

#### 14.30 | Getting to know each other

#### 15.30 | Market of organisations

Presenting the activities, volunteering (duration, type of volunteering) and experiences with cross-border volunteering so far by the participating organisations

#### 18.00 | Visit of a volunteer project in Cologne

#### 20.00 | Dinner out in Cologne

### Day 2

#### 9.00 | Introducing the schedule of the day

#### 9.15 | Funding possibilities:

Taking a look at the **Service Civique** (FR), **Bundesfreiwilligendienst** (DE), and other ways to fund cross-border volunteering

#### 10.00 | Matching partners

Identifying potential partners for hosting/sending of volunteers from other countries, common agreements, support possibilities for monitoring and funding of cross-border cooperation

#### 12.00 | Closing sessions, goodbye by the BMFSFJ

#### 13.00 | Lunch

## Organiser

This European Partner Finding Seminar is an activity organised by the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and JUGEND für Europa.



Supported by

