

2013-FR-68

Tools for life

« Des Outils Pour La Vie »

Concordia is a French national non-governmental and non-profit making organization, founded in 1950 by English, German and French youngsters. Their aim was to enhance the values of tolerance and peace after the 2nd world war by organizing international workcamps of young volunteers.

The main objectives of Concordia are the following:

- Education in helping young people to grow up by acquisition of collective life.
- Culture in favoring the youth exchanges on an international level, always emphasizing the values of peace, friendship and mutual respect.
- Social in taking part in concrete actions of solidarity, as well as supporting a civic attitude
- Social economy in contributing to realization of local development, in favor of the environment, patrimony, tourism and socio-educational animation.

The Paris head office supports the eight regional offices activities in the Alps, Auvergne, Aquitaine, Bretagne, Normandy, Picardy, South-Southwest and Ile-de-France.

Concordia has the approval of the French Ministry of Youth and Sport and the Ministry of the Environment.

Project environment

The EVS project takes place in the region of Aquitaine, south-east of France in a little village, called Saint Caprais de Bordeaux, 30 kilometres far from Bordeaux. This region is well known for the environmental heritage and vineyard is also a very important activity of the region. This area is quite isolated and there is not a lot of public transport to visit around but Concordia can lend bikes. If you are a lover of nature and walks you will enjoy a lot!

The project Tools for life was created in 2003, with the goal of recuperating, renovating and sending manual tools to the partners identified in the south countries. This activity was created by a former EVS volunteer that did his EVS in a similar project in Great-Britain (tools for solidarity in Belfast).

The volunteer will work a lot with local French volunteers, people with fewer opportunities, local associations, schools, etc. One employee of Concordia supports him from the start and progressively (it depends of his competences) leaves him/her the opportunity to manage alone the activities related to his/her project. The workplace is in the garage in the garden of Concordia near the office and of the EVS house.

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The volunteer can also acknowledge and get acquainted with the themes as international solidarity. There is also the occasion of being sensitized to a consumption lifestyle more reasonable and recycling of materials.

Tasks and activities

The main task of the volunteer is to collect and restore old manual tools that will be sent to identify partners in developing country or will be used for local collective projects (shared gardens, gardens for primary schools, users...). On this project two volunteers are working together.

In particular the activities deal with:

- ✓ Collecting tools through different actions (participation in seminar, market, local event, presentation in local schools, etc) and restoring them in the Concordia workshop to send them to our partner.
- ✓ Writing grant application to support the financial part of the project
- ✓ Finding and meeting partners to send our tools
(we are currently looking for new partners for the project)
- ✓ Organizing workshop to welcome volunteer with fewer opportunities, children from the school, local people (games around solidarity, construction of birds house with the tools, etc)
- ✓ Realising planning to organise between the office and the workshop.
- ✓ Participating with the others volunteers to the maintenance of Concordia house and workshop for the host of people.

Requirements

- Basics knowledge in French.
- Motivation to do manual work.
- Be pedagogical to work with different public.
- Be flexible and open to meet/live with new people.
- Availability to start in February 2013

Practical conditions

- **Working Hours:** The volunteer will work approx. 30 hours per week.

The hours of work are during day time. The volunteer can work during the weekend sometimes; in this case the hours can be catch up later.

Working and living conditions: Accommodation will be provided. The volunteer will be accommodated in the house of Concordia, next to the offices of the association, with 4 or 5 other volunteers. The volunteers get used to adopt a collective life it means cook and eat together, propose activities in group and participate to the associative events that we organise once a month in the house of the

volunteers. The volunteer will get pocket money (125€ per month) and money for food (7,50€ per day). Internet is available in the house but it's better to bring your own laptop.

- **Transports:** There is few public transport in this area, the volunteer will use a bike lended by Concordia and the car of the association to go to work and to do some shopping for the house. The volunteer can't use the car further than 50 kilometres and we try to avoid the waste of petrol for environment and expenses. Concordia contributes a bit for the petrol but it's not enough in general to contribute to the personal activities of the volunteer.

Application deadline: 15th September 2013

Beginning of the project: First week of February 2013

NB after receiving the applications, we may arrange skype interviews