



EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS GUIDE

Corrigendum to the 2021 European Solidarity Corps Guide

In case of discrepancy between language versions, the English text will prevail.



CORRIGENDUM TO THE 2021 EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS GUIDE

The Corrigendum comprises changes related to:

- partner countries in the following chapters:
 - Volunteering projects: What are the eligibility criteria for volunteering activities
 - Volunteering teams in high priority areas: What are the criteria used to assess projects?
 - Quality label: What are the criteria to assess the Quality Label?
 - Support to learning: Training and Evaluation Cycle
 - Other important features: visa and residence permits

In all above mentioned cases, a reference to the partner countries neighbouring the EU has been deleted attributing the context to all partner countries - both those that are neighbouring the EU and EFTA countries (Norway).

All the changes above are reflected in the version 2 of the 2019 European Solidarity Corps Guide, available on the European Solidarity Corps portal.

PAGES 22 AND 23

VOLUNTEERING PROJECTS: WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES

The phrase “neighbouring the EU” and the word “neighbouring” have been deleted.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES?

Eligible participating organisations	<p>Any organisation legally established in a programme country or a partner country neighbouring the EU that holds a valid volunteering Quality Label or Erasmus+ volunteering accreditation²⁰.</p> <p>Participating organisations must hold a valid volunteering Quality Label or an Erasmus+ volunteering accreditation at the latest at the start of the activities and during the entire duration of the activities²¹.</p>
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Venue	Individual Volunteering	Activities have to take place in a host organisation or one of its locations in the country of a participating organisation. A volunteer from a programme country must carry out the activity in a programme country or in a partner country neighbouring the EU . A volunteer from a partner country neighbouring the EU must carry out the activity in a programme country.
	Volunteering Teams	Activities have to take place in the country of a participating organisation.
	Preparatory Visits	Preparatory Visits must take place at the venue of the main activity

Footnote 20

The obligation to be established in a programme country or a partner country ~~neighbouring the EU~~ does not apply to international organisations.

Eligible participants	Individual Volunteering Volunteering Teams	<p>Young people between 18 and 30 years²⁴ who are legally residing in a programme country or in a neighbouring partner country and have registered in the European Solidarity Corps Portal.</p> <p>A volunteer can take part in only one Solidarity Corps individual volunteering activity. Volunteers who have taken part in an Erasmus+ volunteering activity or a European Voluntary Service (EVS) are not eligible.</p> <p>A volunteer can take part in more than one Solidarity Corps volunteering teams activity.</p> <p>Exceptions:</p> <p>In duly justified cases, volunteers who carried out an Erasmus+ volunteering activity, an EVS or a European Solidarity Corps individual volunteering activity lasting up to 2 months²⁵ can take part in one additional European Solidarity Corps individual volunteering activity, cross-border. The reverse is not possible. In such cases, the total amount of time must not exceed 14 months. Please refer to Annex II for more details.</p>
	Preparatory Visits	Representatives of the participating organisations and volunteers with fewer opportunities who will take part in the main activity.

PAGES 32 AND 33

VOLUNTEERING TEAMS IN HIGH PRIORITY AREAS: WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA USED TO ASSESS PROJECTS?

The phrase “neighbouring the EU” has been deleted.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Eligible participating organisations	Any organisation legally established ³⁰ in a programme country or a partner country neighbouring the EU that holds a valid volunteering Quality Label or Erasmus+ volunteering accreditation. Participating organisations must hold a valid volunteering Quality Label or Erasmus+ volunteering accreditation at the latest at the start of the activities they are involved in and during the entire duration of the activities ³¹ .
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Footnote 30

The obligation to be established in a programme country or a partner country ~~neighbouring the EU~~ does not apply to international organisations.

Venue of activities	Activities have to take place in the country of one of the participating organisations except in duly justified cases, related to the objectives of the call. The activities have to take place in a programme country or a partner country neighbouring the EU .
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ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR VOLUNTEERING TEAMS ACTIVITIES

Duration of activity	2 weeks to 2 months ³⁵ , excluding travel time.
Eligible participants	Young people between 18 and 30 years ³⁶ who are legally residing in a programme country or in a partner country neighbouring the EU and have registered in the European Solidarity Corps Portal.

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QUALITY LABEL: WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA TO ASSESS THE QUALITY LABEL?

The word “neighbouring” and the phrase “neighbouring the EU” have been deleted.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE QUALITY LABEL

Eligible organisations	Quality Label - any public or private entity, whether non-profit or profit making, local, regional, national or international, legally established in a programme country or a neighbouring partner country ⁴⁰ .
	Quality Label for lead organisations - any public or private entity, whether non-profit or profit making, local, regional, national or international that has been legally established in a programme country for at least one year ⁴¹ .
	A Quality Label application should only refer to the entirety of an organisation with its departments and/or branches in general terms ⁴² . Groups of young people are not eligible.

Footnote 40

The obligation to be established in a programme country or a partner country **neighbouring the EU** does not apply to International organisations.

Where to apply?	To the National Agency of the country in which the applicant organisation is established ⁴³ for organisations established in a programme country.
	International organisations that are not established in a programme country may apply at any National Agency.
	To the relevant SALTO for organisations established in a neighbouring partner country: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ SALTO South East Europe for organisations established in Western Balkans countries;▪ SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus for organisations established in Eastern Partnership countries, the territory of Russia as recognised by international law and Norway;▪ SALTO EuroMed for organisations established in Southern Mediterranean.

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SUPPORT TO LEARNING: TRAINING AND EVALUATION CYCLE

The phrase “neighbouring the EU” has been deleted.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION CYCLE FOR ORGANISATIONS – HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Training and Evaluation Cycle for organisations consists of the following:

- training for organisations having been awarded recently the Quality Label;
- an annual event for organisations holding the Quality Label.

National Agencies are responsible for organising such trainings for all organisations holding a Quality Label in their country. For organisations in partner countries ~~neighbouring the EU~~, the relevant SALTOS are the ones in charge. NAs/SALTOS may decide not to organise such trainings if other instruments are in place to ensure monitoring and quality implementation.

National Agencies / SALTOS can opt to delegate all or some of the sessions to subcontractors. However, the NAs/SALTOS should remain involved in the sessions as much as possible and keep regular contact with the trainers.

Organisations holding a Quality Label are recommended to attend these sessions.

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OTHER IMPORTANT FEATURES: VISA AND RESIDENCE PERMITS

The word “neighbouring” has been deleted.

VISA AND RESIDENCE PERMITS

Participants in European Solidarity Corps projects may need to obtain a visa for staying abroad in or coming from a ~~neighbouring~~ Partner Country hosting the activity. It is a responsibility of all the participating organisations to ensure that the authorisations required (short or long-term stay visas or residence permits) are in order before the planned activity takes place. It is strongly recommended that the authorisations are requested from the competent authorities well in advance, since the process may take several weeks. National Agencies and the Executive Agency may give further advice and support concerning visas, residence permits, social security, etc. The EU Immigration Portal contains general information on visa and residence permits, for both short-term and long-term stays: https://ec.europa.eu/immigration/node_en.