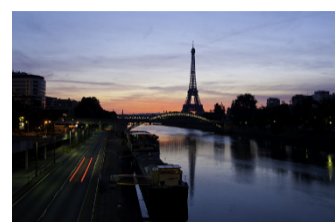
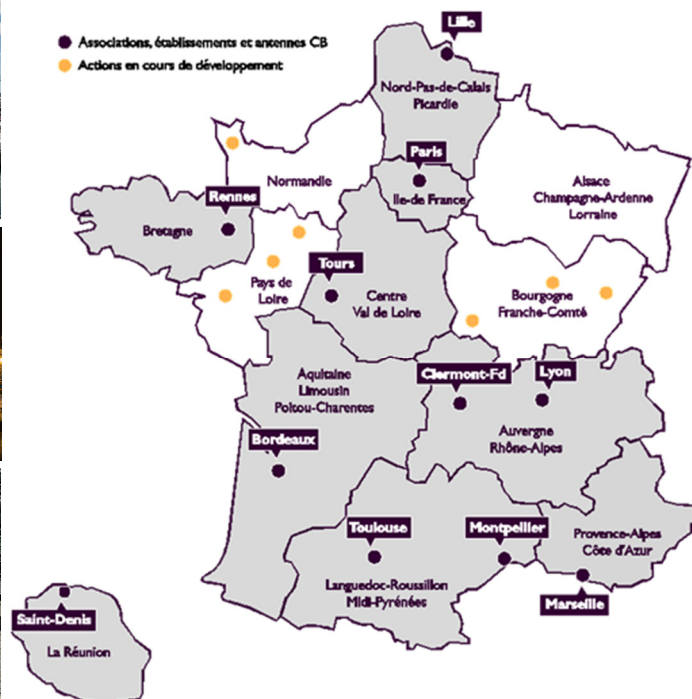
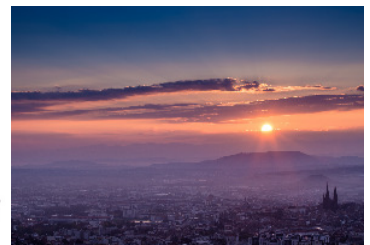




GENERAL PRESENTATION

"Compagnons Bâisseurs" (CBF) is an NGO founded in 1957. Its aim was to help a population that had been hard hit by the effects of World War II, to **reconstruct those homes destroyed** during the conflict. From the very beginning up until today, CBF has been putting the principle of **solidarity** into practice in the form of workcamps, as well as promoting **peace** and **better understanding** between people from all over the world. CBF is now composed as a **network** of one national organization and **10 regional organizations** in France

- Rennes, Brest and Lorient in Brittany.
 - Bordeaux in Aquitaine.
- Clermont-Ferrand in Auvergne.
- Montpellier in Languedoc Roussillon.
 - Marseille in Provence.
- Lille in Hauts-de-France.
 - Lyon in Rhône-Alpes.
- Paris in Ile-de-France.
- Saint Denis in Reunion island (Indian Ocean).
 - Tours in the Centre.





The regional organisations are carrying out **3 activities** throughout the year which are:

- **Technical, financial and social support supplied to families and people in need**, those often marginalized from society, and **to organizations** dedicated to collective and solidarity projects, regarding the **improvement of housing**. The aim is to **work along** with the owner or renter of the house or flat, and sometimes with neighbours to renovate the home.



- **Professional integration** into building trades through construction site, training course... The aim is to help people with social or professional difficulties to **re-enter the job market**.

- **Promote and develop volunteering by :**

- Encouraging the participation in voluntary actions of a diversity of people from outside or inside our network. The aim is to **encourage mobility** and participation to different projects linked with renovation and solidarity.
- Offering the possibility to participate in **international workcamps** (2 or 3 weeks) in France or abroad in different thematic. CBF Workcamps' projects deal with construction and renovation of buildings such as social centres, community buildings or heritage buildings (old fountains, washhouses, wells, old stone bread ovens...).
- Coordinating **Long Term Voluntary projects**. Each regional organisation hosts between **2 and 15 volunteers**, men and women over 18 years old who mainly come from France or European Union. The volunteers work together with the staff and the inhabitants to help them renovating their house and reinvesting their homes.





LONG TERM VOLUNTEER SERVICE WITH COMPAGNONS BATISSEURS FRANCE



The teams intervene with and for the families for the **improvement of their living conditions**, giving them the means to reinvest their home and be involved in a new dynamic. Volunteers work in **one** of the ten local organizations in France, and can share a collective life.

THE VOLUNTEERS



The project is open to girls and boys over **18 years old** from different nationalities and backgrounds, with or without preliminary knowledge in construction, renovation and social work.

We are hosting volunteers under 2 programs: the **European Voluntary Service** financed by European Union and the **Civic Service** financed by the French government.



In each local organisation, there are also **french volunteers**, and sometimes some of them are also facing personal difficulties and are trying with a voluntary service to find out a new and positive dynamic and define their future project.

The volunteers must be **prepared to commit themselves** in the fulfilment of the objectives of the organisation and will be able to develop their awareness of:

- Working closely with families in need and with organisations involved in local projects,
- Participating in the association life,
- Working as a member of a team outside traditional organisation,
- Working and sharing with many different people,
- Sharing a different experience of life.

These commitments are demanding but also offer a **great experience** and awareness of **responsibility**. On the project, volunteers also will find many ways to learn new acquaintances and live cultural exchanges.





WORK DESCRIPTION



Working with the organisation **staff** (administrative mentors and technical supervisors) and sometimes with the social worker in charge of the family, the volunteers participate in the preparation and realization of the **technical works**. They try to



make the **inhabitants involved** in the works and the improvement of their living conditions by **working together** on the site.



Although the main purpose is the renovation works, the activity has therefore an important **social and human aspect** that makes our intervention different from a professional one. **The family participate in the technical works and also in choosing** the work that has to be done, the materials used, the new decoration...



Sometimes the volunteers can share the **lunch** with the family which provides a valuable time to get to know each other and may create stronger links based on **trust and sharing**.



Volunteers are also fully involved in the **organisation life**, especially through their participation in the national and local Executive committees, General Assemblies and

through the national volunteers' group, which regroups all volunteers.

During the summer, the volunteers can work as **pedagogical co-leaders or facilitator** on **international workcamps** organised by Compagnons Bâisseurs.





LIVING CONDITIONS

Accommodation is provided by Compagnons Bâisseurs. The volunteers are working in a big team and are **sharing a flat** with 2 or 3 other volunteers. The flat is already equipped and situated near by the public transport.



LTV receive a **monthly allowance** covering food expenses and pocket money (about 430 €/month).

Because of their low budget, the volunteers have to **adapt** themselves during their long term experience to an alternative way of living, sharing a collective life. Compagnons Bâisseurs pay the costs related to trainings, local transports, and the local or national activities in which the volunteers are involved in.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Nolwenn MESNY

Chargée de mission Engagement et Parcours – Workcamps and Volunteering project manager

Association Nationale Compagnons Bâisseurs

22, rue de la Donelière- 35000 Rennes - FRANCE

TEL : +33 (0)2.99.02.60.90

Mobile: +33 (0)6.78.54.65.31

n.mesny@compagnonsbatisseurs.eu

