

an A4ACTION ► project



*evolving
through nonformal
education*

Dear volunteers,

Since you are reading these lines, you have been chosen!

Oh yeah, it's true, you are now part of the "EVShape up" and you will be introduced to the EVS magic world. We are very excited to meet you now and we're looking forward to seeing you here! We are preparing a beautiful experience for you, but we also want you to be prepared.

To ensure a safe and pleasurable journey, you are receiving this letter, that will guide you in your preparation.

Enjoy reading your letter!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS PROJECT

EVShape up is a project designed for youth mobility action - European Voluntary Service. This project will be implemented in rural area, in Snagov - Ilfov County from 01st of September 2019 until the 04th of April 2020. During the 7 months of the project, the 6 volunteers (3 from Belgium and 3 from Latvia) will have the possibility to learn how to organize and develop new educational programs based on non-formal education for the youngsters and children from the community. You will also learn how to promote volunteering projects, the work of an NGO and Erasmus+/European Solidarity Corp Programmes among youngsters and the general public.

Participating in this project will be for you the start to a new life, to know different people and to interact with other cultures and behaviors.

WHAT YOU WILL DO IN THIS PROJECT?

The 6 volunteers will create, organize and implement the following activities:

1. Educational activities:
 - set up a non-formal Club that will run activities in 2 schools and 1 high school in Ilfov County (non-formal activities, French/English lessons, human right activities etc.)
 - organize and implement, together with the A4ACTION's local volunteers the non-formal activities in A4ACTION Youth Centre (outdoor and indoor activities)
 - organize international evenings during the project where we aim to promote different cultural values from the volunteers' origin countries.
2. Campaign to promote volunteering
 - set up an online and offline campaign in order to promote learning opportunities offered by the European Union
3. Administrative activities:
 - initiate, start and deploy new projects based on children's and youngsters' needs from Snagov community and for the communities in which our partners are involved
 - participate in A4ACTION meetings (one time per week)
 - promote the project and the association within the community

- draft new projects - all volunteers will have the possibility to be involved in a training course <<Project Writing Training Courses>> in which they will learn how to draft Erasmus+ projects
- search for new international partners for A4ACTION
- help translating the association's website into English and update new information to the site
- organise and implement one personal project (starting with the 3rd month) based on all the competences gained in the first 3 months of the project.

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The volunteers will work 5 days per week. Each volunteer will work 7 hours/day, including lunch break (1 hour) and the time spent travelling to the Youth Centre / schools/ high schools.

HOW ARE THE PARTNERS INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT

A4ACTION (www.a4action.ro) - COORDINATOR

BALTIC REGIONAL FUND (<http://brfonds.lv/>) - PARTNER

SERVICE VOLONTAIRE INTERNATIONAL - SOLIDARITÉS JEUNESSES VIETNAM (www.servicevolontaire.org)

WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT SNAGOV COMMUNITY

Snagov' s population is around 6,041 people, is a town located 40 km North of Bucharest in Ilfov County, Romania. According to the 2002 Census, 99.2% of the population is Romanian. The town is composed of five villages: Ciofliceni, Ghermănești, Snagov, Tâncăbești and Vlădiceasca. Snagov is a popular holiday resort, and many villas have recently been built on the shores of Snagov lake.

Our EVS flat is located in Ghermanesti, at 5 minutes far away from A4ACTION Youth Center. Even if Ghermanesti is a small village, here you will find: many shops from

where you can buy your food and all the necessary stuff, pharmacy, dentist, a small clinic, gym, post office, restaurants etc.

In order for you to know where you will come and how the town looks like we attached some photos for you.

In these photos you can see Snagov Lake which is very famous in Romania





Down here, you can go for a break to charge your battery. The place is called Vlasiei Forest.



WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT US



A4ACTION-Association for Initiatives and Continuous Development is an organization established in October 2012 that operates as follows:

on local level - in the rural area through the A4ACTION Youth Center from Ghermanesti, Snagov commune, Ilfov county.

- on regional level - by joining Ilfov County Youth Foundation and the Working Group for the Ilfov County Youth Strategy
- on national level - by joining the Council on Youth Issues organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports, as well as by the membership in the VOLUM Federation
- on international level - through partnerships developed with partners from countries in the European Union and beyond.

The A4ACTION mission is to promote non-formal education and volunteering. We develop educational programs, animation programs, civic involvement programs, environmental protection programs, social protection and cultural development. Most of the programs developed by A4ACTION are carried out at the A4ACTION

Youth Centre from Ghermanesti, Ilfov county. The target group is represented by children aged between 7 and 13 and youngsters aged between 14 and 35 from the rural area. From May 2015, since the foundation, until now, in the Youth Centre we developed many non-formal activities for children and for youngsters such as: homework, storytelling, shadow theatre, comics, upcycling, outside movies, water fights, intercultural evenings, English lessons, Spanish lessons and dance, project writing courses, facilitation courses, non-formal education workshops, personal development workshops.





THE ASSETS THAT OUR FUTURE VOLUNTEER NEEDS TO HAVE

We are looking for volunteers aged between 18 and 30 years, who are actively involved in an NGO in their country, and they should have worked with young people or children at least once. We value result orientated, ambitious youngsters, willing to develop themselves and meet the following criteria:

- To be Belgium or Latvian resident
- To have finished secondary school or equivalent
- not to have a stable job at the time of selection

The selected volunteers should be interested in the project subject and willing to:

- Promote the values of the European Union in the community where the activity will be held
- Promote volunteering and its benefits for young people
- Get involved in promoting the non-formal education with the children/youngsters from the respective community
- Work with school and high school youngsters
- Share with others their experience and skills
- Work with children/youngsters with fewer opportunities
- Contribute to the development of the future projects
- Contribute to the development of web page and Facebook of the project
- Adapt themselves to a community where another foreign language is spoken
- Be interested to learn Romanian language (the local language)
- Be strongly motivated to change something in good in their own local community (when coming back home after this EVS project)

They need to be willing to integrate in the community from the rural area (Ghermănești village) - 30 km from the capital (Bucharest city), a community where the leisure activities are less numerous than in other big cities from Romania.

INFORMATION ABOUT ACCOMMODATION

The accommodation will be in a rented apartment situated in the area where activities will take place - Snagov, Ilfov County. Based on this we wanted to offer to future volunteers the possibility to easily integrate themselves in the community.

Volunteers accommodation will be done in one apartment (6 persons / apartment) which will be fully equipped with all necessary utilities such as furniture, water, electricity, gas, internet network, stove, fridge and all materials needed for volunteers comfort (linens, towels, duvets, pillows, hangers, pots, etc.). The apartment will be rented in Ghermanesti village where there is A4ACTION registered office. Ghermanesti is positioned at the edge of Snagov lake near Snagov Forest (Vlasiei forests), future volunteers place, where they can settle for granted moments of reflection on lived experience.

Following these informations about the accommodation, please find below some additional info on the travel costs and also the living costs during the project :

YOUR BENEFITS

- Transport cost reimbursement - **275 euro/volunteer** (to come to Romania and to go back in their countries)
- Pocket money - **90 euro/volunteer**
- Food money- **120 euro/volunteer**
- Accommodation shared with the other volunteers - **2 volunteers/room**
- Logistical support for activities
- Online Romanian language courses;
- A mentor who will support the process of learning and personal development
- The opportunity to work in a multicultural team
- Medical insurance during the full volunteering period assured by CIGNA Insurance Pan.

VERY IMPORTANT

Don't forget your tickets, your return boarding cards and personal ID (passport, identity card).

For the reimbursement of the travel costs, we will need:

- transport tickets,
- boarding pass,
- invoice and tax receipt (stamped and signed).

For medical services you need to know the following things:

- during this project will have a CIGNA insurance. The Cigna insurance will cover the remaining expenses that EHIC doesn't cover.
- you need to have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). This free and individual card provides access to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare under the same conditions and at the same cost as in the home country. The volunteer is required to make use of his/her EHIC when visiting a medical provider.

Here below are some necessary information when traveling in Romania:

- Romania is a democratic country, member of European Union since 2007
- Climate is temperate-continental and the time zone is GMT+2;
- The official language is Romanian (descendant of Latin), but most of the youngsters speak English also;
- The main religion is Orthodox, followed by Protestant and Roman-Catholic;
- Sunday is officially free day in the entire country;
- As currency, Romania has Leu, also known as RON; 1 Euro = ~ 4,74 RON;
- In the cities, there are many ATMs and exchange centers; the main credit card types are accepted in most of the big hotels and restaurants from the country.
- You can take Euros or Dollars with you and then you can change them into Romanian lei at Bucharest.

You should also know some additional information about the transport:

- Romania has a relatively dense road system, but not very advanced;
- Railway transport is quite cheap;
- The biggest international airport is in Bucharest: 'Henri Coanda';
- Bucharest has a very dense transport system (RATB) which includes: tramway, trolley and bus, and also the subway (metro); the program of

transport means is permanently during the day (from 05:00 AM till 23:00 PM), and during the night there are buses which leave the center to every part of the city hourly;

- The rate for 1 travel is 1,3 lei in the city, and 3,5 lei from the airport to the city center.
- To go in Bucharest from Snagov you need to take:
 - **one minibus (444 or 446)** which is available every 30 minutes. The first bus of the day that circulates through Bucharest is at 5h10 AM and the last bus of the day is at 7h30 PM. The cost is 7 lei for one ticket.
 - **one bus (447)** which is available every hour. You can find here the schedule:

Lastly we share with you some basic information you should know before your experience begins :

- The Emergency number is 112
- At the end of the program you will get a Certificate from ERASMUS+ programme. You can get more information about that on the website: <http://www.youthpass.eu/en/youthpass/>

*You will need one computer, in order to do the administrative tasks and to prepare the activities. Don't forget to take your laptop with you!

**All participants in "EVShape up" project will have the chance to get their Youthpass

CONTACT

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