



## **IVS Project Host Information**

### **1. WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BE A PROJECT HOST ?**

- The project must have aims broadly in line with the aims of IVS;
  - IVS is a peace organisation working for the sustainable development of local and global communities through voluntary work.
  - To create greater understanding between people from different backgrounds and cultures.
- The work should not be in direct competition with paid labour.
- We normally work with voluntary organisations, co-operatives and alternative communities.

### **2. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF HOSTING A PROJECT ?**

- To have volunteers complete a piece of work for you.
- Add diversity and extra enthusiasm to the project.
- Use the project to generate publicity and interest in the local community.
- Spread awareness of your project to other people.
- Make connections in other countries which could be useful to your project.

### **3. WHAT ARE THE INSURANCE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS ?**

- You should be covered to have volunteers.
- Have Health & Safety procedures in place.
- Have Employers Liability Insurance.
- We will ask you to complete a short risk assessment of the work and accommodation.
- Volunteers should be given a full explanation of any safety regulations that the host has in force.

### **4. WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOST ?**

- The host is responsible for providing food and accommodation for the volunteers.
- IVS will ask the host to supply a short summary of the project for our brochure and a detailed Information Sheet for the accepted volunteers.
- To produce a plan of proposed activities.
- It is useful to have a co-ordinator on the project.
  - this can either be a member of your staff or one of the volunteers.

### **5. WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF IVS ?**

- IVS are responsible for recruiting the volunteers and placing them on the project.
- IVS will provide a project information pack for the volunteer group.

- We will have an experienced member of IVS visit the project in the first few days to talk about IVS and answer any queries.
- An experienced member of IVS will also try to visit the project in the last couple of days to do an evaluation of the project with the volunteers and we will ask you to evaluate the experience as well.

## **6. HOW MUCH WILL IT COST ?**

- You will have to pay for the volunteers' food. IVS proposes a food budget of £4.00 per person per day.
  - This depends on the projects own resources and how much food has to be bought in.
- Some projects may have to pay for accommodation. However, accommodation can be in tents.
- Projects last from 2-4 weeks and have 6-20 volunteers.
- If transport is needed to and from the work site, this will be an additional cost.
- A charge of £300\* is made to cover IVS administration costs.

## **8. WHAT WILL THE VOLUNTEERS BE LIKE ?**

- Volunteers are 18 or over and there is no upper age limit.
  - However, the vast majority of volunteers are aged between 18 and 26.
- We accept British volunteers on British projects once they are 16.
  - IVS will check with you if it is suitable place a volunteer under 18 years.
- IVS tries to get a male/ female balance on projects, however, more females than males apply.
- The working language on projects is English and there is generally a mixture of abilities.

## **9. WILL VOLUNTEERS HAVE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS ?**

- IVS tries to be as open as possible to people with a disability and we will discuss with you whether you can accommodate disabled volunteers.
- When volunteers apply for a project, they are asked to state whether they have a medical condition or any special diet. IVS will inform you of any relevant details.
- Vegetarians are quite common on projects.
- Some applications come from volunteers with children, IVS will check with you first to ask if children can be accommodated.

If you feel that your organisation could benefit from hosting an IVS project, or if you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact your nearest IVS office.

- Ask the IVS office about this.

**IVS-GB,  
Thorn House, 5 Rose Street, Edinburgh, EH1 2JN  
T: 0131 243 2745 F: 0131 243 2747  
E: info@ivs.gb.org  
W: ivs.gb.org**

### **Examples of IVS Projects**

#### **ANTI-RACISM**

##### ***Roundabout, Edinburgh***

A summer playscheme for children from disadvantaged and ethnic-minority backgrounds

##### ***Interfaith Project, Leicester***

Promoting inter-community understanding, study element on faith and the community

#### **DISABILITY**

##### ***The Inclusion Project for Children with Disabilities, Bradford (2 projects)***

Supporting young people with physical and learning disabilities

##### ***Permaculture in Practice, Newcastle***

A community permaculture project, including work with disadvantaged children

##### ***Focus, Reading (2 projects)***

Working to build self-confidence and skills with disadvantaged young people and disabled adults

#### **CHILDREN, TEENAGERS AND OLDER PEOPLE**

##### ***It's Just a Bit of Fun, Warrington***

Helping young people to deal with conflict peacefully by delivering anti-bullying workshops

##### ***Rees Centre, Plymouth***

Planning and implementing a two-week Holiday Club for 80 young people

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### ***Fair Isle, Shetland***

Working to preserve traditional crafting methods of farming

### ***The Big Green Gathering, Cheddar, Somerset (2 projects)***

Pre-event work at the largest ecological outdoor event

## **Hosts views**

### ***Working for a better environment...***

*“It was pretty amazing really. We had a very good leader from the volunteers. They did loads of work on the garden. We got bits in the newspaper and on TV when the local MP opened the new ecological water feature. We didn’t have any problems, except the weather was too hot!”*

***Ken Bradshaw, Drift Permaculture, Newcastle***

*“It was brilliant. Loads of enthusiasm from the volunteers who came. We have kept in contact with some of the volunteers.”*

***Izzy and Roger, Fox Co-operative, Carmarthan, S Wales***

*“It was very, very successful. The group gelled really well and it was good fun. We had morning circles everyday, sang songs and had a bit of fun. Mostly we were in small groups doing gardening. We’ve had letters back saying how much they enjoyed it.”*

***Natasha, Monkton Wyld Community, Axminster***

### ***Working for interfaith understanding...***

*“It went very well indeed. We had 9 volunteers from 9 different countries, including Armenia and Turkey, Croatia, Lithuania and the USA. They were a very interesting bunch, equally committed to working hard and discovering the various faiths that we visited. Several of them are keeping in touch with one another and with us by e-mail.”*

***Rev. David Clark, Interfaith. Leicester***

### ***Working with local children...***

*“We have about 90 children a day on our summer playscheme. The children are interested in meeting people from other countries. The IVS volunteers work with and socialize with our own local volunteers. It went very well and the group gelled well and are still in contact with us and with each other through e-mails, postcards and letters. It would be nice to have more men to give a better gender balance. It went very well.”*

***Peter Burling, Rees Playscheme. Plymouth***

### ***Working with young people...***

*“It was really, really good. Some of us are still in touch.”*

***Boys at Glebe House, Cambridge***

*“From our point of view it’s very productive. The IVS volunteers work with and alongside the students. It’s always a sad time when they go. We benefit greatly from the diversity of people who have come in over the years. It has given people a perspective that they would never have had. It introduces a calming, chilling-out factor.”*

***Tony Weston, Staff, Glebe House, Cambridge***