



Please briefly present the organisation.

Veraldarvinir - Worldwide Friends (WF) was founded in 2001 as a non-governmental, non-profit organisation promoting nature, peace-oriented activities, friendship, and international understanding among people. The main activities offered by WF are workcamps, summer camps for teenagers, exchange programs, educational seminars and eco tours. We offer activities for participants from the age of 13. Today the endeavour of attaining world peace has become a tangible possibility and the development and strengthening of bonds of cooperation and friendship through contact with people from other countries and cultures has proven to be one of the most fruitful means of achieving understanding and unity among nations. Veraldarvinir's main aim is to increase intercultural understanding by offering people the opportunity to take part in nature and peace-related activities. For participants coming to Iceland, such projects will give them a unique opportunity not only to explore and directly interact with Iceland's unique culture and landscape but also work with other international people and residents in challenging and unfamiliar contexts. This interaction between unspoiled nature and people from different backgrounds provides the participants with invaluable opportunities to learn more about themselves as individuals, their international fellows, other cultures, and the human and natural richness of Mother Earth. These are all unique opportunities for building bonds of unity and understanding between societies around the world. In the last 19 years the organization hosted more than 19.000 participants in 1.123 projects in Iceland. In 2020 our main focus will be on how to prevent Global warming in our daily life.

Please describe the activities and experience of the organisation in the areas relevant for this application.

Veraldarvinir - Worldwide Friends aims at:
Promoting peace and friendship
Promoting intercultural learning, exchange, and awareness
Preserving mother Earth and raising awareness about environmental issues
Promoting voluntary work and a culture of volunteering

The organization is one of the leading organization in Iceland when it comes to environmental protection and sustainable living.

Erasmus+ finalised project

Role in project	Number of Erasmus+ finalised projects with volunteering activities	Number of volunteers involved
Applicant Organisation	1	7
Partner Organisation	0	0

Has the organisation participated in a European Union granted project in the 3 years preceding this application?

Yes

Please indicate:

EU Programme	Year	Project Identification or Contract Number	Applicant/Beneficiary Name
EVS	2017	2017-3-IS02-KA105-001786	Veraldarvinir
Youth exchange	2018	2018-1-IS01-KA105-038787	Veraldarvinir
EVS	2018	2018-2-IS01-KA125-038841	Veraldarvinir
EVS	2018	2018-3-IS01-KA125-051029	Veraldarvinir



Project Description

Please describe the project's aims and activities and how it will contribute to achieving the objectives of the European Solidarity Corps.

The project will be for 18 Months with three starting dates the 10th of August 2020, 10th of March 2021, 10th July 2021. The duration for each placement is for 3 Months. The volunteers will live in the sustainable centre in Brú which is in the community of Húnaþing Vestra in the North-west of Iceland.

The project focuses on environmental awareness in all aspects and is truly needed all around our planet. The project aspires to stimulate environmental protection, sustainable living involving children and young people. We want to bring up some fresh ideas that can help the young people and the organization to improve the way that we treat mother earth. The main purpose of the project is to raise the awareness about sustainability among the young local and international people in their daily life. This means that the participants will in the beginning learn about all the basics when it comes to living in a sustainable way and they will follow that procedure during the whole project and hopefully for the rest of their lives.

Climate changes are for real: the earth is warming up at a steady pace. The reason for this is the increase in human-caused greenhouse gases, which has led to health, ecological and humanitarian crises.

Despite this, the fight against climate change is an opportunity to transition to a low carbon society, creating jobs, innovation and social justice locally and internationally.

Climate change is a global challenge affecting the entire world and the humanity. 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 generation yet to come. The concept of climate justice addresses this unequal allocation of benefits and burdens by relating climate change to matters of justice and human rights. As part of the worldwide volunteering movement, we consider climate justice as an inevitable brick in building a sustainable future and creating a just and fair society. Our members, projects and activities stretch across the entire globe, uniting people of all ages and backgrounds. Our projects and activities are a powerful tool to support local communities worldwide and allow to reallocate resources and capacities. By taking active steps against climate change and demonstrating solidarity with most vulnerable population groups and peoples, we assume our responsibility in the global sustainability challenge and seek to do our part in attaining climate justice.

The project reflects learning opportunities for the volunteers as well as for our organisation and the community where it will take place. By hosting ESC volunteers, we bring another long-term international dimension to the organization with our internship program, educational tours and short term projects. There are many learning opportunities for the volunteers like discovering many kinds of new techniques related to environmental sustainability, new skills, a new language, involving children and youngsters in creative sessions and take responsibility to realize an own project.

The volunteer will on one hand work with international people and will be participating in workshops, educational sessions and projects with them. The international youngsters are getting in touch with the different culture as well and can learn about cultural diversity by experiencing it during the environmental projects. By participating and leading some of those projects themselves under the supervision of the following professionals involved in the project "Svanberg Hreinsson project manager of the sustainable center in Brú, Sebastian Diaz Duran Fuentes which has a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science, International Studies and

Government of the Administration + 4 years studies in University studies in Agricultural Science and Technology and the part time teachers Kristjan Hreinsson, Kristjan Guttesen and Björn Guðbrandur Jónsson which are all experts in this field there will always be a young spirit in all our actions which stays always international and open-minded through the participation of international volunteers. It's a magnificent opportunity for volunteer and organisation in broadening perspectives and working for a better world.

There are a lot of learning objectives for the volunteers in this project:

- Learn about sustainable living and how we can in our daily life prevent the global warming
- learn more about important methods used in the organisation
- learn more about structures of the association
- social attitude, communication and philosophy
- learn to speak another language
- take responsibility in running projects and own projects
- to organize
- learn about another culture – intercultural learning
- professionalism
- involvement in the work/organisation
- teamwork as well as independent work
- creative thinking



- take initiative, be creative

Please explain why you want to carry out this project and how you identified the demand for the activities proposed. What are the issues, important societal needs and challenges that you are seeking to address?

Every year we host almost 2.000 international volunteers in our program. In the years 2020 to 2022 the theme in our projects all around Iceland will be "One Earth – our home" and in each project there will be educational sessions about sustainable living, global warming and how we can prevent it in our daily life.

The new sustainable centre in Brú will be a unique place here in Iceland located on the crossroads to South, North, West and the Western fjords. We will host there many groups of international volunteers, Icelandic youngsters will come to have educational sessions, Icelandic and foreign traveler's will drop by for visits. We can say that this place will be the hot zone for discussions about global warming and sustainable living in Iceland. The educational sessions will also be practical for example planting trees in the area around the center.

The volunteers will fit perfectly into the plan that we have, and we are sure that they will contribute a lot to our program and learn a lot from it. The plan is to offer volunteers placements for two weeks up to six Months and programs for ESC volunteers for three to six Months.

The mutual fertilization of volunteer and organisation is an idea we really like and appreciate. We will work together in a young and stimulating team. The volunteer project associates to the regular activities of our organisation and contributes to the development of the center and the local community.

The volunteers will share knowledge and at the same time get more skills and competence by working in group of international participants and professionals. This will also help them to become more active citizens in their future.

During the project we want to focus on following actions

1. Reduce emissions
2. Save energy
3. Reduce, reuse, recycle
4. Low-carbon diet
5. Tree planting
6. Think globally – act locally

What is the expected impact on the participants, participating organisation(s) and target groups?

From the moment, the volunteers express their desire to take part the European Solidarity Corps, the impact will start for them and their surroundings.

We believe that for volunteers which decide to carry out such an experience, this voluntary program has already had an impact on them since they must meet with organizations that are authorized to take part in the program, have to search in different databases for projects they like and are available and be willing to reflect about questions like why- who - where - for how long, etc... regarding the ESC program. Meanwhile these youngsters become main promoters of this European program through their communities. They explain their ideas to their friends and family and even ask in different organizations they have contact with and so, make them also aware of this European possibility. Thanks to this, the impact people have been able to know the objectives better, description and passions of the program waking up in some of them (friends, organization, family) the desire to participate in the next calls.

It is expected that through this experience, each volunteer will improve and challenge many aspects of his life. On personal side, they will adapt to live far from the family, environment and comfort zone and will acquire the autonomy necessary to operate in the host country. We believe that they will be able to achieve new skills regarding: time management, money management among other things. The volunteers will also achieve new intercultural knowledge and skills, they will have to adapt to a different country, different customs, different schedules, different languages and communication rules and they will have to find the balance between the Icelandic society and their own culture and personality. They will be experiencing and sharing another way of life.

Through all the project we want to achieve for the volunteers (and the local community) more understanding of the other culture in another environment. In order to motivate this self-reflection, Veraldarvinir will use, among other methods like meetings and mentoring sessions, the Youthpass certificate considered a tool to be useful for self-reflection and as a multiplier element, as it reflects all the learning opportunities that the ESC program seeks.

But the impact on the volunteer is difficult to predict. That's a question for them.



How will the project benefit the communities in which the activities will take place? What is the expected impact of the project at the local, regional, national, European and/or international levels?

The community of Húnaþing Vestra has 1.210 inhabitants so our project will for sure have an enormous impact on values and attitude, on creativity and diversity. This impact is on local society, on participants in Veraldarvinir programs and our staff as well. In the sustainable center there will be 20 to 40 participants at each time doing field work and studies related to sustainability and environmental protection in the area. The center will create two to three new jobs in the community which is very important for the future development in the area.

The impact on the sending and hosting organisations can also be interesting for a collaboration in the future. We are also opened to discuss future common projects.

It is also intended that the volunteer gain self-confidence to be able to face the adversities that may occur with a positive conclusion of the difficulties.

The participating organisations will gain experience of working together and understand the divergent realities and practices in different European countries. The sending organisations are able to widen the knowledge about the host organisation and their working methods.

We expect an enrichment for all involved partners: organisations, volunteers and local community. There will be benefits for all people involved in any way in the project. Climate changes are affecting the future of the young people, so it is important for the local communities and organizations to listen to the voice of the new generation.

European Solidarity Corps only brings positive things to everyone involved, that's for sure!

Please select up to three topics addressed by your project

- Education and training
- Climate action, environment and nature protection
- Health and wellbeing

The quality of the preparation of the volunteers is a key element to implementing a successful project. What kind of preparation will be offered to participants (e.g. task-related, intercultural, linguistic, risk-prevention etc.)? Who will provide such preparatory activities and how will you monitor and ensure that this is done?

The volunteers will get a one week on arrival training from Veraldarvinir which will be focused on sustainability which is of course the main topic of their project.

At the beginning of the project, they will receive qualified training from the organization members. The training is partly practical which means that they will learn how to take care of some technical work when it comes to environmental protection. This training will incapacitate them to perform the projects' activities, which vary between organizing workshops, cleaning beaches, planting trees and various kinds of environmental-related tasks to taking care of environmental awareness campaigns and sustainability. At the same time, will receive guidance in how to plan, organize and lead the projects, including topics as group management, conflict resolution, bookkeeping, development, leader roles, intercultural cooperation, motivation, etc. They will also receive practical information about planning a project, spare time activities, first aid, etc.

When it comes to the basic elements in the activities, we offer the volunteers all chances and opportunities to integrate completely as a team member in the organization. They will learn how projects are set up, how sessions and workshops are prepared, what methodology we use for environmental education, how they can organize and take responsibilities themselves in projects, courses or sessions. They will increase knowledge, skills and responsibility in an environmental educational association. Volunteers will discover and get in touch with many kinds of tasks. We offer also a language course for the volunteers because we consider the learning of the new language as a very important part of the project. ESC volunteers are expected to integrate as a full member of the team, involved in all activities going on in the association. They will get the chance to implement an own project too, within the philosophy and aims of the association.

Activities where the volunteer will be involved are:

- follow, prepare, assist, lead sessions of international volunteer's groups staying with us for 11 days each group
- prepare, assist and lead workshops for children, youngsters or adults
- take part as a team member in different projects related to art, sustainability and environmental protection.
- prepare and coordinate own projects/ideas (within the frame and philosophy of the association)
- take part in the educational lessons in the schools/kindergartens in the community.

The person for the task related support is the manager of sustainable center in Brú. He is on charge of the everyday tasks related to the subject. Therefore, he will train and support the volunteers with their tasks and give them new tasks if needed. Before the project start, he will keep in touch with the volunteer and sending organization by e-mail and phone, to answer all the questions or doubts of the volunteer. Necessary arrangements concerning the holidays, working hours and tasks will be made together with the volunteer.

The whole project will help to develop sense of tolerance and understanding of diversity and knowledge about diverse cultures. A lot of prejudices and racism come from an acknowledge about the others.

By being in touch very closely and directly working together, people will learn about each other's culture and to be tolerant. Young people will also learn what it means to live in a different culture, to be integrated in it and how important this is.

With hosting international volunteers, we widen the possibilities to work more international in our project which will make our project more and more open for people from different cultures and also the awareness in the minds of people for cultural diversity will rise if it is common that there are people from other cultures integrated in the project.

The intercultural principles during preparation and activities of the project concentrate on openness to the other, active respect for difference, mutual comprehension, active tolerance, validating the cultures present, providing equality of opportunities, fighting discrimination. The principle aim of intercultural dimension is to promote and develop the capacities of interaction and communication between youngsters and the world that surrounds them, so the positive awareness of other cultures is increased.

the tasks of the volunteer will reflect his individual abilities and desires. The project program can be adapted to the expectations of the volunteer. with those tasks within Veraldarvinir will guide the volunteer.

What kind of support will be offered to participants after their return? Who will provide such activities and how will you monitor and ensure that this is done?

Veraldarvinir is a very open organization and through the years many of our volunteers have returned to us after their project here in Iceland. We offer the volunteers to join our social network, take part in seminars and international activities, take care of work which does not require them to be on Iceland while doing them and we consider them as a part of our family. We encourage them to work with their sending organizations and continue with their commitment when it comes to the topic of the program.

We will also offer them online courses which is a new program in our organization, there they can continue their program in a way both when it comes to new techniques related to sustainability and further studies. In this way they will also be active members of the organization helping other volunteers around the globe to create and run their programs.

Partnerships

Please list below the organisations that will be involved in the volunteering activities. Please note that under "Activities" you will have to link each activity that you plan to implement to a Host organisation. To do so, you have first to encode the Host organisations involved in your project here (except the applicant).

ID	Organisation ID	Legal Name	Country	Accreditation Type /Quality Label	Role	Validity	Activity ID
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How did you choose those partners or how will you choose them if not done yet? What experiences and competences will they bring to the project? Please also describe how the project will meet the needs and objectives of your partners

We have a lot of partners in the countries which we are mentioning in the application but at the moment we want to keep it open. We have a big network of partners in Europe and we have been working with some of them for 10 to 15 years. They are all very active in the field of volunteering and participation in the Erasmus+ program. They know our program very well and we have been hosting their short term and long-term volunteers recently and in the past. They are also working with people from difficult background and we trust them 100% to select candidates for our program. Their staff members have been in Iceland for a visit, so they are aware of the facilities and the work that the volunteers are going to have. This means that the selection and the preparation should work out in a good way.

How do you intend to cooperate and communicate with your project partners? How will you monitor and manage their performance?

The most common way of communicating with the sending organisation will be by e-mail or by skype.

The good thing is that we have been cooperating with them for many years, so we have a very personal contact with them. We also share the work in an organized way, so the project can go smoothly.

In the beginning, the volunteers and Veraldarvinir will have a weekly contact with the sending organization to reflect how the project is going, after a couple of weeks or one month, the contact will reduce to monthly contacts with the sending organization.

During the ESC project we will have several times contact to evaluate the process of the project with the three partners (hosting organisation, volunteer and sending organisations).

The sending organisations takes care of the following: Pre-departure training where the volunteers will gain all information about the guidelines and the organisation of their stay.

They will talk about personal strategies of crisis situations. They will discuss culture shock, theories of intercultural learning and conflict resolution, the volunteers will work in groups and as individuals and they will have the opportunity to exercise role plays. They will explore more about the practical issues such as travel arrangements, insurance, Youth Pass, health issues and etc. After the project, the volunteers will take part in a seminar to evaluate the ESC and to talk about next steps. If possible, they will offer some possibilities to engage further in volunteering.

During the whole project the project manager will have a moment of reflection and personal evaluation of the volunteers experience on a regular basis. The volunteers are asked to write a mid-term report, a final report and doing a rating of the different parts of ESC. Both reports are sent to the sending organisation. They will study the reports and discuss it during a personal talk with their tutors in the sending country. If there are issues of difficulty, these will be addressed with all partners. The reports are a method to evaluate the service from the side of the volunteers and they are part of their control of the quality standards in the hosting project.

The most common way of communicating with the sending organisation will be by e-mail or by Skype, hangouts and programs like that.



Participants' Profile

Please describe the profile, background and needs of the volunteers involved and how they have been or will be selected.

Veraldarvinir is open for hosting volunteers from all kind of a background. The organization gives preference to candidates with the following profile:

- enthusiastic and dynamic personality
- independent and eager to take initiative
- Interested in environmental sustainability or youth work
- flexible and responsible

The volunteers are selected after consideration of all candidates, concerning the profile above mentioned. In the first round, we select on motivation letters and CV. In a second round the remaining candidates receive a questionnaire and get a phone call. The best matches with our mission are selected. Veraldarvinir is a very open organization where all people are welcome to participate. Therefore, we want to have in the group of ESC volunteers' young people with fewer opportunities or weak background. We want to host young people which are having fewer opportunities and/or problems to interact in their society for different reasons, young refugees or immigrants. We will host three groups in this project. Each group will have four volunteers, in each group there will be one or two participants considered as a person with fewer opportunities. We believe that our program which is based on friendship and intercultural learning is the perfect ground for young people which are not sure about which direction they want to have in their lives.

Participants with Fewer Opportunities

Will your project aim to involve participants with fewer opportunities as described in the European Solidarity Corps Guide?

Yes

Which types of obstacles and difficulties are these participants facing?

- Cultural differences
- Educational difficulties
- Refugees

How are you going to identify and select participants with fewer opportunities?

Veraldarvinir is a very open organization where all people are welcome to participate. Therefore, we want to have in the group of ESC volunteers young people with fewer opportunities or weak background. We want to host young people which are having fewer opportunities and/or problems to interact in their society for various reasons for example young refugees or immigrants. We believe that our program which is based on friendship and intercultural learning is the perfect ground for young people which are not sure about which direction they want to have in their lives. We do not need a accompanying person for those youngsters but we will give a special focus on their needs and mentoring. Our partners are also very experienced in selecting and preparing youngsters with fewer opportunities. We will put it in their hands to select the youngsters and train them. When they are here they will be supported by our staff members, mentors and also by some of our long-term volunteers.

Please describe your and/or your partners' experience in working with people with fewer opportunities. Please outline the particular measures (special activity plans, accompanying persons, reinforced mentorship etc.) you will put in place to cater for the specific needs of these participants and/or to support their participation.

The volunteers with fewer opportunities that we are going to host are refugees, young people with social obstacles and/or cultural differences. The most important thing is to integrate them in a good way so they will be a part of the group of international volunteers but not like outsiders. Last year we hosted volunteers from 48 countries from all corners of the World so we are very international. We believe that the best way that we integrate them is to welcome them in a perfect way so they will feel totally accepted. Our partners are experts when it comes to selecting and preparing people with fewer opportunities. We also have a lot of experience in this field.



Learning Outcomes

Please describe the measures put in place to embed a quality learning process from the start of the project and support the volunteers in defining and meeting their learning objectives, organising their reflection, identification and documentation of the non-formal and informal learning outcomes acquired. Please remember to include the methods that support reflection and documentation of the learning outcomes in the daily timetable of each activity.

We want to give the chance and opportunity to the volunteer to present and implement a personal project. It is additional to the 'normal' activities of the organization. The volunteers mean a surplus value for the organisation by integration. The support of the volunteers in their exploration of the organisation and our methods and in the coordination of their ideas is the investment we do as an organisation believing that as a team we can learn from each other. The project is meant to be enrichment for all: for the volunteer, the community and for Veraldarvinir.

All this learning objectives will be ensured by integrating the volunteers as a complete team member, joining activities running, be present in meetings, prepare projects, do several tasks, think with the team, reflect on the project, bring own ideas, integrate them, coordinate workshops or create new ones.

Our volunteers will gain important skills in the project for their professional possibilities: through working on workshops and delivering environmental and cultural activities, participating in local events. They will develop important skills such as organizing skills, creativity, communication skills, new techniques, leadership, planning and management skills.

All this learning objectives will be ensured by integrating the volunteers as some complete team members, joining activities running, be present in meetings, prepare projects, do several tasks, think with the team, reflect on the project, bring own ideas, integrate them, coordinate workshops, create new ones and etc

There will be two Youth pass sessions integrated into the program. Participants are coached in these sessions to reflect and assess their own learning process, which competencies they gained, from the very start of the preparation of the program until the evaluation phase. They are encouraged to ask what wealth of experience this kind of program has brought, and what the different phases of their learning processes have been.

The first youth pass-session is focused on getting to know youth pass and the personal reflection. After showing a little movie about the meaning, the aim of youth pass and its key competences the participants are encouraged to think about their personal learning outcomes, the key competences applicable on them,... After this session they have some time to write down everything in their own little booklet, which they can use during the whole program to write down their ideas, thoughts, concerns, memories...

The second youth pass-session will be more focused on reviewing the personal notes, constructing their personal YouthPass and sharing in little groups the several competences gained during the volunteering and learning program. The group first will watch the second movie about Youthpass, review the notes they gained during the program and constitute the draft version of their Youthpass. Afterwards they share in little groups and search for the competences useful for everybody to discuss in the big group later on.

Both during the program, as at the end, there will be an evaluative reflection on the content of the program, the learning experiences and the interpersonal and intercultural dynamics. This reflection will be weekly (through personal and group dialogues) to guide the further progression of the program. In the middle of the program and at the end of the program, a few evaluative reflection methods will be set up to gain an overall picture on the progress made as an individual and as a group and the developed competencies.

At the end of the project the volunteers will receive a Youth Pass as a certificate of the project.



Which learning outcomes (i.e. knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviours) are likely to be acquired/improved by participants in each project activity?

The different competencies that the volunteers are expected to improve/learn:

- professionalism
- teamwork as well as independent work
- creative thinking
- leadership, take initiative, be loyal
- responsibility
- active participation

They are also expected to acquire a range of knowledge throughout their project:

- learn more about didactic methods used in the organisation
- learn more about structures of the association
- social attitude, communication
- learn to speak another language
- take responsibility in running projects and own projects
- involvement in the work/organisation
- to organize
- learn about another culture – intercultural learning
- learn to do and to teach different workshops sustainability and environmental issues
- participate in the organization of local events
- learn more about the culture of the host country
- openness to new creative perspectives, new ideas and opinions

The European Solidarity Corps promotes the use of instruments/certificates like Youthpass and Europass to validate the competences acquired by the participants during their experiences. Will your project make use of such European instruments/certificates?

Yes

Which one(s)?

- Youthpass Certificate

Are you planning to use any national instrument/certificate?

No

Activity Description – Please provide a detailed description of the activity

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- learn more about important methods used in the organisation
- learn more about structures of the association
- social attitude, communication and philosophy
- learn to speak another language
- take responsibility in running projects and own projects



Follow-up

Project visibility and Dissemination of Results

How will you make your project visible?

During the project the participants will share their experience with their social media.

A part of the project is to create short videos about sustainability and they will be published in our website www.wf.is, our Facebook and also in our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCipCmJGPK9ylddt3UJaAL9w>.

During the program, each group will do a video about a topic related to sustainable living which will be used for future volunteers and students. The video will be 10 to 15 minutes long and edited in cooperation with professional filmmakers and with the help of scientist. This video will also show the local inhabitants of Iceland the input and results of the program. After presenting the video we will organize a debate that will highlight the advantages of sustainable living. In this debate different persons will be represented (participants of the program, youngsters of the community, local experts and etc).

The videos will be shared on different channels such as Youtube, Vimeo, Facebook, Instagram. In the end of each activity we will do a large evaluation to recapitulate the participant's experience and how it inspired them.

Our partners and we ourselves want to spread the results of the project in WF's magazine "UNA" and on various social media platforms as Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. We will also use the local newspapers to introduce the project. In addition, there will be an event in Hunaping Vestra where the Icelandic participants will have the opportunity of promoting the European program by showing and talking about the project to Icelanders. This event will take place in October 2020 and again in June 2021.

All processes and activities of the project will be monitored and evaluated throughout the whole duration of the project.

The project manager is in charge of this, but we will also assign a person who will be responsible for ensuring the success of visibility of the activities and their objectives.



Which activities will you carry out in order to share the results of your project? What will be the target groups of your dissemination activities? Will volunteers be involved in these activities? If yes, how?

We believe that in this dissemination and introducing the results is something that grows during the project. Ideas about that will be discussed together with the volunteers, in cooperation with the Veraldarvinir team in Brú. The volunteers in our organization usually also work on a personal project during their stay with us.

We also have a structure of how to promote our work and the results. We do publish our online magazine UNA eight times a year, this magazine is made by our international volunteers. We also do several campaigns related to recycling and environmental protection where we invite local newspapers for visits. These activities are also announced in different media, as the schools and children/youngsters participated in those activities. Pictures and an article in the newspaper showing the workshops optimized the value of the activity and strengthened the impact. Some of our volunteers did series of short videos about our projects under the name "Land of dreams" which have been quite popular on the internet. We also are now working on series of short videos under the name BeCosmos that can be found on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrJo6hIRq7btnZcu41MVWHQ> - we already published 14 out of 21 videos there in the last year.

During and after the ESC-project there will also be a blog and pictures published in newsletters and blog of the sending and hosting organisation. We will use Instagram, Facebook and our Youtube channel to share the results of the project. The volunteers will be encouraged to write a blog or a learning diary to share the voluntary service experiences and to promote the European solidarity Corps. After their return home, the volunteers will be encouraged to do school visits and tell about their ESC learning experience also in youth and educational fairs where the sending organisation is attending. The main target group is youth, not only friends and family, but also other young people living in the same area where they are coming from and also wider circle through social media networks. The sustainable center in Brú is open for the public and there will be information sessions about sustainability held on a regular basis, The work of the European solidarity corps will be introduced during those sessions.

As the projects of the volunteer are integrated in the organisation, the visibility will be integrated in the organisation. As well on the website as on flyers and mailings the logos and information about the program will be visible. Also in the personal contacts with the people, schools, children, youngsters and adults who join activities in Veraldarvinir this program will be visible. People talk about it, meet the volunteers, ask about the program and will learn about it through conversations.

Evaluation

Which activities will you carry out in order to assess whether, and to what extent, your project has reached its objectives and results?

We will do several evaluations with the ESC volunteers during their stay with us. Weekly meetings with the staff and volunteers will be held every Tuesday and once a month there will be a formal meeting where the director of the organization will also join.

We are going to host 14 groups of 8 international volunteers staying for 12 days in the sustainable center from May until December 2020. Each group will do an evaluation in the end of their project. There are also planned many visits from Icelandic and foreign schools which are staying for 1 to 3 days in the center to participate in courses related to sustainability, those students will also do an short evaluation in the end of their stay with us. All evaluation will be collected together in a database.



Project Summary

Please provide short answers to the following questions to summarise the information you have provided in the rest of the application form. Please use full sentences and clear language. In case your project is accepted, the summary you provided will be made public by the European Commission and the National Agencies.

What do you want to achieve by implementing the project? What are the objectives of your project? What results and impacts do you expect to achieve?

The project focuses on environmental awareness in all aspects and is truly needed all around our planet. The project aspires to stimulate environmental protection, sustainable living involving children and young people. We want to bring up some fresh ideas that can help the young people and the organization to improve the way that we treat mother earth. The main objective of the project is to raise the awareness about sustainability among the young local and international people in their daily life. This means that the participants will in the beginning learn about all the basics when it comes to living in a sustainable way and they will follow that procedure during the whole project and hopefully for the rest of their lives. We also want to make an impact on the local community and all the volunteers and travelers which will stay with us or visit the sustainable center in Brú. If you want to change the World you have to change yourself and influence others. When it comes to sustainable and responsible living this is not a choice - this is something that all individuals have to make a part of their life. The future life of this planet is based on that.

We will use the 17 Sustainable development goals of the United nations as guidelines during the project.

What activities do you plan to implement? What is the number and profile of the participants involved? What will be the volunteers doing during their activity?

The project is a mixture of educational sessions and practical environmental work. During the project we will focus on following actions and organize workshops and educational sessions with professional teachers

1. Reduce emissions
2. Save energy
3. Reduce, reuse, recycle
4. Low-carbon diet
5. Tree planting

We will host the volunteers for three Months each group. We do not have any special criteria for the young people but the following would be a surplus

- enthusiastic and dynamic personality
- independent and eager to take initiative
- Interested in environmental sustainability and youth work
- flexible and responsible

The volunteers will help the organization to welcome groups of international short-term volunteers, local and international children and teenagers willing to study sustainable way of living.

How are you going to manage the project, who will be your partners and how will you effectively cooperate with them?

The main structure that we will use to integrate and respect the interests of the volunteer is: during the first weeks the Veraldarvinir team will work on the total inclusion of the volunteers, integrating them in the routine of the organization, supporting them to get to know the organisation, the volunteers, the participants, the dynamics of the workshops and motivating their participation in the leisure activities organized. They will be trained by the staff of the hosting organization and get to know all the objectives and tools that we have. Once the first phase has been completed, we will meet with the volunteers to know what their main interests and which project are they would like to join/create in the aim of Veraldarvinir values and purposes. From there on, a new stage begins. Veraldarvinir will adapt the volunteers work-scheme with the aim to make it correspond with their interests.

With a good cooperation with the partners we will design a joint work that will keep us in contact during the whole project. Mainly through email (and other communication channels if necessary) organizations will exchange the know-how of the volunteering process with the objective to have the best and the most possible feedback between sending and hosting partners. We will also solve any problems that may arise as fast as possible.