



EU Aid Volunteers for Resilience and Response Capacities of vulnerable communities through the deployment of EU Aid Volunteers

## Junior EU Aid Volunteer - WASH in Mauritania

Junior

— 1 positions

**Deployment dates:**

16/11/2020 - 15/09/2021

Africa

Western Africa

Mauritania

**Lead organisation:**

ACCIÓN CONTRA EL  
HAMBRE

**Closing date:**

28/08/2020

The EU Aid Volunteers is an initiative of the European Union. It brings together volunteers and organisations from different countries, providing practical support to humanitarian aid projects and contributing to strengthening the local capacity and resilience of disaster-affected communities. Participants in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative must be over 18 years of age and be a citizen of an EU Member State or a long-term resident in the EU.

### DESCRIPTION

The project EU Aid Volunteers for Resilience and Response Capacities of vulnerable communities through the deployment of EU Aid Volunteers aims at improving the response and the resilience capacities of the most vulnerable local communities through needs-based humanitarian aid (HA) in Latin America, Africa and Eurasia with the involvement of 40 EU Aid Volunteers. It is implemented in 16 third countries and it is composed by a consortium of 2 Sending organizations (AAH Spain and WW GVC Italy) and 19 branch offices as hosting organizations between AAH and WW GVC (Colombia, Guatemala, Peru, Senegal, Niger, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Benin, Kenya, Tanzania, Mali, Mozambique, Philippines, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, Georgia). The 2 sending organizations will deploy 40 European citizens in humanitarian aid operations as EUAV, 39 junior and 1 senior.

This main objective will be achieved through the Deployment and monitoring of EU Aid Volunteers in Latin America (SO1), Deployment and monitoring of EU Aid Volunteers in Latin America (SO2), Deployment and monitoring of EU Aid Volunteers in Asia and Middle-East (SO3). These specific objectives will be ensured through a defined coordination mechanism between EU and in-

country partners (SO 4). The expected impact of the project is fully oriented to a whole process of skills creation and knowledge reinforcement related to the deployed EU Aid Volunteers, suitable to generate change and improvement on preparedness and resilience mechanisms among vulnerable populations, technicians and authorities at different level. Training, communication, dissemination and promotion of vacancies will be a crucial part of the project. The project will have a 24-months duration and the EUAVs will be deployed for a period of between 4 and 12 months, depending on the profile and needs previously expressed by each interested country. 12 apprenticeships are also foreseen and volunteers will be trained at both HQ.

More info about this project available here: [https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/echo/eu-aid-volunteers\\_en/eu-aid-volunteers-resilience-and-response-capacities-vulnerable-communities-through-deployment-eu-aid\\_en](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/echo/eu-aid-volunteers_en/eu-aid-volunteers-resilience-and-response-capacities-vulnerable-communities-through-deployment-eu-aid_en)

In the framework of this project AAH deploys 1 EU Aid Volunteer to Mauritania. To know more EUAV opportunities in this and other countries with AAH please consult this page: <https://www.accioncontraelhambre.org/es/euaidvolunteers&nbsp;>

### **Operational details & security context:**

#### Humanitarian Context

The city of Nouakchott has experienced rapid growth since its creation in 1960 as the capital of Mauritania. According to statistics from the National Statistics Office of Mauritania, the city's population increased from around 2,000 in 1957 to 558,195 in 2000 and to 958,399 in 2013. The average annual growth rate was 4.61% from 2000 to 2013. This rapid growth of the city was caused not only by factors of attraction, such as the fact that the city is the commercial and economic center of the country, but also by certain factors of repulsion from rural areas where severe poverty and food shortages were severe in the 1970s due to drought and sandstorms. The influx of people has resulted in the formation of large spontaneous residential areas, or shantytowns, in areas near the center, as well as along major communication routes on the outskirts. Consequently, the quality of life of the citizens of Nouakchott has been considerably deteriorated by the blatant lack of decent access to infrastructure, basic social services, hygiene problem (the management of household waste and waste from health structures ), among others. Other urban problems are gradually becoming prominent, resulting from the development of the city into a veritable metropolis. These problems include the flooding of built-up areas, the lack of access to drinking water and other urban services, the erosion of the dune cordon, the silting up and the mobility of the sand dunes around the areas. peripheral residential, etc.

Present in Mauritania since 2007, Action against Hunger aims to contribute to the fight against malnutrition, increase nutritional security and improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable populations. The programming of Action against Hunger is based on an integrated multisectoral and participative approach which includes the fields of Nutrition / Health, Water-Hygiene-Sanitation (WASH), Food Security and Livelihoods (SAME) , as well as Advocacy and Disaster Risk Management. Accountability to beneficiaries, gender mainstreaming and the environment are an integral part of this work.

In this context, early warning and planning of interventions relating to preparedness and response to floods and other disasters are essential actions. These actions must operate quickly and sequentially to better detect and respond to seasonal shocks and crises affecting household food security.

As part of its interventions in the city of Nouakchott, Action against Hunger is looking for a "WASH Specialist". The latter will provide technical support for two projects:

(i) "Urban Governance and Sustainable Development of the Urban Community of Nouakchott". This latest project aims to strengthen the governance of local authorities in Nouakchott in order to integrate sustainable development to protect the environment and improve people's access to urban services with EU funds.

(ii) "Management of water resources and risks of natural disasters in urban areas in the context of climate change with a focus on Integrated Flood Risk Management (IRM)". This project is carried out through a vast network of partners (government technical services, NGOs and scientific committees) led by Action against Hunger with funding from AFD.

#### Security conditions

According to the contextual analysis made by Action Against Hunger, the teams intervening in Mauritania do not expose themselves to security risks on a daily basis. Action Against Hunger has security rules in place on each base as well as a referent security: the coordination of security management is ensured in the capital by the coordinator Logistics, under the responsibility of the Country Director. Security watch are regularly conducted.

- In Nouakchott region, where the position is based, the security conditions are relatively safe.

- In the area of the country bordering with Mali (Hodh El Chargui region): this area is subject to possible attempts infiltration by armed groups present across the border. Also, the mission Action Against Hunger Mauritania is in regular contact with the Action Against Hunger mission in Mali in order to make a close monitoring of the contextual and security situation in these areas in particular. Caucasian type expatriate cannot be based in this area and their visits reduced to a maximum of 5 days.

- In Guidimakha region, only travel in Action Against Hunger vehicles or in a partner vehicle (INGO, donor or Embassies) are allowed for expatriates. Expatriate nights in the field are only exceptionally accepted after agreement of the Country Director, and it's not possible to spend two nights in a row in the same location.

Night travel are not allowed countrywide, except within urban area.

Due to security reasons with the initiative, EU Aid Volunteers' deployments are only allowed to take place in the capital (Nouakchott).

Health:

Action against Hunger is aware of the growing concern generated by COVID-19. Therefore, we recommend adopting the most effective prevention measures established by the WHO.

EU Aid Volunteers deployed within the organizations must commit themselves to apply prevention measures at all times. Volunteers will be covered by a health insurance during their deployments.

They will also receive a security briefing before their deployment and an in-country induction in which prevention measures and contingency plans regarding COVID-19 will be shared and specified according to how the pandemic situation evolves in each country.

Please take into account that the conditions of the deployment might change due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mobility within the country might be restricted and working from home might also be frequent.

AAH 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

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Objective 1: Organization and Planning

- Institutional support for the management of biomedical waste in particular: (i) setting up committees to fight against nosocomial infections (CLIN), (ii)

developing the internal regulations for CLINs, (iii) supporting the assessment of environmental impacts of our projects.

- Support the implementation of procedures on application of the regulations on waste management.

- Support the implementation of the WASH project (s), in line with the intervention's logical framework, budget, logistical and administrative procedures for Action Against Hunger.

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#### Objective 2: Innovation and Creativity

- Identify the technical constraints linked to the implementation of the project (s);

- Propose innovative technical solutions to meet these constraints;

- Support the implementation of the technical recommendations issued on the project (Head of Department, Headquarters Referent, Experts, Evaluators...)

- Support teams / partners in capacity building.

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#### Objective 3: Communication and Awareness on EU Aid Volunteers Initiative

- Promote local volunteerism in disaster risk reduction, prevention and response;

- Train local volunteers on organization and implementation of volunteer-based activities, when applicable;

- Promote partnerships and collaboration between local and European organizations;

- Draft and publish articles describing volunteer's experience in the field;

- Gather audiovisual materials to be used in a public awareness activity in the volunteer's local community in Europe;

- In coordination with the NGOs partner of the project, organize and execute a public awareness activity once back in Europe.

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#### Other

- The EU Aid Volunteer shall perform other duties, as required.

#### **Apprenticeship:**

N/A

#### **Required competences:**

#### **Studies:**

- Master or equivalent in a discipline related to the WASH sector (engineering, hydraulics, sanitation, public health, town and country planning, forest engineer / biologist, or similar).

**Languages:**

- French (C1-C2)
- English (B2)

**Skills:**

- Knowledge in institutional capacity building.
- Knowledge in project management, and in the project management cycle.
- Knowledge of the challenges of climate change on access to water, sanitation and hygiene.
- Knowledge of civil engineering (supervision, installation of reinforced concrete).
- Ability to work independently and creatively in the field and in the capital.

**Experiences:**

- Professional / academic experience in the field of Water, Hygiene and Sanitation if possible in connection with climate change and / or hospital hygiene and / or Biomedical waste management and / or governance policies.

**Required competences:**

- Good interpersonal skills.
- Autonomy and problem solving.
- High writing, as well as analytical skills.
- Team spirit, patience and sense of humor.

SELECTION CRITERIA

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**Applications are made directly within the sending organisation, please check out the how to apply section.**

**Eligibility and exception criteria:**

The candidate for EU Aid Volunteers must be a citizen of the EU or a third country national who is a long-term resident in an EU Member State, and must have a minimum age of 18 years.

Availability for the following activities:

- On site training starting around October 2020;
- On line pre-deployment induction
- Deployment starting from mid November 2020;

**Minimum Requirements:**

Action Against Hunger adheres to a policy of equal opportunities and accepts applications without discrimination against gender, race, colour, social origin, language, religious beliefs, political beliefs, age, disability, or sexual orientation.

CONDITION OF SERVICE

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**Learning Opportunities:**

The EU Aid Volunteer will attend a 30-hours online training and a 9-12-days on-site training before her/his deployment.

The on-site training will have a standard part for all the candidates and some optional modules, decided according to the competences of the EU Aid Volunteer and the needs of the hosting organization.

The EU Aid Volunteer will have a Learning and Development Plan for the on-going assessment of her/his competences during the deployment.

**Working and Living Conditions:**

Hosting Organization:

- The Hosting Organization for the present deployment is Action Against Hunger Mauritania

Length of Deployment:

- 10 months

Deployment duty station:

- Nouakchott

Conditions of service during deployment:

-A monthly Subsistence Lump Sum (€477,52 per month during the deployment in

Mauritania) intends to cover basic needs and local transport;

- In addition, for each month of deployment 100 euro of post deployment resettlement allowance are foreseen

- Accommodation, Visa fees, insurance and airfares will be covered directly by sending and/or hosting organization.

- The working calendar will be corresponding to the agenda and system established in the field.

-For each month of voluntary activity two days of rest are foreseen, in addition to public holidays. It is highly recommended not to use the rest days during the first and the last month of deployment.

Conditions related to on-site training:

If a candidate volunteer is working outside of the EU, travel costs will be fully covered if EU citizens legally reside in a non-EU country for long-term or forever (i.e. who live in that country);

EU citizens who are on a temporary assignment in a third country that lasts more than 18 months;

Please note that more than one candidate per position will attend the training, to create an additional pool to cover drop-outs and unforeseen needs.

## SELECTION PROCESS

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### **Shortlisting and Interviews:**

To apply, the candidate shall fulfil the Application Form online, attach the CV, a Motivation Letter and the Self-Assessment Questionnaire.

- Submission of applications: from 29/07/2020 to 28/08/2020;
- Shortlisting and interviews of the candidates: from 31/08/2020 to 07/09/2020.

In case of changes of the dates, the candidates will be notified.

### **Interview Process:**

All the interviews will be done online. The interviews have the aim to explore both the competences and the motivations of the candidates;

- The selected candidate/s for each vacancy will be notified by 07/09/2020 The date of the notification may vary according to the number of application received;

The selected candidate/s will attend an online and on-site training, which are part of the selection process;

PLEASE NOTE THAT MORE THAN ONE CANDIDATE PER POSITION WILL ATTEND THE TRAINING;

THE FINAL DECISION ABOUT THE CANDIDATE TO BE DEPLOYED WILL BE TAKEN BY THE HOSTING ORGANIZATION AFTER THE TRAINING.

### **Expected date decision on outcome:**

07/09/2020



## TIMETABLE

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**Date of training:**

Training will take place in September/October 2020.

**Apprenticeship Placement:**

No apprenticeship is foreseen for this position

**Pre-deployment preparation and induction:**

The pre-deployment induction is a compulsory activity for all the EU Aid Volunteers. It is foreseen at AAH HQ in Madrid, before the departure. Two days of specific in-country induction are foreseen in Nouakchott her/his arrival.

**Deployment:**

16/11/2020 - 15/09/2021

**Post-deployment activities:**

After the end of the deployment, the EU Aid Volunteer will have a final debriefing and will take part to the final activities of the project, that will be communicated during the pre-deployment induction.

**Sectors:**

- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Wash

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