



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**

**QUALITY
LABEL**



**Your organisation's first step
towards new opportunities**

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Ready to **increase** your organisation's
capacity to bring positive change?



Looking for **innovative ways of**
engaging with new target groups?



Willing to **respond better** to **social,**
linguistic and cultural diversity?



Your organisation's gateway to the European Solidarity Corps

Organisations wishing to apply for European Solidarity Corps funding must have a certification called the Quality Label. This includes signing up to the European Solidarity Corps Charter and following its principles.

The European Solidarity Corps is a European Union initiative, which funds opportunities for young people to volunteer or work in projects, in their own country or abroad, that benefit communities and people around Europe.

Give young people the opportunity to develop their potential, while bringing fresh and inspiring ideas to your organisation. Activities can take place in the UK or across Europe, and involve volunteering or work experience.

Why become a Quality Label holder?

The Quality Label is designed to ensure consistently high standards in European Solidarity Corps' activities and to help organisations find partners. It is an organisation's entry ticket to the programme, although the certification does not automatically lead to a project grant.

It gives organisations access to a database, which showcases the profiles of hundreds of organisations and more than 201,000 proactive young people across Europe.

The certification is a pre-requisite for participation in two of the actions of the initiative (Volunteering, and Traineeships and Jobs).

Who can apply?

Any organisation, from small NGOs working in a local community to multinational companies, can become a Quality Label holder and take part in the European Solidarity Corps, with projects for young people aged 18 to 30 years old.



Global Ecovillage Network Scotland volunteers



**‘Through their creativity,
and different opinions and
experiences, the participants help
the whole organisation to think
outside the box. Their work effort
allows us to move the project
forward’.**

Esther Hirsh,
Office Manager, Global Ecovillage Network Scotland

Which types of projects?

Social action is at the core of the European Solidarity Corps. Your organisation could get funding to run projects related to sustainability, youth empowerment or helping a community, and much more.

Your organisation can apply for different scopes and roles of Quality Label, or a combination, depending on the activities you would like to carry out:

- Volunteering - Supporting and/or host role
- Traineeships
- Jobs

Volunteering

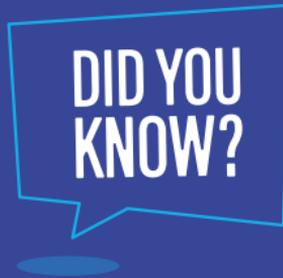
Volunteers can get involved in the daily work of an organisation in the form of community-level projects, in the UK or abroad, and for different lengths of time. There are individual placements as well as volunteering teams, for groups of 10-40 young people from at least two different countries.

Organisations can have a host role and/or a supporting role, the latter playing an important part in selecting participants and providing adequate preparation before their departure.

If your organisation is already accredited under Erasmus+ for the European Voluntary Service (EVS) or Erasmus+ volunteering, you do not need to apply for this specific type of Quality Label.

It gives you automatic access to the Placement Administration and Support System (PASS), where you can search for partner organisations, promote your projects and find young people interested in solidarity opportunities.





Quality Label holders can apply for funding to contribute to project management costs and for participants to get online linguistic support, training and mentoring. Costs for their travel to and from the project venue are provided.

Traineeships and Jobs

These types of activities help UK organisations to widen their impact, offering a meaningful experience for proactive young people. They aim to facilitate a young person's employability and transition into the labour market, whilst also contributing to addressing important societal challenges.

There is no minimum number of organisations involved in a project – that means a single organisation holding the relevant Quality Label can apply for funding.



Inspiring inclusion

European Solidarity Corps projects can get additional guidance and financial support to allow involved organisations to better accommodate the needs of young people with fewer opportunities, whether the barriers are a disability, a cultural difference or the area where a participant lives.



Cinzia Savonitti (center) volunteered through the Bryson Charitable Group in Belfast

Photo: Lucia Silletta

When should you apply?

Applications for the Quality Label can be submitted at any time, and take up to eight weeks to be processed.

Since this certification is a requirement for funding applications, your organisation should complete and submit the Quality Label form well before a funding deadline to ensure eligibility for European Solidarity Corps funding.

Networking Activities

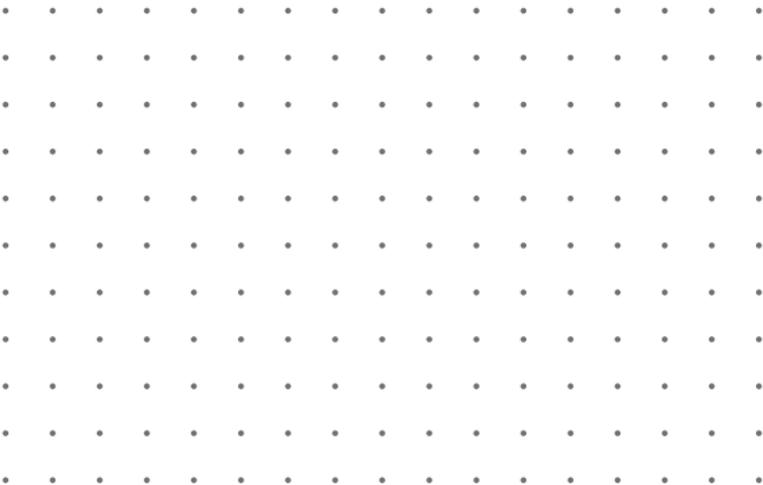
Ensure you make the most of what the European Solidarity Corps community can offer by joining our Networking Activities. You will learn from peers and experts, while receiving financial support to take part.

The activities aim to boost the capacity of organisations to offer higher quality projects to European Solidarity Corps participants. Organisations across Europe have the chance to gather and make contacts or find partners for future projects that can transform young people's lives and benefit your organisation.



What to do next?

- Go to the Quality Label section of our website
- Read the guidance available
- Decide which scope and roles you are interested in
- Apply for the Quality Label at least eight weeks before a funding deadline
- Start your journey and **#MakeADifference**



Get in touch



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Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport



Department
for Education



Erasmus+

Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport.
The Erasmus+ UK National Agency is a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK.