Profile of international volunteers hosted on the basis of reciprocity

Profile of civic service volunteers in general

56 % women **o**— -o 61 % women 22 years and 10 months old on average o- () **-O 21 years old** on average 78 % have post-secondary education o--o 32 % have post-secondary education 6 % young school dropouts o-**19,5** % young school dropouts

Map of the hosting of international civic service volunteers in France by region (2017-2022)





Number of international civic service volunteers hosted in France by nationality between 2017 and 2022 (cumulative) for the 11 main countries of origin of the volunteers



according to the international

volunteers hosted in France

between 2017 and 2022

3 TRENDS AND PATTERNS

Developments. Between 2017 and 2022, France received **860 young** international civic service volunteers coming from **61 different** countries (outside the EU). The trend was upward until 2019 (+66%), when it came to a halt due to the global health crisis.

France on the basis of reciprocity **are more** qualified and older than civic service volunteers in general. Also, compared to the latter, the proportion of women is slightly lower.

Geography of origin. 11 countries of origin (out of 61) of the international volunteers hosted in France, listed here in ascending order, stand out as they account for **60% of the international** volunteers (517) hosted in France.

Host geography. The types of structures for volunteer assignments also vary from region to region. For example, in Brittany region, private educational establishments played a major role, hosting around 40% of the region's international civic service volunteers, while in Burgundy-Franche-Comté, there has been a major involvement of local authorities, who received around 45% of the region's international civic service volunteers.

Balance the flow. For the civic service scheme alone, the number of international volunteers hosted in France between 2017 and 2022 represents 22% of the number of volunteers sent abroad in 2021, i.e. for every 4 volunteers sent, just under one is hosted. Before the COVID-19 crisis, in 2019, this share was lower: **Profile.** Civic service volunteers hosted in around 11%. France is one of the few countries to have adopted a reciprocal approach to volunteering, along with Germany and Norway in particular, with the latter devoting a larger proportion of their volunteers.

> **Hosting structures.** The analysis shows that the majority of volunteers are hosted by "experienced" hosting structures, mainly associations: 7% of organisations (the "subscribers") host 55% of international civic service volunteers in France.

Hosting framework. Implementing reciprocity through partnership programmes enables a greater number of international volunteers to be mobilised and seems to be the preferred way of guaranteeing development in terms of both volume and quality.

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international or European volunteer exchange networks, reciprocity is an intrinsic principle of the encounter between peoples and individuals concerned by volunteering and international solidarity.

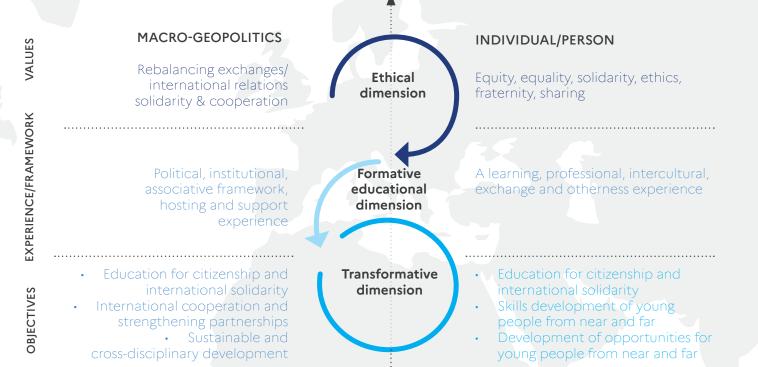
founding texts of France Volontaires in 2009. International Solidarity Volunteering (VSI) It is thus supported jointly by associations, scheme. local and public authorities. In March 2010, the law on civic service was enacted, providing the first structural framework for hosting international volunteers.

Rooted for several decades in the practices of The growing number of partnerships with national volunteering institutions and agencies in third countries, and the gradual institutionalisation of reciprocity, enshrined since 2021 in the programming law on solidarity-based development and the fight against global inequalities, provide In France, reciprocity was included in the a new framework for action based on the



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY RECIPROCITY IN INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING?

Although there is no collective definition shared by the French actors and their international partners, they all agree that it should be understood in the context of a partnership relationship that implies a dynamic of exchange and mobility giving rise to the hosting and sending of volunteers between countries. Reciprocity in international volunteering can be simultaneous or staggered, with varying degrees of equivalence in the number of volunteers.



The reciprocity places individuals at the heart of the modern challenges facing our societies

"Through international reciprocal volunteering, we aim to develop young citizens who are committed to and qualified for the sustainable development of their communities and countries." The National Volunteering Agency in Togo

"This offers the opportunity to build new ways of conceiving development, strengthens people and positions them as actors of change".

Public institution in Peru

The reciprocity strengthens partnerships in the territories

"Voluntary work helps strengthen the synergies between actors working on the same issues in each region. (...) Volunteers are "ambassadors" for cooperation, helping to establish partnerships." Local authority in France

"The reciprocity is there to serve a dynamic of togetherness, and co-construction with the partners, which is opposed to a unilateral logic." Association in France

Purposes with high added value on the condition of seeking greater equality

"The principle of reciprocity must be based on a vision of equality and quality of assignments in order to hope for added value for the community". Association in Togo

Through reciprocity, "the values we defend are not to fall into the traps of domination [...]. There is a **search for equality at all levels**. We keep a close eye on the framework, and on the values of solidarity to be conveyed."

Association in Tunisia

Creation of the International Voluntary Civil Service Movement

Creation of the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS)

Creation of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme

Adoption in France of the law on the International Solidarity Volunteering (VSI) scheme

2008

on civic service Creation of the Civic Service Agency (ASC) in France

2011

Adoption in France of the law

Launch of Cool'eurs du Monde's WECCEE project

2015

2014

Launch of reciprocal international volunteering projects at the **Development Cooperation** Service (SCD)

2017

Creation of the **European Solidarity Corps** (replacing EVS)

2019

4 August 2021 on solidarity development and the fight against global inequalities (LP-DSLIM)

Hosting of the first VSIs in France within the framework of reciprocity

2023

Creation of the International Civil Service

Creation of the French Association of Progress Volunteers (AFVP)

Creation of the European Voluntary Service (EVS)

2005

Creation of the German cooperation programme Weltwärts

2010

First hosting of international civic service volunteers (from West Africa and Asia)

Launch of the "Youth" call for projects by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs' Delegation for External Action of Local **Authorities**

2016

Launch of the international reciprocal volunteering programme of the Catholic Delegation for Cooperation (DCC)

2018

Cooperative Workshop of International Reciprocal Volunteering Actors in Niamey, Niger

Agreement between the French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII) and France Volontaires

2021

Launch of Fidesco's South-North Mission programme

Bonn Symposium: sharing of experiences and perspectives between Engagement Global, Norec and France Volontaires

Decree implementing the LP-DSLIM laying down the conditions for VSIs hosted in France on the basis of reciprocity

Order setting the conditions of issue and the amounts of State aid for VSIs hosted in France on the basis of reciprocity

Summary chronology of reciprocity in international volunteering

Association in France

From the origins of volunteering to the first experiments in reciprocity, right up to its inclusion in the law