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[European Solidarity Corps Humanitarian Aid Initiative](#),
Commission's Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC)



Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities through the deployment of European Solidarity Corps volunteers fostering the innovation in Humanitarian context

ESC Aid Volunteer in MEAL and Safeguarding, South Caucasus

1 position

Deployment dates:

01/07/2023 - 30/06/2024

The European Solidarity Corps in Humanitarian Aid is an EU funding program for young people wishing to support, as volunteers, humanitarian aid operations in third countries outside of the EU that have faced humanitarian disasters or need to increase their preparedness to possible disasters in the future.

Volunteers will support humanitarian aid operations while learning new skills, improving, and properly validating their competences.

The program is open to 18-35 years old individuals, EU citizens or legally residing in an EU Member State or in a third country associated to the Program (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Turkey and Republic of North Macedonia), who have registered in the European Solidarity Corps Portal.

Action Against Hunger

Action Against Hunger is an international non-governmental private organization that is politically and religiously neutral and non-profit. Established in 1979 in France to implement interventions worldwide, its vocation is to fight against hunger, physical suffering and situations of distress that threaten the lives.

In line with its Inclusion and Diversity Strategy, the program aims at including young people with fewer opportunities.

HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

The extensive socio-economic transformation undertaken over the last decade by transition countries in the South Caucasus, as well as the fragile regional political context, are all factors that have substantially affected the structure of national economies and the living standards of most of the population in the region.

Some consequences of this transformation represent barriers to socio-economic growth and livelihoods sustainability and include among others, frozen conflicts and protracted marginalization of IDPs and returnees, weakness of regional and local development strategies, poor civil society awareness on policies, limited local governments' capacity and availability of resources to implement development plans, scarce engagement into productive activities in rural areas, degradation of natural resources, inadequate framework and strategies for disaster risk reduction and poor access to water facilities. Since the outbreak of the Ukraine war there are approximately 25,000 Ukrainians residing in Georgia and a high influx of 120,000 Russian nationals has been recorded.

Action Against Hunger has been present in the South Caucasus since 1994. In the first years of operations the work focused on emergency and post-emergency interventions targeting mainly Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs); then interventions progressed towards rehabilitation initiatives in response to a changing socio-economic environment. Currently the strategy in the region centers around a Nexus approach, on providing social protection to vulnerable households, improving their socio-economic conditions, and increasing livelihoods security, resilience, and sustainability. Strategies include the provision of technical and financial assistance for the establishment of agricultural extension services and agricultural training centers, community led rural development (LEADER approach), the development of small and medium enterprises in agricultural and non-agricultural sectors as well as the transfer of participatory methodologies to fight unemployment and mitigate impact of disaster. Action Against Hunger South Caucasus is one of the few international actors able to operate on both sides of the divide with Abkhazia. The mission is comprised of professional staff who are enthusiastic to work as a team and have shown openness to pilot new innovative initiatives in the field. The mission operates in the region through 4 field offices and a coordination office in Tbilisi. The coordination office in Tbilisi also oversees all operations of the Armenia base in Yerevan.

SECURITY CONDITIONS

Action Against Hunger South Caucasus mission follows the standard security policy and risk assessment procedures which will also include the ESC Aid Volunteers. Action Against Hunger Security plan for the mission is regularly updated by the Logistics Coordinator to reflect any changes in the security context. The volunteers are being briefed within 24 hours of arrival on security and safety procedures. The Mission has been rated with Yellow color according to the Risk Management Policy, except Abkhazia, which is rated with Orange color. Yellow means that interventions are possible with appropriate security measures and orange that activities are sometimes, locally, led in difficult conditions. Acceptance is the chosen security management strategy, and all staff are responsible for it in the communities and areas where we work. Gaining acceptance is directly related to a mission and the positive perception of both the organization and its staff. This perception is influenced by project design, accountability, adherence to the transparent principles and staff behaviour. Action Against Hunger South Caucasus is the INGO Security Focal Point for INGOs

in Georgia and is in regular contact with UNDSS to coordinate relevant security information and to feedback security incidents to UNDSS.

Georgia is a middle-income country, with high poverty and high unemployment. Georgia has two breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia where there is little socio-economic development, but high poverty prevails in all of Georgia. In 2008 there was a war with Russia which led to further displacement of Georgian population (in total Georgia still has over 270.000 Internally Displaced) but, overall, the security situation is now stable. Action Against Hunger staff (including volunteers) follow a Charter of Principles which emphasizes independence, neutrality, transparency, free access to victims, non-discrimination, and professionalism.

TASKS

Objective 1: Support the correct integration of the MEAL standards at the organizational level to promote quality, efficient and adaptive management.

- Assist in the process of disseminating the MEAL standards in the mission and contribute to their implementation and performance measurement;
- Assist project teams in the use of common tools for Monitoring and Evaluation including mixed quantitative and qualitative methods;
- Assist in the improvement of data quality through data harmonization – collection and analysis and storage;
- Support in the revision of existing social and economic data in the project areas, the methods of collection and the degree to which it will provide good baseline statistics for impact evaluation;
- Support in learning approaches such as capitalization, best practices, lessons learnt etc.

Objective 2: Ensure knowledge, good use and follow-up of the IBRP (Indicators on Beneficiary Progress Report) at the mission level

- Training of the teams on the IBRP;
- Support in the information collection and storage procedure (archiving).

Objective 3: Support in data management and data documentation for the different programs/projects.

- Assist in preparing the databases for different projects/programs;
- Assist in documenting M&E data and updating it on a regular basis;
- Assist in the analysis of the databases;
- Assist in managing data in the mission according to HQ set standards and to monitor it according to set indicators in the strategy (mission and HQ).

Objective 4: Support in the implementation of M&E of projects

- Assist in the planning, design and guidance of the project teams in identifying the key outcome indicators to record and report on project progress;
- Assist in setting up baseline/endline surveys;
- Assist in quantitative and qualitative data collection to provide relevant information to monitor project performance, effects, and impact.

Objective 5. Support Mission Safeguarding (HRCO) and the development of a Safeguarding culture

- Support Human Resources Manager in the implementation and the improvement of Safeguarding systems at the Mission level.
- Support the dissemination of safeguarding policies, procedures and resources within the mission;
- Support capacity strengthening initiatives in safeguarding for staff through the dissemination of the internal online campus trainings and developing new materials for trainings;
- Work closely with all departments to map our referral system to ensure that safeguarding concerns are appropriately addressed;
- Review and adapt the reporting mechanisms in the whole mission making sure it is communicated to and understood by staff and external parties;

Objective 6: Communication and Awareness on ESC Aid Volunteers Initiative

- Draft and publish articles describing the volunteer's experience in the field;
- Gather audiovisual materials to be used in a public awareness activity in the volunteer's local community in Europe.

REQUIRED COMPETENCES

Studies: University diploma in a relevant field (Sociology, Statistics, Social Work, Communications, Law, Education, or relevant professional qualification).

Languages: Excellent knowledge of English (C1); Russian will be an advantage.

Skills: Proficient in using MS office. Knowledge of database and statistical software (IBM SPSS, Canva, Power BI or Cobo Toolkit). Excellent analytical skills; strong ability to communicate complex and sensitive information as well as facilitate training to a wide and diverse audience. Knowledge of organizational systems, practices, and policies. Understanding of concepts including data protection and confidentiality. Knowledge and/or experience and interest in safeguarding, child protection, gender, PSEA and accountability initiatives. Commitment to upholding the Code of Conduct, humanitarian principles, and values, and ensuring the rights and dignity of the communities we serve.

Experience: Background in data collection methods to assist in performing quantitative and qualitative studies; skills in database management and statistics. Also, experience working in Safeguarding, PSEA CoC within the humanitarian sector.

BENEFITS FOR THE VOLUNTEER AND CONDITIONS

The volunteer will be deployed to Action Against Hunger South Caucasus

Duty station: Tbilisi, with missions in the field

Length of Deployment: 12 months, 35 to 40 hours per week, with weekends off.

This position offers the opportunity to volunteer in the context of the ESC Humanitarian Aid Volunteers initiative.

The volunteer will have a standard of living similar to the standard in the country. The working calendar will correspond to the agenda and system established in the field. For each month of voluntary activity two days of rest are earned, in addition to public holidays.

A monthly Subsistence Lump Sum will be provided to cover basic needs such as food and personal hygiene items.

Accommodation, travel costs, visa, pre-deployment medical check + vaccinations (if mandatory for the country), allowance will be covered. In case of need, a Fewer Opportunities Support will also be covered.

Learning Opportunities: the ESC Humanitarian Aid Volunteer will attend online before and on-site induction at the arrival to her/his deployment Mission. Training during deployment will also be offered to improve the volunteer's skills and competences.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are made exclusively through the European Youth Portal.

All persons interested in submitting their candidatures **MUST** first:

- Register for the [European Solidarity Corps](#) program.
 - In their European Solidarity Corps profile, indicate their interest in [Volunteering in Humanitarian Aid](#).
 - Pass the free and compulsory free online course.
 - Be available for, and pass, a 5 day in-presence training course of the EU Academy already open and available.
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ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Candidates must be between 18 and 35 years old, have citizenship or long-term residence in Europe, or be from countries associated with the program (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Turkey and the Republic of North Macedonia)

Action Against Hunger is an equal opportunity employer.

Young people from disadvantaged communities such as racialized groups, refugees, migrants with long term residency in EU, members of minority gender identities and sexual orientations, people with disabilities, minimum income, long term unemployment and remote geographical areas, are strongly encouraged to apply.