

## Call for Applications Long Term EVS

### “EN.SU.RE. Inclusion - Enhanced Support for Refugee Inclusion”

**Applicant** of the project is **ELIX - Conservation Volunteers Greece**, [www.elix.org.gr](http://www.elix.org.gr)

**Topic:** Social inclusion, integration of refugees, migrants' issues, EU Citizenship, EU awareness and Democracy,

**When:** Starting as soon as possible

**Duration:** for a duration of 10 months

**Place:** Athens, Greece

**Available places:** 1 EVS volunteer

#### **Profile of EVS volunteer required:**

Young people from 18 to 30 who are ready to move to Greece and are available for the full period of the EVS (10 months) with residence in one of the Erasmus+ programme countries.

Volunteers participating in this project should have a high interest to offer their service working with migrants and refugees.

The needs and reality of the refugees residing in Greece are constantly changing, for this reason, flexibility and readiness to change the planned activities will be an essential element required by the volunteers.

Each volunteer should possess the following:

- strong interest in migrant and refugee issues,
- the ability to live and work as part of a European team of volunteers,
- interest in intercultural experiences,
- commitment to develop links with the communities in which they are placed,
- commitment to use the experiences and skills gained during the programme to benefit their own community,
- the ability to work in a metropolitan city like Athens and also in isolated and remote villages,
- excellent computer skills (word, excel, outlook, internet),
- adequate level of English,

#### **Hosting Organisation:**

ELIX is a Greek Non-Governmental Organisation committed to promote active participation in public life and the evolution of individuals as global citizens. Founded in 1987, ELIX has used innovation to support and educate more than 10,000 local agents of change, in Greece and more than 40 other countries around the world.

ELIX realizes international actions of voluntary participation with main targets the protection of the environment, the preservation of cultural heritage, the promotion of civilization and social service. In order to realize its actions, the organization cooperates with Local Authority Organizations, Government Bodies, Companies, Institutions as well as local environmental and cultural clubs and associations.

ELIX is registered organisation at the list of the First Reception Service (F.R.S) in Greece, also is member

of the international network Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations since 1991, of the Pan-Hellenic Network of Ecologic Organizations and the Network Volunteerism and Environment.

Through its actions, ELIX:

- Offers young people the possibility to work in a group, to acquire skills, to meet new places and ways of living and become active citizens.
- Offers local societies the opportunity to show the natural and cultural wealth of their area, to come in contact with young people from all around the world, to share with them their customs and habits and also to familiarize with the idea of volunteerism.
- Offers the authorities the opportunity to take advantage creatively of the voluntary work that is offered to them and at the same time to familiarize with the value of voluntary service.

#### Partners:

All partners of the project shall be member of the network ALLIANCE of European Voluntary service organisations.

The project is open to partners primarily from Germany, Austria and United Kingdom.

Interested candidates from Spain, Finland and Hungary are highly encouraged to apply.

#### About the Project:

The activity will be hosted in Athens, in the office of ELIX and the different venues coordinated by ELIX such as the Learning Center based in Patision street.

The volunteers will be mainly involved in the design, preparation, implementation and follow up of activities that support migrants and refugees.

Since November 2016, ELIX has been implementing the project "Quality Play-Based Learning and Non-Formal Education, Enhanced Psychosocial Well-Being and Positive Integration for Refugee Children of School-Going Age in Greece" in 12 different locations. Through this project, more than 2,500 refugee children and their parents have gained access to a flexible and reliable framework offering non-formal educational activities, learning their mother language, Greek, English, Mathematics, Life Skills and Civic Education, in order to enhance their potential and learning pathway.

The setting provides a safe space for the coexistence and cooperation of people with language, religion, cultural differences with a common aim, quality education and living together.

The programme's success lies in the fact that it is designed after an extensive needs assessment and a series of pilot projects that were implemented in cooperation with partners and institutions that are specialized in working with this target group.

This programme is a good example of how civil society organisations, thanks to their flexible structures and their close contact with the local communities, can quickly respond to current situations and crises that can occur and offer effective solutions.

After all the gained knowledge and field experience, ELIX believes that EVS programme can support with a unique way the aim and objectives of our current work with this specific target group and shape opportunities for young refugees to integrate in a European society.

The proposed activities for this EVS are:

1. **Creation of awareness raising and visibility materials:** The creation of a documentary about the experience of the volunteers in this project, depicting also the impact of their service to the benefiting community. Additionally, they will create posters and other visibility and dissemination materials,
2. **Organisation and coordination of awareness raising actions:** contributing in international campaigns such as the Raising Peace Campaign and the Freedom of Movement, campaigns that ELIX actively participates since 2016, the organisation of awareness raising actions (e.g. on the World Refugee Day, International Migrants Day), and the participation in events of external stakeholders,
3. **Development of civic education and citizenship activities:** with the support of our educational staff and experienced trainers, on topics such as peace and human rights. The volunteers will be organising and facilitating non formal activities, intercultural workshops, art-sport-theater activities with the support of our experienced educational staff. The workshops will be addressed to young refugees tackling topics such as non-violent communication, equality, anti-discrimination and anti-racism,
4. **Recruitment of young refugees to join International projects:** supporting our incoming and outgoing placement officers to recruit young refugees in order to join international voluntary service projects and other projects such as Youth Exchanges in Greece and abroad. ELIX aims to provide young refugees with the possibility to experience international mobility, meet with youngsters from other European countries and benefit from a mutual exchange of knowledge and experiences,
5. **Development of international Youth Exchanges proposal** with thematic focus on migrants and refugees rights: ELIX would like to link both its national but also international work. EVS volunteers will work side by side with our Erasmus+ projects coordinator and design together a project proposal to be submitted,
6. **Activities according to the personal preferences and skills of the volunteers:** We expect that volunteers who will join this project will bring their own innovation, creativity and inspiring ideas to implement. All volunteers are encouraged to develop their personal project, respecting the values of our organisation and taking into consideration the given resources.

Each volunteer will be assigned with a tutor, a staff member of the organization, and will have the opportunity to be involved in all the necessary steps of the organization of several activities. This service enables the volunteer to have a significant experience within an organization active in sectors of youth and lifelong learning, acquire new skills, get in touch with volunteers of all ages from Greece and around the world and last but not least live in a multicultural environment.

Volunteers will have the chance to develop his/her organizational skills by being involved in the preparation and implementation of different kind of activities, improve his/her sense of responsibility and initiative towards the tasks undertaken, work in a team in a highly multicultural environment, meet different people and cultures.

Besides that, he/she will have the opportunity to develop a social network and participate in seminars, trainings and other cultural actions of ELIX or partner organizations.

Finally, all the services and advantages that the volunteer has the right to enjoy, will be provided, according to the ERASMUS+ programme Guide.

### **Aim and objectives:**

The project aims to support the inclusion of young refugees in Greece, and to raise awareness about migrant and refugees' issues.

All in all, the main objectives are:

- to support the educational projects ELIX is currently implementing for refugees,
- to develop new projects that are effectively tackling the issue of positive integration of young refugees in Europe,
- to develop concrete tools for awareness raising on the topic of migration,
- to make young people more aware about global issues such as migration,
- to empower young people in designing and implementing effective non-formal education workshops,
- to promote international mobility and freedom of movement,
- to provide young volunteers the chance to discover and experience from first hand the current situation concerning migration in Europe and more specifically in Greece,
- to make young volunteers able to act as multipliers and advocate for migrants and refugees rights.

With this project, we would also like to:

- Make EVS accessible for a wider range of people: this project is open to young people with fewer opportunities,
- Strengthen the partnership between partner organisations,
- Give the chance to young volunteers to get to know different people from different cultural background, learn to share a space with a group of people and manage their own food, clean and organise their own space, while discovering a new country, learning a new language and experiencing a new culture.

### **Responsibilities and practical arrangements:**

*Rights and responsibilities:*

Volunteers:

1. Will work an average of 35 h/week, always under the responsibility of ELIX youth workers who will be supporting and advising them,
2. Are entitled of 2 days-off per week, which will be mainly the weekends. They may be asked to work during some weekend due to some specifically planned activity,
3. Will have the autonomy to develop their own personal projects but won't be responsible for an activity on its own,
4. Can host a guest in the house only after the communication and the approval from the EVS coordinator and for a period of maximum 7 days,

*Practical Arrangements:*

1. Volunteers will be hosted in a rented apartment in Athens that will be shared among them. They may share their room with another volunteer,
2. The volunteer will receive monthly food allowance – 150 Euro,
3. Pocket Money - 100 euro per month,
4. Travel costs to and from Athens are covered up to the amounts mentioned below (section Financial conditions),
5. Greek language courses will be provided by the Online Linguistic Support,

6. EVS insurance is covered by CIGNA,
7. On-arrival training and mid-term evaluation will be provided and organised by the Greek National Agency.

### Risks and crisis prevention:

In order to prevent any kind of crisis, ELIX believes that the info given during the preparation of the volunteers plays a very important role.

1. The detailed description of the activities, the possibilities for socializing, the accommodation and food and working conditions are very helpful for the volunteers in order to be orientated before their arrival.
2. The volunteer receives a detailed info pack before arrival and a welcome pack upon arrival where she/he can find useful call numbers and emergency numbers as well as info for his/her better integration to the local society.
3. The volunteer will participate in a weekly meeting in order to have the chance to talk about difficulties s/he is facing and find ways to overcome any possible issues occurred,
4. Once the volunteer arrives s/he attends a 1 day orientation session in the ELIX office, where among other things s/he becomes aware of all the necessary instructions and measures for risk prevention for his safety in the house (house conditions, fire protection, use of electronic or gas devices etc), transport rules and habits, travelling, health prevention and local everyday life.
5. The volunteer will be provided with mobile numbers of his mentor and the EVS coordinator. He/she will be able to use these numbers 24 hours /7 days.

### How to apply:

Please fill in the application form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/2b03hhF19z8XWt4Z2> and send your CV by email to Tilemachos Boni at [youth@elix.org.gr](mailto:youth@elix.org.gr) with the subject "EVS - EN.SU.RE Inclusion\_ YOUR NAME". The pre-selected candidates will be interviewed (via skype).

### Contacts:

For further information please contact Tilemachos Boni, responsible for EVS projects, at [youth@elix.org.gr](mailto:youth@elix.org.gr)

**Deadline for responses:** As soon as possible

### Financial Conditions:

The available position is a result of cancelation of previous EVS volunteer for personal reasons. As a result, the budget for travel reimbursement is restricted.

Volunteer will be asked to cover their arrival ticket while ELIX will cover the flight ticket to return back to their country in the end of the activity.