

Info pack LeuvenFietst / Velo
contact person: Laurent Dupon
laurent.dupon@gmail.com

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LeuvenFietst
wij trappen door!

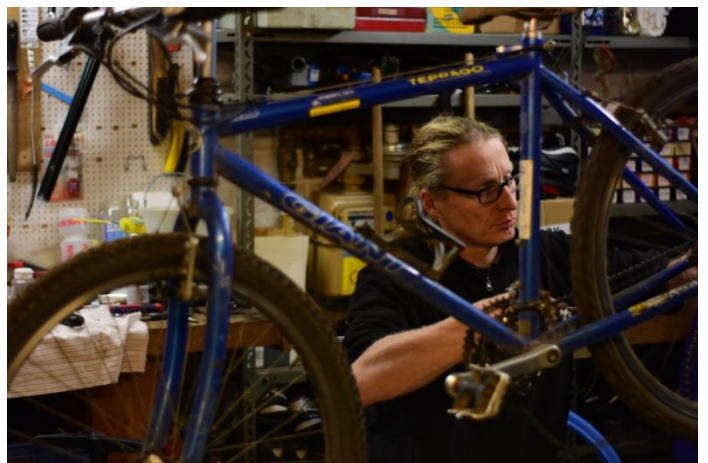
ESC volunteering

Mountain bike trainer/mechanic.

Our organisations

LeuvenFietst

LeuvenFietst is a non-profit organisation engaged in many different aspects of biking. We run a MTB club with +/- 250 members. We give recreational bike training to youngsters twice a week. We organise bike ateliers at partner organisations. We also have bike initiations for schools, youth clubs, refugees and other focus groups on offer. We do bike camps, weekends and events at different locations. Five times a year we have our "Bike Repair Café" where volunteers come together to repair (old) bikes, eat and drink something and have a nice evening talking about bikes and bike projects.



Velo

Velo offers training and / or work experience for people with a large distance to the labor market. The attention goes to both the technical training and the attitude to work. A maximum of effort is put into counseling (on the work floor and on a project-by-project basis) with achievable objectives and an acceleration of coaching. The guidance focuses on the workplace, but also has an eye for the preconditions, guidance for sustainable employment and aftercare after the period at VELO.



In Vlaams-Brabant, Velo is working on basic mobility by bicycle for everyone. Bicycle rental and repair are the core activities here. The recycling of used bicycles, the pursuit of quality and a variety of bicycle offerings are the starting points. The ecological added value that is being sought here is also extended to other aspects within the operation.

Velo's policy responds as much as possible to social needs and opportunities. Velo characterizes active entrepreneurship with the greatest possible financial independence as a company. New market niches are explored on the basis of the added value that they can offer to employees and the company. The non-profit attitude makes it possible to work from a collegial attitude towards social economy companies and the bicycle trade.

The volunteer(s)

We welcome warm and caring personalities, with a strong sense of responsibility and of course a heart for biking. Bike guides should also have a good physical condition, an interest for bike mechanics and be able to create a smooth connection with youngsters. A healthy life style which includes no smoking is expected. And of course we'd also like the volunteer to be creative, social, entertaining, active, participating, multilingual, taking initiative, funny, ... but don't be scared not to possess all of these qualities. Most important is doing your best and be willing to learn and improve, although an (elementary) knowledge of bike mechanics is of course a pro.

The ESC project

tasks & attitude

The mayor tasks the volunteer will fulfill are:

at LeuvenFietst (+/- 40-60%):

- Preparing and guiding (mountain) bike trips, together with the coordinator and other volunteers
- Repair bikes
- Guiding bike initiations at schools and youth organisations
- Giving (mountain) bike training
- Filming, photographing and communicating about bike events and reporting about it (news letters & social media)
- Communication and deliberation with fellow workers and partners
- Keeping track of administration, stock maintenance, logistics (minor tasks)
- Taking care of tools & equipment
- Designing & maintaining bike tracks/small bike parks



at VELO (the other 40-60%):

- Collaborate with people from disadvantaged groups in the context of various bicycle assembly and bicycle repair activities
- Logistical and technical support.
- Developing social contacts so that target group employees feel supported and motivated in their activities
- A customer-friendly attitude in relation to users of the VELO bicycle work spaces.

coaching

The organisation will coach and support the volunteer.

The following persons will take care about this:

- the manager for the project
- the coordinator of the project
- a job coach for task specific support
- a mentor for non-task specific support
- a contact for confidential issues
- a contact for physical and health issues

accommodation

Accommodation will be provided in one of four options: a host family, the residence of one of our partner organisations, the housing service of the KULeuven (partner of Velo) or an international or cultural housing project of the city of Leuven. At this point in time we are investigating the different options and deliberate with the city of Leuven and with partner organisations. Once we have more concrete information about the outcome we will communicate the details.

living together

We are looking for two (and later more) volunteers in this project. We will submit other projects with ECS volunteers and cooperate with partner organisations that have ESC projects. We will set up a network so volunteers can meet each other and do activities together. The volunteer will be part of a diverse crew of people: youngsters, social workers, local and international volunteers, ... Meeting people, learn to work and live with them is part of the project.



Leuven & surroundings



Leuven has a lot of assets: its ancient heritage, the old and famous university, Gothic architecture, Stella Artois brewery, the lively and innovative atmosphere and of course a lot of young people. You will find much more information on the internet, what is important for the project: its location is at the edge of the largest forest of Flanders. Furthermore it's surrounded by (small) hills, a perfect place for mountain biking.



Complementary project activities

Bike excursion to the Ardennes

One of your duties will be to organise such an excursion



Family tandem ride

Every year we make a tandem ride with youngsters and their parents. It's a day excursion in the surroundings of Leuven and ends with a BBQ.



MTB ride with refugees, youth groups, other target groups

LeuvenFietst gives attention to different groups in society. There is a wide diversity in the intensity of the activities and the background of the clients.



Partner organisations

City of Leuven

LeuvenFietst participates in the following initiatives of the city of Leuven:

Tofsportkampen



Leuvenfietst organises every year three times a 5 day bike camp in collaboration with Tofsport Leuven, the sports department of the city of Leuven. We have an average of 30 participants and 6 trainers.

SNS



Sports after school. Youngsters can try sports in an associated sports club for free when they buy this pass (€45 for one year)

UiTPas



Sports and culture pass: collect points when doing an activity and get this way a reduction for another.

Bijt in je vrije tijd



Bite in your free time: introduction to cultural and sports clubs for people who do not easily find their way to these organisations.

Buurtsport

Is joining a sports club a major step? Then you can go to Buurtsport. They organise low-level and easy-going sports and games, close to home. Focus lies on working with disadvantaged groups and in deprived areas. Leuvenfietst collaborates with Buurtsport when they want to make a challenging bike trip.

Grants

The city supports the local sport clubs so each year we receive a grant – provided we keep the quality standards high.

Cycling Vlaanderen

LeuvenFietst is supported by Cycling Vlaanderen, the Flemish federation of cyclists. Our club was rewarded with the silver quality label in 2019. With your help we will go for the gold label in 2020!



Youth Care

LeuvenFietst has a partnership and conducts a number of projects with the following Youth Care organisations:



De Wissel

De Wissel aligns a number of initiatives, both within and outside the Youth Care. They have a long standing experience with EVS/ESC, every year they host +/- 4 international volunteers. Centrum Molenmoes is one of their initiatives: a day care centre at the country side with lots of different activities.



ter Wende - Espero

Ter Wende - Espero offers creative care, tailor-made for young people and families with severe psychosocial and relational difficulties. The support is given on two campuses, with a variety of methods.



Sporen

Sporen vzw is a non-profit organization for Youth Care, which operates mainly in the regions of Leuven and Halle Vilvoorde. They offer tailored solutions to the young person with a request for - or emergency - assistance, via different methods.



Timing

Our project is approved and could start between 01/03/2020 and 31/05/2020 duration year for two volunteers. => We can be flexible about the start and duration, depending on the experience of the candidates. Because of the corona crisis the earliest starting date has been postponed to 01/09/2020.

Miscellaneous

Weather / clothing

Be prepared for all kind of weather. Bring outdoor clothes since we do activities outdoors (warm clothes, rain jacket, warm shoes). Good walking shoes and bike clothes. If you don't have all of this, no problem, we can provide you excellent bike clothing from the club.

Games

Bring some board or card games specific for your country (or tell us in advance if the game is too spacious to bring, maybe we can find it also in Belgium). We like to learn new and original games.

Addresses – Important contacts

A list will be provided on arrival.

Finally ...

This is the first time we submit a project with our organisation. Although we have experience in collaborating with EVS projects from our partners, managing a project ourselves is new. So we ask for your understanding if not everything is clear and sorted out yet. Feel free to ask more information, but be realistic about our possibilities to respond. We will only reply to motivated candidates that match with the described profile.