



## Call for partners!

### **S.P.S. EVS - Share best Practices for the Support of EVS volunteers**

Multi-activity KA1 project involving EVS volunteers' coordination and a Seminar on EVS volunteers training and support

#### **ABOUT US:**

P.E.CO. – Progetti Europei di Cooperazione is an association born in June 2013 to promote opportunities of mobility and inter-cultural learning for youngsters from Genoa and its region.

The association works with local NGOs and institutions in order to involve local organisations and local communities in international projects . This network helps us to involve local participants, when possible with fewer opportunities.

Our activities are youth exchanges, training courses, and sending Italian youngsters abroad, thanks to the European Voluntary Service programme: we have been accredited as sending and coordinating organization for EVS in July 2014 and we've joined RIVE, Rete Italiana Volontariato Europeo, the Italian Network formed by 9 EVS sending organizations.

Since last year, thank to the experience of our staff in project management, trainings and youth projects, we've started to guide local and international NGOs in the Erasmus+ field, coordinating for them EVS projects, training courses and youth exchanges.

Our goal consists in stimulating the personal growth of youngsters, by raising their sense of citizenship, an active participation inside society and a real awareness about their role as European citizens.



**WHAT:** Seminar on sharing best practices and common challenges within EVS volunteers' training and support

**WHO:** Coordinating and Hosting EVS organizations. One or two representatives per partner (EVS Coordinator or mentor/person in charge of the EVS volunteers' support) are expected to take part in this Seminar in order to share their experience.

**WHEN:** 7-13 march 2017

**WHERE:** Genova, Italy

## **SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT**

The project idea stems from P.E.CO.'s experience within the coordination of EVS volunteers both in Genova, where we are located, and in other places in Italy.

In particular, given our relatively short experience on the field, we aim at involving organizations with good experience in EVS hosting and coordination to share best practices and learn from each other's experience.

The project stems from the need to improve the quality of the personal and practical support provided to EVS volunteers, with a special emphasis on the main challenges that, as coordinating and hosting organizations, we are facing when hosting volunteers. The main topic of this seminar, indeed, revolves around EVS volunteers' support, both on a personal level (eg. mentoring, monitoring of learning process, conflict management) and in terms of training, accommodation, insurance, language support, coexistence with other volunteers and so on. Furthermore, we foreseen a focus on the hosting and coordination of EVS volunteers facing fewer opportunities.



We aim at sharing best practices and main challenges on volunteers' training and support in order to develop a set of guidelines based on respective experiences in order to improve our work with EVS volunteers and to provide hints to other organizations who face the same challenges.

The seminars wants also to be the chance to build future partnerships or to reinforce existing cooperation among participant organizations.

## **OBJECTIVES:**

- To share common challenges within EVS volunteers preparation and support
- To share best practices in EVS volunteers' training and support
- To develop a set of guidelines for youth workers involved in EVS volunteers' hosting and coordination
- To meet partners and potential partners active in EVS projects and build future partnerships

## **WHAT DO WE EXPECT FROM OUR PARTNERS:**

- Be active in EVS hosting/coordinating for at least two years
- Be interested in improving quality standards for EVS projects, especially volunteers' support
- Have the capacity to guide and support volunteers and to monitor and evaluate their learning process for the whole duration of the EVS project
- Have some experience/interest in hosting/coordinating volunteers facing fewer opportunities
- Be able to work in English
- Be able to have at least one youth worker from the organisation taking part in the Seminar

**MONEY:** The project covers 100% of food and accommodation and the travel costs until your budget travel limit according to Erasmus+ Distance calculator.



**Share best Practices for the Support of EVS volunteers - SPS EVS Seminar**

	day	day	day	day	day	day	day
	07/03/2016	08/03/2016	09/03/2016	10/03/2016	11/03/2016	12/03/2016	13/03/2016
8:00 - 9:00		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:00 - 11:00	Arrivals	Get to know each others' - week program and objectives - presentation of the Seminar	Preparation of the volunteers: task related preparation and intercultural preparation	Personal support of the volunteers: Mentoring and coordinator roles	Hosting and management of volunteers with fewer opportunities	Output definition: guidelines on EVS volunteers' support	Departures
11:00 - 11:30		Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	
11:30 - 13:30		Get to know each others' - fears expectations contributions	Risk assesement	Mentoring and coordination - conflict management and intercultural shock	Mentoring and monitoring of ,volunteers competences	slow dating on future projects	
13:30 - 15:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
15:00 - 17:00		Team Building	Accomodation and coexistence among volunteers	Orienteering and inclusion in local community	Local conference/event preparation	slow dating on future projects	
17:00 - 17:15		Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	
17:15 - 19:15		EVS support within Erasmus+	Practical support: insurance and language support	ongoing monitoring of the volunteers and evaluation phase	Local conference/event	FINAL EVALUATION and FOLLOW UP	
		Daily evaluation	Daily evaluation	Daily evaluation	Dinner out		
19:30 - 21:00		Dinner	Dinner	Dinner		Dinner	Dinner
21:00 - 22:00		Welcome evening	Partners' presentation	Intercultural evening	FREE NIGHT		Farewell party