



RÉPUBLIQUE  
FRANÇAISE

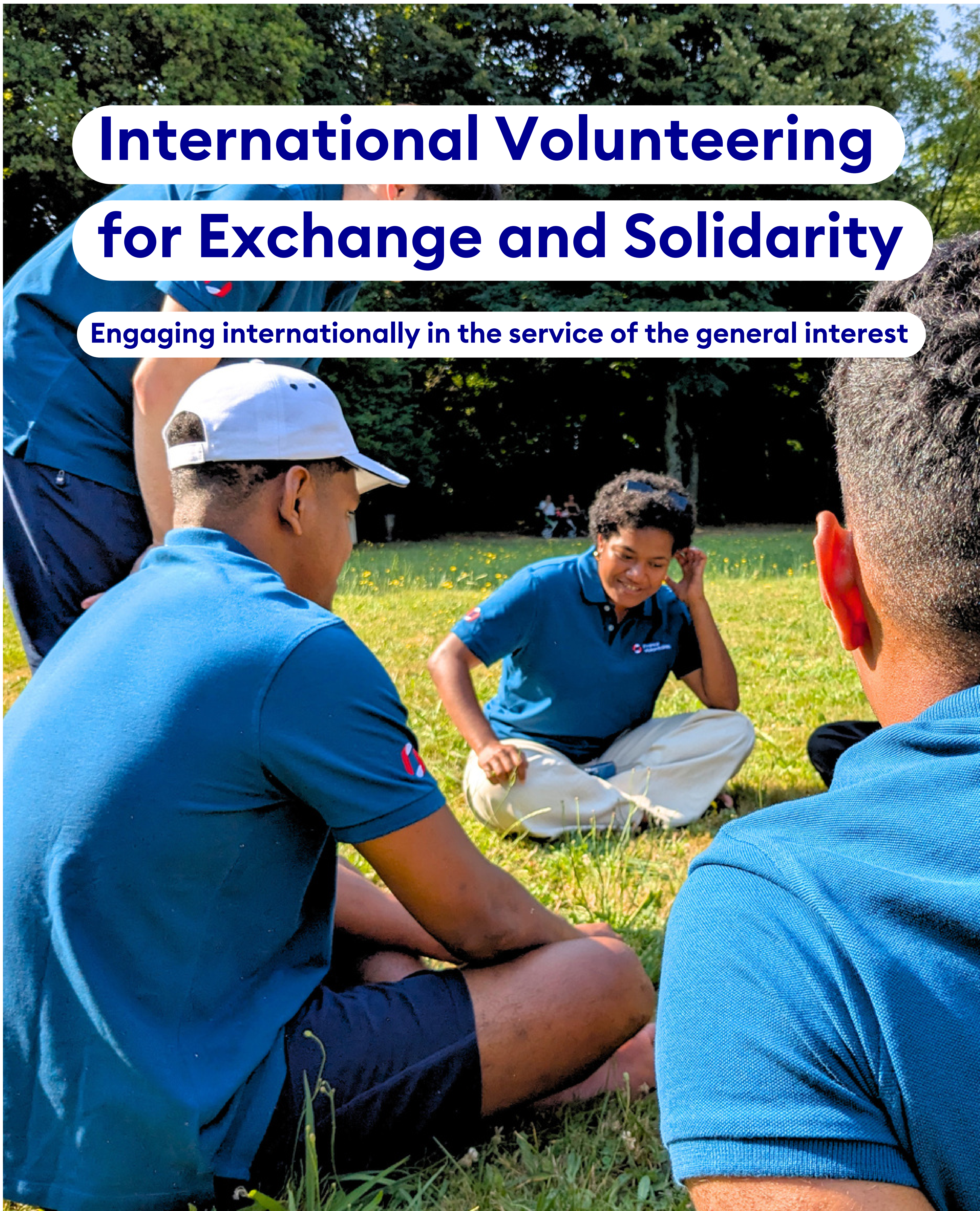
*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*



France  
Volontaires

# International Volunteering for Exchange and Solidarity

Engaging internationally in the service of the general interest



# V.I.E.S

**International Volunteering for Exchange and Solidarity (V.I.E.S) is an engagement that makes it possible to accomplish a mission of general interest in one of the countries receiving public development aid, in the fields of international solidarity, within an association, a local authority or a non-profit organisation/non-governmental organisation.**

V.I.E.S brings together seven different schemes that allow people to go on international solidarity missions in numerous partner countries. Irrespective of personal and professional backgrounds, age and availability, one can join either of these schemes to volunteer abroad.

## Our guiding principles



Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to meet the challenges facing our societies



Accessibility by opening up volunteering opportunities to all over the course of a lifetime



Reciprocal exchanges in order to strengthen partnerships and cross-mobility



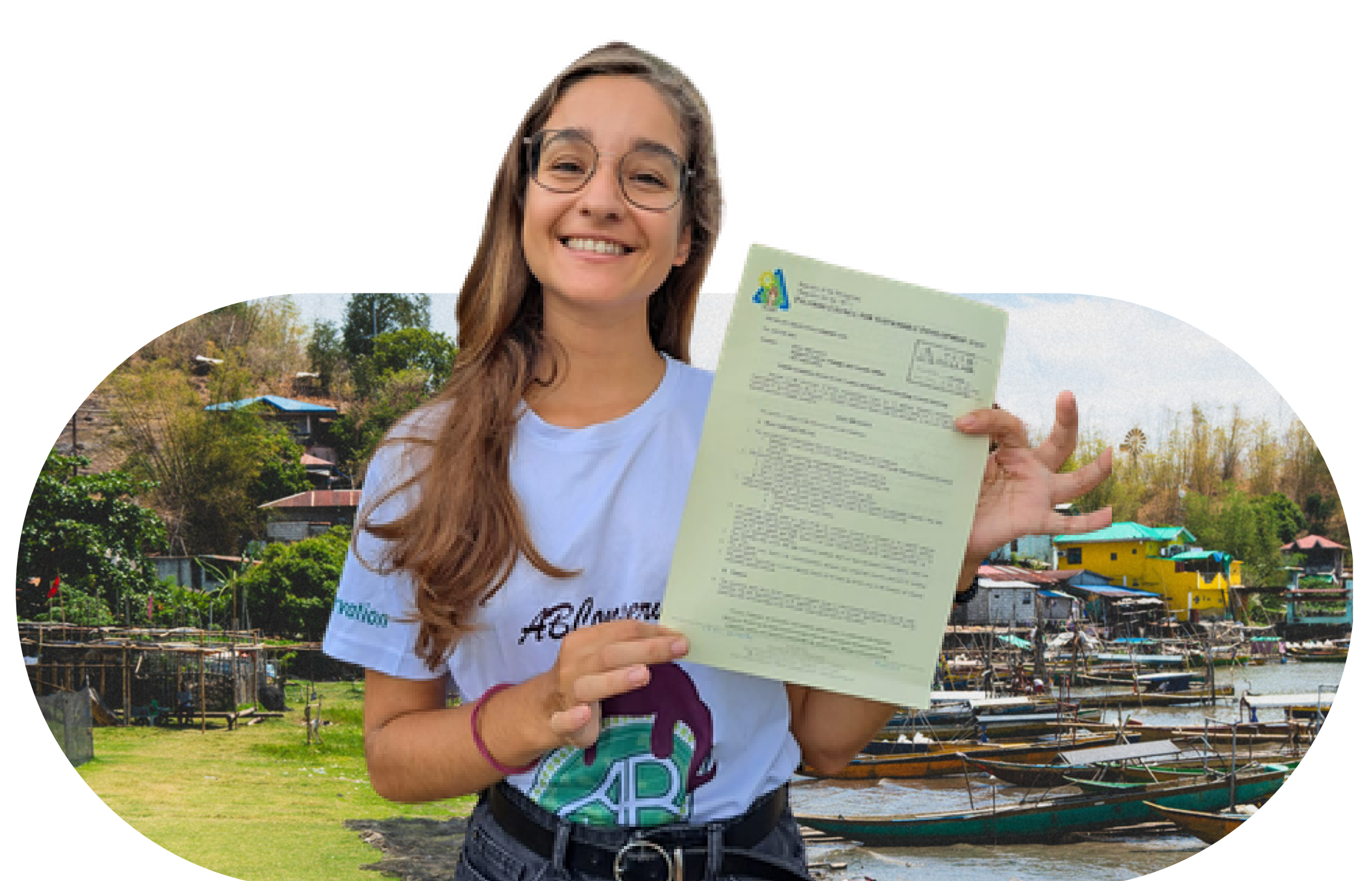
Commitment to make volunteering part of a civic and formative journey



**“Mobility wasn't just about leaving and coming back: it inspired me to build bridges between young people. Volunteering enriched my life; it gave me skills, a network, and self-confidence.”**

**Basile • Burkinabe**

As an international solidarity volunteer in France, hosted by Solidarité Laïque



**“Returning as a volunteer after my internship in the same organisation immediately got me excited. My vocation was to work for the preservation of wildlife. The mission is in perfect harmony with my goals.”**

**Éléa • French**

Completing an International Solidary Volunteering mission, sent by La Guilde (Philippines)

# France Volontaires

## France Volontaires is committed to two key missions:

- Promoting, supporting and developing international volunteering
- Enhancing the value and visibility of volunteers' commitment

## France Volontaires offices around the world



Operator of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France Volontaires is a public interest group (GIP) that brings together the State, local authorities and associations as part of a mission of general interest recognized by the law of August 4, 2021 as a transversal lever of action for France's solidarity development policy. France Volontaires relies on six branches in mainland France and overseas territories, and on a network of 19 Volunteering Centers in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania.

## Our platform's members

### State College



### College of territories



### College of associations



# Volunteering programmes

**As an innovative mechanism for international cooperation, France Volontaires volunteering programmes contribute to:**

- Facilitate a qualitative and quantitative evolution of the volunteering sector
- Encourage the development of new partnerships, both nationally and internationally
- Promote the complementary nature of volunteering schemes
- Strengthen the contribution of V.I.E.S. to France's policy of inclusive and sustainable development
- Increase and broaden the funding and resources dedicated to the volunteering sector

## Some key programmes



Launched in 2022, it offers local authorities a full turnkey solution for mobilising international volunteers as part of their decentralised cooperation projects.



To support initiatives to promote French-speaking communities and networks, and the teaching of the French language. Volunteers are deployed on every continent.



To bring together all the major players in the voluntary sector in a multi-stakeholder partnership approach across Africa. It includes 12 countries reflecting the dynamics of volunteering on the continent.



To support initiatives to protect the Amazon rainforest. Launched in 2025 for a period of 30 months, it will mobilise around fifty volunteers throughout South America.

“I strongly recommend that my fellow representatives show interest in Territoires Volontaires, as the programme really opens up opportunities for young people.”

**Fanny Sallé**

Local advisor for international solidarity and decentralised cooperation  
Loire-Atlantique Department

“Sarthak quickly settled in and helped to foster a rich dialogue within the UCPA - a real plus for us and a source of support for the whole team.”

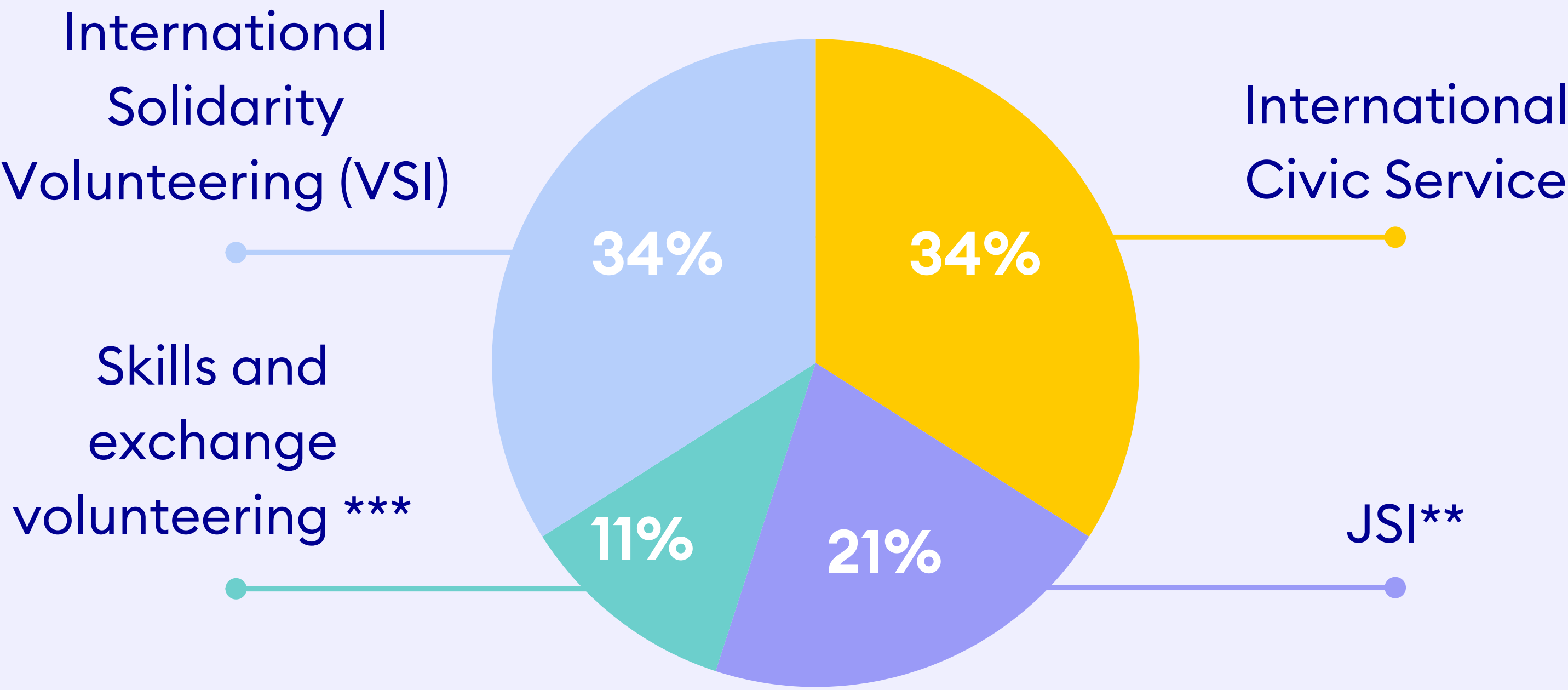
**Samantha Dian**

Project manager at the National Union of Outdoor Sports Centers (UCPA)

# V.I.E.S in figures\*



**5 034**  
volunteers  
worldwide



11%

North Africa and Middle East

13%

Latin America and Caribbean

14%

Europe

16%

Asia and Oceania

46%

Sub-Saharan Africa and Indian Ocean

The distribution of international volunteers is based on the missions of countries eligible for solidarity and sustainable investments.

## Main areas of intervention

Education

Human rights  
and Gender  
equality

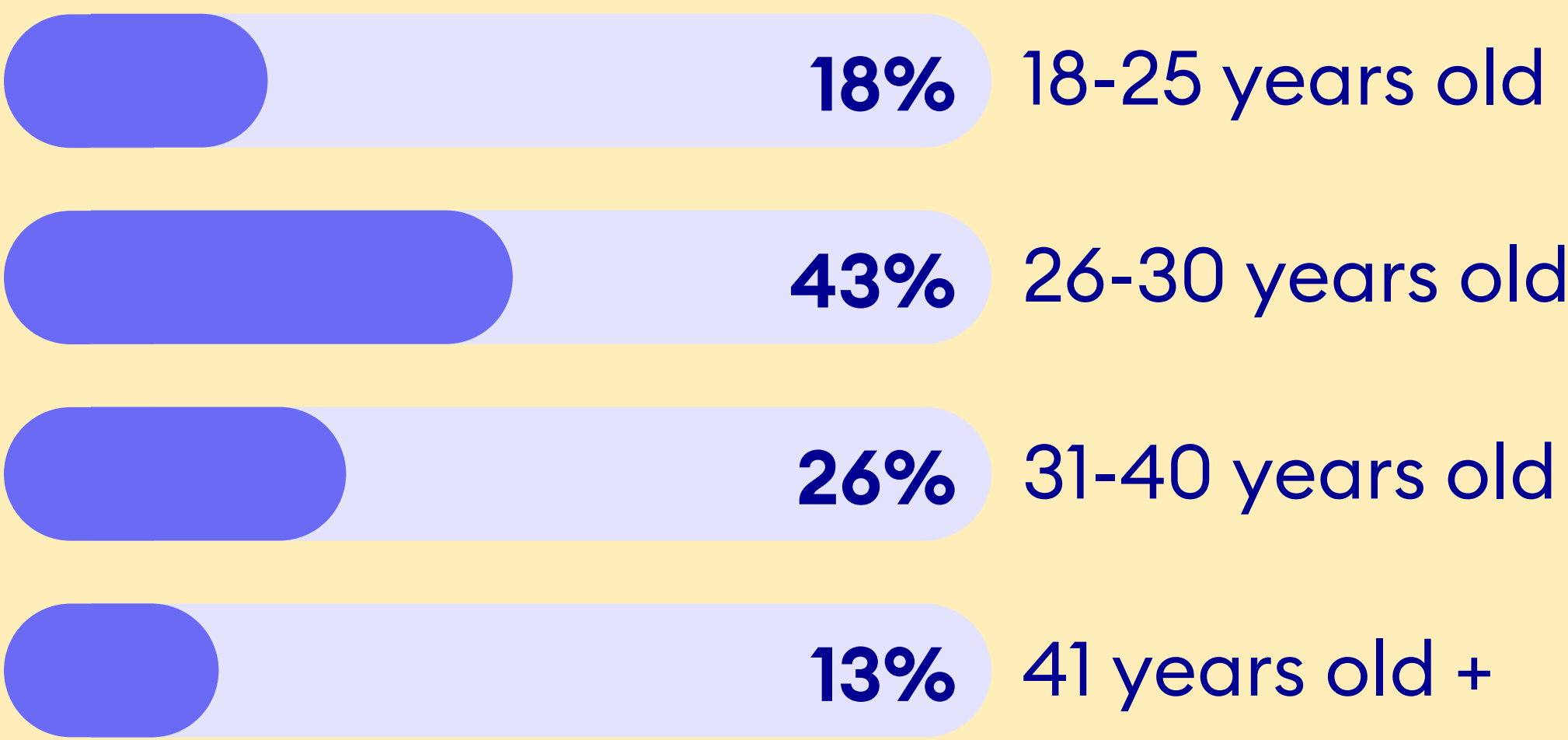
Health

Environment

Culture and  
Heritage

## Focus on International Solidarity Volunteering

1 689 International Solidarity Volunteers



## Reciprocity at France Volontaires

556 volunteers from 39 countries



The three main home countries of international volunteers deployed in France (International Civic Service, VSI or JSI\*\*)

\*Source: statistics relating to the different forms of international volunteering, French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs 2024

\*\*Youth for International Solidarity (JSI)

\*\*\*Solidary Leave and Senior Volunteering

# V.I.E.S: for everyone!

### JSI/VVV-SI programmes and International Youth Workshops

 From 15 years old

 A few weeks

 **No specific skills required for these group activities**

 For example

Assisting activities and event planning in a Moroccan youth center

### International Civic Service

 18 to 25 years old\*

 6 to 12 months

 **Little or no specific skills required**

Up to 30 year olds for young people with disabilities

 For example

Assisting a Peruvian cultural association

### European Solidarity Corps

 18 to 30 years old

 2 to 12 months

 **Little or no specific skills required**

 For example

Supporting permaculture and agroforestry practices in Nepal

### International Solidarity Volunteering

 From 18 years old

 12 months to 6 years

 **Specific skills required**

 For example

Managing a water supply project in Madagascar

### Solidarity Leave

 From 18 years old

 A few weeks

 **Specific skills required - Open to employees**

 For example

Introducing and training Indian women to micro-lending

### Senior Volunteering

 Retirees (or soon-to-be)

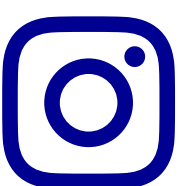
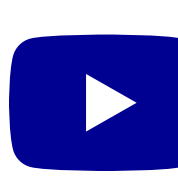
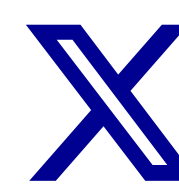
 15 days to 18 months

 **Specific skills required**

 For example

Training childcare professionals in Senegal

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