

EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

The EVS part of the global project of our organization is the logical continuation of our activity development.

We wanted to add an intercultural value to our project all year long and not only punctually (like with workcamps, youth exchanges or trainings).

General objectives for us :

- Valorize the results of the action with an intercultural dimension organized
- Promote them nearby youth
- Offer an occasion to get involved in the projects of the organization and enhance his/her culture
- Allow the volunteers to realize their mission in an intercultural atmosphere

Objectives of the volunteer:

- Learn French
- Animate meetings
- Create communication support
- Get introduced to the project methodology
- Be involved in the projects of an organization, especially in the workcamps organization and animation



INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMPS



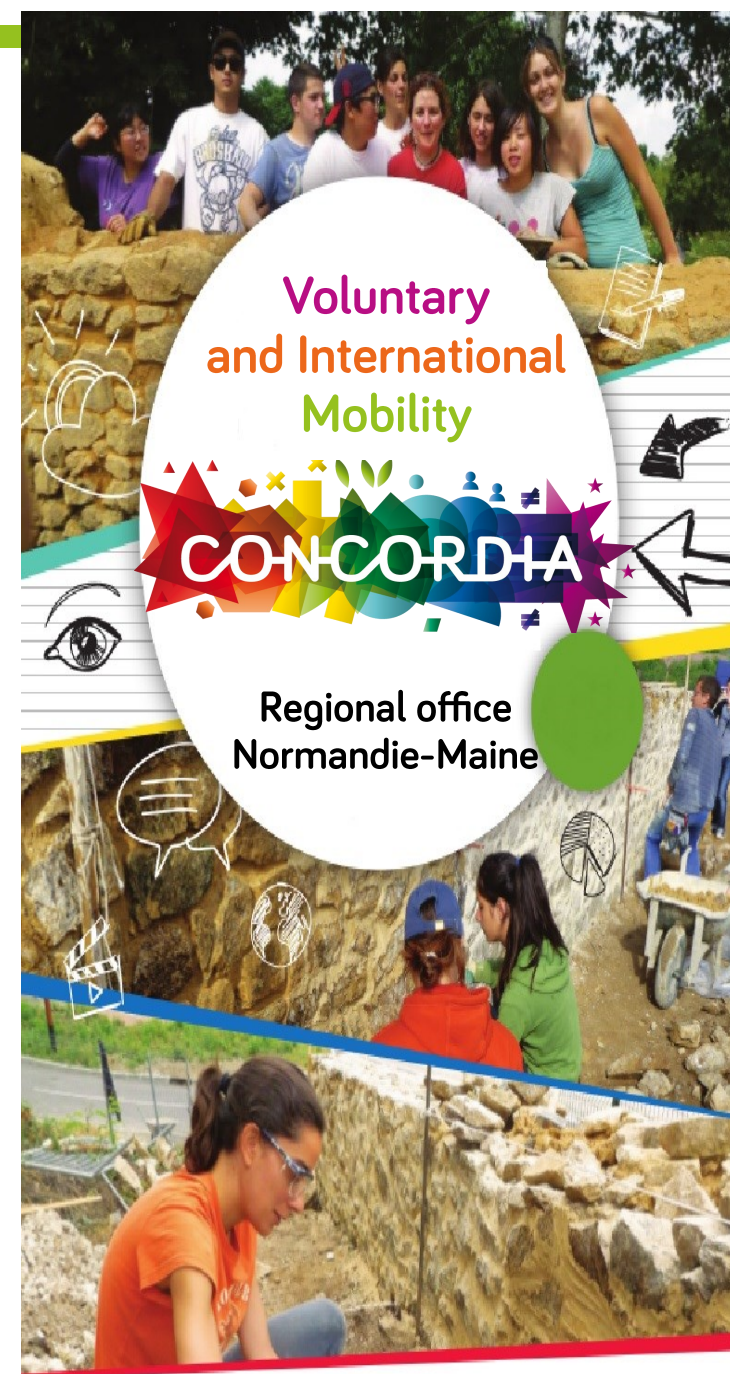
Workcamps are a **perfect tool to reach these goals:**

Participating in a workcamp means working voluntarily during 2 or 3 weeks at a project of a common utility, such as environment, archaeology, culture, patrimony. It is a form of informal education, but also an opportunity to discover a new region and its inhabitants. The participants get to know the real life of a small community, as well as the culture and customs of other volunteers, who come from all around the world.

Every year Concordia gives the opportunity to more than 700 French youths to get involved in its partner projects abroad or in its projects in France, and hosts around 800 foreign volunteers on its own workcamps in France.

CONCORDIA

6 rue de Pologne
72100 LE MANS - FRANCE
0033 2 43 75 23 03 — 0033 6 77 66 37 41
dr.normandie-maine@concordia.fr
www.concordia.fr



ENSEMBLE, AILLEURS, AUTREMENT...

PRESENTATION

Concordia is a French national non-governmental and non-profit making organisation, founded in 1950 by English, German and French youngsters. Their aim was to enhance the values of tolerance and peace after the 2nd world war by organising international workcamps of young volunteers.

The **main objectives** of Concordia are the following:

- **Education** i-e helping young people to grow up by acquisition of collective life.
- **Culture** i-e favouring the youth exchanges on an international level, always emphasizing the values of peace, friendship and mutual respect.
- **Social** i-e taking part in concrete actions of solidarity, as well as supporting a civic attitude
- **Social economy** i-e contributing to realisation of local development, in favour of the environment, patrimony, tourism and socio-educational animation.

CONCORDIA NORMANDIE-MAINE

Our work is part of a urban and rural social development policy aiming to support the actions of the different local stakeholders working on the enlargement of the local territory towards the outside world thereby allowing to create a dynamic in which youth and inhabitants are fully involved.

We conduct young people in different spaces of commitment that go from the « initiation » on short-term sites, to the involvement on long-term volunteering.

That's in this context that the delegation work with different local stakeholder of the département de la Sarthe and create along with the projects, partnership with various organizations. The goal is to allow a complementarity of different skills existing in the département, to the benefits of the population, youth and elders.

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS



Concordia is a member of 2 major **international networks** and one national which support voluntary service:

- The **Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations** which is a network of 49 national organisations in 28 countries and
- The **Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS)** which is an organisation founded under the aegis of UNESCO in 1948 and coordinates about 300 organisations worldwide.
- The national association **Cotravaux** (Coordination of French Voluntary Work organisations).



ACTIONS

The activities of the association continue throughout the year with

- weekend or short holiday workcamps,
- mid and long term voluntary service,
- inclusion of young people with difficulties,
- study and activity groups (North-South, International),
- Activities in Erasmus + program (youth exchange, training course...),
- sending and hosting volunteers of European Voluntary Service.
- Concordia also organises various trainings throughout the year.

Those who wish to be even more involved in Concordia's activities can be elected at the management committee; Concordia is a democratic organisation, led by dynamic and motivated volunteers as well as young people, and supported by paid staff. Today the management committee counts 15 members, there are 1500 subscribers, 25 employees and 200 activities leaders.

The Paris head office supports the 9 regional offices activities i-e the Auvergne, Aquitaine, Brittany, Ile-de-France, Midi-Pyrenees, Normandy, Picardy, Rhône-Alpes and South-East of France.

Concordia has the approval of the French Ministry of Youth and Sport and the Ministry of the Environment.

