



Est. 1948

ACTIVITY REPORT 2019-2020



CCIVS

Coordinating Committee for
International Voluntary Service

Est. 1948

Foreword president

Dear readers,

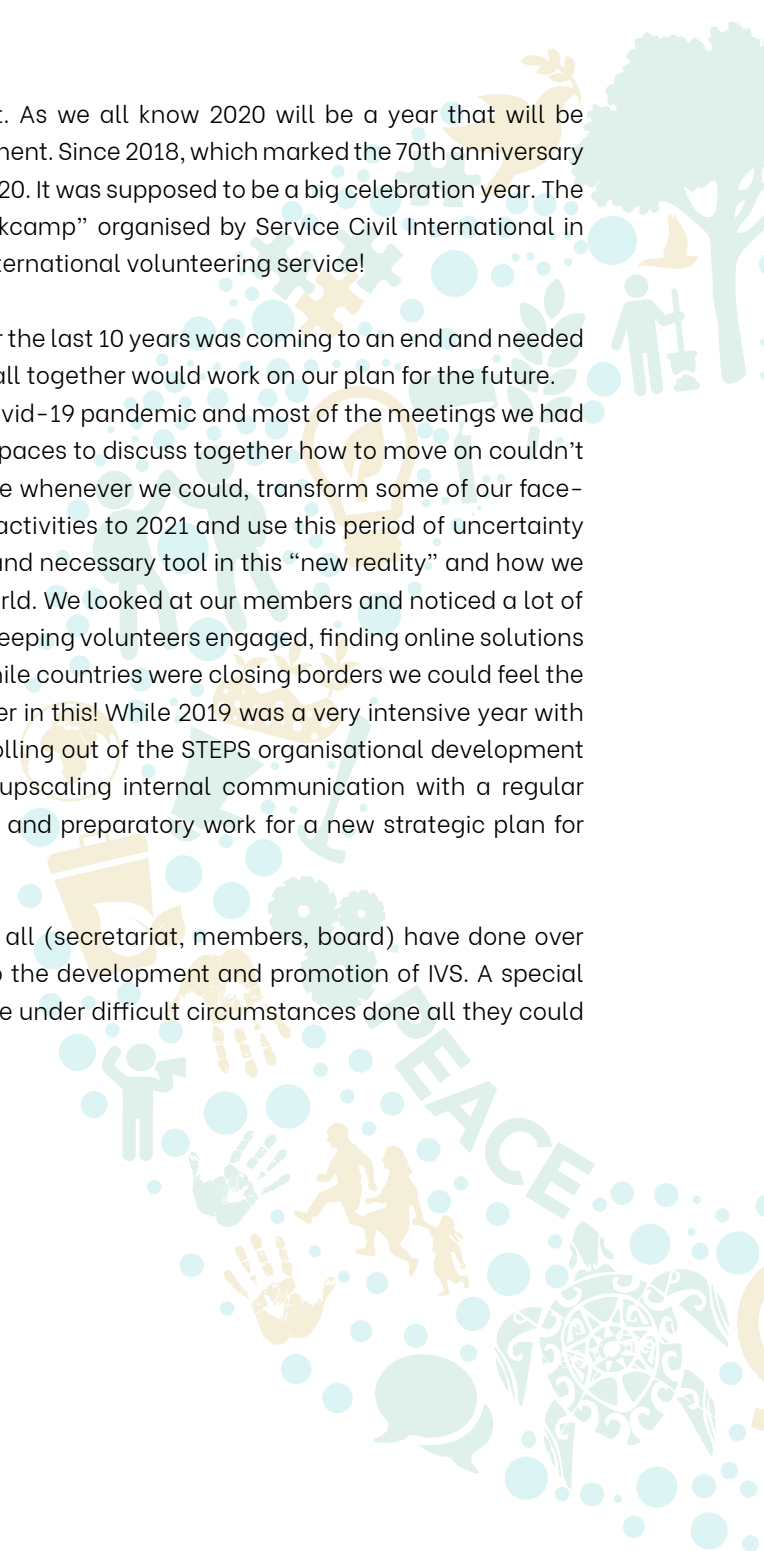
I am very proud to present the CCIVS bi-annual report. As we all know 2020 will be a year that will be remembered in history and this is also visible in this document. Since 2018, which marked the 70th anniversary of CCIVS, all IVS organisations were looking forward to 2020. It was supposed to be a big celebration year. The year to commemorate what we consider “the first workcamp” organised by Service Civil International in 1920: something that marks for most of us the start of international volunteering service!

Also the famous “White Paper on IVS” which guided us for the last 10 years was coming to an end and needed follow-up. 2020 should have been the year in which we all together would work on our plan for the future.

As we all know all our plans were disrupted due to the Covid-19 pandemic and most of the meetings we had foreseen to work on a new roadmap for CCIVS creating spaces to discuss together how to move on couldn't happen. We tried to keep in touch, meet members online whenever we could, transform some of our face-to-face activities to online activities, reschedule many activities to 2021 and use this period of uncertainty to better understand how IVS can still be a meaningful and necessary tool in this “new reality” and how we can all together work on a more sustainable and just world. We looked at our members and noticed a lot of creativity and flexibility, supporting local communities, keeping volunteers engaged, finding online solutions for things we never imagined we could do online, etc. While countries were closing borders we could feel the solidarity across the CCIVS network. We were all together in this! While 2019 was a very intensive year with a big focus on improving our impact research and the rolling out of the STEPS organisational development methodology, 2020 was marked by staying in touch, upscaling internal communication with a regular internal newsletter, organising online capacity building and preparatory work for a new strategic plan for CCIVS which we hope to finish in 2021.

This report intends to give you an overview of what we all (secretariat, members, board) have done over the past 2 years and how we have been contributing to the development and promotion of IVS. A special “Thank you” goes to the staff in the secretariat who have under difficult circumstances done all they could to support the organisation. Have a nice reading.

Ingrid Danckaerts
CCIVS President



Foreword director

As I look back on 2020, 2019 pails in comparison. What a year... Never has there been a moment in recent CCIVS history where we have had to adapt so quickly to the changing times, where we have had the possibility to put on the table for discussion, with needed results, questions which have been circulating for the last years.

We have been asking is this the end of IVS as we know it?

Is it? Or has IVS always evolved with the changing times, slowly but surely, responding to societal problems and emergency events as they unfold.

2020 has been a moment where we have had to look deep inside what we do, how we can respond to our members needs, how we can best support the movement. It has also been a moment of intense reflection, of admiration in seeing how members have adapted, have sought to continue their work.

It has made us consider online learning, the possibility of online meetings and not travelling to meet directly. Somehow as a movement it has brought us closer as the Internet connects us all and allows for a greater global participation than what would generally be possible. But it has also shown great inequalities through the digital divide. Access to internet is not the same all the world round. And where we can find ways to unite our members through international travel, we can't yet find the solution to ensure a good online connection. It should also raise the question, do we want to be so connected in a virtual space? Are those places without internet connection better for it? As a result we have also experienced the rise in online hate and the consequences of this.

Climate justice is also at the forefront. Questions concerning our carbon footprint as a movement have been discussed for some time and deeply in 2019. 2020 comes along and, all of a sudden, by force, we almost become carbon neutral. We start to plan other ways of implementing our projects on a local level, embracing the diversity that exists there. 2020 for some of our members has meant a fundamental shift. It has also made CCIVS reconsider global projects, and leads us to further discussions with the members about how to ensure the 'international' of our work in the future.

It also has allowed for discussions on where we stand for the Climate, about being careful not to fall into the trap of blindly supporting the green new deals being promoted or supporting a shift from one unsustainable manner of living for yet another.

Discussions also have been taking place over these last two years about international / inter nation. Should we not be talking more about intercultural exchanges. Is this not more adapted to what we stand for and what we do?

With all these questions on the table, we must not forget that 2020 marked 100 years of IVS, specifically of workcamps, since Pierre Ceresole founded the concept, with the subsequent creation of SCI, and the mushrooming of networks and organisations later becoming the greater IVS movement.

We found ourselves in 2020 at a turning point. Unable to celebrate as we had planned and forced to rapidly reconsider our work in order to ensure its continuity, which we see as more important than ever in an increasingly united (online) but consequently divided world.

After sharing these reflections I want to close by celebrating our members, volunteers around the world, by letting you know that I am in awe, in full admiration of your work, of your capacity to adapt, of your resilience and strength. I know that voluntary service, what we live, fuels us. It ignites us and unites us and this is vitally important as we step forward, together, into a new century of our work.

Vicky Loverock
CCIVS Director

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CCIVS The Global Coordinating Body

for International Voluntary Service Organisations

The Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) is a non-governmental, non-profit making international organization (INGO) working for the development and coordination of voluntary service worldwide.

CCIVS' main focus is the quest to achieve change in the minds of men and women by bringing together people of different backgrounds. It supports and develops projects based on the idea that working together on a concrete task is the most effective way of creating international friendship and understanding. The projects serve as a catalyst for dialogue as they provide an opportunity to work together according to each person's ability and to practice living together. In such situations national and international volunteers experience a new reality which can challenge their habits and convictions as well as those of the local community.

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CCIVS actions include advocacy and networking, capacity building and training, UN cooperation projects, impact measurement and quality improvement. It also coordinates two international campaigns Raising Peace and IVS for Climate Justice.

CCIVS is inter-disciplinary: its members are self-regulating and involved in a wide variety of types of activity.

CCIVS was created under the aegis of UNESCO in 1948 and its Secretariat is still in UNESCO House today. It has always worked closely with the UN organisation and complements UNESCO intellectual activity and goals in the fields of Education, Culture, Sciences and Communication through a hands-on, non-formal education approach transforming societies at the grassroots level. CCIVS has actively contributed to programs and campaigns from diverse UN bodies, and was involved in discussions concerning the creation of the United Nations Volunteers. It received in 1987 the title "Messenger of Peace" by UN Secretary General, Perez de Cuellar.

CCIVS is in official partnership with UNESCO – associate status, liaison status with the FAO and special consultative status with the ECOSOC.



The objectives of CCIVS are:

1. To promote and develop the voluntary service movement at national, regional and international levels with emphasis on the following priorities:
2. Peace through international understanding, friendship and co-operation among the people of the world, particularly youth;
3. Sustainable development and protection of the environment;
4. Recognition of all cultures in their diversity, emphasising the importance of the world's cultural heritage;
5. Human rights, and individual and national liberation;
6. Opposition to all forms of social, cultural, political and economic exploitation.
7. To provide effective co-ordination of the activities of CCIVS members.
8. To facilitate discussion and reflection in a spirit of mutual respect and personal responsibility concerning the aims of International Voluntary Service and its impact on the volunteers, communities and the worldwide community.
9. To encourage good relations and co-operation with other voluntary service organisations, other non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and with youth and student organisations which share similar objectives.
10. To co-operate and contribute to the implementation of the programmes and the initiatives of the United Nations, and in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), on matters of common interest.



International Voluntary Service contributes to the Implementation of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**



Timeline Activities in 2019/2020

2019

January	February	March	April	May	June
IVS4Peace Management Meeting Germany 7-11 / 01 Future Steps Expert Seminar Estonia 20-24 / 01 STEP to the Future NVDA GA Kathmandu Nepal 24/01-02/02 What is our IVS Nepal 27/01	IVS4Peace Management Meeting Belgium 04/02 Build Peace Meeting UK 21-24/02	Alliance Technical Meeting Turkey 01-06/03 EC Meeting Turkey 03-06/03 CCIVS Day Turkey 07/03 Global Meeting of IVS Organisations Representatives Turkey 07/03 World Heritage Volunteers Training France 11-16/03 Laboratory II IVS4Peace Belgium 17-22/03 Soil4Life Italy 27-29/03	Steering Team Meeting Raising Peace Catalunya 04-08/04	Finances & General Purposes Meeting France 11-12/05 STEPS Training for Trainers Italy 15-22/05 STEP to the Future Paris EFC Meeting France 22-24/05	STEPS On Field Training Exchanges in Europe France/Catalunya/Hungary/Estonia/Italy 01/06 STEP to the Future Raising Peace Impact Measurement Training Hungary 02-07/06 Project Visit Involve Italy 17-19/09 Training NASS France 26/06-03/07 Build Peace Final Meeting UK 27-29/06
July	August	September	October	November	December
Study Visit Involve France 24-26/07	Study Visit Involve Germany 07-09/08	STEPS Capacity Building Asia Thailand 13-18/09 STEP to the Future STEPS Capacity Building Africa Nigeria 13-18/09 STEP to the Future	STEPS MOOC Development Meeting Hungary 01-08/10 STEP to the Future Global Human Rights Week Global 14-19/10 Raising Peace Soil Protection and Management Training France 14-19/10 Soil4Life African Union Youth Volunteer Corps Rwanda 23-25/10	Alliance GC Belgium 04-08/11 Alliance GA Belgium 08-11/11 UNESCO GC France 12-27/11 Giovani in Movimento Italy 19-23/11 GLMTV Malaysia Malaysia 20-24/11 Frame(v)Work Preparation Meeting Hungary 20-24/11 EC Meeting Hungary 26-29/11	Involve Meeting Italy 04-06/12 ICM SCI Netherlands 05-08/12 11th International Forum of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO France 16-17/12

2020

January	February	March	April	May	June
	EC Meeting France 05-09/02 Information / Consultation Sessions on the EYF Belgium 13/02 Frame(v)work European Laboratory Hungary 18-25/02 Alliance Technical Meeting Armenia 27/02-03/03	CCIVS Day Armenia 03/03 IVS4Peace Management Meeting Online 16-20/03	Dreamers Sessions Online 30/04	Dreamers Sessions Online 05/05 WHV Webinar Series World Heritage Convention Online 06/05 World Heritage Volunteers WHV Webinar Series on International Voluntary Service Online 27/05 World Heritage Volunteers	WHV Webinar Series Communication for WHV Online 24/06 World Heritage Volunteers Youth Peace Week Online 30/06-06/07 COE and EYC
July	August	September	October	November	December
WHV Webinar Series Best Practices IV (Europe) Online 01/07 World Heritage Volunteers WHV Webinar Series Best Practices V (Arab States, Latin America and Caribbean) Online 08/07 World Heritage Volunteers WHV Webinar Series Best Practices VI (Africa) Online 15/07 World Heritage Volunteers WHV Webinar Series Best Practices VI (Asia) Online 22/07 World Heritage Volunteers	Online gatherings with members Online 13/08	Monthly meetings Volunteer Groups Alliance (VGA) Online 15/09	STEPS Webinar Series: Introduction to Organisational Development Online 08/10 GLMTV Online 14/10 STEPS Webinar Series: No! It doesn't work! Measuring the Impact of International Voluntary Service: A Conscientious Objection Perspective Online 20/10 STEP to the Future Alliance General Assembly Online 29-31/10	Segundo Congreso de Voluntariado Online 04-06/11 Fundación SES STEPS Webinar Series: Steps towards Effective Communication (Part 1) Online 10/11 STEP to the Future STEPS Webinar Series: Steps towards Effective Communication (Part 2) Online 12/11 STEP to the Future GIED: National Students Day Online 17/11 STEPS Webinar Series: Improving Key Relationships (Part 1) Online 24/11 STEP to the Future STEPS Webinar Series: Improving Key Relationships (Part 2) Online 26/11 STEP to the Future	EMpower Youth Networking Meeting Online 01-03/12 EULAC meeting Online 15/12 ICM SCI Online 05/12 International Volunteer Day / World Soil Day Online 05/12 CCIVS Online Dialogues Online 14-15/12 2020 International Conference of NGOs Online 16-18/12 NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

Our Workcamp Centenary

International Voluntary Service: A Century of Issues, Integrity and Engagement
'Love in the Time of Cholera' or '100 Years of Solicitude'

The First World War, the so-called “war to end all wars” devastated Europe and much of the globe. Colonial powers shipped in battalions from their empires to join swathes of working-class lads from the “home” countries to die alongside them in the killing fields of France. Altogether some seventy million were under arms of whom nine million perished together with seven million civilians who were killed.

A ten month battle ending late in 1916 was in the area of Verdun, devastating villages and countryside, leaving three quarters of a million dead, equally sons of France and of Germany. While the war formally ended in November 1918 its legacy of devastation was manifest in the populace throughout Europe, a legacy of hatred, retribution and xenophobia. Pierre Cérésolle a Swiss pacifist and conscientious objector joined with others to discuss how hearts and minds could be cleared of such a virulent infection.

Tiring of too many words in a talk shop Pierre and a few friends determined that practical action was required. So was born the first workcamp. Intending to reconstruct the war damaged Verdun village of Esnes-en-Argonne a small group of international volunteers assembled and began work. The project was to be a symbol of reconciliation between France and Germany. Among the small group of international volunteers there were three Germans. When the villagers realised this they insisted that the Germans should be expelled. Impossible for Pierre and the project. They packed their bags and left. So our first workcamp ended in failure. But do we not learn more from our failure than from our success? Lesson one: “Know your host community, you have to work with them and through them.”

Nothing dismayed, Pierre embarked on a series of workcamps in Europe the foundation for “Service Civil International” (SCI) a non-violent alternative to military conscription. Most camps were giving assistance in the wake of floods, avalanches and other natural disasters. However a project at Brynmawr on the South Wales coalfield, an area of high unemployment and deprivation, was in 1931/32 an early forerunner of social and environmental workcamps. An international team cleared rubbish, dug a children’s pool and brightened drab houses in fresh colour.

The movement identified with the struggle against colonialism and Pierre met with Gandhi. An earthquake and floods in the Bihar region of India in 1933/34 became the focus for a workcamp with four European volunteers. An India National Congress activist commented, “This is the right way for Europeans to come to our country. They come not to command but to work hard for our community under the direction of that community.” Lesson one learned!

The nascent movement was severely tested in the 1930’s with the growth of militarism and fascism one aspect being a grab to establish and extend colonial possessions. Workcamps responded to the needs of the oppressed in Spain and the refugees who fled to France. In Switzerland the group gave assistance to Jews and others escaping persecution in Nazi Germany. In that country those giving expression to the SCI philosophy of civil rather than military national service were arrested, imprisoned and tortured.

The vision and commitment that had given birth to the movement after the first world war was yet more evident after the end of the second. Determined to avoid further armed conflicts the United Nations Organisation was created, together with its various agencies. Under the aegis of one, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), in 1948 a committee was formed to bring together the work of national and international volunteering associations, becoming known as the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS).

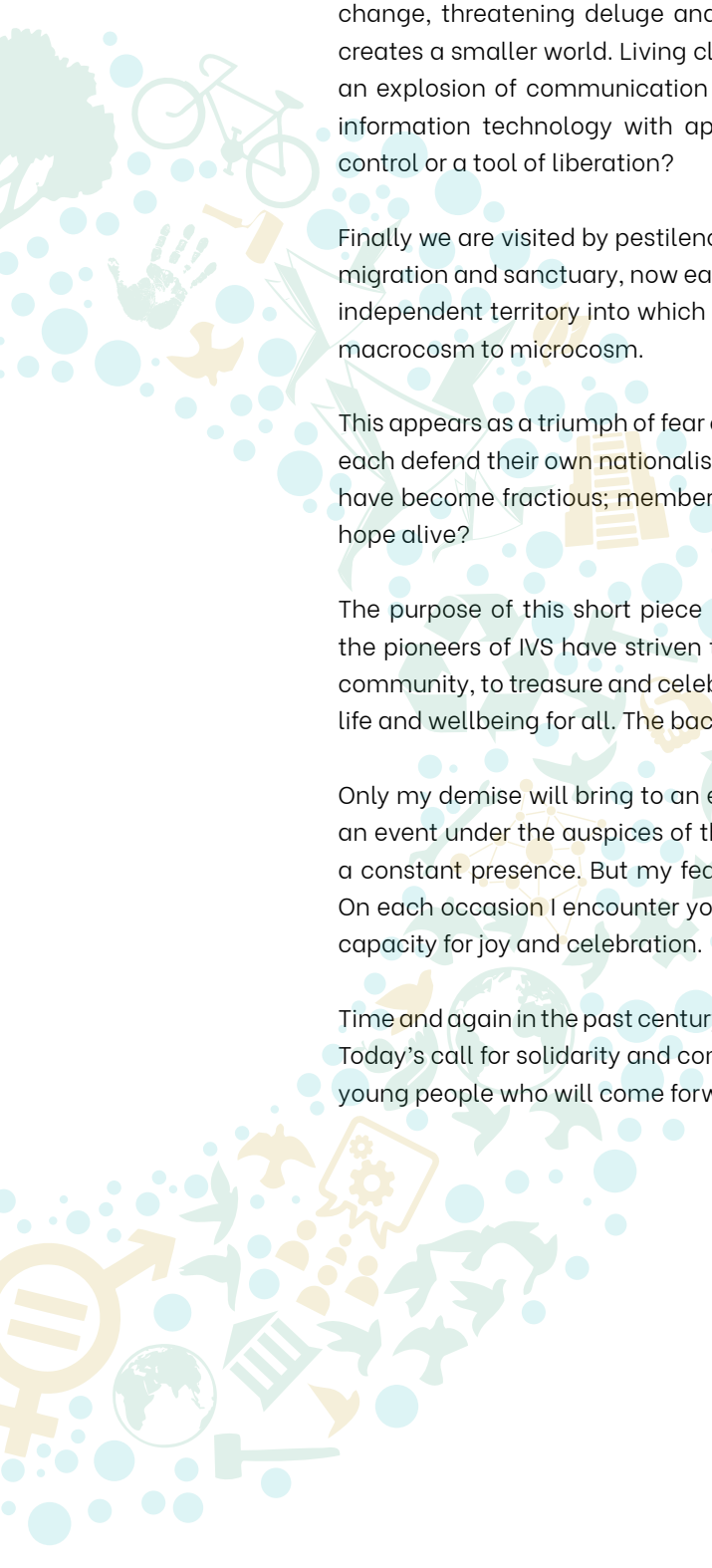
Yet serious conflicts were to surface in the post war years. They were marked by two underlying factors: a division between former allies espousing contrary economic and societal ideologies and an intensification of struggles for decolonisation and independence.

In Europe an Iron Curtain descended between former allies. To the West international volunteering clung on, run on a shoestring, often chaotic. To the East, state sponsored cadres organised to provide labour for the common good. But contacts persisted despite western media labelling as fellow travellers volunteers regarded in the east as potential fifth columnists.

There may have been a standoff in Europe. Elsewhere decolonization was rarely bloodless particularly where colonial settlers formed a substantial controlling minority e.g. South Africa, Zimbabwe, Palestine, Northern Ireland. Especially vicious was the struggle in Algeria where by 1952 SCI had an independent branch. The long war from 1954 to 1962 disrupted work camps but activists held on with support and social work. Running a school for deprived children on the outskirts of Algiers a former SCI secretary and his wife were in May 1962 abducted from their school and murdered. They paid the ultimate price for activism and solidarity.

Other terrible conflicts arose when departing colonists left a vacuum filled by opposing factions espousing one side or the other of the East West divide. And if one or more of the great powers in that divide went further than backing "their" side with finance and armaments and committed their own military, the result was sustained and bloody – Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan. In the Americas, Africa and Asia oppressive post-colonial, post Marxist regimes looked to maintain their grip on control underpinned by a greater power. Commercial exploitative colonialism replaced the model of empire. Remarkably, with this background, in the second half of the twentieth century, around the world new visionaries emerged. Subscribing to no all-embracing dogma, they observed needs and deprivation in local communities close to their homes. Instead of rejecting the stranger, the outsider, the different, they saw that to build a sustainable society living in dignity, it is necessary to reach out and join hands with those who have other ways of life and cultures. So fresh branches of volunteering organisations blossomed across the globe inviting CCIVS partners to join them, together to roll up their sleeves and side by side to experience other ways and cultures, developing understanding and respect for one another.

And now? Entering the third decade of the twenty first century the tasks confronting IVS appear no less daunting than those faced by our forebears. Round the globe populations are moving, fleeing war and tyranny, fleeing rejection of their culture and ethnicity, fleeing poverty, hunger and destitution. Where can they find shelter? In those countries that sparked the conflicts, that stoked the fires of war from which they flee? In countries no longer driven by guilt at the ethnic cleansing and holocaust of the second world war, incapable of recognising their recrudescence? In countries enjoying lifestyles predicated on cheap overseas labour? In countries where wealth and power are concentrated in ever fewer hands?



The planet itself groans under the burden of pollution, shortening lives, hastening intense climate change, threatening deluge and desert, a shrinking resource for a rising population. Globalisation creates a smaller world. Living closer to one another is there more harmony or greater discord? Does an explosion of communication bring increased understanding or rising dissension? Will pervasive information technology with application in artificial intelligence be an instrument of oppressive control or a tool of liberation?

Finally we are visited by pestilence. A pandemic circles the planet. If national borders were closed to migration and sanctuary, now each one of us has their own sacrosanct border, their two metre square independent territory into which to retreat and from which to repel invasion; a swift diminution from macrocosm to microcosm.

This appears as a triumph of fear over hope. Already nations were retreating, throwing up barricades to each defend their own nationalist self-aggrandizement. International structures serving cooperation have become fractious; members secede. Faced with these challenges can IVS remain strong, keep hope alive?

The purpose of this short piece has been to demonstrate how in the course of one hundred years the pioneers of IVS have striven to recover reconciliation from conflict, to build healthy harmonious community, to treasure and celebrate the diversity of peoples, to create a world capable of sustaining life and wellbeing for all. The background is this world's history of disaster and aggression.

Only my demise will bring to an end my journey in international volunteering, beginning in 1958 with an event under the auspices of the United Nations Association. The temptation to give way to fear is a constant presence. But my fears are assuaged every time I attend a gathering of IVS colleagues. On each occasion I encounter youth who are intelligent, perceptive, caring, committed, yet still with capacity for joy and celebration.

Time and again in the past century International Voluntary Service has had to stand up and be counted. Today's call for solidarity and comradeship is as urgent as ever. I know that in every country there are young people who will come forward to answer that call.

Paul Winter

Glastonbury / 16 May 2020

To fully appreciate the rich history of IVS read all the accounts in 'Words about Deeds'
published by SCI International Secretariat, December 2019.

2020, 100 years!

2020 had to be a very special year for Service Civil International (SCI), and for CCIVS and the IVS organizations in general, since 1920 is officially considered as the year of the first International workcamp. Organized by Pierre Ceserole in Esnes-en-Argonne (Verdun) in November 1920, it was clearly meant, from the beginning, to be a model of Service, International Voluntary and Civil, to replace the National Compulsory Military Service. To re-reconstruct instead of destroying! To unite instead of dividing! Thus, Esnes marks the official birth of SCI, but it also shows the very essence and vision of the IVS, well crystallized and expressed in this first experience: to work for Peace by overcoming the differences between people and by growing together from them; to transform the conflicts through non-violent means; to build together a sustainable world for all. Through IVS! That is the IVS “own special way forward”, acknowledging quite soon that “peace is a way, not an end”, as Mahatma Gandhi used to say. From this prospect, Esnes also opens the door to look at the future.

Esnes marks the official birth of SCI

100 years of existence and work deserves a big celebration – so few International organisations are 100 years old! – indeed! An SCI 2020 Team was constituted for this purpose some years ago. Soon, a RoadMap was designed, in order to give a clear direction to the celebration: not only a celebration with 100 candles, but a process going from the Memory of SCI Peace work along the years to a new Vision of Peace for the next century. From this prospect, different steps and objectives were identified: 1. To remember and make visible SCI work, while 2. continuing both organizing peace impacting action and 3. growing as a movement in a reflexive way, within SCI and together with the global IVS network, in order 4. to develop a new vision of Peace for the next century. These were the four goals identified by the 2020Team to launch, monitor and evaluate at the end the whole process.

Along the road, many important actions have already taken or are to take place, in line with the objectives marked. Among them, some are remarkable in the framework of the four goals of the RoadMap:

- » a book “words about deeds” written by many SCI activists who have made alive SCI memory;
- » “100 actions for peace” which gather 100 2020 labelled projects, run by all the branches and partners of SCI <<https://2020.sci.ngo/100-actions-for-peace/>>, demonstrating the relevance and impact of peace work in nowadays world;
- » “Reading” several chosen articles of the book in collective virtual cycles of 4 sessions, first in SCI, then through the CCIVS and global Network, enabling to discuss the past and the present and the future –to grow – together;
- » An on-line webinar in the framework of the International Day of Peace and of the 75th anniversary of the UNO and an IVS Vision seminar, to look at the future in order to develop a vision of peace in tune with its times.



The IVS anniversary

Obviously, the anniversary process has been focussing on SCI peace work, especially when the first years of existence, until the birth of international umbrella organisations like CCIVS in 1948, were concerned. However, the whole IVS recognises itself in this first event and the celebration of the SCI centenary has become, very soon, the celebration of the whole IVS. As a matter of fact, CCIVS and the global IVS network, has been associated in many discussions, seminars and action of the process. Nowadays, the challenge of struggling for peace is definitely a partnership, alliance and global network affair.

Thus, the anniversary is a good opportunity to identify the role and status of SCI – and IVS organizations – as a movement for peace, both throughout SCI and IVS history and within the history of pacifism world wise, from the beginning of the twentieth century until today. As a matter of fact, the opportunity to challenge the impact of SCI – and IVS in general – action for Peace, with respect to nowadays peace issues, is to be a necessary important part of the whole picture.

Looking at the future!

That is why the vision seminar had to be the final moment of the 2020 process, where the reflection would converge and bring light on the present times and push the construction of a new vision for peace. It had to take place during the SCI ICM in December 2020 in Verdun. Suddenly the pandemic started to change all the modus operandi in the whole world. The reason of a vision seminar was actually even stronger, while the possibility of organizing one, real, physical, in Verdun, in 2020 was eventually less. It was therefore decided to postpone it and to held it in the end of 2021, in the framework of the SCI 2021 ICM. The whole 2020 process was becoming the “2020 and beyond” process, to be continued in 2021.

The challenge is huge, as in 1920. The world has become extremely complex and the Local and the Global have never been so interdependent as now. The pandemic is a terrible demonstration of it. This is the “new now” revelation and main characteristic, at the same time a huge difficulty and an opportunity. If Peace is not the end but the way, then the whole IVS movement is on track to pave the way from the local to the global and vice-versa, for the sake of the planet and humanity. The challenge is worth taking up.

Gianni Orgini,

20 Oct 2020



PROGRAMMES & ACTIVITIES

The past two years have enriched the CCIVS portfolio with a set of programmes and activities bearing different meanings for the movement itself. One of the main trends that can be noticed is that the last year's projects tend to focus more on climate justice putting environment, sustainability and justice at the core of many of our activities. For several projects we could count on the collaboration with other organisations thus bringing in expertise in the above mentioned fields. Apart from this thematic focus, CCIVS also supported members in the field of organisational development. The continuation of the STEPS project with the support of the STEPS team created opportunities for members to keep working on strengthening their organisations. Regional as well as online trainings were organised so that the STEPS model can become a real tool for organisations to analyse their organisation and work on improvement. An online learning platform was set up to bring all online learning opportunities under one roof.

CCIVS continued to include impact measurement in several projects and worked on a participatory approach to measure impact on the communities we work with under the guidance of Francesco Volpini. Generally speaking, CCIVS managed to stay on track with both its traditional programmes, the Raising Peace Campaign, the World Heritage Volunteers initiative and the IVS for Climate Justice Campaign, making the work of the members in these areas more visible and exchanging good volunteer practice in these fields of action.

If this introduction managed to stir your curiosity, then please find a comfortable spot and enjoy the details of these programmes and activities in the upcoming lines of this report.

Ingrid Danckaerts

Raising Peace 2019

supported by



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Raising Peace is a networking initiative that aims to contribute to the construction of peace, the guarantee of human rights all over the world, and to highlight the role that International Voluntary Service (IVS) plays in this field. The campaign achieves this through advocating for human rights, non-formal education training and capacity building, empowerment of activists and organisations and through communication and visibility campaigns.

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Raising Peace unites 8 International and regional networks from the IVS Movement (WAVAN, NAVO, SEEYN, SCI, NVDA, IBO, Alliance) which coordinated by the CCIVS work together in order to implement the yearly campaign.

In 2019, Steering Team Meetings took place involving international and regional networks and grass-roots organisations, an Impact Measurement Training, 60 Raising Peace Camps, and a Global Human Rights Week the promotional posts for which have reached over 1.6 million impressions on Facebook.

photo by Matteo Testino SCI Italy



Steering Team Meeting

The Raising Peace Steering Team Meeting 2019 took place in Barcelona, Spain, from 4th to 8th April and was hosted by SCI Catalunya. The Steering Team of the Raising Peace Campaign is composed of representatives of member organisations, members of the CCIVS Secretariat and representatives from the Sister networks. Participants came from South Africa Volunteer Work Camp Association, Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations, COCAT, South East European Youth Network, SCI, SIW, Solidarites Jeunesses, Citizens in Action, SCI France, Service Civil International, SCI Catalunya, Fundación SES, NVDA and CCIVS. The Steering Team members are in charge of different tasks such as communication, promotion of the Raising Peace Campaign and project support. We were supported by Mauro Carta, facilitator of the Steering Team Meeting and a member of the Pool of Trainers of Service Civil International since 2013.

During the week, the participants evaluated the Raising Peace campaign of 2018, identifying areas of improvement, good practices, sensitive issues and contributions from the networks. The Steering Team also developed indicators and questionnaires to measure impact on RP camps and proposed guidelines for the Global Human Rights Week. At the end of the meeting, the team worked on the communication and visibility strategy, the plan of action with the definition of roles and responsibilities and inputs for Raising Peace 2020. The participants had the opportunity to discuss the Human Rights topics, how to integrate environmental issues and the new proposal for Raising Peace 2020 which will focus on volunteering in conflict areas.



HUMAN RIGHTS

Impact Measurement Training: the Theory and Practice of Change in International Voluntary Service

Background – Research and IVS

The use of research and data in the field of International Voluntary Service (IVS) is relatively new, and organisations have been often initially attracted to it in order to create indicators of success that would simply confirm the value of the volunteer programs, and justify bigger public grants and wider youth participation in a growingly competitive environment for grassroots movements. The emphasis on the valorisation of outcomes has often led to an oversight of the two other essential steps in the impact assessment process, which precede the celebration of results: an increased understanding of the intended program mechanisms that create such outcomes; and a strengthened capacity of improving field practices for the benefit of volunteers and local communities.

The growing relevance of research is now being considerably recognised by the IVS movement, especially at a moment when the quantity and quality of projects targeting the promotion of human rights and social inclusion have been steadily increasing. This calls for a particular attention to the appropriateness and adaptation of the IVS programs to the goals and needs of different publics and partners, and requires the consolidation by the organisations themselves of specific skills to measure, assess and disseminate the concrete results and overall impact generated by these actions.

The training – Blending academic and experiential learning: a practical Theory of Change

It is in this context that Egyesek Youth Association hosted in Hollókő, Hungary the Participatory Research on Impact Measurement and Evaluation Training Course, which took place between the 2nd and the 7th of June. Participants from HUI Armenia, SCI International, CVS Bulgaria, Egyesek Hungary, GHD Turkey, IBO Austria, IBO Italia, IBO Nederland, INEX-SDA Czech Republic, Allianssi Finland, SCI Catalunya had the opportunity to challenge and change their mindset, learning to look at their own programs as tools for non formal and popular education, where learning is intended, organised and can produce transformational change for the individuals, communities and organisations involved.

The main goal of the training, which was supported and co-financed by the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe and by the Erasmus Plus Programme of the European Union, was to provide capacity to youth workers in order to assess the impact of their social inclusion projects, empowering staff members and organisations to improve the quality of their initiatives and to better present their results to media, funders and to the public.

The training was designed and conducted by Francesco Volpini, former CCIVS Director and Graduate Research Associate at the EU Center of the University of Illinois; Jelena Ristic, Volunteer Programme Coordinator at Young Researchers of Serbia and Non Formal Education expert; and Ha Kyung Kang, Monitoring and Evaluation Youth UNV and graduate from the Institute of Development Studies, UK.

Utilising a participatory approach, the training addressed in particular five specific objectives:

1. To explore the intercultural dimensions of IVS projects and of field research, as well as the notion of social inclusion as the main focus of the Raising Peace Campaign;
2. To introduce concepts of strategic planning and the program/project's cycle, goals, objectives and theory of change;
3. To introduce research methods and tools to design, implement and utilize results of a simple impact assessment research at the field level, for one or more projects within their organisation, with different target groups: volunteers, communities, organisations
4. To provide opportunity for experiential learning at the field level and to choose and adapt methods and tools among those introduced during the training;
5. To transmit the goals, principles and values in the framework of the Raising Peace and/or other CCIVS global campaigns and the importance of impact research.

After a mix of theoretical inputs and reflections aimed at connecting relevant academic knowledge with the participants' own personal and professional experience, the second part of the training was dedicated to individual and small groups work. Participants adapted the existing tools for volunteers, community and organisational research to the specific goals of the CCIVS campaigns and programs they are directly involved in, and in accordance with CCIVS Social Inclusion Strategy. In accordance to experiential learning best practices, they also designed targeted research goals and questions and implemented field interviews with several actors engaged with the programs of Egyesek at six different locations in the region; they performed a preliminary, participative analysis of the impact that volunteer programs have had in the community; and presented the results of the one-day field research to the other participants in a creative way.

The next step: participatory field research

By the end of the Participatory Research on Impact Measurement and Evaluation Training Course, the results of a pre-post test survey filled by the participants revealed that their self-assessment on each of the five objectives of the event had grown very strongly: they reported feeling much more able to understand the research on IVS impact as integrated in, and highly dependent on, strategic planning and the program/project's cycle, goals, objectives and theory of change. They felt significantly more ready to design and implement simple impact assessment research at the field level for their own projects, and to utilise and adapt the methods and tools introduced during the training. Finally, they indicated being more aware of the importance of impact research in order to better understand, improve and valorise existing IVS practices, in particular on social inclusion; and felt better equipped to influence future programs and recommend evidence-based policy changes.

In order to answer the specific goals and questions of the national IVS programs they implement in connection with the global Raising Peace campaign, participants also developed and adapted during the training their own research framework, drafting concrete plans and selecting tools and methods for their enquiries. Feeling ready and committed to conduct field research during the summer of 2019, they collected interviews and observations in 10 different communities, multiplying at the local level the participatory research approach of the training. Their findings constituted the core of the impact assessment efforts of the Raising Peace Campaign, which will also rely on the collection of quantitative data from the volunteers involved in the actions, drawing a complete and representative picture of the IVS contribution to the promotion of peace, human rights and social inclusion.

More information in the Impact Report on Page 41 of this Activity Report

Raising Peace Camps

A Raising Peace Youth Camp is a short-term international voluntary project, lasting around 2 weeks and involving a small group of local and international volunteers, who support the initiatives of the hosting organisation and the local communities. A specific focus on Human Rights and Peace (such as study parts, workshops and NFE activities related to the specific Human Right addressed in the camp) are elements that qualify an international voluntary workcamp as RP Youth Camp.

In total, 60 Raising Peace Youth Camps took place in 32 countries (Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Korea, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Palestine, Poland, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, The Netherlands, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam) with over 900 direct participants, focusing on:

- Migrant and refugee rights, freedom of movement, and universal civil rights;
- Access to food & housing and to a sustainable and dignified life;
- Gender rights, sexual and personal bodily autonomy;
- To live in peace at a local, regional, and international level;
- To participation, ensuring citizens can freely be involved in human rights and peace issues.

41 Camps had a special focus on Social Inclusion topics.

CCIVS has been providing support and resources to the Raising Peace Youth Campaign since its creation in 2014, as we deem important its long-term impact on personal, organisational and community level. The Youth Camp is an important non-formal educational tool that promotes an intercultural experience through 'learning by doing' and a participatory process that brings together volunteers, International Voluntary Service organisations, local authorities, partners and communities. 17 organisations received financial support through the EYF grant for the trainers/experts to run human rights workshops, the costs of promotion, and the accommodation costs of a young researcher who implemented the impact assessment.



photo credit: ©SAVWA

The first twenty years of the 21st century have almost passed and, in spite of the impressive technological development of the last decades, we still witness human rights violations and threats to peace all over the world. Wealth and power are in the hands of a greedy minority of the world population, while the planet is suffering from exploitation and practices which are no longer sustainable. Confronted with injustice, inequality and oppression, it is easy to give in to the temptation to react adopting aggressive and violent methods. This is the reason why it becomes essential to propose strategies, solutions and instruments featuring non-violence, dialogue, social inclusion and a participatory decision-making process.

Such values are even more important for the new generation. The adults of tomorrow (today's youth) will have to manage, handle and solve several challenges in a constructive and creative way. Very probably the most pressing issue in the future years will consist in dealing with limited and reduced resources. This scenario will require a new kind of personal and professional competences, combined with creativity and the ability to actively involve as many people as possible in the decision-making process. When proposing solutions, we will need to put emphasis not only on the result (solving a problem) but also on the process (how the problem is solved). In a nutshell: outcomes, achievements and performances are worthless, if they are imposed unilaterally by elites and minorities, exploiting the environment, disregarding people's lives and violating human rights to achieve controversial objectives, such as growth or productivity.

With the Global Human Rights Week, we showcased the activities carried out by our IVS members and like-minded organisations based in different continents aimed at promoting human rights and peace through non-violent and participatory methods. Volunteering, involvement of local communities, commitment and enthusiasm are the key-factors which support our initiatives. People may think that they are just small actions, producing only a limited impact. During 6 days we gave visibility to several projects and activities, in order to prove that the effects of such actions are much stronger and powerful than we might think. By working together, we realise that our voices can be heard and our deeds can produce a real change, both at a local and a global level.

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CCIVS thanks all the participating networks, activists and volunteers who contributed to this year's GHRW, implementing actions, creating contents and promoting the initiative all over the world. This year, the GHRW gave voice to Mar Sabé spokesperson of ProActiva Open Arms, Matteo Testino, SCI Italy and Gender Rights activist and Gabriela Tatiana Sejas Zevallos, activist who contributed to the environmental emergency in Bolivia. A special page collected contributions from inside and outside the network in the format of articles, testimonials, interviews, videos and cartoons. As a result of the week, six magazines were edited, one for each Human Right, also available on the website. Special thanks go to the Council of Europe and to the European Youth Foundation for supporting the GHRW and Raising Peace.



photo credit: ©RUCHI

Raising Peace 2020



Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Raising Peace Campaign was not able to carry out its residential activities but had to reschedule them to 2021.

Meanwhile, the Steering Team continued its planning and discussion through regular online meetings. The Campaign continued its communication actions and raised awareness through online tools and social media platforms during several key dates.

Even though the majority of international workcamps were canceled (you can read more in page 60), the IVS organisations didn't stop their activism on the local level, supporting their communities and contributing to social solidarity during the global pandemic time.

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Raising Peace Impact

CCIVS published the Impact measurement report for Raising Peace with the highlights of the qualitative analysis produced during 2019 including the interviews of volunteers, camp leaders and stakeholders of the voluntary camps part of the campaign. In 2020, the Raising Peace Local Awareness Actions didn't take place because of the Covid pandemic.

International Day of Peace

2020 marks the 100 years anniversary of Service Civil International (SCI) and the whole International Voluntary Service (IVS) movement. For the International Day of Peace, CCIVS hosted an online dialogue with volunteers from different parts of the world that have participated in voluntary camps and volunteered for peace during different decades. The event was streamed on Zoom and Facebook Live.

The intergenerational dialogue was moderated by Gianni Orsini, CCIVS President (1998–2004) and [SCI](#) International Vice-President (1992–1998), who introduced the guests and shaped a conversation about the role of volunteering on peace and human rights in the last decades, the empowerment of the communities through projects and the challenges that the speakers foresaw for the future. Agustina Pessio (35, Argentina, volunteer in India with [Subir al Sur](#)), Stephen Nah (69, Malaysia, volunteer with [SCI Malaysia](#)), Yulia Utenkova (32, Russian Federation, representing [Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations](#)) and Francesca Palmi (27, Italy, volunteer with [Agape Centre of Hope](#)) enriched the exchange with their experience and vision on the field.

LET'S TALK ABOUT PEACE

Volunteer experiences from the field

Online event
September 21, 2pm CET



After the dialogue we would like to highlight that:

- » Voluntary camps inside the International Voluntary Service are experiences that impact not only the volunteers that participate but also the local community that is involved in the common goal of the project, especially when the cooperation is repeated over the year.
- » Exchanges between organisations and creating new partnerships are the key of cooperation between organisations to improve relations.
- » We should focus on the quality of the projects instead of the quantity to create a major impact.
- » Peace starts with a change within ourselves and only then can we create peace in our communities.
- » Pandemic should be an opportunity to enhance peace, create solidarity and change the priorities of the world we live in.

“We need the young generation to start thinking about the present. This is what you have to change today. We think about peace in the future too many times, we have to inspire and take action through these (voluntary) organisations.” Agustina Pessio

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Raising Peace fundraising campaign

From September 14 to September 30, CCIVS participated in Global Giving's accelerator to raise funds for the Raising Peace campaign. In order to succeed, we had to raise \$5,000 from 40 donors by September 30. For more than two weeks, CCIVS disseminated the impact, the values, stories from volunteers that participated in training and local actions, among other materials created for this campaign. At the end of the campaign, CCIVS raised a total of 531 euros.

Music for All

On September 23, CCIVS hosted Music for All, a fundraising concert for the Raising Peace campaign with the collaboration of Red Acapella group, Mariano Fernández Bussy and Jennifer Xinyi Liu. The musicians performed in two-time slots starting at 3:00 pm CET and 8:00 pm CET.



EMpowering Youth

Improving capacity for EuroMed youth projects



Coordinator: CCIVS; Partners: ACC; Baladna; Concordia UK; PCMRD; SCI Catalunya; SCI Hellas; Space SD.

The aim of this project is to improve the management and coordination skills of youth organisations and young trainers for future EuroMed projects, developing also innovative online tools to ensure participation and promote volunteering. It includes partners from Morocco, Palestine, UK, Catalunya, Greece and Jordan.

The project includes online and residential activities to be implemented within a 11-month timeline:

- an online networking meeting November 2020 to define the next steps and the role of each partner;
- a series of 4 one-day capacity building webinars March 2021 to provide project management skills to 14 young staff members and youth workers;
- a residential Training for Trainers (TfT) planned in Morocco May 2021 to equip 16 young trainers with skills to coordinate EuroMed NFE activities;
- an online Conference June 2021 to disseminate results and encourage synergies;
- a digital platform running in 2021, to provide visibility of the activities and to promote e-learning and intercultural dialogue;
- involvement of the participants of the TfT in local actions during summer 2021, to put into practice the skills learned.

Networking Meeting

December 1-3, 2020, CCIVS organised the online Networking Meeting for the EMpowering Youth – Improving Capacity for Euromed Youth Projects, funded by the Anna Lindh Foundation and the European Union. The partners discussed and shaped together the activities outlines, including the planning of a Webinar series on project management for young activists in March 2021, a residential Training for Trainers in Morocco in May 2021 and the involvement of participants in Local Actions implemented by the partners in the summer of 2021, the Digital Platform and an Online Conference that will disseminate the digital productions of the activities and will promote intercultural dialogues, volunteering and non-formal education.



Build Peace

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



2019 marked the end of the Build Peace project funded by the Erasmus+ program and coordinated by The Centre for Trust Peace and Social Relations of Coventry University. It brought together the following partners; Kadir Has Üniversitesi (Turkey), Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University (Turkey), Xchange Scotland, The Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS), Wings of Hope (BiH) and the Young Researchers of Serbia.

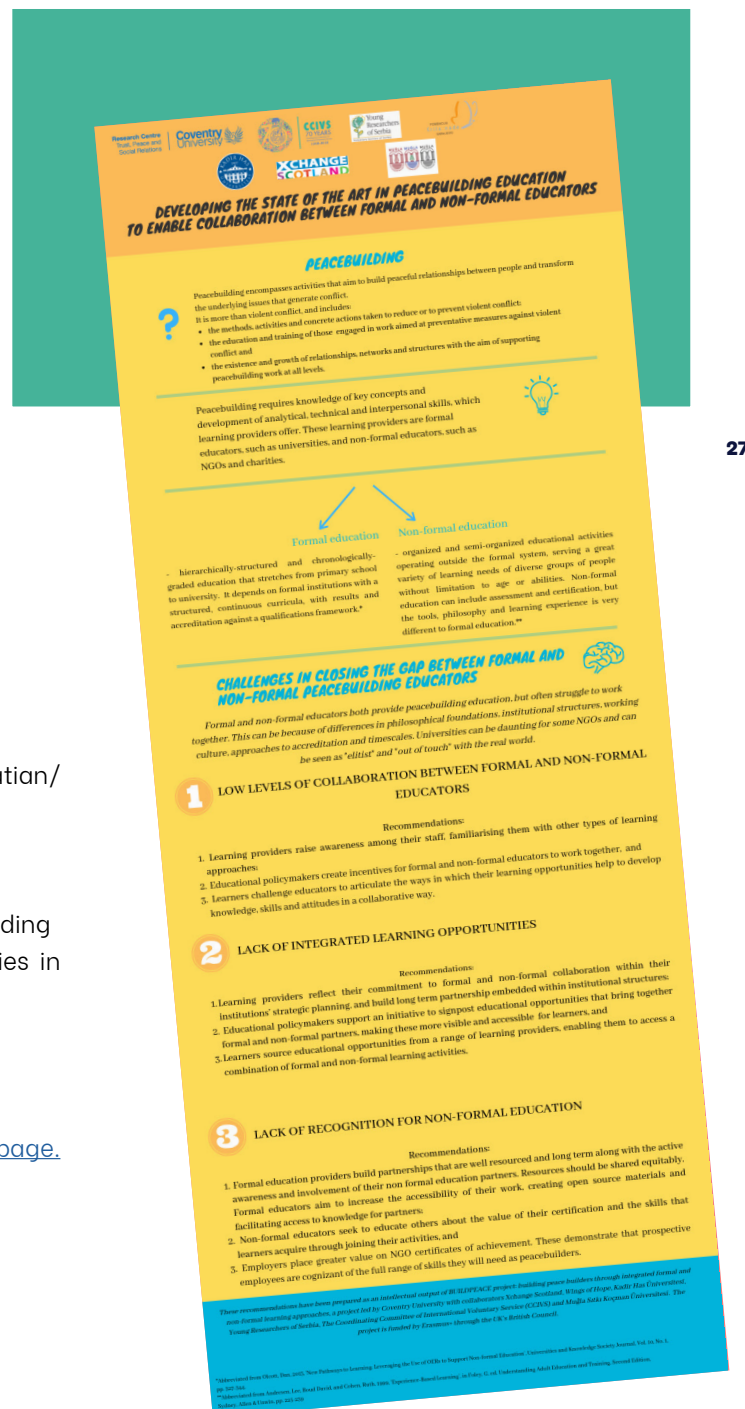
During 2019 we held two project meetings, one hosted by Xchange Scotland in February where we worked towards the final results and outputs for #peacebuilding tools, and then a final meeting hosted by the University in June.

The final results of the project include:

Project Outputs

- Policy Recommendation Infographic
- The BUILDPEACE Mapping Report
- The BUILDPEACE Policy Recommendations
- The BUILDPEACE Policy Recommendations (Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian)
- The BUILDPEACE Policy Recommendations (Turkish)
- The BUILDPEACE Toolkit for Educators
- BUILDPEACE MOOC 1: Concepts and theories of Peacebuilding
- BUILDPEACE MOOC 2: Conflict Analysis and Case Studies in Peacebuilding
- BUILDPEACE MOOC 3: Reflective Practice
- BUILDPEACE MOOC 4: Facilitation

The tools can be found on this [LINK](#) and also on the [CCIVS webpage](#).



Peacebuilding is now a multi-billion Euro industry with a global infrastructure, reflecting the acute need to address conflict and insecurity, and growing confidence that doing so is possible, particularly with new technologies. The increase in peacebuilding has spurred growth in education and training, as practitioners need applied skills and knowledge. However much of the current provision is offered piecemeal, disconnected from other relevant learning opportunities. Collaboration between learning providers is challenged by differences in pedagogical perspective, underpinning ethos and teaching methodology. There is no clear guidance for learners on the skills and competencies they should acquire and no easy way for them to combine courses strategically. There has also been little systemic reflection on the benefits and limitations of online and distance learning in peacebuilding, although learning providers use these tools a lot.

BUILDPEACE will boost the skills and competencies of Europeans in the public, third and private sectors to build peace and connect communities. It will improve the provision of teaching, learning and training within the peacebuilding industry by bringing together providers from the formal education (FE) and non-formal education (NFE) sectors into a community of practice. These partners will investigate current deficits, weaknesses and missed opportunities in educational provision across the field, addressing these with innovative tools for learners, as well as tools and mechanisms for learning providers to facilitate cross-sectoral working.

The main objective of BUILDPEACE is to enable innovative new approaches by developing peacebuilders by:

- Creating a common framework of key competencies across the FE and NFE sectors
- Helping learners find navigable and flexible pathways for accessing relevant learning opportunities
- Blending FE and NFE learning approaches for more comprehensive provision, using technology.

To do this we will bring together European partners with experience in improving the learning outcomes of peacebuilders. Our activities will help us to better understand the current state of educational provision within the peacebuilding field and develop innovative new ways to improve learning outcomes using new methodologies and technologies. This will inform the creation of a range of tools for learners and learning providers, including free online courses, a handbook, a toolkit and a matrix of the competencies that people need to acquire to work in the field. Tools for policymakers include a mapping report and a policy recommendations report.

To test these ideas and tools, participants and learners will take part in two BUILDPEACE workshops. These will pilot and improve the BUILDPEACE approach. Participants will deliver educational content to learners using the methods, modes of delivery and tools that the project experiments with. These workshops will be action oriented, participatory and engaging.

Research impact

The results of the project will be an improvement in the educational provision available to people working on peace and conflict issues. Learners will have access to comprehensive, rigorously tested resources such as online courses and advice on the competencies and skills they need to develop. Learning providers will have access to resources so that teachers and trainers can improve their own skills, especially by using new methods and making use of technology. The partners involved will have formed a lasting network that involves different forms of learning providers, and their current and future projects will benefit from the BUILDPEACE approach. And finally, policymakers will have information on the current challenges in peacebuilding education, an expanded evidence base of what works and how, and reflections on how to encourage forms of education that bring together formal and non-formal approaches to learning and making use of technology.

SOURCE

World Heritage Volunteers



The World Heritage Volunteers Initiative (WHV) is led by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC) in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS), European Heritage Volunteers (as a branch of Open Houses) and Better World.

World Heritage Volunteers Action Camps 2019

Under the title Empowering Commitment to World Heritage, the Campaign 2019 provides empowering and enriching opportunities to young people and enables them to go beyond borders in some of the most outstanding places in the world with 68 action camp projects at 62 World Heritage properties and sites inscribed on the Tentative Lists, from June to December 2019, by 55 organisations in 36 countries.

UNESCO publication Empowering Youth for Heritage

Dr Mechtild Rössler, Director of the World Heritage Centre, has launched the UNESCO publication Empowering Youth for Heritage. This publication provides a retrospective of the first 10 years of the World Heritage Volunteers Initiative, to increase its visibility and sustainability and support the organisations committed to its values.

The publication traces the journey of the Initiative, which started with just 12 action camps involving 153 volunteers in 2008. By the end of 2017 it had implemented a total of 341 action camps at 138 sites inscribed on the World Heritage List or Tentative Lists in 60 countries, involving 110 organisations and more than 5,000 volunteers. It not only details the action camps and activities implemented by each organisation, along with their highlights and achievements, but also discusses the challenges faced by the organisations in heritage conservation. It also identifies best practices from each of the regions, delving deeper into their promotion of youth participation and the lessons learnt.

Through this publication, we celebrate the outstanding achievements of the WHV Initiative – the commitment and engagement of the organisations, coordinating partners, institutions and volunteers towards preserving our heritage beyond territories and boundaries, while paving the way for engaging with new organisations, institutions and volunteers in the years ahead.

[Publication: “Empowering Youth for Heritage – 10 years of the World Heritage Volunteers initiative”](#)



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Capacity Building Training Workshop

In the framework of the World Heritage Volunteers Initiative, eighteen organisations took part in the “Capacity Building training workshop for Team Leaders of the World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) Initiative” (12–15 March) which was coordinated by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the CCIVS and financially supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands. Representatives came from the Republic of Uganda, Russian Federation, Kingdom of Morocco, Republic of India, Republic of the Philippines, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Zimbabwe, United Mexican States, People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Portuguese Republic, Republic of Indonesia, Togolese Republic, Republic of Zambia, Republic of Korea, State of Palestine and the People’s Republic of China.

Taking place in the UNESCO headquarters, participants had the opportunity to spend four days focusing on the reinforcement of their organisations’ capacity through the improvement of quality standards and sustainability of the action camps.

Lead by the facilitators Rita Albuquerque and Jelena Ristic, they focused on different topics such as the challenges of volunteering and heritage protection, advocacy and communication strategies, result-oriented project management, team building and leadership and monitoring and evaluation issues. The capacity building workshop was implemented using a mix of formal and non-formal education methodologies.

The organisation team also invited Daryl Upsall, fundraising expert, who provided new tools and strategies to improve the organisations’ fundraising possibilities. The participants had the opportunity to learn and to exchange on the challenges and opportunities related to fundraising.

Francesco Volpini, Impact Expert, Graduate Research Associate, EU Centre at University of Illinois, imparted a talk on impact measurement presenting the first results of the quantitative and qualitative research on volunteering for heritage.

The Training closed with a trip down the Seine on the boat “ALTERNAT – Péniche pour la Paix” of the ALTERNAT association.



World Heritage Volunteers Action Camps 2020

In view of the current global pandemic and following the extraordinary measures being taken to tackle the spread of COVID-19 globally, the 2020 Campaign of the World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) Initiative has been postponed to 2021.

Webinar Series

During the global pandemic and mass confinement, Unesco launched multiple initiatives under the #ShareOurHeritage Campaign, to support and promote access to World Heritage.

The World Heritage Volunteers Campaign took the lead and proposed a WHV Webinar Series from May – July 2020 to its partner organisations. This series aimed to provide knowledge and tools for better preparation and implementation of the action camps and encourage peer-to-peer exchange and cooperation.

Together with the World Heritage Centre and the regional coordinators Better World and European Heritage Volunteers, CCIVS took a proactive role in organising and participating in the webinars and hosted three sessions, including the International Voluntary Service – Engaging Youth in Heritage Preservation and Regional Best Practices.



STEP to the Future

from empowerment to resilience in the International Voluntary Service movement



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



STEP to the Future follows the 2017–2018 project STEP to Change, which brought organisational development training and impact measurement to 20 organisations in 4 regions, allowing the building of a global and regional diagnosis on the State of the Art of the International Voluntary Service movement. The experience was very successful and through STEP to the Future, CCIVS aims at expanding and consolidating the empowerment process in the 4 regions.

With the support of Erasmus+ and under the general coordination of the CCIVS, 22 partners from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas (including three international and regional networks Service Civil International, Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisation and Network for Voluntary Development in Asia) came together to cooperate in the STEP to the Future project. The project included a series of offline and online trainings and job-shadowing in peer organisations. Building on this experience, they also contributed to the refinement of tools on organisational development for IVS organisations.

The project aim was to expand on the first STEPS project and to further strengthen the participating organisations, following the Training for Trainers on Organisational Development in Estonia, there were 2 regional STEPS trainings in Thailand and Nigeria where junior and senior trainers worked together to run training workshops and conducted field visits and diagnosis with the hosting organisations. Considering the Challenge of providing training to the entire CCIVS network, 2 measures were proposed:

- to develop an [online course](https://www.ccivs.org/iLearn) (now available on www.ccivs.org/iLearn free online access) which can support IVS organisations unable to join the trainings;
- to support trainers who want to apply for funds to host and lead an Organisational Development training through their organisation, and project coordinators who are willing to write applications and project proposals on Organisational Development.



Steering Meeting and Expert Seminar

From 18-24 January 2019, participants from Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas gathered in Tallinn, Estonia to participate in the Steering Team Meeting & Experts Seminar hosted by EstYES.

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The Steering Team Meeting had as its objective to consolidate a team that would take the leadership of the project and would be responsible for creating a common understanding of its aims, setting priorities, distributing roles among members and clarifying tasks and follow-up mechanisms.

During the seminar, participants with an advanced knowledge of IVS discussed and agreed on specific challenges related to the implementation of intercultural and multilateral approaches and how to integrate these elements during the trainings and workshops that would take place within the framework of the project.

The outcome was an agreed set of principles, orientations and valid models which could be adopted and used, not only throughout the entirety of the project, but also within the IVS movement in the next few years.



**WE ARE
MAKING
STEPS
FORWARD**

Training for Trainers on Organisational Development

The Training for Trainers took place from the 15–22 May 2019 in Poggio Mirteto (hosted by YAP Italy). The aim of this training was to increase the capacities in the regions to perform Organisational Development trainings. The participants represented networks and organisations from around the world as Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations, Solidarités Jeunesses, Egyesek Youth Association, ACI Costa Rica, YAP Italia, Astovot Togo, NVDA, SCI Sri Lanka, SIJUVE ICYE Mexico, VSA Thailand, Volunteers for Peace Vietnam, Southern African Workcamps Cooperation (SAWCA) and Fundación SES.

Over the week, the participants went through the sessions, a group was dedicated to start designing the contents and approach of a MOOC, including some audiovisual recording. The training also allowed them to build a participatory diagnosis of their organisations using the Organisational Pentagon Model.

The trainers were Oriol Josa, Coordinator of global and local initiatives and campaigns, and Matina Deligianni, National Delegate from Solidarités Jeunesses, both senior experts in Organisational Development.

Jobshadowing / On field training exchanges in Europe

After the Training for Trainers on Organisational Development, the participants (trainees) from America, Asia, Africa, participated in on-field job-shadowing and training sessions with European organisations.

In the first part of the training exchange, an expert and a trainee provided a 3 days training on organisational development to an European organisation. In the second part of the training exchange, trainees stayed for 7–10 days in the host organisation, doing a professional exchange in order to strengthen the strategic needs discovered during the STEPS training.

Here are the experience sharing of the trainees from Mariana García Berrueta (ICYE Mexico), Parin Charoenchanaporn (VSA Thailand) and Ratherford Mwaruta (ZWA Zimbabwe)

“Understanding and Cooperation as a Path to Enhance the IVS Movement”

In May, I had the unique opportunity to participate in a job shadowing experience with EstYES, Estonia. The main outcomes of the experience are understanding and cooperation. On the one hand, I am able to understand better European programs, inequalities within regions, and the power that lies within the youth and the voluntary service. On the other hand, the experience gave me the possibility to explore cooperation with countries that do not form part of the world vision of the Mexican youth. Overall, the job shadowing helped me to create new ideas about why IVS is vital in our path to build peace and justice.

I have volunteered abroad and currently I coordinate voluntary programs for international participants in Mexico. Nevertheless, thanks to EstYES, I had the opportunity to become for the first time an observer and listener of youth in action. I was able to visit several youth organizations in Tallinn and Narva (VitaTim, public youth centers, etc.), and talk with the volunteers and coordinators working in them. This new perspective taught me to valorize more the capabilities of youth as agents of change, and IVS as a platform for it.

The experience also brought into the surface common and particular challenges. While the impact and necessity of volunteering abroad are clearer for the people involved in it, it is getting harder to boost interest and transmit the value of it to new generations. If we aim to enhance the IVS movement, we need to join efforts, link IVS to the needs and interests of





young generations and use vocabulary that evokes the purpose of IVS.

In addition, it became clear through discussions with the EstYES team and the Estonian Youth Agency that international volunteering is part of the European agenda, and therefore, European youth and organizations receive considerable support from their governments. Thanks to past south-north cooperation, the EstYES Director was able to share some advice to balance the mentioned shortcomings, such as cooperation with local universities and governments.

Solidarity, understanding, respect, and cooperation are some of the values that the IVS movement try to incorporate in the global youth, but it is also the foundation from which IVS organizations can grow and move towards peace and justice. The job shadowing gave SIJUVE a new ally and perspective, and for that, I am very thankful to EstYES and CCIVS.

Mariana García Berrueta, Incoming Coordinator ICYE Mexico

Job Shadowing in Hungary with Egyesek

After 6 days training in Poggio Mirteto, Italy on Organizational Development with CCIVS trainers, I continue my journey to Budapest, Hungary. My task is to visit the Egyesek organization to deliver the training that I have received and visit their project site to learn and exchange good practices. I will spend a total of 12 days with them. It is my first time in this beautiful country and rain is welcoming me (it is summer!). I give the training to the board members of Egyesek for a total of 3 days to find out their strengths and areas that need to be strengthened. From the learning, they need to come up with some strategies. Then, I give them some time to think and discuss. I will meet with them again at the end of my visit. With limited preparation time for the training, I do not have time to see Budapest yet, I will come back later.

Next stop, I move out of Budapest to Hollókő by bus. The journey takes about 2 hours. Hollókő is a Palóc ethnographic village in Hungary and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, very excited to be there. Egyesek has a training center here. I have a chance to join a “Coaching” Training which is happening during that week. We play many games and learn new skills to become a good coach. The participants from the training are from everywhere in Europe in different fields; students to freelancers. It is a good chance to learn a new culture and meet new people.

While staying in Hollókő, I visit EVS volunteers. There are projects for EVS in 5 different villages not so far from Hollókő. They are connected by bus. I have visited 4 of them; Szecseny, Varsány, Nógrádszakál and Magyargéc. EVS live in Szecseny. Their accommodation is a small house. It looks cozy and convenient, quite good conditions for volunteers. I have joined different activities here; English class at primary school, Youth Center for after school activities and Children day for gypsy kids (super adorable). I feel that I want to spend more time with them, but have to move on.

Last 2 days in Hungary, time to move back to Budapest. Egyesek has an event for launching software called “iPrepare” which aims to support organizations for preparing volunteers to go abroad. Some organizations have no pre-departure program for their volunteers which iPrepare will come to support. In this event, I have tried the prototype, it is very useful.

Time comes to an end. On the last day, I have a meeting with the board members to discuss their next approach for the organization. I believe the training that I have provided really gave an impact and helped them to move on. Also, it is time to say goodbye. Thank you to everyone from Egyesek for taking care of my visit. Apart from work, I have a chance to try many cuisines when I am here, but except Hungarian food ironically. One thing that my friend tells me to try is ‘Thermal Bath’, but until the last day, I don’t have a chance. I will have to come back here again

Parin Charoenganaporn, VSA Outgoing Coordinator

Putting a Human Face behind the Email

In order to enhance the spirit of south-north exchange as well as putting a human face behind the email, skype or phone call as well as improving effectiveness and efficiency in managing organisational change, I was attached to SCI Catalunya in Spain for job shadowing. This accorded me a very rare chance to put things into perspective by seeing my own organisation with different eyes. The program was action packed, pregnant with opportunities because I was offered the chance of a lifetime to have one on one sessions with the entire SCI staff members, some few board members as well as one ex staff/ board member. This was a perfect learning opportunity because it offered me a very good chance to learn about all the different departments at SCI Catalunya within a very short time. Working alongside the staff and board members created a very rare chance for mutual learning as well as strengthening our partnership. One of the greatest lessons learnt was the fundraising strategies employed by SCI which is more local and sustainable. I was impressed by the approach which I will call friend raising as opposed to fund raising.

I actively participated in the training of the outgoing volunteers, this gave me respectable time to try and understand the needs and aspirations of the young volunteers from Spain on why they volunteer in different parts of the world. I was accorded the opportunity to present projects from East and Southern Africa, this was very healthy because it challenged my imagination. I also took advantage of being in Barcelona, the home of Cocat and to visit their office so as to exchange notes as well as putting a human face behind the phone calls or email with the staff members at Cocat. This was an amazing experience because I witnessed how two sister organisations are complementing each other in volarising international voluntary services in the same city but employing different strategies.

The key deliverable output of the job shadowing was the consensus agreement to pitch a proposal with SCI Catalunya under the auspices of the Erasmus plus program. The proposal will try to raise resources for a joint camp coordinators capacity building program. We intend to harmonise training programs for camp coordinators, this will go a long way in improving effectiveness and efficiency in running our workcamps as well as improving partnership between the two-sister organisations since we will be using the same manual for camp management. The idea is also to include other sister partner organisations in Asia and the Americas.

Ratherford Mwaruta, ZWA



STEPS in Africa

From the 13-19 September 2019, CCIVS alongside Voluntary Workcamps Association of Nigeria as the hosting organisation, coordinated the STEPS Training on Organisational Development, which took place in Lagos, Nigeria. A team of 4 international trainers, from SES Mercedes Paula Groba from Fundación SES, Ratherford Mwaruta from ZWA, Mario Mormile from YAP Italy and Edem Kodzo Ekpeko from ASTOVOT, all of whom had previously attended the Training for Trainers in Italy, imparted their knowledge acquired on Organisational Development in order to strengthen member organisations from the region.

The training was a success, as the trainers managed to work to their strengths and transmit the knowledge they have gained during the STEPS project, and build on their own past experiences in the IVS movement as well as their cultural diversity to deliver the Pentagon methodology in the most efficient way and using real world examples that spoke to the participants. Participants left the training with more tools to diagnose their organisations, to analyse their strengths and weaknesses and with ideas of improvement. Not everything was pure work, as VWAN also organised a cultural outing and the trainers organised moments of cultural exchange. The experience was enriching for all, with many organisations expressing their ideas and proposals for the future and some even carrying out workshops on Organisational Development!



STEPS in Asia

The Asian organisational development training took place in Thailand from the 13-18 September 2019, hosted by VSA Thailand. This training took place at the same time as the African STEPS training and the trainers and participants connected at some stage through Skype and had some short exchanges about the training. Although the methodology of the training had been tested before the concept of this training included also a new element. The trainers had participated in a Training of Trainers to multiply the STEPS methodology in different regions. Sophat Sorn (CYA), Mahip Dagar (Ruchi) and Ingrid Danckaerts (CCIVS) guided the group through a thorough analysis of their organisation with the STEPS methodology. Thanks to the great hosting efforts of VSA, the training week went very well. The intensive programme made sure all participants went home with a lot of new knowledge and some skills to analyse their organisation. It's up to them now to use these skills and make sure their organisations walk the path of organisational improvements!



MOOC Production Laboratory

From the 1-8 October 2019 in the Creative Space, Fundación SES, Network for Voluntary Development Foundation in Asia (NVDA), Zimbabwe Workcamp Association, Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS), Egyesek Youth Association, Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations, and Service Civil International met to design and develop a virtual training space, a MOOC, with an organisational strengthening methodology (the organisational Pentagon) built during the project. The goal was to share how IVS organisations can use these methodologies, and how also individuals can promote organisational development

Creating the STEPS MOOC was a rich learning process for all those involved. The STEPS MOOC can now be found on the [CCIVS iLearn site](#) and is open and free to all.

Online Course on Organisational Development for IVS Organisations

The aim of the STEPS Organisational Development for IVS organisations (STEPS MOOC) is to contribute to increasing competences, providing tools and support to IVS professionals and organisations, so that they can improve their capacities and are also able to go through strengthening processes as organisations.

This course intends to:

- give a more systemic and systematic review of your own organisation;
- facilitate you to identify and leverage strengths and challenges;
- help you design strategies to grow into a more balanced and stronger organisation.

It consists of:

- module lessons with subtitled videos, reading materials, case study, exercises, forum discussion;
- experts feedback on the exercises and organisational diagnosis;
- thematic webinars.

Participants' REVIEWS

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"It was an interesting and empowering experience to include the people from my organisation and present this as a tool of reflection and evaluation, putting all of the things that we "already know" into a structured form and also compare everyone's point of view on different topics. Patience and persistence are probably one of the most important things here" Marija Peric - Young Researchers of Serbia

"I'm really learning a lot and I'm quite grateful for that. I still need to keep studying the Pentagon model so I can learn it by heart" Mercie Kubasu - ICYE Kenya



Webinar Series

On top of the original plan of activities of the STEPS project, the Webinar Series was developed as an outcome of discussions between the participating networks on how to provide support to our grass-root member organisations and partners in the climate of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As complementary learning resources to the online course, the Webinar Series focused on promoting the MOOC and providing support and guidance for each of the Pentagon points - structure, functioning, sustainability, relationships, communication and on impact measurement.

CCIVS invited the external expert Strategies and Leaders, a strategic consultancy firm of experienced social entrepreneurs, to develop and conduct the webinars.

The webinars started in October 2020, and are hosted on the Zoom platform and livestreamed on Facebook. It has attracted people from over 74 different countries to participate. The webinars recording videos, materials, and exercises are available on the CCIVS iLearn platform. The participants are invited to share reflections and discussion on the iLearn forum.

#IVS4Peace

Inclusive Voluntary Service 4 Peace

with the support of

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



#IVS4Peace, Inclusive Voluntary Service 4 Peace is a 3 year (2018–2020) project intended to favour the social inclusion process of young people with fewer opportunities, migrants and refugees. In order to achieve this, we intend to improve and increase the capacity of IVS networks to provide effective opportunities for social inclusion of young people through the development and scaling up of tools and working methods. The partnership running the project is formed by 3 network organisations, two of them belonging to the IVS movement: CCIVS and the Alliance of European Voluntary Service organisations, and the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN), bringing further expertise on Social Inclusion. The partnership counts also with the collaboration of grassroots organisations, members of CCIVS and/or Alliance; Compagnons Bâisseurs Belgium (CBB), Egyesek Youth Association Hungary, Elix Conservation Volunteers Greece and Solidarités Jeunesses France (SJ).

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The project builds on the best practice previously developed by the partner organisations: the Access for All Guidelines developed by the Alliance, as a tool to ensure Social Inclusion in IVS projects; a series of Impact Measurement projects developed by the CCIVS and Solidarités Jeunesses as a tool to assess our real impact and the Raising Peace Campaign as an awareness raising campaign developed by the CCIVS.

In 2019, the project went through the second round of sharing, testing and assessing the impact of the already existing tools, including a laboratory event and intercultural projects implemented by the grass-roots partners and their follow-up and impact measurement. In 2020, the project focused on the analytical work of the impact research, the development of the MOOC and the policy recommendation paper. The Final Conference is postponed to 2021 and will be organised online due to the extended COVID-19 pandemic impact.

The Inclusive Voluntary Service for Peace toolkit is developed and intends to provide some elements for reflection as well as concrete tools on how to make each step of the International Voluntary Service process and projects inclusive for youth with fewer opportunities and, in particular, for migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and minority groups.



Partnership Meeting

The second partnership meeting took place from 7–11 January 2019, in the Ostkreuz Youth Hostel in Berlin, hosted by YEN.

The meeting allowed the partnership to share the updates and learnings from the first round of projects and follow-up activities in 2018, to have a reflection on the practices that had been working well and those that did not, identify which practices should be brought forward and plan for the Laboratory II (objectives, programme, participants call, logistics, etc) and finalise the toolkit structure that would be worked on during the Laboratory II. In addition, there was a space to go through some project management and budget issues and to look at the next steps.

Coordinator Meeting Brussels

On 4 February 2019, CCIVS Programme Coordinator Zhuoling You was invited by the funder Erasmus+ of the European Commission as a guest speaker in the Panel Discussion to share best practices, target groups and upscaling method during the Project Coordinators' Meeting of the Key Action 3.

Laboratory II

The IVS4Peace Lab II took place from the 17–22 March 2019 in Brussels, hosted by CBB. The purpose of the Laboratory was to share a working space about social inclusion practices in workcamps from the perspectives and experiences of the different organisations and to create a toolkit for Social Inclusion in IVS Projects.

During the week, the representatives from the partners networks and organisations were split in four groups that corresponded to the four main chronological phases of a workcamp: Outreach, Preparation, During the workcamp and Follow up. Each working group had already existing materials and some tasks to develop. The objective of the Laboratory would be the creation of a toolkit on how to make workcamps more socially inclusive, focusing on a specific target: refugees, migrants, asylum seekers and minorities even if most of the processes are useful for any specific target within the broader young people with fewer opportunities.

The facilitators of the IVS4Peace Lab II were Clara Giberga, IVS4Peace project facilitator, and Andrés Santiago, Alliance's Access4All working group coordinator.

Participants from different organisations brought their diverse experience on social inclusion and international volunteering and together with a lot of motivation and commitment; working hard on the elaboration of the basis for what will be one of the main outcomes of the Inclusive Voluntary Service for Peace project. It was really beautiful to see the engagement of the group into looking at the practices, questioning them, finding gaps and thinking of how to improve, finding links and making them clearer to the process. It was, all in all, a really fruitful and enriching week.



Second Round of Intercultural Projects and Follow-up

The tool developed during the Laboratory II was applied to the intercultural projects implemented during the summer season by the partners. This Second Round of projects aimed to involve migrants/refugees/people with fewer opportunities in intercultural projects implemented abroad, in order to include the added value of the international context. After their experience in the international actions, the migrants/refugees/young people with fewer opportunities were involved in follow up activities by the partners, to enrich and diversify their social inclusion opportunities. Such activities also included an evaluation session to assess the experience or some relevant workshops activities.

Here is an intercultural project and good practice shared by the partner organisation Compagnons Bâtisseurs:

Through the #IVS4Peace project, CBB wanted to focus on the asylum-seeker public as a target group. In this activity, it was foreseen to involve 15 volunteers during the summer season. This objective has been effectively achieved and each CBB voluntary workcamps hosted one or several asylum seekers within each volunteer team (inclusive practice).

The number of young people whose awareness has been raised about volunteering and who have taken part in preparatory activities (information sessions, preparation workshops, work camps, weekends, etc.) is much more important. But for personal reasons and often decisions related to their asylum procedure (currently 53% of asylum seekers receive a negative decision) some of them had to stop their involvement before taking part in the voluntary workcamp. To reach this target group, CBB used an internal process called JACTIVE, developed with the support of Fedasil (Federal agency for the reception of asylum seekers).

This process relies heavily on building networks between the youth sector and the social partners, and was used to mobilise the target group in this project. Concretely, it means we collaborate with several reception centers for asylum seekers located in the French speaking part of Belgium. In each structure, a delegate person is identified to promote the process JACTIVE and to facilitate the communication and information sharing between the youngsters, the reception center and CBB.

Information sessions, workshops to raise awareness on volunteering and volunteering activities organised in the reception centers has been done to reach the target group and give them a better understanding of the project. The word of mouth also had a strong impact to promote our activities in some communities.

The follow-up activities actively involved the social workers working in reception centers. Each youth from the target group who participated in a workcamp project has been invited and encouraged to participate in follow-up activities. For reasons generally related to their asylum procedure and, in the case of a negative decision, their obligation to leave the territory, 5 persons did not really participate in follow-up activities. They were just able to take part in an evaluation session at the end of the local action.

In total, 14 volunteers from the target group participated to varying degrees in activities to assess their participation, enrich their knowledge and to identify new opportunities to be involved and develop new skills.

Impact Measurement

Similarly to the previous year, the data collected from the second round of intercultural projects about the target group and the local communities were processed and correlated. The results to be published at the end of 2020 will be used to prove the effectiveness of the process and to propose adjustments to the impact assessment tool for the projects focusing on social inclusion.

Partnership Meeting

The third partnership meeting was supposed to take place in Holloko, Hungary, hosted by Egyesek from 16–20 March 2020. However, due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the international travel constraint, this meeting was converted into an online format.

Despite the physical distance, the partnership was able to reactivate the group dynamics and had a fruitful discussion and working sessions. The partners shared updates of the project progress in general and reflected on the approach. The Policy Recommendation Working Group and the MOOC Working Group had parallel working sessions to further define the strategies and develop the contents.

The content of this Toolkit has been collectively developed among a wide variety of authors, including the project partners and the participants of the Laboratory I in 2018 and Laboratory II in 2019. The IVS networks and their members were invited to review the draft and give feedback.

This toolkit is mainly designed for Sending Organisations, Coordinating Organisations, Hosting Organisations and camp coordinators involved in workcamps within the International Voluntary Service movement, and can be used as a support for those involved in the organisation of international projects in a youth organisation.

The purpose of this toolkit is to provide some elements for reflection as well as concrete tools on how to make each step of the IVS process and projects inclusive for youth with fewer opportunities and, in particular, for migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and minority groups.

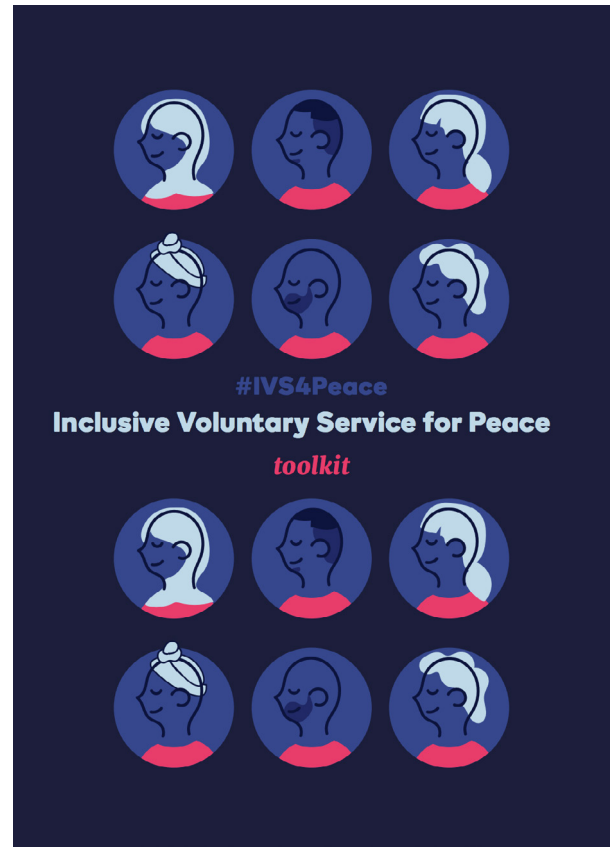


#IVS4Peace Inclusive Voluntary Service for Peace Toolkit

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MOOC on Social Inclusion

With the support of the external expert organisation COFA, the project team is working on the development of a MOOC that is aimed at camp leaders, camp coordinators and camp organisers. The Team conducted the needs survey among the IVS networks and drafted the concept based on the needs analysis.

The MOOC is at the development phase and is scheduled to be finalised and delivered in May 2021. It intends to create an interactive learning experience for the target group who can think through the actual daily challenges and make socially integrated, inclusive workcamps.



IVS for Climate Justice Campaign



PROTECT | REVIVE | SUSTAIN
International Voluntary Service

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



IVS for Climate Justice is a worldwide campaign taking place in over 100 countries, coordinated by CCIVS (A global network focusing on International Voluntary Service), bringing together the activities of six International Voluntary Service networks, CCIVS, Service Civil International (SCI), The International Building Organisation (IBO), Alliance of European Voluntary Service organisations, Network for Voluntary Development Asia (NVDA) and the Network of African Voluntary Organisations (NAVO). It engages volunteers with local communities to work on grassroots projects that combine manual work and awareness-raising actions. These address issues such as climate change, carbon offset, environmental sustainability, protection of ecosystems, water and soil management and conservation.



Climate change



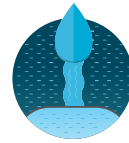
Carbon offset



Environmental sustainability



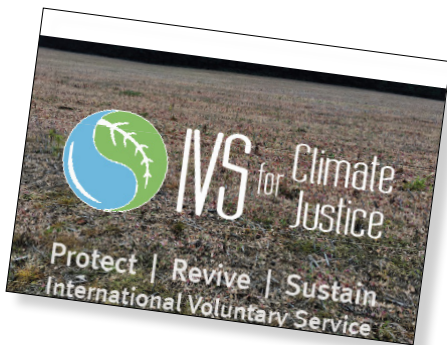
Protection of ecosystems



Water and soil management

What is Climate Justice for the IVS Movement?

As a matter of principle, climate change is a global challenge affecting the entire world and humanity as a whole. At a closer look, however, people most responsible for anthropogenic climate change and those most affected by its consequences differ. Geographical location, economic status as well as means to act may determine the vulnerability of individuals living today. Apart from that, scientists predict increasingly severe consequences of climate change for generations yet to come. The concept of climate justice addresses this unequal allocation of benefits and burdens by relating climate change to matters of social justice and human rights.



Each year our short term workcamps represent:

3 000 work camps

38.6% environmental projects

30 000 volunteers

3 000 000 hours of volunteer work

70+ million USD worth of volunteering time

Don't just say it! Do it!

Volunteering to create a network of knowledge through ecological & sustainable practice

This project is developed based on the direction of the White Paper for International Voluntary Service (IVS) 2011-21 and the Plan of Action 2017-18 of the CCIVS. Considering the network's objective to tackle poverty reduction and health promotion and environment and sustainability issues, the project sought to provide partners and stakeholders with new skills, experiences and resources in the field of Sustainable Food Production and Bioconstruction. Under the IVS for [Climate Justive campaign](#) the project brought together 31 international voluntary service organisations from Asia, Africa, Europe and America, along with the National Technological University, Santa Fe Regional Faculty in Argentina, and engaged volunteers with local communities to work on grassroots projects that combine manual work and awareness raising actions, including climate change, carbon offset, environmental sustainability, protection of ecosystems, water and soil management and conservation.

The aims & objectives of this project were to:

- develop IVS organisations' youth workers and trainers capacity of acting as multipliers in their regions and in their organisations
- raise awareness of the work of the IVS network on Climate Justice and towards the attainment of the SDGs through providing spaces and data for visibility and networking on an international & local level
- strengthen participation in the global IVS network and connection between organisations who may also make part of different networks who would not normally work together and with external stakeholders
- strengthen cooperation between the formal and non-formal education sectors
- enable IVS organisations to use monitoring & impact measurement tools
- create inclusive environments for young people with fewer opportunities from local communities, integrating them in the follow-up actions of the project
- revalorise traditional / alternative farming and construction techniques
- stimulate the development of innovative follow-up processes with online and offline tools which will remain in place once the project is over
- raise awareness about the effects unsustainable food production and housing and their contribution to Climate Change





Visibility and Networking

The Conference in Paris, France 21 – 25 April 2018 gathered 35 representatives from partner organisations and 4 experts that would lead the workshops and the impact measurement. The event allowed for a rich exchange among the consortium as they agreed on a common way of cooperation and shared information. Together with the experts, the Steering Team and the consortium were able to finalise the workshops approaches, follow-up system.

The Forum “Just Volunteers: The Transformational Power of International Voluntary Actions for Climate Justice and Freedom of Movement” held at UNESCO House under the patronage of UNESCO, highlighted the important work of volunteers on issues related to environment and sustainability, and shared impact research results and concerns. To start the Forum, Ms Ingrid Danckaerts (President of CCIVS) gave a brief introduction of IVS, and Dr. Mechtild Rössler (Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and Secretary to the World Heritage Convention) delivered a keynote speech. Mr Francesco Volpini (School of Social Work, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) gave a thorough presentation on the impact of international voluntary service. In the Round Table session on how volunteering can contribute to human rights and climate justice, Ms Malgorzata Tur (SCI International President), Ms Katuscia Eroë (Responsible for the Energy Sector Legambiente Onlus), Ms Kazumi Ikeda-Larhed (Deputy Director Partnerships and South-South Cooperation Division – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), Dr. Simona Costanzo-Sow (Lead, Policy Coherence, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development), Mr Peter Dogse (Co-Chair, Executive Secretariat, UNESCO Task Team on Climate Change) shared their insights and exchanged their opinions with the audience in the Q&A session.

An exhibition space showcased the local projects of the consortium during the networking session to the stakeholders.

[The detailed Programme and Speakers](#)



Workshops

Two thematic workshops took place in 2018. Fundación FEVI hosted the Bio-construction workshop in Quito, Ecuador from 8-17 June 2018 with 13 participants supported by an expert in natural construction techniques Professor Ariel González from UTN of Sante Fe, and the non-formal education expert Borja Franco Garzón. 32 participants joined the workshop on Sustainable Food Production hosted by FSL India in Kundapur from 16-25 November 2018. The trainers team included Kate Curtis and Govinda Sharma (Hasera), with further inputs by Deepika Kudaji, Rosie Harding and Peter Fernandes. These workshops used non-formal education and experiential learning methods, eg. practice sessions and group design, and took place in local communities with community engagement. Participants had a learning process of “theoretical input – experience reflection and practices sharing – group analysis and design – hands-on practice and experimenting – strategies and plans improvement”. The diversity of participating countries and experts’ backgrounds greatly contributed to the richness of learning contents and experience sharing. The contribution of experts in both workshops, provided new perspectives to the partners.

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A toolkit on [Sustainable Food Production](#) was created and is served as a reference documents for the participants and those who are interested in starting growing an edible ecosystem in a sustainable way.

Follow-up system and Local Actions

Under the guidance of the Steering Team and with the input and support of experts, a follow-up system was developed and implemented through regular mailings, WhatsApp and Facebook groups, Google Drive, Skype, online platforms Canvas.

“Rafiki Councils” (Rafiki is “friend” in Swahili) were created based on climate and time zones so as to facilitate timings of online meetings and specific climate strategies. The long-term objective is each council can continue to support each other and share knowledge and experiences, and expand into the local communities in an autonomous way.

In 2019, 30 local actions took place in more than 20 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and America with a participation of 450 young people (approximate) who gained theoretical input and hands-on experiences in the field of environment and sustainability.

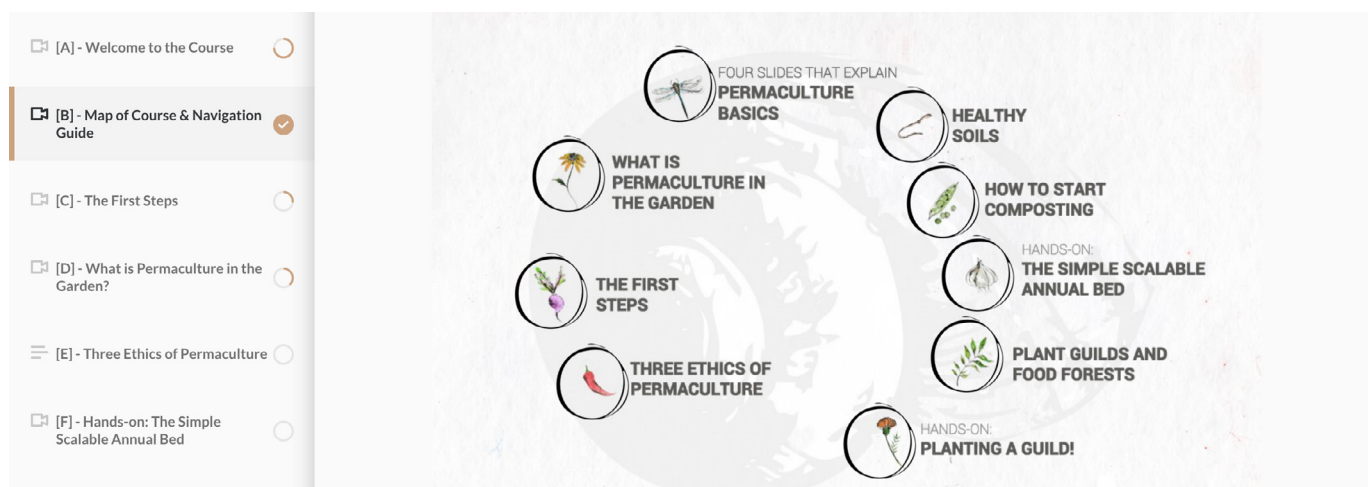


MOOCs

Two MOOCs (Everything Gardens – A Beginner’s Course for Growing an Edible Ecosystem in a Sustainable Way, Bioconstruction – A Short Introduction to Eco-Technologies and Building with Earth) were created to close the workshop training cycle, plan the next steps, reply to any questions which are posted online, and be open and free for all those who wish to access. It is a reference source and tool for future international cooperation projects and local multiplier ones. These courses are available on the [CCIVS iLearn platform](#).

Online Results

Through the Global Communication Campaign, numerous communication actions were carried out internationally and locally about the project scope and its progressive outcomes, including the promotion of the [Local Awareness Raising Actions](#): activity reports, impact measurement tools and outcomes.



Impact Measurement

Impact Measurement was implemented in these local actions, an important indicator of project quality and a monitoring process. Through the impact measurement, we obtained analytical data and statistics that demonstrate the impact on the participants in the local actions. Participants of the Climate Justice local action report a much higher project satisfaction than in other international workcamps in previous research. They also consider their camp experience extremely relevant for their personal / professional development. The full report can be read here: [Climate Justice Impact Assessment Report](#)
More information in the Impact Report on Page 41 of the Activity Report.

Global Common Action Day

Earth Overshoot Day marks the date when humanity’s demand for ecological resources and services in a given year exceeds what Earth can regenerate in that year. In 2019, CCIVS called IVS projects all over the world to do a practical action to reduce carbon emission and contribute to Climate Justice and showcase the work done by IVS organisations during August 8. ‘The International Voluntary Service movement commits to work together and defend our planet and its inhabitants by thinking globally and acting locally for climate justice’.

In spite of the lockdown, during 2020 IVS organisations still supported the IVS for Climate Justice campaign. We still assume our responsibility in the global sustainability challenge and seek to do our part in attaining climate justice, from our homes.

We believe that from our homes, our gardens, we also can defend the values of this campaign and, for this reason, on August 22, we called staff members, board members, activists, volunteers, to post on their social media what have they done and what are they doing from home under the hashtag #LocalActionsGlobalChange. CCIVS shared and retweeted the actions on our social media pages and profiles.

Soil 4 Life



Managed by



Co-funded by



Soil4Life is a European project that involves Italian, French and Croatian partners, which aims to promote sustainable use of the soil as a strategic, limited and non-renewable resource. A goal in line with the commitment signed by the European countries at the United Nations table, through adherence to the Sustainable Development Goals – SDG.

Co-financed by the European Commission through the Life programme, Soil4Life involves associations and research institutions convinced that the soil must be preserved with concrete actions and policies, supported by analyses and data that allow monitoring of the ecological status. Soil4Life pursues the application of the Voluntary Guidelines for sustainable soil management promoted by FAO, adapting them to national, regional and local contexts, and provides information and support to territorial planning involving the agricultural sector and sector professionals (agronomists, geologists, urban planners and designers). Soil4Life also aims to increase citizens' awareness of soil protection and to raise awareness among national and EU institutions of the need to adopt adequate regulations to stop soil consumption and prevent its degradation.

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Some of the specific project objectives include:

- » Improving governance of land-use decision-making processes at a national, regional and local level
- » Providing decision-makers and stakeholders with the information necessary for soil protection and planning support tools
- » Increasing knowledge and awareness of farmers and the agricultural world on the role of agriculture in soil protection
- » Increasing knowledge and awareness in the world of freelancers (agronomists, architects, geologists and surveyors) about the soil problem
- » Achieving a higher level of citizen consent to policies in favour of soil protection
- » Raising awareness among community institutions and other member states about the need to adopt adequate regulations to reduce land consumption and to promote sustainable use.
- » Promoting the reduction of soil consumption in urban planning.
- » Increasing awareness of farms and stakeholders (institutions, technicians, citizenship), with respect to ecosystem services generated by the adoption of appropriate practices to maintain or restore adequate organic carbon content in agricultural soils. (source: soil4life.eu)

The actions implemented or to be implemented by CCIVS include:

- » The development of a Communication Toolkit and Raising Awareness Toolkit (2019)
- » Soil Protection and Management Training (2019)
- » A Global Communication Campaign (2019–2021)
- » Soil4LifeManifesto (2019–2022)
- » Local Awareness Actions (2021)
- » International Convention (2022)

More information and the tools developed can be found [HERE](#)

Project Management Meeting

CCIVS attended a project management meeting in March 2019 in the Legambiente office in Rome. The meeting provided the possibility to update on the project and also to meet with the evaluator from the LIFE programme

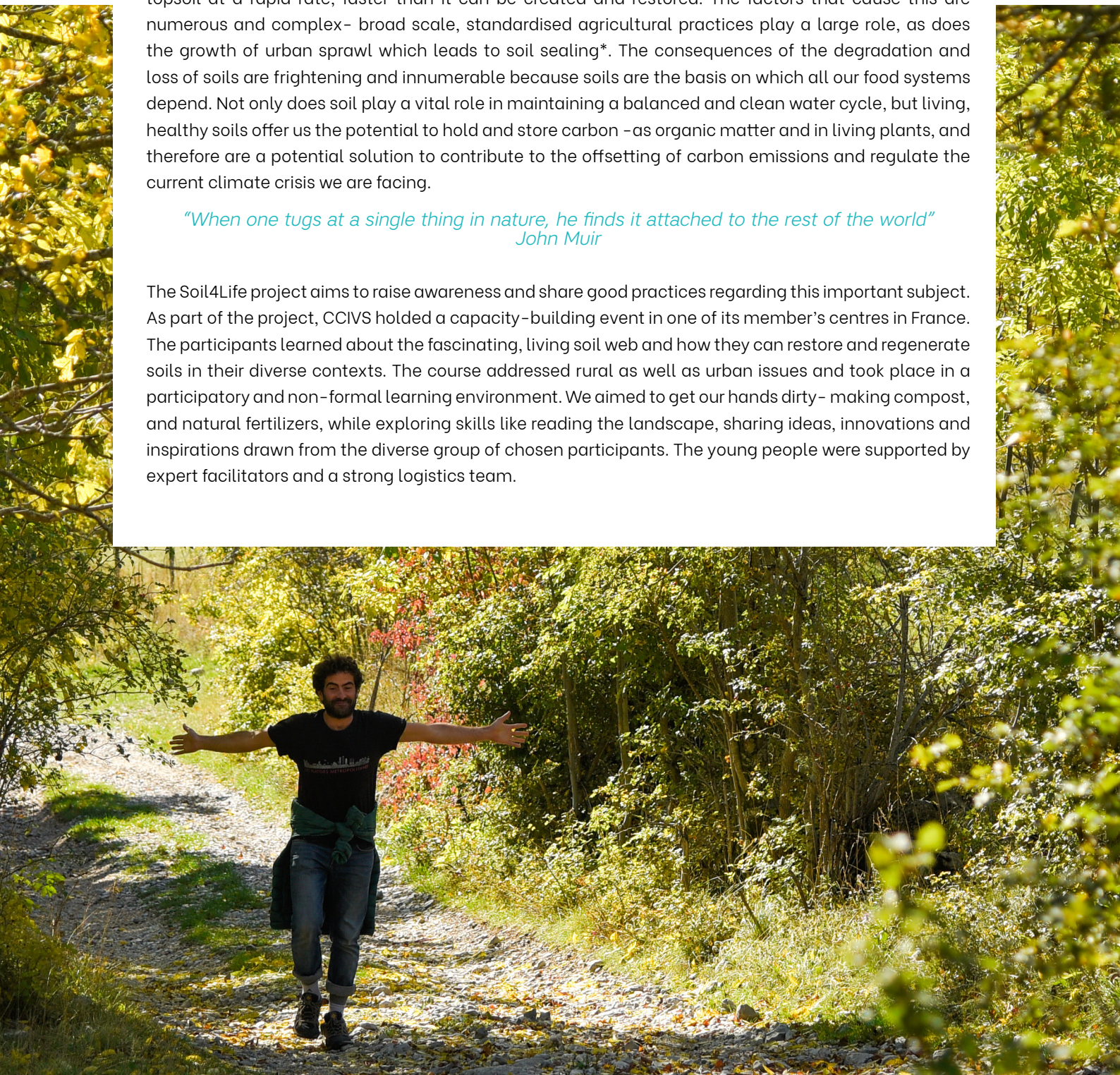
Soil Protection and Management training

“The European Union is losing 970 million tonnes of soil per year due to water erosion, an amount equivalent to a one metre–depth loss of soil from an area the size of the city of Berlin or enough to cover an area twice the size of Belgium with one centimetre of soil.” [*The new assessment of soil loss by water erosion in Europe* Panos Panagosa, Pasquale Borrelli, Jean Poesenc, Cristiano Ballabioa, Emanuele Lugatoa, Katrin Meusburger, Luca Montanarella, Christine Alewell. European Commission Joint Research Centre, Institute for Environment and Sustainability]

The latest results of studies on the state of soil on our planet are extremely alarming. We are losing topsoil at a rapid rate, faster than it can be created and restored. The factors that cause this are numerous and complex– broad scale, standardised agricultural practices play a large role, as does the growth of urban sprawl which leads to soil sealing*. The consequences of the degradation and loss of soils are frightening and innumerable because soils are the basis on which all our food systems depend. Not only does soil play a vital role in maintaining a balanced and clean water cycle, but living, healthy soils offer us the potential to hold and store carbon –as organic matter and in living plants, and therefore are a potential solution to contribute to the offsetting of carbon emissions and regulate the current climate crisis we are facing.

“When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world”
John Muir

The Soil4Life project aims to raise awareness and share good practices regarding this important subject. As part of the project, CCIVS held a capacity–building event in one of its member’s centres in France. The participants learned about the fascinating, living soil web and how they can restore and regenerate soils in their diverse contexts. The course addressed rural as well as urban issues and took place in a participatory and non–formal learning environment. We aimed to get our hands dirty– making compost, and natural fertilizers, while exploring skills like reading the landscape, sharing ideas, innovations and inspirations drawn from the diverse group of chosen participants. The young people were supported by expert facilitators and a strong logistics team.





During the event, each participant came up with an action plan that they will implement with their local organisations after the training. These can include workcamps, community gardens, local awareness-raising campaigns, “Green the City” movements and similar projects. A Network of Soil Ambassadors was established to share and connect these local actions and forms part of the creation of the Soil4Life Manifest. A first draft of the Soil4Life Manifest was collectively created during the 4 training days, and the final manifest will be delivered in March 2022 to the European Commission and presented during the International Convention to take place in UNESCO, Paris.

The “dirt below our feet” plays a critical part in our interconnected and living planet’s ecosystem. There are many solutions, large and small, and the Soil4Life project aims to promote and support actions that positively contribute to the regeneration and restoration of our environments.

*Soil sealing can be defined as the destruction or covering of soils by buildings, constructions and layers of completely or partly impermeable artificial material (asphalt, concrete, etc.). It is the most intense form of land take and is essentially an irreversible process.

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The Soil4Life Manifesto

[The Soil4Life manifesto](#) was first drafted on 17 October, 2019 during the international Soil Management training, where a group of Soil Ambassadors was formed. These Soil Ambassadors are taking actions, from small grassroots or individuals projects to larger partnered NGOs and university research, to raise awareness, restore degraded soils, re-green cities, improve farming methods and inspire young people through education programs on soil. At the training, four temporary, working groups were formed and different concerns and challenges around soil were discussed. It was decided to focus the manifesto in relation to 4 of the global SDGs – Zero Hunger, Climate Action, Life on Land, and Sustainable Cities and Communities.

Since the first version was drafted, an online document has been created and participants were invited to add feedback and comments, as the draft has been developed

Now we invite you or your organisations to give your input! We would like to hear and include the voices and concerns of all people affected by this serious and sensitive subject.

The final manifesto will be delivered to UNESCO at the end of 2022, it is a call to action by global leaders to support the transition to a life-sustaining, healthy and thriving environment- of which the ground we walk on is the foundation.

Global Communication Campaign

During 2019, CCIVS organised a Global Communication campaign through our social media channels, where we shared information about the project and the training. During the day dedicated to the Right to Food and Housing of the Global Human Rights Week, CCIVS dedicated a space to raise awareness about soil. As a result of the training, a [documentary video](#) was produced by Hamza Alshayeb about the Raising Peace campaign and the Soil4Life project. Hamza also compiled a [climate campaign video](#), published on CCIVS Youtube channel and presented during the UNESCO General Conference in the NGO Space by the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee.

The Soil4Life Manifesto was launched on the occasion of World Soil Day. It was shared among CCIVS Members and on CCIVS social media profiles, asking organisations to give their input. CCIVS also asked organisations and people involved in the Soil4Life project to join FAO's campaign 'Stop Soil Erosion, Save Our Future'.

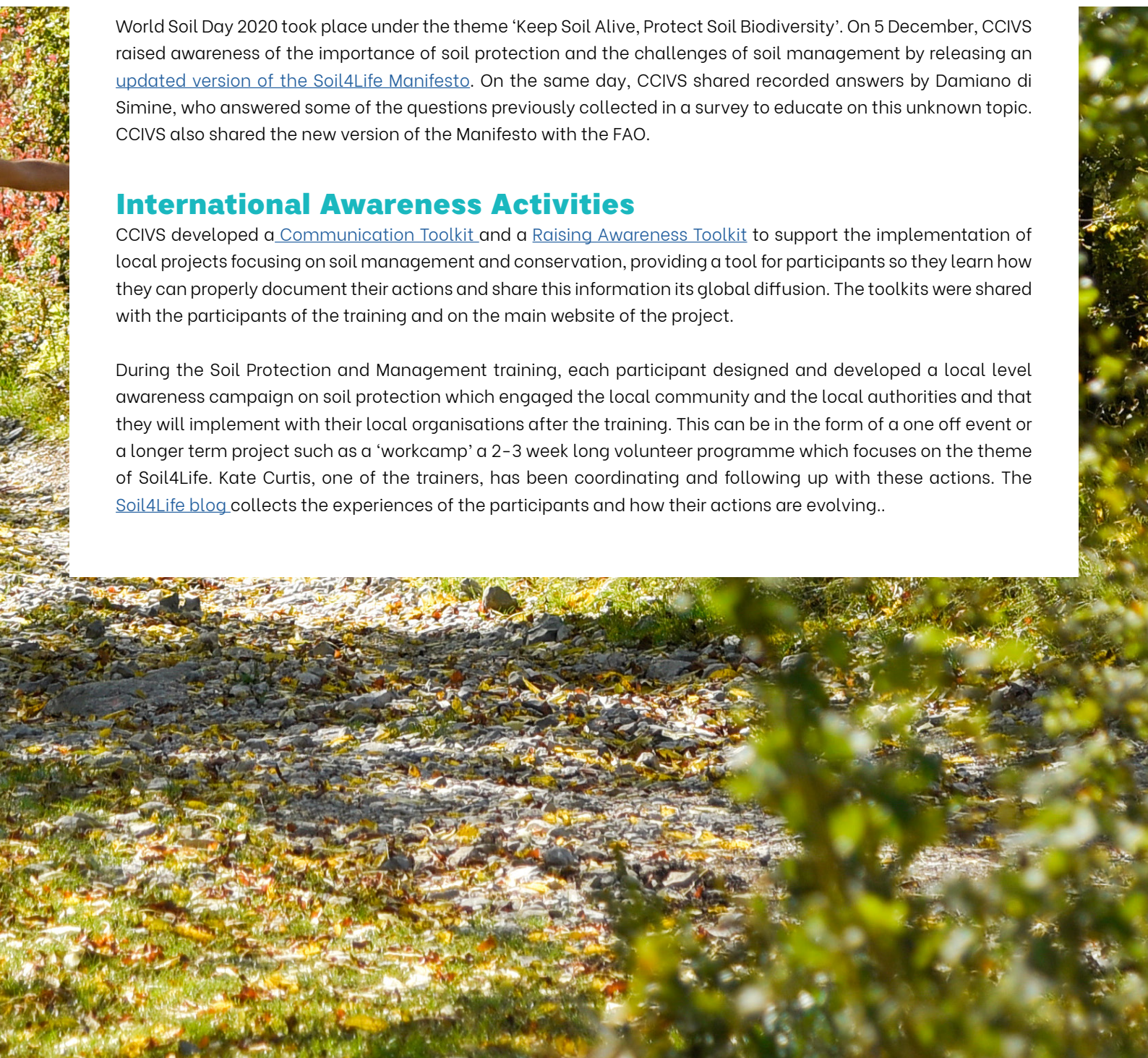
In 2020, CCIVS gave visibility and asked for inputs to the Soil4Life Manifesto using internal and external channels during special occasions like the Earth Day, the Earth Overshoot Day and the World Soil Day.

World Soil Day 2020 took place under the theme 'Keep Soil Alive, Protect Soil Biodiversity'. On 5 December, CCIVS raised awareness of the importance of soil protection and the challenges of soil management by releasing an [updated version of the Soil4Life Manifesto](#). On the same day, CCIVS shared recorded answers by Damiano di Simine, who answered some of the questions previously collected in a survey to educate on this unknown topic. CCIVS also shared the new version of the Manifesto with the FAO.

International Awareness Activities

CCIVS developed a [Communication Toolkit](#) and a [Raising Awareness Toolkit](#) to support the implementation of local projects focusing on soil management and conservation, providing a tool for participants so they learn how they can properly document their actions and share this information its global diffusion. The toolkits were shared with the participants of the training and on the main website of the project.

During the Soil Protection and Management training, each participant designed and developed a local level awareness campaign on soil protection which engaged the local community and the local authorities and that they will implement with their local organisations after the training. This can be in the form of a one off event or a longer term project such as a 'workcamp' a 2-3 week long volunteer programme which focuses on the theme of Soil4Life. Kate Curtis, one of the trainers, has been coordinating and following up with these actions. The [Soil4Life blog](#) collects the experiences of the participants and how their actions are evolving..





Project coordinator



Partners



Co-funded by the AMIF
Programme of the European Union

CCIVS is partner of the Legambiente coordinated project; INVOLVE (AMIF 2017 AG INTE_821666 – Integration of migrants as VOLunteers for the safeguarding of Vulnerable Environments). This project is co-financed by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs of the European Commission through the AMIF – Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.

The project started in January 2019 and aims to enhance the inclusion of third-country nationals by involving them in voluntary activities, for example, those targeted at environmental heritage recovery and improvement. The objective is to bring third country and European host country citizens together around these activities and build safer and more cohesive communities.

The project builds on and explores a model of social inclusion that is adjusted to small, medium and larger cities. In this context, local institutions play an important role alongside civil society, host country citizen communities and third country nationals, with these groups working together to contribute to territorial improvement.

The model will be tested in seven pilot locations: Rovigo, Paestum and Scicli in Italy; Veynes and Communauté de communes du Pays de Saint-Aulaye in France; and the Pankow and Neukölln districts in Berlin, Germany. These areas represent small, medium and large towns where numerous migrants have resided for some time now, but are not yet fully integrated into the social fabric of their host communities.



photo credit Legambiente



photo credit Legambiente

To achieve its overall objectives, the project is driven by 3 main components:

- Raising awareness in the host community through local community hubs. These are meeting places for sharing social and personal experiences, identifying critical issues and shaping common actions together with third-country nationals to rehabilitate and improve the local area.
- Capacity building among local authorities. In pilot areas, local administrative capacity will be strengthened in the areas of long-term planning, creating means of inclusion for foreigners and building a sense of community belonging.
- Immigrant involvement. The active participation of third-country nationals and host communities in inclusive voluntary activities will foster a greater sense of belonging and citizenship for all. All participants will simultaneously contribute to urban rehabilitation, further reinforcing the cohesion of the local culture.

The INVOLVE project lasts 30 months and will involve:

- 54**
- 4 partners from 3 European countries: the Legambiente (coordinator) from Italy, Solidarités Jeunesses, CCIVS (Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service) and ICJA (Volunteer exchange worldwide) from Germany
 - 7 local community hubs
 - 700 citizens, including Europeans and third-country nationals, who will participate in environmental volunteer activities
 - 35 local authorities involved in training on inclusion policies and practices, community networking and conflict management

14 territorial rehabilitation activities

- 7 international volunteer camps
- 10,000 people reached by the project

The role of CCIVS is to work on supporting the communication campaign, to attend the diverse project meetings and to organise in 2021 an International seminar addressing voluntary organisations about “inclusion models”

During 2019 CCIVS attended various project visits in Italy and France including the management meetings.

In 2020, CCIVS gave visibility to the actions and projects carried on by the partners, along with the dissemination of results. [The Inclusion Model](#) and [Good Practice of Inclusion](#) represent the first concret project result.

Frame[v]work

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



The project “Frame[v]work” coordinated by Egyesek, Hungary as part of the CCIVS Plan of Action, aims at improving the quality of volunteer exchange within the IVS movement, in order to reinforce the concepts of international voluntarism, active participation and international solidarity. The name refers to the concepts of framework, network and voluntarism. The partners of the projects are networks and organisations who implement long-term and short-term voluntary projects involving local activists, international volunteers and local communities.

The members of the partnership share the same needs:

- » to find solutions to stop the drop of volunteers in workcamps;
- » to harmonise the exchange procedures for short-term and long-term volunteers developed by the different networks of the IVS movement;
- » to propose clear and unified promotional strategies for international voluntarism, in order to reinforce the involvement and active participation of young people, including those with fewer opportunities;
- » the demand to map all the existing best practices on volunteer exchange and to share them within the networks, in order to increase the quality standards of projects and the capacity to assess their impact.

In order to improve the quality of the international voluntary activities of the IVS movement, it is vital to involve as many networks as possible in the process. For this reason, the partnership includes large networks (CCIVS, Alliance, NVDA, SCI) and several organisations coming from different regions and continents.

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The final outcome of the project will be the creation of new guidelines for voluntary exchange, which are more updated and comprehensive than the ones already existing.

The project has 4 phases:

1. A preparation phase, with the creation of the Steering Team and the kick-off meeting, where representatives from the networks and organisations will analyse the current exchange procedures and prepare the ground for the following regional laboratories;
2. 4 regional laboratories, where organisations will analyse all the aspects of their region related to volunteer exchange, quality standards of projects, promotion and communication;
3. An evaluation and production phase, where the outputs from each laboratory will be evaluated and consolidated into a final production (exchange guidelines with a contribution from all networks);
4. A dissemination phase, including a training course to share the new guidelines with IVS organisation and to illustrate the way they can be applied to voluntary projects, in order to improve their quality and impact.

Frame(v)work kick-off meeting

The kick-off meeting for the Frame[v]work project took place from 20–15 November 2019 in Creative Space (Holloko, Hungary). Egyesek Youth Association hosted representatives from different networks and regions. The Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations, Service Civil International, Network for Voluntary Development in Asia, International Building Organisation and Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service participated in the meeting, which featured also the presence of the representatives from the organisations who are going to host the “laboratories”: GREAT Indonesia, ACI Costa Rica and Zimbabwe Workcamps Association (Fundación SES from Argentina took part in the meeting as a representative for the Americas region).

During four working days, organisations discussed their realities concerning the volunteer exchange, and designed the structure of the 4 regional laboratories that will take place in 2020 to improve the IVS volunteers exchange. In the introductory part of the meeting, participants analysed the development of the volunteer exchange that occurred in the last 20 years and discussed related issues (such as volunteers' motivation to join projects, needs and resources of the networks). From this background, the participants identified topics to discuss during the laboratories, created a first structure of the new exchange guidelines and proposed a common “strapline” to enhance IVS visibility.

The meeting was facilitated by Mauro Carta and Bogdan Imre, with the support of Tamas Mahner from Egyesek.

How does the project continue?

After the kick-off meeting, the results will be discussed in four regional laboratories that were foreseen to take place during 2020. The first laboratory took place in February Europe and the subsequent laboratories have been put on hold due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, they are foreseen to take place in Asia, Africa and America. The project will close with an evaluation meeting to gather the final results to create the project outputs, and a final training course where the new exchange guidelines, procedures and promotional tools will be presented.

European Laboratory

The Europe Laboratory of the Frame(v)Work project took place from 18th to 25th of February in Creative Space (Holloko, Hungary), co-funded by the European Union. Egyesek Youth Association hosted representatives of IVS organisations from Asia, America, Europe and Africa.

The laboratory started analysing the decreasing number of volunteers and participants defined what are workcamps and what is a quality workcamp. The activity moved forward by comparing the existing exchange guidelines of the networks and looking for common points to harmonise them and missing points to add. During the week, participants also looked for learning opportunities from the different stakeholders by analysing them. The activity concluded by discussing IVS values and practices, decolonisation, funding, fees, research and visibility. The Europe Laboratory also offered a space for the Global Meeting of IVS organisations and CCIVS Strategic Plan for 2021–2026. The representatives of the networks and organisations also discussed the keywords that define the IVS Movement.



A Shared Sense of Purpose:

The Impact of Global Campaigns

by Francesco Volpini

The year saw a new effort by CCIVS to evaluate the impact of its activities, focusing in particular on the global campaigns coordinating the work of members in different countries around the key common themes of peace, human rights education, social inclusion and climate justice. The process was also fed in 2019 by the implementation of a [training course](#) aimed at building the capacity of the member organisations themselves to integrate participative impact research as a way of monitoring and evaluating their projects and actions.

The work on impact was inspired by elements of community-based participatory research, theory of change, and program theory and evaluation. It followed a mixed methods approach in its data collection: using for its quantitative data a pretest-posttest design aimed at confirming statistically the changes happening in terms of the participants' competences and attitudes; semi-structured interviews and field observation were then the basis for a more qualitative, explorative study of the processes producing such changes, and of the perceptions of volunteers, community representatives and youth workers about the impact of the concrete practices put in place by the organisers.

Based on categories defined through the [common work realised in the last years by CCIVS](#) with several members and partners, statistically significant changes were identified at the personal, interpersonal and social-cultural level among the volunteers from over 60 nationalities involved in the research as participants of the 2019 [Raising Peace](#) and [Climate Justice](#) campaigns.

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Specifically, returned volunteers self-reported statistically significant increases in their communication ability, a result strongly reinforced by the interviews analysis underlining such an improvement as a bridge for self-confidence, teamwork and conflict management. The importance of such communication outcomes reveals equally at the level of the local community, participants and beneficiaries, where increased competences meant not only concrete advances in the reality of their daily challenges but also and more importantly increased understanding, interaction and participation of different cultures and minorities in the common life.

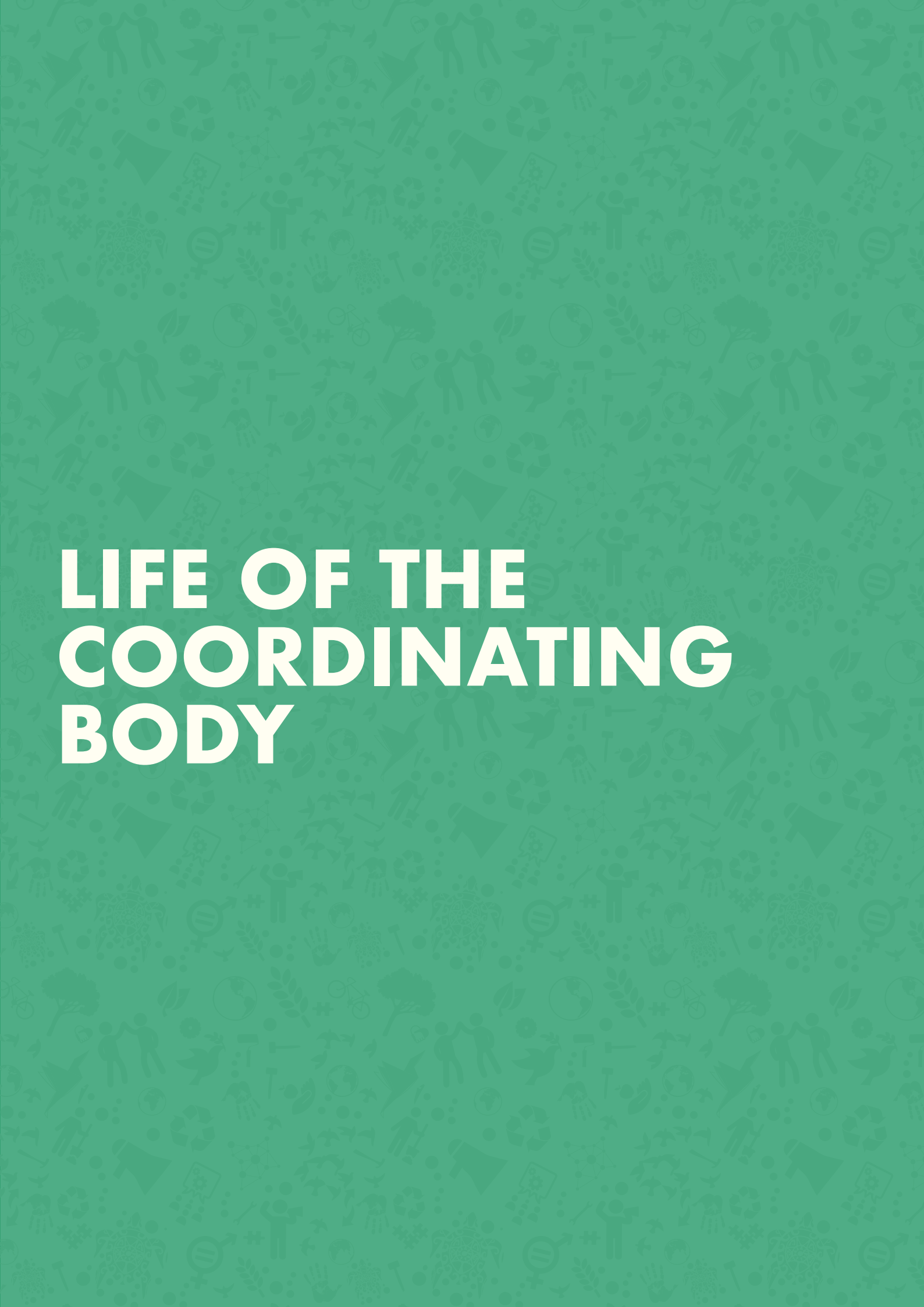
Such an accrued understanding of people with different societal and cultural backgrounds, stronger motivation to learn about cultures and habits of people in their own countries and abroad, and an increased feeling of living in a diverse and inclusive society were also important outcomes reported by the international volunteers themselves in the surveys. This again corresponds, at the qualitative level, to the consistent focus of the interviewees consulted during the fieldwork on the discovery and appreciation of their own and other cultures, including of their specific challenges and problematics. In relation to this aspect, volunteers also reported in the surveys after their project an important shift in their capacity of dealing with conflict and of solving problems. Interview analysis and observations suggest here the crucial role of not only work-related tasks, but also and especially of collective-life tasks and rules introduced and developed in function of the group diversity, objectives and context by the organisations, the camp leaders and the participants themselves.

Coming to the specific themes of the campaigns, returned volunteers having taken part in CCIVS global campaigns reported an increased understanding and concern for key issues such as the Sustainable Development Goals, the rights of migrants and refugees, and gender equality; they also reported a corresponding increase in their readiness to accept new responsibilities, and in particular their feeling of being personally accountable and ready to actively engage for the construction of peace and the creation of inclusive societies, and their feeling of responsibility to actively engage to address and mitigate the consequences of climate change and promote climate justice.

Such a renewed sense of responsibility induced by their participation in the CCIVS campaigns is finally reflected by a concrete change in terms of action: after their projects important, two-digits increases are reported in the percentage of respondents having spent time doing volunteer work for a social/civic/non-governmental organization or helping other people outside their family without being paid, having spent time on activities promoting international peace and/or solidarity, on activities promoting Human Rights, and on activities promoting climate justice and sustainable living.

When compared to the outcomes reported by participants in general international workcamps not involved in thematic campaigns, as indicated by research run by CCIVS members in the past, volunteers of the Raising Peace and Climate Justice camps report higher project satisfaction, satisfaction with practical results and especially feeling of having performed meaningful work. The importance of the accrued sense of purpose brought to the volunteers by the understanding of being part of a wider, “mosaic-like” campaign is thus confirmed both at the level of statistical correlations and of qualitative analysis: on one side, the meaningfulness attributed to the work done and the satisfaction with the practical results show medium to strong positive correlations with several of the themes and competences assessed, from the feeling of living in an inclusive society to problem solving and the willingness to further engage for Human Rights Education and the Sustainable Development Goals. On the other side, the participants interviewed consistently reflected on the relationship between the sense of meaningful accomplishments, group cohesion and personal and collective goals and wellbeing.

This supports the choice of anchoring global campaigns like Raising Peace and Climate Justice on the grassroots reality of international voluntary service projects, involving volunteers from minorities, migrants and refugees, with a common focus on the realisation of practical, often manual work of public interest: strong positive correlations can be identified for instance between the participants’ feeling of possessing or having gained work-related skills (using tools or techniques, working with their hands, working in teams) and their capacity of adapting to social life and overcoming tension and conflicts with the group. Such realizations are strictly linked to the nature of the work and the capacity of the leaders and organizers to infuse the sense of purpose that the volunteers joining the global campaigns considered their original motivation: “Before starting the work, I want to know the purpose of this work [...] The purpose is our motivation. So I want to know the purpose of everything we do” (M., Volunteer, Japan – Raising Peace project in the Czech Republic).



LIFE OF THE COORDINATING BODY

Global Meeting of IVS organisations (GMIVS)



The Global Meeting of IVS organisations takes place at least once a year and is an important moment to bring together representatives of the International Voluntary Service Movement. It is an opportunity to share updates about events in the different networks, to offer mutual support and feedback and to follow-up on and develop common project proposals.

2019

The Global Meeting took place after the Alliance Technical meeting hosted by GHD in Turkey. Joining the meeting, SCI, IBO, NVDA, ZWA for Africa Representation and CCIVS.

2020

In 2020 a first meeting took place in February in Holloko, Hungary hosted by EgyseseK and included representatives from SCI, NAVO, NVDA, IBO, Alliance and CCIVS.

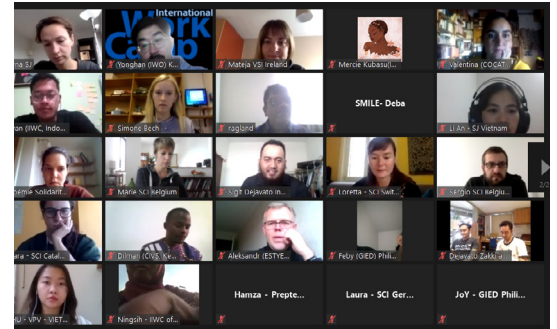
In the course of 2020 the need was felt to meet more often online. Every 6 weeks an online meeting was held in which the networks could connect, learn from each other and understand how the others were responding to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Useful tips on how to organise meetings online, new types of online volunteering, Covid-19 response activities set up by member organisations, ways to engage local volunteers and maintaining relations with donors were exchanged.



2019

- Share challenges and good practices on LMTV projects and exchange
- Develop partnership for LMTV exchange among IVS NGOs
- Create plans of actions and advocacy to strengthen LMTV movement
- Promote LMTV and IVS to public and various stakeholders in Malaysia

34 leaders/ staff/ active members of 19 IVS NGOs in 13 countries, hosted by MOVE Malyasia from 21-25 November 2019



Finally, those challenges were presented in the plenary and possible solutions were proposed in the floor.

The participants visited Yayasan Chow Kit (YCK) which cares for children including refugees. MOVE organized 4 short term workcamps and hosted 1 Mid Term Volunteer here in 2019. They talked with the staff and did some exchange activities with the children!

In the end, the participants installed the Peace Pole in the garden together.

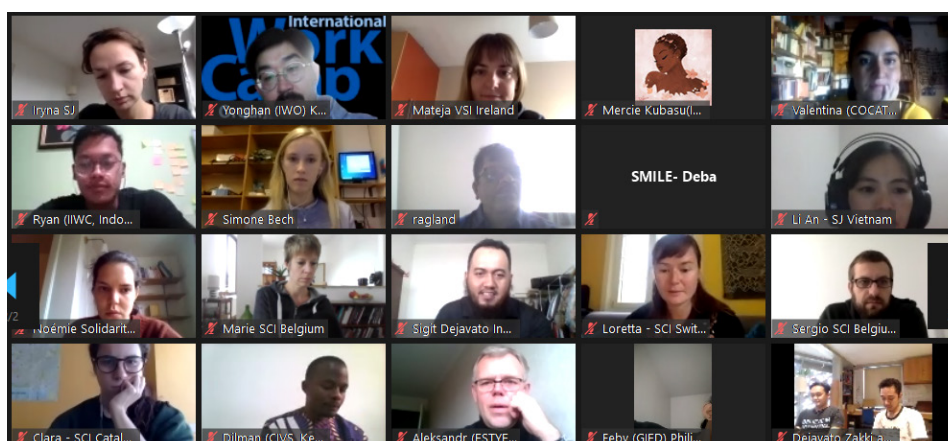
Several action plans were proposed and made by the small groups such as A. The way to share the daily activities of each NGO, B. Best info. sheets/ Revising the Guideline of Info. sheets, C, Best project description, D. Special Mid term workcamp in Nepal and E. Making the common promotion video.

11th GLMTV meeting in 2020 was hosted online by SCI during their yearly Evaluation Platform Meeting. The meeting was prepared by the different networks: ALLIANCE, CCIVS, ICYE, NAVO, NVDA and SCI and took place on 14 October 2020 via ZOOM with around 80 participants. The biggest participation ever!

The meeting consisted of 2 online sessions. Each session has a plenary where the participants got introduced to the different subthemes before being divided into the break out rooms.

The first session focussed on quality improvement in medium and long term volunteering. The participants shared common challenges and good practice and brainstormed some ideas for future cooperation projects to improve the quality of LMTV work in the post COVID-19 age.

The second session discussed ideas and good practice to build the resilience of IVS organizations during COVID-19 and/or future pandemics. It was good to see how long term volunteers were engaged during the months of lockdown and how international solidarity was appreciated in a time when borders were closed. This session followed the same methodology as the first session. Especially the work in the break out rooms was appreciated as it gave the opportunity to really connect to the others in the smaller group. The meeting was highly appreciated and another online meeting for 2021 is scheduled.



CCIVS Day

CCIVS Day provides the opportunity to discuss the challenges that the global IVS Movement is facing. It has been established in order to connect with the Alliance Technical Meeting, which allows IVS organisations to easily join once the Technical Meeting is finished, it also provides the opportunity for organisations not attending the TM to come just for CCIVS Day and to meet with international peers. During CCIVS day we provide an update about the CCIVS EC, Secretariat, projects and campaigns and we then focus on one specific topic of interest to the movement at the time the event takes place. It is very important to meet and engage with as many members and friends of CCIVS as possible and we appreciate the hospitality from as the host organisations as the Alliance to use the TM meeting space for these important encounters. It is a practice that we hope to extend to other meeting fora.

2019

The 6th CCIVS day took place in Antalya (March 7, 2019) hosted by GHD, inviting over 40 people, part of the IVS movement. This special edition worked with a theory of change process coordinated by Tom Fisher Programme Director – Global Diversity Governance, University of Coventry UK.

Why do a ToC

- Strategic development (shows you what you get if you put in resources, will also show the gap.)
- Fundraising – use it when write a bid as shows that you have thought through impact
- Evaluation – gives a set of outcomes it measures against.

The participants worked during the day to create the aim of CCIVS, the process took quite a long time as different groups came up with sentences (which were quite similar) which then needed to be collected onto one.

The final AIM outcome of the meeting is the following:

A more peaceful, just and sustainable world through a stronger IVS movement

The results of CCIVS Day 2019 are part of the steps that we are making towards developing the new CCIVS Strategic Plan for 2020–2026.

2020

In 2020, CCIVS representatives were present at the Alliance Technical Meeting. Tamas Mahner as Vice-President for Europe participated during the whole duration and Ingrid Danckaerts was responsible to deliver the CCIVS Day after the Technical Meeting. In 2020 Ingrid and Tamas updated the members about the recent issues, questions and developments as well the development of the new strategic plan for the years 2021–2026. Ingrid started the workshop on the strategic plan with a very entertaining role play about the first workcamp in 1920 and then the group moved to the discussion on values and mission for CCIVS. Participants looked at current challenges and possible solutions and all the outcomes are now integrated in the further Strategic Planning process.



Sustainable Development Goals



International Voluntary Service supports resilience, acts for solidarity not charity, and ensures the participation of all from the grassroots to a global level whilst contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals.

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IVS has since 1920 sought to respond to the prevalent issues of society on a local and global level, at this time in history we are getting closer to a tipping point, our greatest threat that of total climate breakdown, the result of anthropogenic (man-made) climate change. As Capitalism maintains its grip, widespread inequalities and human rights abuses continue in the world today. The SDGs provide an opportunity for the IVS movement to highlight and measure the impact of our work which focuses on peace through international understanding, friendship and co-operation among the people of the world, particularly youth; sustainable development and protection of the environment; recognition of all cultures in their diversity, emphasising the importance of the world's cultural heritage; human rights, and individual and national liberation; opposition to all forms of social, cultural, political and economic exploitation.

IVS contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals

Over the years, CCIVS has included the Sustainable Development Goals in the yearly collection of data from our member organisations and networks. Local and national realities diverge depending on their geographic location, their community, their culture, their priorities. Even so, different areas can share similar problems even if aesthetically or visually, the result is different.

Since 2014, CCIVS has coordinated the campaign Raising Peace which has brought together 266 local action camps with the involvement of more than 12,000 volunteers, camp leaders, staff and activists (SDG16 Peace and Justice). CCIVS also coordinates IVS for Climate Justice, a worldwide programme taking place in over 100 countries that reasserts that projects and activities are a powerful tool to support local communities worldwide, reallocating resources and capacities and addressing issues such as climate change, carbon offset, environmental sustainability, protection of ecosystems, water and soil management and conservation (SDG6 and SDG13).

The survey has shown us that IVS organisations tackle a wide diversity of Sustainable Development Goals. IVS projects are created on a grassroots level, answering to the needs of local communities. Furthermore, IVS is a vehicle of non-formal and informal education that gives the chance of participating in work based on reciprocal international cooperation. As a result, IVS projects interconnect the different goals understanding the sustainable development as a whole.

CCIVS is showcased in the paper “Measuring the economic and social contributions of volunteering”

Cecilia Milesi (Founder of Subir al Sur – one of the CCIVS members – and founder of Global Change), together with Erika Lopez Franco (independent researcher and facilitator) are one of the awardees of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Innovation Challenge.

Cecilia and Erika co-created an adaptive framework that will support organisations around the world to value, understand, recognise, and celebrate how volunteers and activists contribute to building more peaceful, just, inclusive, and accountable societies. CCIVS is showcased as an outstanding case example, together with findings from CCIVS impact research. A first draft of the paper was presented to all UN member states, academia, and civil society organisations during the Global Technical Meeting (GTM2020) on ‘Reimagining Volunteering for the 2030 Agenda’. The final version will be included in a dedicated Anthology with all the papers of the awardees.

Cecilia and Erika expect their adaptive framework will enable staff from non-governmental, governmental volunteering programmes, volunteers themselves, and most importantly the local communities to assess how volunteers and activists’ actions are contributing the achievement of SDG 16+ targets and the prevention of violence in a changing and complex world –with a particular focus on women, youth participation and the potential relevance of South-South Cooperation as a framework for collaboration.

More info and the full draft paper can be [downloaded](#) here.

SDGs in Practice highlights from the network

ASTOVOT

Project of meeting, reflection, exchanges and actions for a sustainable environment. Through Education and Environmental Awareness, we understand all activities aiming to make discover and understand the natural environment and its problems, be it animations and / or pedagogical tools that the actors lead and develop with the public, but also with local social professionals and decision-makers, with the aim of raising awareness about the preservation of the natural environment, but also about human issues. During the three weeks of construction, the volunteers first worked on the pedagogical aspects of the project, second, concrete actions in the field and finally the presentation and dissemination of the work carried out during the three weeks of discussions, exchanges and actions. Project: Social and educational animation with children. With a view to encourage and promote the activities carried out in the new library of the village of Yeviébé, Built by ASTOVOT in 2016, to encourage young pupils in the village to highlight the tools available to them for their own development (both for their general culture and to strengthen their intellectual capacity) and also to encourage them to better prepare for a new school year, the NGO-ASTOVOT organises a project of social and educational animation and school support for the young children and pupils of Yeviébé.





Legambiente

66 Citizen science is a large scientific project participated by citizens that allows us to use the results and the know-how acquired to put pressure to change some social policies. In the last 10 years we have increased awareness of plastic pollution in Italy and successfully urged institutions to deal with it, as evidenced by the approved regulatory provisions (plastic shoppers, plastic sticks for cleaning the ears and the microplastics contained in the rinsing cosmetics have been banned even before the European Directive on disposable plastic). We have created Volontari per Natura, the largest multidisciplinary citizen science project still in progress that aims to promote volunteering and develop the practice of active scientific citizenship through participation in our environmental monitoring campaigns and environmental education courses in schools. Since 2014 we have realised the greatest experience of citizen science at an international level: every year the monitoring of beached waste is carried out by about 1,000 Legambiente volunteers on a hundred Italian beaches. Thanks to the collaboration with other foreign associations, more than 300 beaches have been sifted across the Mediterranean. The numbers collected from the bottom, from the commitment of individual citizens, have made a fundamental contribution to scientific research. This is why our initiative has gained important recognition from the United Nations Environmental Program, the US State Department and the European Environment Agency, which describe our action as the most important experience in terms of duration and quality.

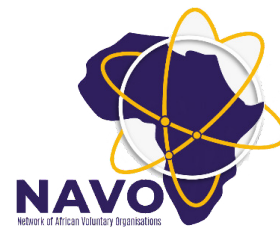
IWO

KEPCO stand for Korea electronic power corporation. It is the biggest power supplier in Korea. They sent 32 volunteers, who are university student specialised in electricity, for 6 days. They built in the community 60 street lights powered by solar along the road. It was designed to make people in the community feel comfortable during a night while they are walking. It is powered solar energy so that street lights are able to work without power supply from power plant by government or company. It was very much sustainable resolution to community by volunteers.

Subir al Sur:

We participate in the framework of one of the International Academic Missions of the Siglo XXI University. Every year, the Internationalisation Center of the 21st Century University and the Directions of the different careers of the University, organise international trips for students and graduates. 14 participants from different provinces were registered: Ushuaia, Jujuy, Cordoba, Buenos Aires, Misiones and La Pampa. The group was very heterogeneous and the ages ranged from 20 to 57 years. The same happened with careers: the members formed a multidisciplinary team of students with different degrees. We were coordinated in India by FSL. The young participants were able to discover another reality to think about how to contribute in their own communities.

Network of African Voluntary Organisations



Continental Volunteer Platform: Network of African Voluntary Organisations

NETWORK OF AFRICAN VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS (NAVO) is an International Non-Governmental Organisation which encompass workcamps and voluntary movements across Africa. It is a non-political, nonsectarian, non-religious, voluntary organisation. It was founded on 14 March 2020 in Nairobi Kenya. Its membership is open to all organisations across Africa through the regional platforms. NAVO employs international voluntary services as a double-edged sword namely intercultural learning and community development. It was founded to promote south-south cooperation as well as regional integration and exchange. NAVO brings together the sub regional platforms across Africa under one umbrella namely West Africa Workcamps Association Network (WAWAN), East Africa Voluntary Services and Southern Africa Workcamps Cooperation (SAWC).

NAVO is currently run by a steering committee, up until its first elective conference. The steering team is made up of the following people: Mary Mlambo -Lungelo (LYD-South Africa), Oneka Munanaire (KVDA-Kenya), Kolawole Aganran Kola (VWAN-Nigeria), Rhamula Nabatte (UVDA-Uganda) Innocent COVODA-DR Congo, Felix Edem Kodzo Ekpeko (ASTOVOT Togo) and Ratherford Mwaruta (ZWA-Zimbabwe) Two positions have been reserved for the Maghreb -North Africa. NAVO is a body which shall aim:

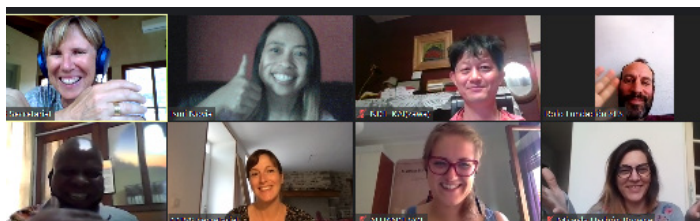
- » To create opportunities by which people in a spirit of friendship, international understanding and voluntary discipline may without regard to their race, religion, race, and creed or political, be encouraged and enabled to give the community at large, but particularly the less off section effective voluntary service.
- » To have volunteers work together, through member organisations, in the needy areas and promote the ideas of voluntarism in development, hence develop the spirit self-help among local and outside participants.
- » To establish, cultivate and maintain relations with international and regional organisations be they (inter-) governmental or non-governmental organisation.
- » To support the initiative of member organisation that endeavour to integrate and promote gender issues, in the region, especially on the grassroots level.

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NAVO is a CCIVS Sister Network. The Network proposal was made to the CCIVS GA in 2018 with a request for CCIVS support.

COVID-19



The Covid-19 Pandemic has had a strong impact on the IVS network, from February 2020. From February 2020, physical meetings were no longer possible in Asia and the NVDA General Assembly was cancelled. In Europe, from March 2020, meetings, trainings and voluntary projects were rescheduled or cancelled. The CCIVS Executive Committee started to look for ways to bring members together and create an online space to share concerns, ideas and opportunities.

Online Global Meeting of IVS networks

The Global Meeting of IVS networks has been a space to share the findings of the different networks in relation to the stop of placements and the experience with online activities. Each network presented how they were following up with the new picture.

#IVSolidarity and online CCIVS questionnaire

As CCIVS continued to try to implement a mutual support network in face of the uncertainty that organisations were and are facing with the Covid-19 break, in April, CCIVS sent out a questionnaire to its members to know what they were doing on a local level in order to support their local communities and the impact of the pandemic on their organisation in order to develop some form of advocacy work and how to gain recognition and support for IVS organisations.

About 28 organisations gave feedback and shared the activities carried out during the beginning of the year. Volunteers supported their local communities by taking actions like sewing masks, delivering food supplies, awareness-raising activities, to mention a few. Furthermore, CCIVS asked organisations to post and share their actions on social media under the hashtag #IVSolidarity. CCIVS disseminated and shared the posts on its social media pages and profiles to give visibility to the actions carried on by IVS organisations.

CCIVS Dreamers sessions

The Dreamers session was a virtual meeting that aimed to offer a space to think outside the box and to build on our recent experiences, which have created upheaval and uncertainty, in order to work towards our dreams for IVS in the not too distant future. The session was facilitated by Sonya Kaleel, from the Inclusion Practice. They took place on April 30 and on May 5/6 to include different timezones.

During the sessions, different dynamics were used, including individual reflection and exchange in small groups which provided a possibility to exchange the good, bad, ugly and lovely of this unprecedented time we are experiencing. The session allowed participants to share their concerns, feelings, barriers to move forward and to reflect on what they can do. Topics like the uncertain future, virtual volunteering, opportunities and the financial situation came up during the different discussion and sharing spaces.

The different questions provided the opportunity to share how the participants' organisations are approaching these new circumstances: online experience with volunteers, solidarity actions, development of relationships with local partners, local and national volunteering, etc. They also shared that they felt hopeful, happy, inspired and curious whilst wondering about our next steps: how the future will be, if we will be able to organise international projects, how to solve possible financial problems, new strategies and ideas.

Following the session participants filled in an evaluation and feedback form and expressed their interest for CCIVS to organise more sessions related to topics such as; capacity building for project



management, virtual volunteering, IVS strategies after the quarantine, local volunteering, shared expertise in specific tools, online facilitation, online practices, cultural heritage, a more strategic session. Participants celebrated the online connection and the space to share experiences and opinions with other partners.

Opening Reflection / Spiral journal

- » Right now I feel...
- » What worries me most...
- » If only we could do....
- » A big opportunity right now...

Grounding Question / Conversation Cafe

- » What is the good, bad, ugly and lovely of this time as it relates to international voluntary service?

Individual and Group Insights / Mad Tea (Anonymous Chat Summary)

- » Something I heard during the Conversation Cafe that will stick with me...
- » During the conversation, I felt ...
- » I am still wondering ...
- » What might stop us from moving ahead ...
- » One bold, actionable idea I can do now...

Online platform for online activities

“This year, future volunteers were prepared to join environmental work and work in nature for two weeks. Or maybe they wanted to renovate an old castle or build a playground. Maybe they wanted to support a non-profit festival or a social project. Due to the spread of the COVID-19, borders are closed, flights are suspended and the entire countries are in lockdown. As a result, it is impossible for many volunteers to travel and workcamps planned for the next weeks had to be cancelled”.



IBG Workcamps started the [Virtual Workcamps initiative](#). Joining them, many organisations started finding meaningful tasks that can be done together online. CCIVS joined the Think Tank to support on the management of an online system where organisations started creating and organising online camps.

This project facilitated the connection of organisations with potential volunteers, by November 2020, more than 100 virtual camps have been implemented with more than 1,400 volunteers. 47 organisations joined as Sending Organisations to receive and follow-up the experience with the volunteers.

CCIVS also created its own Virtual Camp, the IVS from Home challenge. You will find more information about it in the Communication section.

Connecting in times of social distancing (CCIVS Online meetings with members)

As many members are going through some difficult moments, CCIVS organised 2 online gatherings in which members were encouraged to share some of their realities with others. These online get-togethers lasted for an hour and a half, and created an opportunity to share the obstacles organisations are facing, difficulties many staff members are experiencing when working remotely and, of course, also to look into opportunities that somehow arise in crisis situations. In total, about 30 organisations participated from all continents. Feeling the solidarity and being together in ZOOM was appreciated by everyone. During this moment of re-connection members explained how they are dealing with all the challenges. For many organisations the future is unsure and several measures for reducing costs had to be taken but at the same time organisations are creative and developed alternative activities and are using this time to reflect upon their key values and mission. Activities have taken place such as, intercultural activities and study sessions, workcamps with local volunteers, humanitarian aid and awareness raising on Covid-19 in vulnerable communities, setting up an online Congress on volunteering, hosting volunteers who were supposed to go to a neighbouring country but cannot because of Covid-19,...It is heartwarming to see how organisations are responding to the situation and are trying to engage meaningfully with their societies.

CCIVS Strategic Planning

It was foreseen to have finished the strategic planning process by the time this report was produced. A lot of work was already done in different meetings in previous years and we had collected a lot of information from different stakeholders so that it was a matter of bringing it together and analysing all the input. The EC had set up a small group to work on this and to come up with some main conclusions that could be brought back to the members and further discussed to finally come to the main strategic objectives. The fact that almost no face-to-face activities took place, made it difficult to work on this “checking with members” and a new approach was launched. With the support from one of the member organisations, SES, Argentina, a very broad online consultation was set up to identify some priorities for CCIVS. An external consultant was brought in to guide the strategic planning team in the next phase of the process. Together with the consultant and SES, we are preparing a series of online sessions in the first half of 2021 to collect more concrete input for the plan so that it can be finalised and approved in the 2021 GA of CCIVS.

CCIVS Reading Club

Do you know what the CCIVS Reading Club is? This initiative wanted to spark discussion on the future of workcamps and International Voluntary Service starting from a historical perspective. During four Sundays in a row, a group of around 12 people, all with workcamp experience, met online to get more insight in the origin of International Voluntary Service movement and to exchange knowledge on the development of the movement in different geographical regions.

The starting point was the book [“Words about deeds”](#), a compilation of articles written by several authors about the history of SCI and the main developments in SCI history over the decades. The participants received some articles before each sessions, which were the starting point for further debate. Each session welcomed some “experts” or people with a good understanding of the topic to bring in additional information or answer questions. Apart from the introduction session which focused on the first workcamp and the vision and philosophy of Pierre Ceresole, the 3 other sessions explored the development of the workcamp movement in Eastern Europe, sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. What a great way to share with others, to reflect on our work nowadays and to recognise the past achievements. This initiative wouldn’t have been possible without the voluntary contribution of everyone!

“Thanks to everyone involved in setting up and organising the reading sessions as well as the specialist input from various people. I have enjoyed hearing different views and seeing old friends and colleagues. It has stimulated me to think a fresh about SCI values, ethos and actions and how they might be brought to bear in the current crazy world.” Ingrid Dankaerts



REPRESENTATION & PARTICIPATION IN EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES

What is our IVS?

IVS Working Group

The IVS Working Group was initiated by CCIVS after the 2016 GA. It united, network representatives to study what IVS means for all of us and to define what the threats are to the movement today.

The Global Task Force gathered Aleksandr Kurushev representing ALLIANCE, Kaizawa Shinichiro and Victoria Lovelock representing CCIVS, Benedict E. Mongi representing EAVS, Mauricio Gabert representing ICYE, Singh Dharamvir and Julie Chao representing NVDA and Rita Warleigh representing SCI.

CCIVS would like to thank Kaizawa Shinichiro who coordinated the team on behalf of CCIVS, drafted the original paper, ensured funding support for the meetings and kept initiating toward publication.

Meetings were held in Japan (Sep. 2017) / Nepal (Jan. 2019) and through online communication.



“What is our IVS?” final meeting

The ‘What is our IVS’ final meeting took place in Banepa, Nepal, in 2019, hosted by FFN. After several days of hard work, a project visit took place to a local community where a building had been reconstructed by the community and volunteers after the Earthquake in 2015.

The produced work is an important element of the strategic planning process that CCIVS will implement in 2020 as we move towards the end of our current [10 years strategic plan 2011–2021](#). The ‘What is our IVS’ publication is an important document for the IVS movement, of which several elements have been published online. In addition to updating the [Universal Charter of IVS](#). The group managed to develop the following text to describe what is IVS, validated by the networks present in the meeting:

What is International Voluntary Service (IVS)?

International Voluntary Service (IVS) has since 1920 sought to respond to the prevalent issues of society on a local and global level, it aims to pursue peace and promotes non violence through international understanding, mutual respect, friendship, exchange and cooperation among the people of the world.

IVS is a vehicle for non-formal and informal education and acts as a catalyst for change within individuals and in communities giving people the chance to participate in meaningful, productive and socially useful work as active members of society. It promotes the participation of all regardless of gender, skin colour, religion, nationality, age, ability, sexual orientation, social status or political views and any other possible grounds for discrimination, in a spirit of true equality and the recognition of the right of others to dignity and respect.

IVS promotes social and climate justice, human rights, sustainability, critical thinking, active participation, democracy, global citizenship, shared and intercultural learning and helps to break down prejudice and stereotypes. It contributes to the Implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

How does the IVS Movement work?

The IVS movement works based on a spirit of reciprocal international cooperation between non governmental, not for profit, grassroots organisations sharing a common vision and working in local host communities in over 90 countries.

IVS organisations are gathered in networks, where decisions and ethical working standards are built democratically and decided in assemblies with respect to cultural and organisational diversity. It is an exchange organised locally, coordinated nationally and realised globally. Volunteers apply through a sending organisation and are received by a host organisation.

The IVS movement strives for a world where relations are characterised by equity, social justice, active involvement and a sense of community empowerment. It provides people with the means to understand and act in order to positively transform the social, cultural, political and economic structures that affect their lives at all levels. IVS supports resilience, acts for solidarity not charity and seeks to create a world of mutual respect and understanding.

The Volunteers

Volunteers are people acting on self-initiative for the benefit of civil society, who offer their knowledge, time and energy, within the framework of a cooperative social effort, without seeking material reward or replacing paid labour. Voluntary service is based on the idea, that working together on a concrete task is one of the most effective ways to create friendship and understanding. The projects serve as a basis for dialogue, an opportunity to work according to each person's ability and to practice learning by doing and living together for periods of 2 days up to 1 year. In such situations national and international volunteers experience a new reality which can challenge their habits and convictions. Our impact research proves that IVS provides enhanced self-confidence and strengthened personal, interpersonal and social competences, volunteers learn that through active participation in IVS projects they are able to create change.





Photo by Alliance

Alliance Technical Meeting

The biggest meeting of IVS organisations, organised annually by the Alliance of European Voluntary Service organisations, is an important moment for CCIVS to meet with members and other networks present. It is also an opportunity to have first hand information about new developments in the IVS world and to better understand the needs of the IVS organisations.

2019

Hosted by GHD in Turkey in March 2019, the CCIVS EC and Director attended the Technical meeting. This meeting offered the possibility to also meet with the Alliance EC, several NVDA board members, the SCI president and representatives from Africa and Latin America.

2020

In March 2020 the Alliance Technical Meeting took place in Armenia. The host, HUI Armenia, welcomed CCIVS and again this meeting allowed CCIVS to interact with members and organise a special CCIVS Day. The Vice-President for Europe attended the full TM and the President joined some parts of the meeting.



Photo by NVDA

NVDA General Assembly

The Network for Voluntary Development in Asia (NVDA) General Assembly took place in Kathmandu Nepal hosted by VIN and FFN in at the end of January 2019. The CCIVS Director attended the meeting, providing feedback on global projects and participating in the different activities of the meeting.



European Foundation Centre

The CCIVS Director attended the European Foundation Centre AGA and Conference which took place in Paris from 22-24 May 2019. The event entitled 'Liberté, Égalité, Philanthropie' invited a wide range of foundations and NGOs together. A series of meetings and forums took place, with opportunities for networking.

Not A Single Story

training by Concordia, France

Background

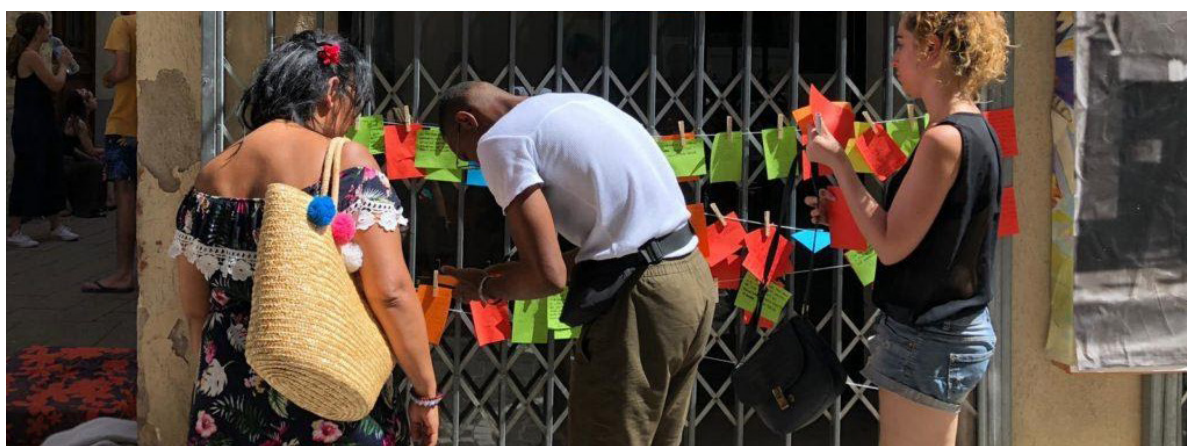
Following the Training of Peace Trainers on Peace and Human Rights Education: “Seeding Peace” part of the Raising Peace campaign which took place in Turkey in September 2018, some members decided to give a logical follow-up to the CCIVS approach by organizing together a European training for youth workers to strengthen their capacities for peace education and human rights, which was the object of this project. The partner countries in the project saw their society and especially young people who are turning to extremes, thus reducing the possibilities of evolving in an intercultural society. In a society polarized with extremist ideologies that convince some of the youth, it seems important that professionals in the youth sector can play their role of intermediation and social cohesion.

The CCIVS Communication Intern joined the training taking place from 25 June–3 July 2019 in Lodève. 23 people from 7 different countries were hosted to participate in the training organised by Concordia, ‘Not A Single Story’. This training had the mission of giving tools to professionals in contact with youth to develop youth citizenship by exploring the keys to understand the formation of their identity(s).

During the seven days of training, participants identified words as ‘polarisation’, ‘identity’, ‘extremism’, ‘interculturality’ among others, and looked for their definition, showing up different perspectives. They also worked in understanding the processes of polarisation of our societies and the radicalisation of young people. More specifically, the participants worked on the formation of identities among young people, using theories as intersectionality.

In the middle of the training, a field work activity enabled them to interact with people from the town with the aim of asking them if “are we all radicalised”. Answers came like “a lot of radicalisation exist, we’re all radicalised by a lot of different ways and a lot of topics. Medias have a big role because of the words they use and repeat all the time” and “we are all radicalized because sometimes we associate radicalisation with racism”.

At the end of the training, some participants proposed and organised workshops to talk and think about Internet, radicalisation and refugees, relating them to the main topics of the training. During the evaluation, participants and trainers thought about next steps that may follow inside Concordia’s project, it is a third training related to interculturality and gender on an international level. The participants from the sending organisations will get in touch to start with the preparation of the training in order to do it in 2020.



Alliance GC and GA

2019

In 2019 the CCIVS Director and Vice President for Europe were present during the Alliance GC and GA hosted by CBB in Belgium, taking place in November 2019. Attending the GC and GA provides an opportunity to understand the concerns of the European network and to meet with Alliance members.

Following a consultation process, the Alliance took the decision to become part of the CCIVS network during the GA.

2020

In 2020 Alliance invited CCIVS EC member Bogdan Imre to hold a keynote speech at their virtual GA. Bogdan focussed his speech around the slogan: “Together we can change the world” and elaborated on the need for cooperation and unity in the IVS movement. CCIVS President and Vice-President for Europe attended several sessions of the online GA which gave them the opportunity to exchange with Alliance members on important issues for the IVS movement in general and also to understand better the functioning and needs of the Alliance network.

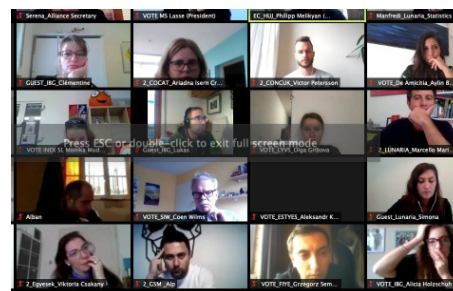


Photo by Alliance

The 100th Anniversary Celebration of SCI

During its ICM (General Assembly) in December 2019 in the Netherlands, SCI launched its 100th anniversary celebration year. The Netherlands, a symbolic place as this is where it all started in 1919 when the founder of SCI participated in a post WWI meeting of pacifists and came up with the idea to organise workcamps. The idea of bringing conflicting parties together for post-war reconstruction was born. The CCIVS President took part in this kick-off meeting and gave a small presentation about the historical links between CCIVS and SCI. The growth and development of IVS in numbers but also in quality has only been possible because networks such as SCI and CCIVS joined forces and set common goals. SCI's 100th anniversary is somehow a moment we all want to celebrate because it reminds us of the common roots of our work: promoting a Culture of Peace by bringing people from diverse backgrounds together to learn from each other and, to actively work together and to create bridges between people.

In 2020 the International Committee Meeting of SCI was supposed to be held in France as the country where the first workcamp took place. Unfortunately due to the Covid-19 Pandemic this meeting couldn't happen and an alternative online meeting was set up. Ingrid Danckaerts, the CCIVS President, organised an online session for SCI delegates to understand better the current challenges of CCIVS and to engage SCI members in the CCIVS Strategic Planning process.

photo by SCI



UNESCO Representation

NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee

2019

During 2019 the CCIVS Director continued to be involved in diverse meetings in UNESCO and actions with the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, including attending meetings of the Climate Change working group and the different events organised by UNESCO and the Committee.

The 11th International Forum of NGOs in Official Partnership with UNESCO took place in the UNESCO headquarters Paris from the 16-17 December 2019, entitled “challenging inequalities” to build a just and peaceful society. The results concerning the Forum can be found on the [NGO UNESCO Liaison Committee website](#).

2020

CCIVS participated in the 2020 International Conference of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO under the theme “Envisioning a better and sustainable future – A new paradigm for civil society”. The Committee contributed to the elaboration of the UNESCO Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2029 (41 C/4) and Programme and Budget for 2022-2025 (41 C/5). At the end of the event, the representatives of the committee approved the 2020 Recommendations.

The CCIVS Director stood for election to the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee during this Forum and was elected to the Committee for the period 2021-2022. On the occasion of the election, CCIVS shared a video presentation and letter for the candidature..

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Training for Trainers

On the occasion of the #HumanRightsDay, CCIVS was invited to participate in a Training for Trainers Manual for Developing Intercultural Competences: Story Circles. The training was facilitated by the author of the Manual, Prof. Darla Deardorff.

UNESCO General Conference

The UNESCO GC also took place in November 2019, CCIVS attended the different events and the meetings. We also supported by providing [video testimonies from international volunteers](#) on the subject of Climate Change which was shown in the NGO space.



Representation by the Vice President for Africa

Promoting Volunteerism and Exchange in Africa in the Context of the Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030: Towards the One Million Volunteers by 2021 , 23-25 October 2019: Kigali Rwanda

Volunteerism has been the back bone of the social fabric in Africa, since time immemorial, in general most societies across the continent are voluntary driven. The African Union Commission established an African Union Youth Volunteer Corps (AU-YVC) and promotes youth volunteerism in Africa. A continental youth volunteer initiative, AU-YVC was launched in December 2010.

The conference on volunteer mapping is in line with the African Youth Charter (AYC 2006) and the African Union's Agenda 2063, which aims to achieve a prosperous and peaceful Africa through youth empowerment, volunteerism, and pan African exchange as well as the 2030 Agenda that aims to scale up global, regional and national actions to meet young people's needs, realise their rights and tap their possibilities as agents of change.

The Africa Union Volunteer corps launched the "One Million Volunteers by 2021" which is supported by the Four E's, namely Education, Engagement, Employment and Entrepreneurship. The Africa Union is targeting to promote South-South youth exchange by supporting at least one million volunteers to cross frontiers within the continent for civil engagement. The primary objective of this initiative is to cultivate the spirit of services among young women and men across the continent.

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Ratherford Mwaruta, CCIVS Vice-President for Africa, current NAVO interim President and Chairperson for Southern Africa Workcamps Cooperation joined the Conference and contributed to the Global Volunteering Standard which seeks the decolonisation of the international voluntary landscape. The Conference was organised by the African Union in very close collaboration with the United Nations Volunteers, International Red Cross Federation and the Africa Germany Youth Initiative (giz-AGYI).

IVCO Forum

The CCIVS Vice-President for Africa, participated in the IVCO Conference 2019 organised under the theme "Advancing Quality in Volunteering for Development: Promoting Volunteerism and Exchange in Africa". The Forum took place in Kigali, Rwanda from the 27th to the 30th October 2019. The annual conference of International Volunteer Cooperation Organisations (IVCO) brought together leaders of international volunteering agencies from around the globe in a unique dialogue: VSO Rwanda, Australia Volunteers International, United Nations Volunteers, Plan of Action, Africa Union, Africa Germany Youth Initiative, (giz-AGYI) and International Red Cross Federation, among others.

EYF info session 2020

CCIVS participated in the information sessions organised by the European Youth Foundation (EYF), an opportunity to meet the EYF Secretariat, to learn about and discuss the EYF grant application process and reporting, as well as the COVID-19 measures.

Volontariato Diaconia Valdese

In November 2019 CCIVS was invited to take an expert role in the final meeting of a project coordinated by Giovani in Movimento in Florence, Italy. The CCIVS Director led a workshop about International Voluntary Service, sharing about the work of the movement, the results of our impact research and the role of international volunteers.



Youth Peace Week 2020



Youth Peace Week

Engaging young people and youth organisations in dialogue about peace and conflict transformation online

The CCIVS Communication intern joined The Youth Peace Week 2020, an online alternative to the Youth Peace Camp organised by the Council of Europe, due to the outbreak of the COVID-19, it couldn't take place in 2020 and the camp itself has been postponed to 2021. The online event took place from June 30 to July 7 2020. It was a "learning opportunity to bring together applicants and former participants of the Youth Peace Camps and other young people active as promoters of peace and intercultural dialogue in their communities and youth organisations". More than 50 participants worldwide joined the different webinars, workshops and open sessions that were accompanied by e-learning activities related to each day's topics.

The YPW intended to "support young people and youth organisations active in conflict transformation and peace-building by sharing education resources, capacity-building networking possibilities to enhance young people's role in peace and security processes".

The online event was facilitated by Ramon Tena Pera, trainer; Agata Stajer, trainer; and László Milutinovits, Educational Advisor of the Council of Europe. The participation was primarily by youth leaders and activists interested in peace-building and conflict transformation. Young people from conflict-stricken communities were encouraged to join.

The Youth Peace Week focused the learning on different themes: Human Rights and Peacebuilding; the UN Security Council Resolution UN 2250 on youth, peace and security; Human Rights and Health; Learning about the Youth Peace Camp and Taking action online and Youth Peace Camp alumni network initiatives. The different webinars, workshops and open sessions counted on the participation of Rui Gomes, Head of Education and Training of the Youth Department, Romeral Ortiz Quintilla, International Consultant in Youth and Peacebuilding with the UN and members of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe.

Volunteer Group Alliance

In 2020 CCIVS joined the Volunteer Group Alliance. It is a global network of 60+ volunteer-involving organisations working in over 150 countries. The Volunteer Groups Alliance (VGA) works together to promote and amplify the role that volunteers play in achieving the United Nations' 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Formed in 2015, the VGA connects organisations working with Volunteer Groups across the world to work. VGA is an official stakeholder group outlined in the UN General Assembly Resolution A/res/67/290 and takes advantage of this space to gain recognition for the crucial role of volunteers in successfully monitoring and ultimately achieving the SDGs. Communication and visibility plays an important role to achieve all this and CCIVS contributed with some volunteer stories to the International Volunteer Day common communication campaign of the network. CCIVS attended the monthly online meetings.

GIED National Students Day

The Global Initiative for Exchange and Development Inc., CCIVS member organisation, together with the Philippian National Youth Commission, organised on November 17 the National Students Day 2020 talks with the theme "Students on the move: Learning for Peace and Adapting to the New Normal".

Ingrid Danckaerts, CCIVS President, was invited as a speaker to share the role of International Voluntary Service in the education for peace and development, volunteering as a tool for active participation in society and showcasing the Raising Peace campaign as an example of awareness-raising and visibility project in the field.

Together with with Tonisito M.C. Umali (Undersecretary for Legislative Affairs, External Partnerships and School Sports, DepEd), Dr. Earl Jude Paul L. Cleope (Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Silliman University) and Mr. Donald James Gawe (Executive Director, PNVSCA), the speakers highlighted the role of youth in peacebuilding to inspire and inform the participants of the webinar.

Second Volunteer Congress

CCIVS attended the Second Volunteer Congress took place from 4–6 November 2020 using an online format, due to security reasons and the restrictions applied due to the pandemic. Subir al Sur's initiative, co-managed with the Government of the City of Buenos Aires, celebrated its second edition under the title "Let's shorten distances" with the objectives of promoting volunteering and giving visibility to volunteer organisations that organise actions in this new context.

The congress was developed in three thematic days lasting two hours where the speakers had the opportunity to present and later open the debate through open questions contributed by the attendees. CCIVS President, Ingrid Danckaerts and Júlia Pérez Lema attended the Congress. Later, CCIVS shared some conclusions with the network.

Education and volunteering: Pedagogies of solidarity and social participation

The speakers in charge of opening the event during the first day were Oscar García, professor at the National University of San Martín, Enrique Ochoa, executive director of CLAYSS and Francisco Somoza, coordinator of educational social practices UBA. During the presentations, the speakers and participants opened spaces for debate on the power of volunteering with its vocation for dialogue and volunteer learning, volunteering as a path and as a destination. Enrique Ochoa enriched with an educational perspective, offering solidarity as a pedagogical proposal and service-learning as a real exercise of citizenship, all components of volunteering. On the other hand, the protagonism of active young people and the most vulnerable communities as agents of change and socio-educational inclusion was highlighted. Even so, it is worth highlighting the need for preparation and support so as not to reinforce existing structures and power relations. The presentation of the University of Buenos Aires exemplified and visualised the work carried out by students throughout the pandemic.

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Intercultural volunteering and global citizenship

Cecilia Milesi, Founder of Subir al Sur and Global Change, Anja Stuckert, General Secretary of ICYE and Camila Ponce, International Director of Education in América Solidaria, reflected on the intercultural component that the experience of participating in volunteerism brings, as well as the ability to overcoming borders at different levels, starting with the individual.

Volunteering policies and pandemic and post-pandemic challenges

Mauricio Giraudo, GCBA Ministry of Human Development and Habitat, Gustavo Sampayo, Representative of the Red Cross and Rocío Vergara, representative of UN Volunteering in Ecuador, presented their support proposals during the pandemic as well as the actions planned for next year. Rocío Vergara shared the conclusions of the Global Technical Meeting "Reimagining Volunteering for 2030" that took place between 13–16 July 2020 with the objectives of guaranteeing greater involvement, recognizing the contribution and developing instruments to measure the scope of volunteering.

The Congress created a space for exchange and reflection on different volunteer practices and projects developed in different organisations and institutions in Argentina and around the world.

EU-LAC meeting

On September 14, 2020, the EU-LAC Foundation organised, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Secretariat Technician of Planning of the Economic and Social Development of Paraguay, “Challenges and innovations to promote volunteering in the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean in the post-COVID-19 era”.

Santiago Rojas, Director of International Relations and External Cooperation and Acting Secretary-General of the National Secretariat for Youth (SNJ) of the Government of Paraguay, and Adrián Bonilla, Executive Director of the EU-LAC Foundation participated, Rolando Kandel, Deputy Director of Fundación SES and Vice President for America for the CCIVS was invited as a speaker. Subsequently, the panelists Daysi Hume, President of the National Volunteer Council (CONAVO) of Paraguay; Rocío Vergara Chalhoub, National Coordinator of the United Nations Volunteers Program (UNV); Stefany Paez, Coordinator of France Volontaires in Ecuador; Rolando Kandel, Deputy Director of Fundación SES and Vice President for America of the Coordinating Committee for International Volunteer Service (CCIVS); and Sofía Mejía, Manager of Volunteer Programs and Global Campaign of Habitat for International Humanity, Latin America and the Caribbean Office. The webinar was moderated by Eunice Rivas, representative of the Technical Planning Secretariat of Paraguay.

The discussion focused on the unequal impact of COVID-19 in Latin American countries, the important role of volunteering in addressing the different problems of the region and the need to strengthen public policies that support volunteering. In addition to the importance of promoting exchange between organisations, and different volunteer experiences.



STRUCTURAL MANAGEMENT

The last two years have seen continued progress in CCIVS Structural Management, with the organisation continuing to develop and become stronger. The list below, showcasing a few key structural developments, should allow us to get a sense of the steps forward that have been taken in the past 2 years:

- » Membership - we've reached a total number of 186 member organisations (88 full members and 98 organisations coming from member networks) and efforts were made to ensure a fairer contribution of members to the network. After some years of discussion and reflection, the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations decided to join CCIVS as a member, a first signal of the need to reassemble together under one common and recognisable umbrella;
- » Communication - a new website and a set of communication tools were launched and freelance communication support is working full time on CCIVS' communication;
- » Executive Committee (EC) - the fact that a core group of members from the previous EC stayed onboard, doubled by the recruitment of new experienced members, was valuable in ensuring the continuity of the work developed since 2014;
- » The Secretariat - the commitment of staff and volunteers were, once again, exemplary and essential for the results both in terms of impact and finances;
- » As the departure of our Director was announced, the EC and Director made serious efforts to ensure a transition that would be smooth and a continuation of the work that is also sustainable. Thus, a restructuring of the office was conceptualised and is currently underway.

Ingrid Danckaerts

CCIVS Members



186 Member
Organisations



85

27



16



42



101

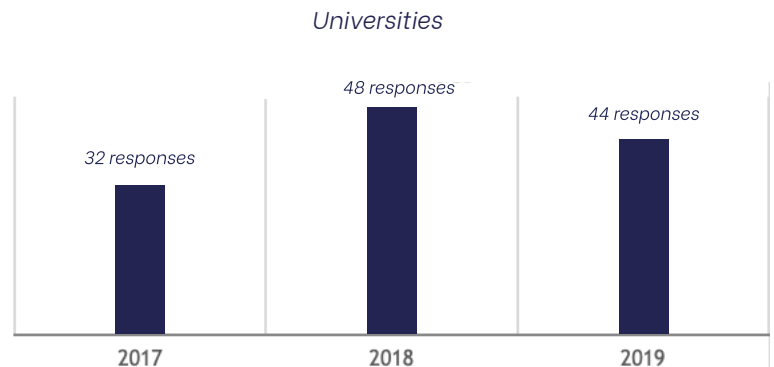


Partnerships within the Movement

The information shown in these graphs is a visual representation based on the results of a survey shared and completed annually by network members. Currently, IVS is made up of 188 organisations and given the participation, the information cannot be extrapolated or interpreted as a global trend.

Universities

In the last three years, IVS organisations have increased their relations with universities. The number of organisations who built a partnership with universities in 2019 grew to 76 universities. These partnerships went from research on the network, presentations, sending their students to volunteer projects, internships that complemented the staff of the organisation and expertise of faculties for volunteer projects. Organisations based in Asia registered a higher number of partnerships with different universities.



Local partners

In 2019, 63 organisations shared that they work with 1600 local partners.

Freedom of Movement:

How many volunteers could not join projects due to visa refusals?

More than 548 visa refusals

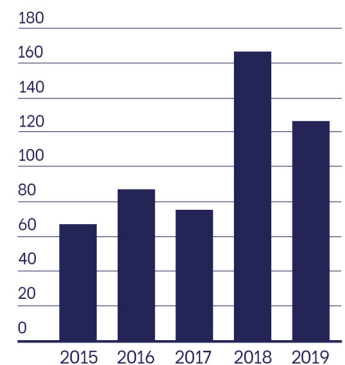
Survey participation per year: 2019: 50 organisations 2018: 35 organisations 2017: 21 organisations 2016: 43 organisations 2015: 27 organisations

In the period between 2015 and 2019, more than 548 volunteers were not able to join their projects because of visa refusals.

7 out of 10 visa refusals were reported in Europe 71% of visa refusals registered come from projects hosted by European organisations. Only the Americas did not report any visa refusals.

Is there a barrier for non-Europeans that want to volunteer in Europe? In 2018, 109 volunteers were not able to join their projects in Europe due to visa refusals, which represents 66% of visa refusals that year. The trend repeats in 2019 with 90 visa refusals, a lower number compared to the previous year but representing an increase in the percentage of visa refusals per region (71%).

Is the number of visa denials similar in all the organisations? The number of visa denials registered by organisations in the four regions varies, regardless of the region in which they are located. While in 2019 and 2018 it was European organisations that registered the highest number of visa denials per organisations, in 2017, two Asian organisations registered 8 visa denials.



How many volunteers could not join your projects due to visa refusals?



● Africa ● Americas
● Asia Pacific ● Europe

CCIVS Executive Committee

In 2019 the CCIVS Executive Committee met three times for 2 EC meetings and a Finances and General Purposes meeting.

EC1 took place in March and was hosted by GHD in Turkey, it took place parallel to the Alliance TM, which provided an additional opportunity for the EC members to meet with many members of the IVS movement taking place in the same venue. The first meeting always needs to take into account the induction of new EC members and is the place to plan the EC work for the 2 years to come. The Finances and General Purposes meeting took place in Paris in May which also gave an opportunity to meet with the staff. The EC2 in November took place in Hungary, hosted by Egyesek.



The EC meetings focused mainly on the follow-up of the GA decisions and in particular the start of a new strategic planning process, organisational development support for members, financial monitoring, development of campaigns and activities in line with thematic priorities, staff follow-up and proposals for re-structuring the organisation in the near future.

In 2020 the Executive Committee only met once, in February in France. There was a last minute change of the venue due to Covid restrictions and meant that, unfortunately, the Vice-President for Africa couldn't join the meeting. The EC reviewed ongoing activities, discussed future steps for office and staff organisation, strategic planning process, the preparation of the 2020 GA and looked at the budget. A lot of plans were made for the 2020 GA year, the celebration of 100 years of IVS and especially the new strategic plan process. It should have been a very intensive year but due to the pandemic the EC couldn't carry out the foreseen activities. The Finances and General Purposes meeting took place online in July and to follow up on all the EC work, monthly online meetings took place. It became clear that it would be impossible to hold a GA in November in Germany and the EC started working on different scenarios to deal with this situation. In September the Director started maternity leave and since no replacement was foreseen, the EC stayed in close contact with the secretariat.

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Secretariat

The formidable Secretariat team



I often get surprised reactions when I inform people about the size of our team. They are amazed at how much we manage to do being so few.

Whilst we do have a wonderful team who are truly dedicated to making CCIVS 'tick'.. We are also supported by the equally wonderful team of external experts - facilitators, trainers and researchers without whom we would not be able to implement all these actions. And not to mention an active and dynamic EC, who voluntarily support the team where needed.

The last two years have seen a growth in the team and a change in positions which has stabilised it's functioning. We have also seen a change in offices moving from one building in UNESCO to another and then back again... which whilst time consuming, also allowed for some giant 'spring cleans'.

With the stabilisation of the team also came the opportunity to focus more on our communication, with a complete update of our webpage, including an online learning site, a new updated logo and colour change to reflect CCIVS values, regular newsletters both internal and external and more visual campaigns using video and photo, and an enlarged outreach through social media channels.

I won't go on, you can read all about these wonderful people and developments in the next pages. I will however extend my gratitude to all those who contribute to the continued strengthening and building of our beloved CCIVS.

Vicky Lovelock

Volunteers & Interns

We appreciate and thank the volunteers and interns who have contributed greatly to CCIVS, for the work they have done, their commitment, sense of humour, and the way they have enriched us during their time in the office. Here are the volunteers and interns who joined the Secretariat during 2019.

Service Civique

- **Elisa Contarini** / Italy – Role: Project Support Volunteer
- **Kirsten Thorsen** / Sweden – Role: Project Support Volunteer

Interns

- **Samyan Otero Alfayate** / Belgium – Role: Communication Officer
- **Julia Perez Lema** / Spain – Role: Communication Officer
- **Jade Maisonneuve** / France

Freelancers

The following expert facilitators, trainers, project support, designers have joined the CCIVS team these past four years. (In reverse alphabetical order):

Valerie Weidinger, Teddy Tezira Babirye, Sudam Jayasinghe, Samuel Musanyusa Zziwa, Rocio Ruete, Rita Albuquerque, Oriol Josa, Nunzio Soricaro, Miki Ambrózy, Mick Petersmann, Mauro Carta, Matina Deligianni, Madeleine Joss, Laetitia Barbry, Kate Curtis, Julia Nieto, Jelena Ristic Beronja, Javier Larios, Govina Sharma, Gianni Orsini, François Ribaud, Francesco Volpini, Clara Giberga, Borja Franco Garzón, Bogdan Imre, Belén Fernández, Ariel Gonzales, Andrea Alderette, Adrienn, Adam Elsod.

In the period 2019-2020, Francesco Volpini launched and implemented a number of innovative, multi-stakeholders global researches on the impact of International Voluntary Service and non-formal education on volunteers, communities and organisations.

Since January 2020, Júlia Pérez Lema has been managing CCIVS Communication.

Make a change

“Make a change”. This was my answer to the question of what the International Voluntary Service means to me, that day I was interviewed by the CCIVS Secretariat team. Now, after 8 months spent at the CCIVS office, it came to my mind when I was trying to write some reflection of my experience. Actually, I found interesting to ask the same question now. What does the International Voluntary Service bring to us? What did this experience bring to me?

Let's go back in time. At the beginning of this year, I was thinking about the other opportunity to experience volunteering somewhere abroad. I was encouraged by my previous short-term European Voluntary Service (known as “EVS”) experience in Bulgaria and my work for Transparency International, the anti-corruption organisation, where various people started to offer their skills and time for free to help us. This was beyond our expectations. I was astonished by this and I felt a need to do the same. This time I received the email from European Solidarity Corps (previously “EVS”) about the job opportunity in Paris for CCIVS. When I checked the job offer and the website of CCIVS I hardly could believe that I got the chance to be part of the organisation which coordinates different volunteering-based projects all over the world. I had a strong desire to see what is behind volunteering on the multinational level, how the partnerships between almost two hundreds of different members work.

I applied for a job, passed through the Skype interview and finally, the last interview took place directly in Paris. I really appreciated the clearness of the circumstances of the job. Half of the last interview was performed as job shadowing, which made me aware of my potential job activities. I could observe the daily work of the team and asked them questions about it. The team tried to make me sure about the following facts. It will be mainly about office work, which I was used to. To get an apartment can be “a little bit” challenging, which I first did not take as big concerns (now I can imagine some slight “poor-you” smiling of Parisians reading this).

CCIVS team welcomed me very well, I had the opportunity to work with super cool colleagues from different countries, practice my English and discuss the different habits and traditions (such as “horrible” findings in the eyes of my Italian colleague that in Slovakia it's not the rule to cook a dinner or for me funny Christmas tradition of Spanish kids to feed the piece of wood J). Thanks to the European Solidarity Corps and our Director Vicky the relocation process was much easier. The ESC financially supported my move. Moreover, I received the language support. Vicky gave me a hand with the first weeks when she offered me to stay at her place during searching for my own apartment. And finally, if someone told me a few years ago that once I would live in lovely Paris, I would think that it was a joke.

My official position was as an Administrative Assistant. Our team of Secretariat office is responsible for all logistic behind every project event, training, meeting or campaign. Of course, many activities are not feasible without the cooperation of our partners. However, we are the body who is directly

responsible for the budget of received grants. We allocate the financial support in accordance with project goals and we are accountable for it to donors. I was responsible for communication with the participants of the project activities and I would deal with their reimbursement request for their main travel costs. Then I was in charge of annual membership fees. In a simple way, my main working tools were emails, inscription excels, tickets, receipts, invoices, and the new internal system. In the very first meeting, I was fully engaged to the mysterious world of the shortcuts of project such as RP, KA2, STEP or CJ (my first thought was that it was the name of a person since I had association with the name of the character "J.T." from the famous American sitcom of my childhood, called Step by Step). It sounds boring or as nothing to do with my mentioned excitement about working with multinational volunteering?

Maybe at first glance, you would say yes. Actually, after some time, you get to understand what behind these excels, timesheets, etc. is. It is that moment when the participant of the event sends you the travel documents and by the same email, they thank you for organising the training where they gained useful skills, exchanged the experience in the field with others, etc. One of my last tasks was to process the support for the IVS for Climate Justice campaign and the Raising Peace Campaign. In other words, I collected the invoices, reports, photos and check their eligibility in order to reimburse some related expenses. Just some kind of paperwork again. However, when you look at photos and read the narrative reports of activities you get, a new perspective of your paperwork. I remember the photos from Sri Lanka, where one of our members organised a volunteering workcamp for cleaning the local area completely polluted by all kinds of rubbish. Maybe you heard that the plastic island in the ocean is now six times bigger than all France. There were other workcamps which supported the marginalized communities or disabled people.

Sustainable Food Production and Coastal Cleanup took place from April 6 to April 15 in Kandy and Jaffna, Sri Lanka. The project was run by SCI Sri Lanka and was part of the Climate Justice campaign.

Now I can confirm and answer the question: it was not just only paperwork. The International Voluntary Service is the change. Personally, the experience in CCIVS influenced my decision to professionally continue in the field of volunteering. In my new work, I will have the opportunity to build a partnership in order to deploy the volunteers to places, where the need for change is identified.

Nikola Gurgolova

Communication

2019

Social Media

In 2019, CCIVS grew its presence on social media by creating an Instagram profile and a new LinkedIn page. In the last year, CCIVS Facebook profile increased by more than 900 likes and more than 1,000 followers. The new Instagram profile reached 800 followers and LinkedIn has more than 100 followers, where CCIVS publishes results of the projects where it is involved.

- [Facebook](#) 6,520 followers
- [Twitter](#) 1,091 followers
- [Instagram](#) 800 followers
- [LinkedIn](#) 124 followers
- [Youtube](#) 54 subscribers

External Communication

The external communication implemented by CCIVS during 2019 included; the promotion of activities part of CCIVS projects and raising awareness of the work of the International Voluntary Service organisations. The activities promoted included trainings and meetings part of Steps to the Future, Raising Peace, IVS for Peace and IVS for Climate Justice, and also the workcamps organised by member organisations inside CCIVS campaigns. These workcamps were promoted on CCIVS social media to reach more volunteers with the creation of camp cards designs. Afterwards their results and best practices were summarised and collected in a magazine design (Raising Peace campaign) and in quote cards (IVS for Climate Justice campaign) that were shared on CCIVS social media profiles. CCIVS Youtube channel is hosting the videos created for the online courses and two videos result of the Soil Protection and Management training.

Promotional Tools

During 2019, CCIVS designed a special flyer for the 100 years anniversary since the first International Voluntary Service workcamp organised by SCI in 1920. An infographic was created for the impact measurement undertaken for IVS for Climate Justice campaign, together with gratitude cards for the volunteers involved in the camps. During the Global Human Rights Week, design cards, quote cards, videos and a daily magazine were created especially for the activity.



**6,520
followers
(+1,080)**

**6,429 likes
(+910)**

**794,752
reach**



**1091
followers**

**136,440
impressions**



**800
followers**

**242
posts**



**124
followers**



**54
subscribers**

898 views

2020



7,194
followers
(+674)

6,812 likes
(+381)

176,672
reach



1100
followers



974
followers

287
posts



196
followers



55
subscribers

605 views

CCIVS external communication followed the CCIVS Communication Plan 2020 'What is Our IVS', although due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the postponement of projects, events and the transformation of physical meetings to online meetings, the communication plan had to be rethought adapting to the new circumstances. During the months of January and February, CCIVS shared its participation in meetings and projects like the Europe Lab by Frame(v)work, a project coordinated by Egyesek Youth Association and the Alliance Technical Meeting, hosted by HUJ Armenia, who also hosted CCIVS Day.

In 2020, CCIVS ran three raising awareness campaigns: IVSolidarity, IVS Work and Raising Peace Impact. In addition, CCIVS was part of the Think Tank of the project Virtual Camps and organised its own Virtual Camp action, the IVS from home challenge.

IVS Work

In 2020, CCIVS ran a campaign on social media to give visibility and highlight show examples from member organisations. IVS Work showcased best practices and stories from 2019 while sharing the vision and the mission of the International Voluntary Service.

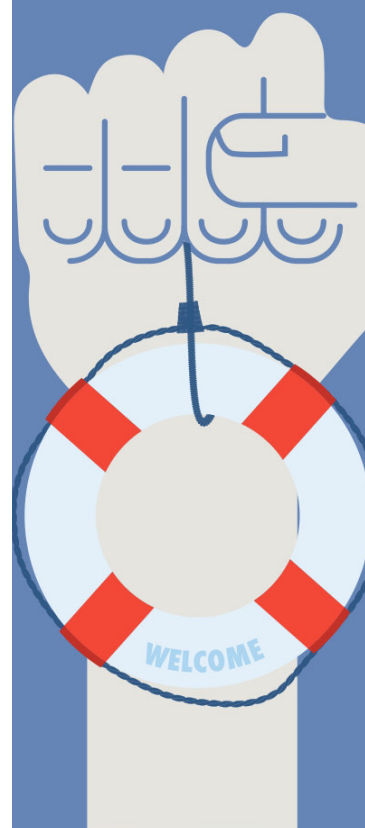
IVS from Home Challenge

CCIVS organised a Virtual Camp. We asked volunteers, staff and board members to record videos explaining 5 tips that future volunteers should know if they want to volunteer in the country where the organisation is based in. As videos were sent during the lockdown, they were recorded from their homes. From this Camp, CCIVS was able to publish [5 videos](#) for Hungary, Denmark, South Africa, Serbia and Germany.

CCIVS also participated in the #VolunteerMemories challenge where CCIVS Director and CCIVS Administration Officer shared their volunteer experiences and joined the initiative by Mladi Istrazivaci Srbije (YRS-VSS).

IVSolidarity

While implementing a mutual support network in face of the uncertainty with the Covid-19 outbreak, CCIVS shared the work of IVS organisations around the world supporting their local communities and contributing to social solidarity. Under the hashtag #IVSolidarity, more than 100 posts have been shared on Instagram. We also sent a special newsletter to inform about initiatives, training opportunities and resources.



Website

The new CCIVS website was officially launched in June 2019. It has a more user friendly design and collects up to date information from the network and the projects run by CCIVS. It is a portal for advocacy and networking, useful for organisations, institutions and wider audiences.

Visitors of the website can find CCIVS members directory inside “Our Network”, categorised for an easier search and also with the updated contact information. The resources section includes a “Toolbox” site with publications, reports and toolkits, from CCIVS projects, member organisations and partners that can be interesting for organisations and institutions working on the field of non-formal education; a link to “iLearn, the CCIVS online learning site with free to access online training modules; and “Research”, which collects studies which have taken place on International Voluntary Service over the years including our in depth work on impact research. Under “CCIVS in Action”, projects and campaigns organised by CCIVS or where CCIVS is a partner, including a summary, evolution and results. The media section includes news and CCIVS radio, which will be back with new podcasts during 2021.



During 2019, more than 15,000 users visited the website. The website was visited more than 50,000 times. France, India and the United States of America were the countries where the most visits came from.

Newsletter

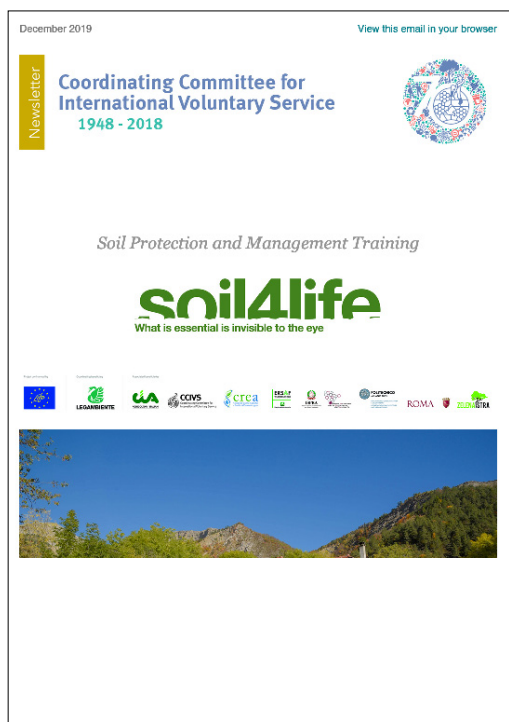
The CCIVS External newsletter is managed by Mailchimp. In 2019, CCIVS sent 5 newsletters to 813 subscribers. Four of them were part of the regular newsletter update that is sent every 3 months (December, March, June, October) and a special edition was sent to compile the materials created and shared during the Global Human Rights Week 2019. In 2020, CCIVS sent 6 newsletters to 911 subscribers. CCIVS sent out 3 regular newsletters in March, June and December. Due to special events and communication needs, we sent out 3 special editions: CCIVS Special COVID, You can make a difference, so why don't you? (on the occasion of the fundraising campaign for Raising Peace) and Join the STEPS Webinar Series.

The CCIVS External newsletter is an email update from the organisation and the network. It includes updates about CCIVS projects and campaigns, news from the members and the network and resources useful for the readers. The newsletter content, design and layout is presented in a simple and user-friendly way, keeping the subscribers updated with the most relevant information issue from the organisation.

CCIVS Internal Newsletter and Tuesday mailing

Since 2020, CCIVS has changed the internal communication with its members for a more effective, concrete and complete diffusion of communication inside the network. In order to do that, CCIVS started the production of an internal newsletter to be sent to the network of organisations every two Wednesdays, and a Tuesday mailing to be sent every week for more urgent information. At the end of 2020, CCIVS sent 14 Internal Newsletters to the International Voluntary Service network.

Aside from these new regular channels, CCIVS also created special Internal Newsletters to inform the network about different projects. IVS from home challenge, iLearn Join the Free STEPS Online Course on Organisational Development for IVS Organisations, Join the STEPS Webinar Series.

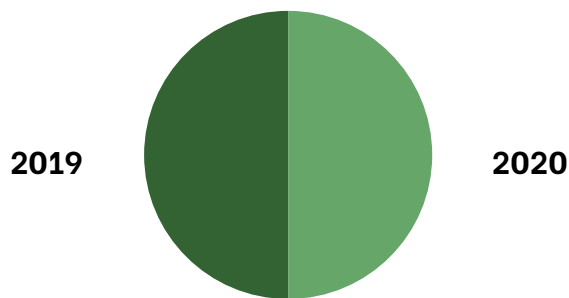


FINANCES

The efforts to stabilise CCIVS' finances has, once again, borne fruits both in 2018 and in 2019. As such, for two more consecutive years, we managed to obtain positive financial results. The positive results have been made possible due to a number of factors. First of all there is the sound project management and budget control keeping expenditures to a minimum. The Secretariat played a key role in this and displayed great professionalism in this field. We could also count on the contribution of members and trainers to ensure high quality projects. CCIVs directly organised many projects based on members needs and following the Plan of Action and was also invited to join members projects, running sections of projects and contributing to their successful implementation. This creates opportunities for CCIVS without putting too much administrative and financial burden on the organisation. Finally the membership fee system was revised, trying to create a more sustainable and fair system to share some of the core costs of CCIVS. However, given the COVID-19 Pandemic and the effects it had on most CCIVS members and bearing in mind the major changes that are set to take shape in the near future (e.g. the departure of our Director, we need to continue to improve our efforts to ensure the financial sustainability of the organisation. (e.g. the departure of our Directrice), we should not settle for these results, but rather continue our efforts to ensure the financial sustainability of the organisation.

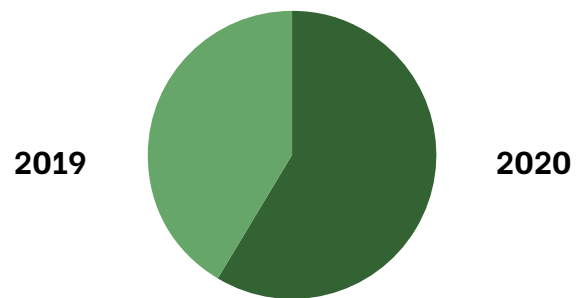
Ingrid Danckaerts

Income structural grants from COE/EACEA



2019	2020
€ 50,000.00	€ 50,000.00

Erasmus+ programme of the European Union
Administrative Grant

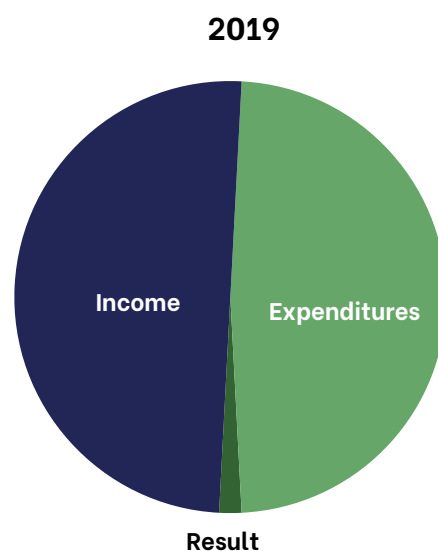
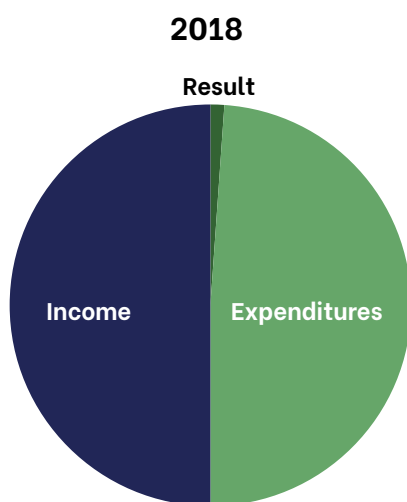


2019	2020
€ 14,434.00	€ 20,383.00

European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe
Structural Grant

Expense & income

95



	Income	Expenditures	Result
2018	€ 539,836.00	€ 527,880.00	€ 11,956.00
2019	€ 624,909.00	€ 604,557.00	€ 20,352.00

CONCLUSIONS

Looking back at the period 2018-2020 is very difficult. I try to remember what has happened in 2019 but due to the COVID-19 Pandemic that seems so long ago. What happened in 2020 makes me live day by day. As CCIVS we have been planning, re-planning, suspending, adapting, postponing,... and it is very difficult to remember what happened before. It is only when reading this bi-annual report that I realise that we have done a lot of things. 2020 has been a very demanding, confusing, uncertain and emotionally difficult year for all of us. So how do we make a balance of all this? What are the lessons learned from such a period?

Let me make a short overview of the 2019-2020 period. We started 2019 off with a lot of projects approved and many plans for the coming 2 years. I hope this report has given you an insight in how many things were happening. Activities that should support the organisations in becoming stronger actors of IVS work such as the STEPS project or the just launched EMpowering Youth project, campaigns that bring us together as members of the same family working on topics such as Peace, Climate Justice and World Heritage or working on improving our network cooperation with the Frame(v)work. A big thank you goes to the people in the Secretariat and all the freelance trainers and supporters who made all this possible. Without their commitment and dedication none of this would have been possible. Some other projects were approved in 2020 but couldn't start at all because of the impossibility to meet. So what was supposed to be a 2-year period marking a turning point for CCIVS as we were planning to restructure the office, build a new strategic plan for the network and consolidate the financial situation of the organisation ended up in a kind of waiting room.

But sometimes a waiting room is also interesting and gives us the opportunity to reflect on certain developments. Let's take the time to reassess our situation and see how the things that happened around us will influence IVS in the near future so that our strategic plan gives answers to those challenges that we see in society today. Solidarity and empathy, 2 core values of IVS, are more than ever needed to build a sustainable, peaceful and just world.

To come back to the introduction I wrote... 2020 should have been a celebration year in which together with one of our founding members, Service Civil International, and the whole IVS movement, we would celebrate the 100th anniversary of International Voluntary Service. The commemoration of the first international workcamp in Esnes, France in 1920, organised by Pierre Ceresole in the aftermath of WWI has inspired many more. The IVS community which CCIVS tries to bring together and support will need to stand up, show its uniqueness and act together if we want to survive in the 21st century. As several reports have shown, the space for civil society is shrinking. IVS organisations will have to reclaim their space and for this we need to use one voice!

We continue to be sure that CCIVS is needed, that IVS has more than ever a role to play in these times. In the recent webinars that CCIVS organised the experts pointed out we have to make our expertise visible, we need to use the results of our impact research, we need to know and understand all our partners and we need to build the necessary connections to make sure that our voice is heard. Let's work towards a more cohesive and inclusive IVS focusing on internal strengthening of organisations and building a global movement in which all members feel valued, respected and encouraged for the work they do. But let's not forget to also show the world what IVS brings to volunteers, the community and society in a whole. Because if we want to find public support for the work we do, we need to make it known.

Together we can change the world!

Ingrid Danckaerts

Next steps

Is this the end of IVS as we know it?

Will IVS organisations find a new way of working? What role will CCIVS play in that new scenario? How can we together build that new reality? While in normal circumstances there is a clear plan laid out for the next 2 years, this time a lot of uncertainties are making it very difficult to make a realistic projection for the near future. So what to expect?

As most IVS organisations, CCIVS is also seriously affected by the Pandemic since almost no international activities could take place but we will continue the process of restructuring and strategic planning as foreseen.

In 2021 we will, on a structural level continue with looking at and reorganising roles and responsibilities in staff and EC, starting from the competences CCIVS needs. We will also finalise the strategic planning process. That process will give us an opportunity to really listen to members' needs and formulate together a plan for the future. The CCIVS Online Dialogues which took place in December 2020 as a meeting place for members as the 2020 GA is postponed will give us input to decide on the direction of CCIVS in the next years. Meanwhile we hope international activities can slowly start again in the second half of 2021 and we can implement the projects that have been put on hold and organise the CCIVS GA in November in Berlin.

Let's see what 2021 will bring us and how IVS organisations can find their place in this new reality. This will also define for a big part how CCIVS will look like in the future.

Ingrid Danckaerts

IF YOU HAVE COME HERE TO HELP ME
YOU ARE WASTING YOUR TIME.

BUT IF YOU HAVE COME BECAUSE
**YOUR LIBERATION
IS BOUND UP
WITH MINE,**
THEN
**LET US WORK
TOGETHER**

Aboriginal Activists Group Queensland 1970s



**The CCIVS Global IVS
Network contributes to
the achievement of the
Sustainable Development
Goals**

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CCIVS relies on the kind support of its donors, if you wish to support CCIVS please consider making a donation through PayPal on our website, by cheque to the address below (France only) or by bank transfer/deposit (Please request the bank details to the CCIVS Secretariat)

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