



<u>European Solidarity Corps Humanitarian Aid Initiative</u>, Commission's Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC)



Strengthening resilience capacities of vulnerable communities through the deployment of European Solidarity Corps volunteers supporting Action against Hunger climate change mitigation and adaptation activities in the Humanitarian context.

Humanitarian Volunteer in Advocacy, Lebanon

1 position

Deployment dates: 01/10/2024 - 30/09/2025

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.

In line with its Inclusion and Diversity Strategy, the program aims at including young people with fewer opportunities.

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 of men, women, and children. https://www.accioncontraelhambre.org/

Action against Hunger upholds the Humanitarian Principles of Independence, Neutrality, Non- Discrimination, Free and direct access to people in need, professionalism, and transparency.

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

To know more about other Action against Hunger- Spain European Solidarity Corps opportunities in this and other countries, please consult our webpage: https://www.accioncontraelhambre.org/es/euaidvolunteers

HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

LEBANON IS FACING A PROLONGED POLITICAL, FINANCIAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CRISIS SINCE 2019, AGGRAVATED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THE BEIRUT EXPLOSION OF 4 AUGUST 2020, ELECTRICITY CUTS AND RISING FUEL PRICES.

In addition, in 2021 the country remained at the forefront of Syria-related humanitarian crises, hosting the largest number of displaced persons per capita in the world, with an estimated 1.5 million Syrian refugees, of which 844,000 are registered by UNHCR.

This unprecedented sequence of events is further worsening livelihood opportunities and basic services and has dragged more than half of the Lebanese population below the poverty line, while, according to UNHCR, nine out of ten Syrians live in extreme poverty. As a result, food and nutrition security are not assured in Lebanon. In 2021, around 1.3 million Lebanese citizens and 750,000 Syrian refugees were food insecure. In addition, 7 per cent of children suffered from atrophy, 41 per cent anemia and 94 per cent of young children did not have an acceptable diet (according to a survey conducted by the Lebanese Working Group on Nutrition).

To respond to this situation and emergencies, our teams promoted and implemented activities such as cash aid distribution, business cash grants and capacity building for smallholder farmers, as well as awareness of good health and nutrition practices and the distribution of hygiene kits and food packages. More than half of our beneficiaries during 2021 were women.

Action Against Hunger also worked on the construction and rehabilitation of water and sanitation infrastructures, providing drinking water to vulnerable populations, and promoting good hygienic behavior, as 23% of Syrian refugees in Lebanon in 2021 did not have a clean water source in their surroundings.

SECURITY CONDITIONS

Action Against Hunger (AAH)is a registered international NGO at the Lebanese Ministry of Interior since 2006. The political situation in Lebanon is stable but tense, and can evolve quickly (as an example, the July 2006 war started in 2 hours). The country is deeply fractured along clan, family, confessional, regional and social lines. Numerous political and religious factions are present and the continual reorganization of partnerships and 'political friendships' plays out with violence and influences on the general stability of the country.

Lebanon is also exposed to foreign interests that greatly influence internal politics. The country is technically in war with Israel, and both Saudi Arabia and Iran-Syria dispute their influence in Lebanese politics and Sunni and Shia communities, respectively. Lebanon is following a policy of "detachment" with the crisis in Syria, but Hezbollah admitted being militarily involved in the Syrian civil war. The repercussions of the Syrian civil war are being felt through the massive arrival of displaced people (1.2 million registered at UNHCR), which has made Lebanon the country with the highest number of refugees per capita. This situation, together with the worsening economic context of the country due to the financial crisis, the pandemic, and the Beirut Blast, has exacerbate the tensions inside Lebanon in link with political and sectarian affiliations and the dispute for employment and resources, as well as risen the criminality rates.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The ESC Aid Volunteer in Advocacy will support the Advocacy and Communication Department by contributing to the implementation of the Advocacy strategy at national and base level and working closely with each department to address advocacy issues with external counterparts. She/he will work closely with the Communication Officer under the supervision of the Advocacy Coordinator.

Objective 1: Support in the development of advocacy activities (50%).

- Ensure advocacy messages are integrated in communication products.
 Support the Advocacy Coordinator in the implementation of the advocacy strategy at the national and base level.
- Support the Advocacy Coordinator in the development of the advocacy campaigns.
- Bring innovative advocacy ideas and perspectives,
- Support in the update of the stakeholder analysis and in the policy/research review upon request.
- Develop advocacy documents, such as research, positioning, and policy papers.
- Support AAH contribution to the DSP, LHIF and relevant advocacy platforms.
- Gather inputs from Operations and summarize them in a document.
- Make sure gender equality and the nexus approach are integrated in AAH advocacy initiatives.
- Prepare advocacy inputs for reports and proposals.
- Work closely with the Communication Officer and the Advocacy Coordinator to identify key messages and ensure coherence between advocacy activities and communication products.

• Support the monitoring of the advocacy strategy implementation and draft activity reports.

Objective 2: Support with internal coordination for advocacy purposes (25%)

- Draft monthly context update, including a research, report and ADV papers review to be shared with ADV coordinator.
- Share potential security and access incidents/info with Advocacy Coordinator.
- Draft meetings' minutes and reports, including during internal and external meetings on advocacy.
- Field visits to ensure field concerns are taken into consideration in the strategy planning and implementation.
- Develop a strong relationship with MEAL colleagues in the field to support evidence-based advocacy.
- Work closely with the Communication officer to make sure advocacy messages are part of AAH Lebanon communication efforts.

Objective 3: Support with external relations' needs (15%)

- Support the Advocacy Coordinator in developing advocacy initiatives, such as workshops', public events' planning, and capacity building activities.
- Prepare advocacy arguments for donors when requested.
- Draft talking points for Advocacy Coordinator and Country Director,
- Support joined advocacy initiatives with partners.
- Support in any other relevant tasks requested by the Advocacy Coordinator.

Objective 4: 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: Master's degree in international relations, Political Science, International Development or similar.

Languages: English compulsory working language. Excellent writing skills are required for this position. Arabic preferred, French, and Spanish are assets.

Skills: Excellent drafting skills as well as a strong analytical and synthetical mind. In depth understanding of international policies and humanitarian mechanisms. Ability to draft and edit a range of different information materials for various audiences and communication tools (i.e. advocacy campaign, key messages, press release). Ability to work in stressful contexts and capacity to respond to tight deadlines. High level of independence while being a team player.

Innovative, energetic, solution-orientated approach to work.

Required skills: Motivation. Organization and planning. Problem solving. Working towards Objectives. Innovation and creativity. Analytical capacity.

Key skills: Teamwork.

Required competences: Microsoft office.

Experience: 1 years of experience in the humanitarian/social/development sector. Experience in research and report drafting needed. Preferred experience working in advocacy and/or public accountability. Experience in MEAL and/or advocacy is a strong asset.

BENEFITS FOR THE VOLUNTEER AND CONDITONS

The volunteer will be deployed to Action Against Hunger Lebanon.

Duty station: Beirut, with extensive field visits.

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.

Conditions of service during deployment:

A monthly Subsistence Lump Sum will be provided to cover basic needs such as food and personal hygiene items and local transport.

Accommodation: ACF Guesthouse

Accommodation, travel costs, visa, pre-deployment medical check + vaccinations (only if mandatory for the country), allowance will be covered. In case of need, a Fewer Opportunities Support will also be covered.

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 earned, in addition to public holidays. It is highly recommended not to use the rest days during the first and the last month of deployment.

Additional 5 resting days every 3 months considered as break periods (R&R) to disconnect from daily activities are granted by the organization.

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 geographic areas, are strongly encouraged to apply.