Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities to the effects of climate change impact and environmental shocks through the deployment of European Solidarity Corps volunteers fostering the innovation in Humanitarian context.

Humanitarian Volunteer in MEAL, PHILIPPINES

1 position

Deployment dates: July 2024 - June 2025

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 population of the Philippines stands at approximately 118 million people, facing a yearly population growth rate of 1.54%, with over a quarter living below the poverty line. The nation holds the 116th position out of 191 countries in the Human Development Index (HDI 2021) and the highest ranking in the World Risk Index (WRI), indicating a significant risk of disasters and vulnerability to extreme natural events such as typhoons, earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, and droughts.

The Philippines is classified as a lower-middle-income country with the most unequal income distribution in the Asia region, as per the Asian Development Bank (ADB). In 2021, 18.2% of the population lived below the national poverty line (Source PSA). Urbanization, poverty, and the evolving climate make urban resilience and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) increasingly crucial. The country has enacted laws on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and climate change, with national plans in place. However, barriers such as insufficient guidelines and technical capacity hinder compliance at the local government level.

In Mindanao, amidst ongoing national government challenges on the peace process and despite continuing conflicts and displacement in the region, progress in the establishment of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) and its decommissioning program could pave the way for a finalized peace agreement between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), this transition allows a shift from purely humanitarian responses to strategic measures addressing recurring risks in the region. The Bangsamoro leadership has increased autonomy and resources, enabling them to play a crucial role in community resilience, but support and capacity building are essential, particularly at the Municipal and Barangay levels.

Despite existing gender and development laws in the Philippines, gender issues are often overlooked in emergency, development, and DRR programs. Implementation projects frequently fail to systematically analyze and mainstream gender, and outcomes and impacts are not adequately monitored. Women in rural and peri-urban areas are typically consulted and provided support, but the 2019 gender assessment conducted by AAH revealed that gender roles in Mindanao have shifted without a reduction in women's reproductive workload. This emphasizes the need for a more comprehensive approach to gender mainstreaming in various sectors and strategic priorities.

SECURITY CONDITIONS

The Philippines encounters a multifaceted security landscape that encompasses natural disasters, health challenges, and various security threats. The country frequently faces the impact of typhoons, particularly during the June to November season. These storms result in extensive flooding, landslides, and wind-related damages, posing significant humanitarian and security issues. The compounding factor of heavy rainfall, often intensified by typhoons, increases the likelihood of flooding and landslides, especially in mountainous and low-lying areas, posing threats to communities, infrastructure, and transportation networks over the last 3 years.

In a seismically active region and as part of the Pacific Ring of Fire, the Philippines is becoming more is vulnerable to volcanic activity and is prone to the persistent threat of earthquakes that adds to the challenges, endangering infrastructure, communities, and overall safety. The presence of active volcanoes introduces the risk of displacement, property damage, and respiratory health hazards due to ashfall.

Beyond natural disasters, the country grapples with health challenges, including tropical diseases like dengue fever, malaria, and various waterborne illnesses. These not only impact the local population but also pose risks to travelers.

Security concerns extend to terrorism, particularly in the southern regions, where groups such as Abu Sayyaf and other Islamist extremist organizations remain active. internal conflicts persist involving the government's armed forces and various non-state armed groups, clan fedus, including Muslim separatists, political opponents, private militias, criminal organizations, and radical offshoots influenced by the Islamic State. This region experiences a complex mix of political violence - evident during the recently concluded 2023 Barangay Elections, identity-based armed conflict, ethnic/clan divisions, and ongoing rebel/terrorist violence. These factors hinder political unity and social cohesion, exacerbating socio-economic and development challenges, and providing an environment conducive to the flourishing of non-state armed groups engaged in criminal activities, thereby undermining peace and stability.

The Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA) insurgency is an ongoing challenge, despite attempts at peace talks. Armed clashes between government forces and communist rebels continue in certain areas.

Territorial disputes in the South China Sea could escalate tensions with neighboring countries, making maritime security, and defending territorial integrity key government priorities.

Considering this, Action Against Hunger adopts a proactive approach to risk management. The process is founded on a risk analysis and response cycle, wherein risks are identified, assessed, mitigated, and continually monitored across different phases. Throughout the risk management process, Action Against Hunger systematically collects information, enabling the global and individualized monitoring of pre-identified risks. Recognizing that risk management is a shared responsibility, the organization ensures that security risks are addressed through a comprehensive security plan. This plan outlines objectives, actions, resources, and timelines, and assigns responsibility (risk owners) to implement the plan. Specifically, Action Against Hunger employs Local Security Plans per Base, where conditions and protocols are meticulously defined. These plans are subject to periodic updates or adjustments based on the evolving security context.

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER VALUES

We are an international non-governmental private organisation that is politically and religiously neutral and non-profit, which was established in 1979 in France to implement interventions worldwide. Our vocation is to fight against hunger, physical suffering and situations of distress that threaten the lives of men, women, and children.

We uphold the Humanitarian Principles: Independence, Neutrality, Non-Discrimination, Free and direct access to people in need, professionalism, and transparency.

More information is available here:

https://www.accioncontraelhambre.org/en/our-principles

TASKS

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

- Support in the enhancement and monitoring of the MEAL standards in the mission and contribute to their implementation, development, and performance measurement.
- Support in promoting the institutionalization of the existing MEAL tools and contribute to the development of new tools and systems according to AAH's technical strategy and framework (Project ADS, New Survey Generator tool: Survey ADS...).
- Evaluate and improve quality of data through data harmonization and analysis: Collection of qualitative/quantitative data, analysis, sharing and storage.
- Support team in the roll-out of learning approaches for capitalization of best practices, lessons learnt, etc.
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- Support in the quality assurance of technical supporting documents: monitoring, verification, and quality check of archived technical documents.
- Other MEAL related tasks that may contribute to the development of programs, relations, and procedures at mission level (e.g., proposal and reports preparation).

Objective 2: Guarantee the knowledge, good use and follow-up of the International Strategic Plan (ISP) Indicators at mission level.

- Monitor the collection and analysis of indicators related to ISP in timely manner.

- Monitoring, verification support and quality check of archived technical documents according to new Technical and MEAL Archiving procedure.

Objective 3: Core humanitarian standard self-assessment and compliance.

- Support in following-up the AAH mission's CHS action plan.

- Review and assist in developing action plan to improve the Feedback Mechanism enforced by the Mission.

Objective 4: Information, Communication System and Technology Support for Digital Transformation Initiatives.

- Provide support in the formulation and use of digital assessment tools for data collection and analysis.

Objective 5: Communication and Awareness on ESC Aid Volunteers Initiative

- Write and publish articles describing the experience of volunteers in the field.

- Collect audiovisual materials for use in a public awareness activity in the local volunteer community in Europe.

- In coordination with the project's NGO partners, organize, and implement public awareness activities.

REQUIRED COMPETENCES

Studies: MEAL, humanitarian, and development studies

Languages: English C1

Skills: Process oriented skills; performance monitoring and evaluation skills; skills to assess/manage outputs, outcomes, and impacts; computer/IT skills.

Experience: MEAL, Data and Information Management, Project management experience and/or concepts, Digital programming of assessment tools and analysis.

BENEFITS AND CONDITONS FOR THE VOLUNTEER

The volunteer will be deployed to Action Against Hunger Philippines.
Duty station: Makati City, Philippines
Length of Deployment: 12 months.

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.

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.