

pistes solidaires

And



Present

“Alps Sichuan Volunteers” Outdoor activities, European and Chinese rural tourism development

GUIDEBOOK

Pistes Solidaires,

www.pistes-solidaires.fr



pistes solidaires

Région



Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



EVS Long Term “Alps Sichuan” China/Italy/France: 6 months

Main Theme:
**Ecotourism and rural development,
Education through sport and outdoor activities,
Youth leisure and environment.**

What?

Hosting a volunteer over a long term period in your organization will be an enriching experience for many reasons.

Main Goal: to develop voluntary activities on Mountain activities and sustainable development through local development co-operations between the European Union and China. He/she will experience 6 months learning/working on the issue of sustainable rural development, ecotourism and on the development of young people's employability. The volunteers in this project will be **the link between the sending, hosting and coordinating organisations**. In this way, a **network of 8 volunteers spread around the world** involving 5 partners in 3 different countries: France, Italy and China, will be created.

Why?

There will be 8 volunteers who will work on the issue of youth, rural development, outdoor activities and ecotourism.

The project aims in fact to offer a global vision of the possibilities offered by ecotourism as:

- way to promote the economic development of rural and mountain areas
- kind of tourism which doesn't compromise the ecosystem
- activity to have fun by having healthy lifestyles



Creativity, entrepreneurship and sense of initiative will enable both personal and professional growth of the volunteers, skills that are fundamental to increase young people's possibility to be employed. At the same time, the acquired skills will be used by the volunteers to help local community by providing tools and knowledge which can promote rural/urban development. A virtuous cycle will be established by providing benefits in two ways: 1) at the end of the experience, the volunteers will come back home with skills that will be helpful during the job hunting; 2) the skills of volunteers will bring benefits to the local community giving local youth skills and employability perspectives in rural and urban areas.

Where?

8 volunteers from different background and different countries (Italy, China and France) will join an organization.

- France, Pistes Solidaires: sending 2 French volunteers
- France, CRET (training in moutaining and outdoor sport) together with local partners in outdoor field : hosting 2 volunteers (2 Chinese)
- Italy, CEI Piemonte: sending 2 Italian volunteers
- Italy, CSD-Diaconia Valdese: hosting 2 volunteers (2 Chinese)
- China, CANGO: hosting 4 volunteers (2 French, 2 Italian) and sending 4 Chinese volunteers

FRANCE: Pistes Solidaires is a proactive organization based on promoting education for sustainable development through: educational mobility, European cooperation and social and sociocultural development. We believe that young people should drive future generations forward.

Sustainable development needs to be done at a local level whilst taking into account our global world interdependency. All our projects are led by this motivation and this allows us to reinforce our partnership with organizations inside and outside Europe.

Pistes Solidaires is a non-profit organization (registered charity law 1901) committed to developing fair, sustainable and solidarity-based social, cultural, educational and economical exchanges. It supports the concepts gathered in Agenda 21, drawn up in 1992 in Rio.

Pistes Solidaires facilitates the exchange of knowledge, skills and behaviors that promote justice and equality in an intercultural society and interdependent world and aim to heighten the awareness of global issues. With this project we aim to participate in rural development.

In France the “CRET 05” (training organization specialized in mountain and outdoor sports) will participate in selecting French volunteer going to China and organizing the hosting placement for Chinese volunteers in France in cooperation with local partners willing to develop rural tourism and outdoor activities in relation with Alp Sichuan cooperation.

ITALY: CEI Piemonte is the Centre for European Initiatives of Piedmont and is a non-profit cultural organisation whose goal is the creation of a strong European culture through information, cultural exchange and training.

Since 1991 the association aims to build and raise a concrete awareness of the European Union, by circulating information, boosting social dialogue and developing formal and informal training. It is an open structure, a joint network of citizen organisations, and local authorities that come together to reflect and debate on the future of the EU.

In particular:

- carry out permanent activities for informing citizens of European matters
- develop and carry out research
- organise educational and training courses, conferences, meetings and exhibitions
- provide documentation and other services to individuals and organizations

The main areas of their projects and work are in the fields of:

Citizenship and legality

Economic and social cohesion

Local and regional development

CSD-Diaconia Valdese is a social organization. There are many international young volunteers involved in each local structure: in total, there are around 40 volunteers from European and other countries.

CSD-Diaconia Valdese has been directly accredited as a sending, hosting and coordinating EVS organization and has since managed around 10 volunteers every year (3-4 at a local level) with 2-3 long-term EVS volunteers sent abroad.

CSD-Diaconia Valdese is a member of Eurodiaconia; of the European Diaconal Year Network, which is an important umbrella organization for exchanging long-term full time volunteers in Europe and abroad. Founding member of Phiren Amencia, has a strong network of Roma and non-Roma volunteers and voluntary service organizations. The CSD–Diaconia Valdese also manages several non-profit guesthouses, which is open to people regardless of their religion, financially contributes to developing social and welfare services and solidarity projects aimed at providing assistance to young people, people with disabilities, and migrants.

CHINA: CANGO (China Association for NGO Cooperation) is a non-profit membership organization operating nationwide. CANGO was founded in 1992 and registered with the Ministry of Civil Affairs in 1993. CANGO is an NGO with Special Consultative Status within the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. CANGO also



gained the qualification of pre-tax deduction for donations by the Ministry of Finance. At the beginning of 2010, CANGO gained the honorary title "National Advanced Social Organization" by the Ministry of Civil Affairs. CANGO is an umbrella organization, with 101 member organizations in July 2012.

CANGO works in rural and community development, environmental protection, health care, NGO capacity building and civil society building. CANGO's mission is to create a strong, empowered network of Chinese NGOs.

Several national networks have been established by CANGO, China civil climate action network, enterprise-NGO cooperation network.

When?

Each EVS activity will last for **6 months from June 1st to November 30.** Please remember that on return, volunteers should participate in an evaluation meeting back in their country.

Who?

Name of Organisations and Country	Function of the organisation	Number of Volunteer	Country, Place
PISTES SOLIDAIRES, France	COORDINATOR/SENDING	2	To China
Organisation active in rural tourism , France	HOSTING	2	From China
CIE Piemonte, Italy	SENDING	2	To China
CSD-Diaconia Valdese, Italy	HOSTING	2	From China
CANGO, China	HOSTING	4	From France and Italy
	SENDING	4	To France and Italy



What expectations/outcomes?

- Creation of a blog and Facebook page where volunteers' will upload texts, photos and videos,
- Connection with European Commission delegation at national and European level
- Volunteers will share their experience on return by:
 - Creating power point presentations including activities realized and objectives reached during their EVS.
 - Preparing photo exhibitions.
 - Preparing themselves to explain the benefits of the Youth Pass to future employers (through the organisation of a conference).
 - Explain, through a peer education system, the knowledge gained during EVS and the results of entrepreneurship workshops.
- Helping local communities in project development.

Definitions:

What is EVS?

Within the European Voluntary Service (EVS) programme, young people can spend up to 12 months abroad as European volunteers helping in local projects in various fields. EVS represents Action 2 of the Youth in Action Programme.

Volunteers in EVS projects participate in activities in different fields (like: environment, arts and culture, activities with children, young people or elderly, heritage, sports, etc...). EVS is a great human experience abroad.

ACTIVITIES MUST:

- Take place in a country other than where the volunteer lives;
- Be non-profit making
- Bring an added value to the host organisation and the local community
- Not involve job substitution, not be a substitute for military service or alternative service formulas
- Last for a limited period, normally between 2 and 12 months.

ACTIVITIES SHOULD:

- Promote universal peace, dialogue, tolerance and solidarity
- Contribute to building long-lasting and solid partnerships
- Include exchange of youth work expertise and know-how
- Give participants a better understanding of their own situations and cultures and help them explore their identities
- Contribute to developing the voluntary sector and civil society.

EVS IS NOT ...

- EVS is not occasional, unstructured, part-time volunteering;
- EVS is not an internship in an enterprise
- EVS is not a paid job and must not substitute paid jobs
- EVS is not a recreation or tourist activity
- EVS is not a language course
- EVS is not exploitation or cheap work force
- EVS is not a period of study or vocational training abroad
- EVS is not simply a funding scheme, but a quality model of transnational voluntary service.



The role of each structure

Sending Organisation (SO) :

- Sign the activity agreement
- Select volunteers
- Guarantee the follow up of volunteers
- Make the link between volunteer's family and other volunteers if needed
- Organise the travel to the host organisation.
- Help the volunteer in the visa process and issue.
- Register the volunteer with the AXA insurance plan.
- Contact Pistes Solidaires every month with feedback from the volunteers
- Organise a departure training for the volunteers
- Write the final evaluation report and in order to make improvements
- Support the volunteer in the implementation of the follow-up activities:
Volunteers will share their experience on return by:
 - Creating power point presentations including activities realized and objectives reached during their EVS.
 - Preparing photo exhibitions.
 - Preparing themselves to explain the benefits of the Youth Pass to future employers (through the organization of a conference).
 - Explain, through a peer education system, the knowledge gained during EVS and the results of entrepreneurship workshops.
- Guarantee to register the volunteers on sending and return trainings that will be organized by the national agency in volunteer's country.
- Ensure that the volunteer fills in the volunteer report.

Hosting Organisation (HO) :

- Prepare and Sign the activity agreement;
- Prepare the volunteer's hosting environment (hosting staff, activities, tasks etc) and communicate with the volunteer before arrival;
- Prepare and co-organize on-arrival training with the coordinating organization;
- Inform and prepare the volunteer's integration (social life and team work within the organization);
- Identify two mentors, one to support the EVS in his/her activities, and one to support the volunteer's integration and social life.
- Organize language sessions adapted to volunteer's level;
- Communicate with sending and coordinating organisations in case of conflict
- Specify volunteer's tasks;
- Facilitate the volunteer's access to internet and a telephone;
- Write an evaluation report every month in order for improvements to be made;
- Guide volunteers and support them in the follow-up activities/evaluation, dissemination and exploitation activities;
- Help volunteers organize visa extensions (if needed);



- Ensure the volunteer fills in the volunteer report during the last 15 days of his/her EVS and send the volunteer report by scan and original by post by the end of the EVS activity;

Coordinating Organisation(CO):

- Give all the resources needed to HO, SO and volunteers in order to realise a good project;
- Follow up partners organizations;
- Follow up all the volunteers;
- Coordinate the blog and Facebook page;
- Discuss how to improve the volunteer's situation;
- Organize the on-arrival training with hosting organizations;
- Write the reports for the European Commission;
- Be in charge of administrative tasks;
- Be responsible for the budget;
- Write the contracts;
- Organize the installments;

Volunteers:

- Present a CV and motivation letter to the sending organization;
- Participate in pre-departure and on-arrival training;
- Participate actively in the selection process;
- Participate actively in trainings organized;
- Participate actively in all activities;
- Participate in the development of future activities;
- Carry out research on the hosting organizations;
- Communicate with the host organization 15 days before the beginning of the project on logistic and activity aspects;
- Participate actively in order to get information about the missions, the countries etc;
- Participate in the evaluation training on return of their EVS;
- Manage VISA formalities;
- Write EVS evaluation report during the last 15 days of the EVS activities and give this report to hosting and coordinating organizations;

How does it work?

EVS is financed by the Youth in Action Programme of the European Commission. The EU (European Union) financially supports the accommodation, insurance, food, transport, pocket money, visa and vaccinations. This funding does not cover a tutoring salary and should be used only for elements listed above.

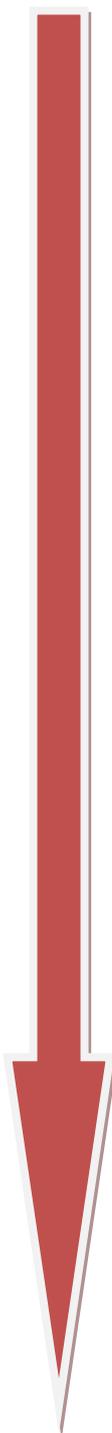


Volunteering length and working time:

The total duration of the EVS activity is 6 months; the volunteers will work around 35 hours per week. Volunteer activities should be planned over 5 and half months, as they will have 12 holiday days and 1 week of on arrival training, which will take place during the first month.

A report must be written each month by the Sending, Hosting, Coordinating organisations and the volunteers so that everyone is aware of the progress of the project.

RECRUITMENT PROCESS: STEP BY STEP



Publicity	Advertising the placements in different ways for example: websites, emails, newsletters, and contact with youth centers. February
CV+ Motivation Letters	Collect CVs and motivation letters of candidates by March 10 Selection + interviews before March 25
Selection	Selection of 2 or 3 CVs by sending organisations and then send to the hosting/coordinating organization by March 30
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Pre-Departure Training-Visa-Booking of flights-Registration-Vaccine-Questions & Answers-Intercultural preparation-Signing of acceptance letter with Pistes Solidaires + Activity Agreement All volunteers will do a pre-departure training in their own countries
Departure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-2 Chinese volunteers going to France and 2 Chinese volunteers going to Italy 6 months from 01/06/2013 to 30/11/2013-2 French and 2 Italian volunteers going to China 6 months from 01/06/2013 to 30/11/2013 (final dates to be confirmed)



TYPE OF ACTIVITIES:

CHINA:

4 volunteers (2 from Italy and 2 from France) In CANGO

Role and tasks of volunteers:

- Study activities, analysis of needs and researching data useful in planning new services and/or initiatives linked to ecotourism
- Outdoor activities: meeting/interviewing local entrepreneurs and research on outdoor activities potential development,
- Organise training for technical activity in outdoor sports like climbing, canoeing with Chinese youth
- Planning, with the staff's active collaboration, new services and initiatives in ecotourism and outdoor sport activities
- Organising events with local key actors (meeting between youth, local institutions and eco tourism/outdoor entrepreneurs)
- Communication activities (promotion, preparation and communication on event, updating website, etc.)
- Personal project: with the mentors and the tutor the 2 volunteers will be helped to define their personal project (a special research on a specific field or theme; a special workshop related to their personal and professional project.)

Practical details:

Working hours: 7 hours per day Monday to Friday. Volunteers might work some week-ends for specific events, extra days of off will be given in this case. 2 days vacation per month.

Language course: Volunteers will receive Chinese lessons. **The daily exchange language during activities will be in English.**

Accommodation: Shared flat with other volunteers.

Local Transport: CANGO will cover transportation costs throughout the duration of the EVS.

Eg of Standard Week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Activities on the environment (cultural input + local partners' social network). Chinese language class	Application of rock climbing gear	Theoretical and practical teaching of outdoor activities	Good practice on ecotourism: interviews, meetings with local ecotourism entrepreneurs	Ecotourism perspectives in own and hosting country: volunteers ideas
Afternoon	Physical training / outdoor organisation and study meeting	Health and Safety of outdoor activities	Personal project	Develop a business plan of ecotourism	Weekly evaluation and meeting with the tutor to clarify the plan for the next week



How will the EVS contribute to the social and personal development of the volunteer? What are the learning outcomes you want to bring to the volunteer?

- At the end of the experience, the volunteers will come back home with skills that will be helpful during the job hunting;

Non-formal learning, experiential learning and learning by doing will be the main methodologies used. Reciprocal approach between sending and hosting organisations will be the basis for activities implementation.

- During the EVS activity we expect the volunteer to acquire the following competences:

-Personal skills: conflict resolution, independence, autonomy, sense of initiative;

-Professional skills: awareness of diverse subjects, team work, non-formal education, international networking, ability to develop and implement innovative ideas to the projects.

-Intercultural competences: knowledge about Chinese culture as well different culture as there will be volunteers come from different countries;

- Learning outcomes will be valorised through the Youth Pass:
www.youthpass.eu

What skills will the volunteers acquire?

- Teamwork and cooperation: EVS volunteers will work with staff members and other volunteers
- Learning a foreign language (English and Chinese)
- Flexibility and the ability to adapt: the capacity to change their behavioural responses according to the different situation they will face
- Intercultural learning and communication skills
- European awareness: life, training and free time experiences with volunteers coming from other European countries
- Independence and personal autonomy abroad

ITALY:

2 volunteers (from China)

Role and tasks of volunteers:

- Study activities, analysis of needs and researching data useful in planning new services and/or initiatives linked to ecotourism
- Outdoor activities: meeting/interviewing local entrepreneurs and research on outdoor activities potential development.
- Planning, with the staff's active collaboration, new services and initiatives in ecotourism and outdoor sport activities
- Organising events with local key actors (meeting between youth, local institutions and eco tourism/outdoor entrepreneurs)
- Communication activities (promotion, preparation and communication on event, updating website, etc.)



- Personal project: with the mentors and the tutor the 2 volunteers will be helped to define their personal project (a special research on a specific field or theme; a special workshop related to their personal and professional project.)

Practical details:

Working hours: 7 hours per day Monday to Friday. Volunteers might work some week-ends for specific events, extra days of off will be given in this case.

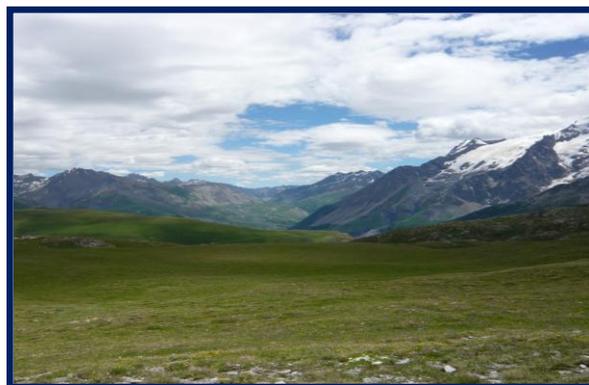
Language course: Volunteers will receive Italian lessons.

Accommodation: Shared flat with other volunteers.

Local Transport: CSD-Diaconia Valdese will cover transportation costs throughout the duration of the EVS.

Standard Week:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Local trips to meet the Waldensian valley organisation and enterprises	accompanying youngsters and children on local outdoor activities trips	Work at guesthouse of Torre Pellice	Ecotourism perspectives in own and hosting country: volunteer's ideas	Good practice ecotourism: interviews, meetings with local ecotourism entrepreneurs
Afternoon	Outdoor and sport activities with children and adolescents	Personal project	Italian class	Outdoor activities and green jobs: youth employment opportunities	Weekly evaluation and meeting with the tutor to clarify the plan for the next week



How will the EVS contribute to the social and personal development of the volunteer? What are the learning outcomes you want to bring to the volunteer?

- At the end of the experience, the volunteers will come back home with skills that will be helpful during the job hunting;

Non-formal learning, experiential learning and learning by doing will be the main methodologies used. Reciprocal approach between sending and hosting organisations will be the basis for activities implementation.

- During the EVS activity we expect the volunteer to acquire the following competences:

-Personal skills: conflict resolution, independence, sense of initiative;

-Professional skills: awareness of diverse subjects, team work, non-formal education, international networking, ability to develop and implement innovate ideas to the projects.

-Intercultural competences: knowledge about Italian culture as well different culture as there will be volunteers come from different countries;

-Linguistic skills: ability to communicate in Italian.

- Learning outcomes will be valorised through the Youth Pass:
www.youthpass.eu

What are the expected skills from the volunteers?

- Teamwork and cooperation: EVS volunteers will work with staff members and other volunteers
- Learning a foreign language (Italian)
- Flexibility and the ability to adapt: the capacity to change their behavioural responses according to the different situation they will face
- Intercultural learning and communication skills
- European awareness: life, training and free time experiences with volunteers coming from other European countries
- Independence and personal autonomy abroad

FRANCE:

2 volunteers (from China)

Role and tasks of volunteers:

- Participate / help in outdoor or rural tourism activities
- Study activities, analysis of needs and researching data useful in planning new services and/or initiatives linked to ecotourism
- Outdoor activities: meeting/interviewing and research on outdoor activities potential development and security issues.
- Planning, with the staff's active collaboration, new services and initiatives in ecotourism and outdoor sport activities
- Organizing events with local key actors (meeting between youth, local institutions and eco tourism/outdoor entrepreneurs)
- Communication activities (promotion, preparation and communication on event, updating website, etc.)
- Personal project: with the mentors and the tutor the 2 volunteers will be helped to define their personal project (a special research on a specific field or theme; a special workshop related to their personal and professional project.)

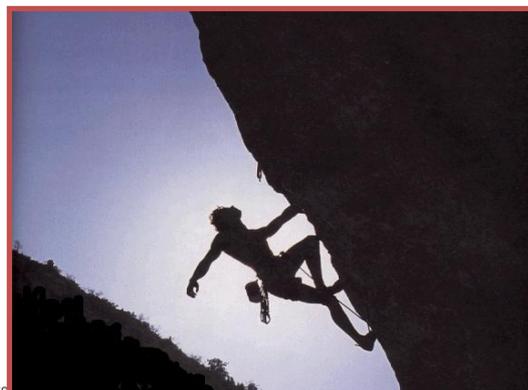
Practical details:

Working hours: 7 hours per day Monday to Friday. Volunteers might work some week-ends for specific events, extra days of off will be given in this case. 2 days vacation per month

Language course: Volunteers will receive Italian lessons.

Accommodation: Shared flat with other volunteers.

Local Transport: transportation costs throughout the duration of the EVS.



How will the EVS contribute to the social and personal development of the volunteer? What are the learning outcomes you want to bring to the volunteer?

- At the end of the experience, the volunteers will come back home with skills that will be helpful during the job hunting;

Non-formal learning, experiential learning and learning by doing will be the main methodologies used. Reciprocal approach between sending and hosting organisations will be the basis for activities implementation.

- During the EVS activity we expect the volunteer to acquire the following competences:

-Personal skills: conflict resolution, independence, sense of initiative;

-Professional skills: awareness of diverse subjects, team work, non-formal education, international networking, ability to develop and implement innovate ideas to the projects

-Intercultural competences: knowledge about French culture as well different culture as there will be volunteers come from different countries;

-Linguistic skills: ability to communicate in French.

- Learning outcomes will be valorize with the Youth Pass: www.youthpass.eu

What are the expected skills from the volunteers?

- Teamwork and cooperation: EVS volunteers will work with staff members and other volunteers
- Learning a foreign language (French)
- Flexibility and the ability to adapt: the capacity to change their behavioural responses according to the different situation they will face
- Intercultural learning and communication skills
- European awareness: life, training and free time experiences with volunteers coming from other European countries
- Independence and personal autonomy abroad



How to apply?

Send us your CV and motivation letter in English by **monday March 11, 2012**

All applications will be considered. The results of the pre-selections and final selections will be communicated by email to all the applicants. No communication concerning the pre-selections and the final selections will be announced by phone.

For french candidates to China send your application with the title “ EVS Alp Sichuan volunteer”

to **Pistes Solidaires** : sve@pistes-solidaires.fr and **Pierre Hellion** : p.hellion@cret-cci.com;



pistes solidaires



France, Pistes Solidaires:
www.pistes-solidaires.fr

France, CRET 05
<http://www.cret-cci.com/>

Italy, CIE Piemonte:
www.ciepiemonte.it

Italy, CSD-Diaconia Valdese
<http://www.diaconiavaldese.org/>

China, CANGO :
www.cango.org