



CEV 
European Volunteer Centre

2015
Annual Report



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About CEV



CEV is a network of over 80 national, regional and local volunteer centres & volunteer support agencies across Europe.

CEV **full members** are national and regional support centres for volunteering and organisations exercising the role of a national or regional support centre for volunteering in European countries. Full members must be not-for-profit and non-governmental organisations.

Associate members are volunteer-involving organisations or organisations that promote and develop a specific type of volunteering in a specialised field. Associate members act on a local, regional, national or international level.

All members must be legal entities under the law of their respective countries and must subscribe to the aims of the European Volunteer Centre and commit to actively supporting its vision and mission as well as the implementation of its strategic plan.

CEV is supported in its work by a Board and a Secretariat team based in Brussels.

Partnership with CEV is open to any stakeholder that is willing to support CEV and its mission to contribute to the creation of an enabling political, social and economic environment for volunteering in Europe, where the full potential of volunteering can be realised.

CEV Board

Until October 2015

From October 2015



Eva Hambach President

The Flemish Volunteer Centre (BE)

Cristina Rigman Vice President

Pro Vobis- The National Resource Center for
Volunteerism (RO)

João Teixeira Vice President

CPV- Portuguese Confederation of Volunteering (PT)

Mirko Schwärzel Treasurer

BBE- National Network for Civil Society (DE)

Vicente Ballesteros

PVE- Spanish Volunteering Platform (ES)

Alberto Cuomo

CSVnet- The National Coordinating Body of Volunteer
Support Centres (IT)

Alzbeta Mrackova

Platform of Volunteer Centres and Organisations (SK)

Justin Davis Smith

NCVO- National Council for Voluntary Organisations (UK)

Cristina Rigman President

Pro Vobis- The National Resource Center for
Volunteerism (RO)

João Teixeira Vice President

CPV- Portuguese Confederation of Volunteering (PT)

Lejla Šehić Relić Vice President

Volunteer Centre Osijek (HR)

Liliane Krokaert

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Justin Davis Smith

NCVO- National Council for Voluntary Organisations (UK)

Nina Arwitz

VI- Volunteer Ireland (IE)

Palle Lund

The National Knowledge and Development Centre of
Volunteering (DK)

Member Organisations

European Networks	Confederation of European Senior Expert Services (CESES)
Austria	Interessensgemeinschaft Freiwilligenzentren Österreich (IGFÖ)
Belgium	Het Punt vzw – Steunpunt Vrijwilligerswerk Brussel Plate-forme Francophone du Volontariat Vlaams Steunpunt Vrijwilligerswerk vzw
Bosnia and Herzegovina	OSMIJEH
Bulgaria	National Alliance for Volunteer Action (NAVA)
Croatia	SMART Association for Civil Society Development Volunteer Centre Osijek Croatian Volunteer Centers Network (CVCN)
Cyprus	The Pan Cyprian Volunteerism Coordinative Council (PVCC)
Czech Republic	HESTIA, o.s. Dobrovolnické centrum, o.s.
Denmark	The National Knowledge and Development Centre of Volunteering in Denmark Frivilligcentre og Selvhjælp Danmark (FriSe)
Estonia	Estonian Village Movement Kodukant

Finland	Citizen Forum
France	France Bénévolat Tous Bénévols RockCorps
Germany	Arbeitsgemeinschaft des Bürgerschaftlichen Engagements e.V. National Network for Civil Society (BBE) Deutscher Caritasverband, Verbund Freiwilligen-Zentren
Greece	Volunteer 4 Greece
Hungary	Talentum Foundation for the Support of Volunteering Önkéntes Központ Alapítvány
Ireland	Volunteer Ireland
Italy	CSV Marche CELIVO Centro Servizi al Volontariato della provincia di Genova Centro Servizi Volontariato Friuli Venezia Giulia Centro Nazionale per il Volontariato (CNV) CSV Basilicata Coordinamento Nazionale dei Centri di Servizio per il Volontariato (CSVnet) Coordinamento Regionale dei Centri di Servizio per il Volontariato della Lombardia CSV Sardegna Solidale Centro di Servizio per il Volontariato del Lazio (SPES)

A bit of history:

CEV's origins lie in an initiative by 7 volunteer centres, Association pour le Volontariat (Belgium), Centre National du Volontariat (France), the National Centre for Volunteering (UK), Centro Nazionale per il Volontariato (Italy), Landelijk Steunpunt Vrijwilligerswerk (Netherlands) and Plataforma para la Promoción del Voluntariado en España (Spain). These organisations first convened at a meeting organised in Lucca, Italy, in 1989.

The outcome of the meeting was a joint declaration for increased European cooperation. On the basis of this declaration the Vlaams Steunpunt Vrijwilligerswerk, Flemish Volunteer Centre, was mandated to establish a new organisation registered in Brussels. **CEV was founded in February 1990 & in 1992 was officially granted the status of "international non-profit organisation".**

Associazione Nazionale Pubbliche Assistenze (ANPAS)
SVS Pubblica Assistenza
Fondazione Volontariato e Partecipazione
Volontariato Torino (Vol.To)

Latvia

brīvprātīgais.lv

Luxembourg

Agence du Bénévolat

Malta

Solidarity Overseas Service (SOS Malta)
The National Council of Women of Malta

The Netherlands

MOVISIE
Vereniging Nederlandse Organisaties Vrijwilligerswerk (NOV)
Coöperatie VGZ UA

Poland

Good Network Foundation

Portugal

Confederação Portuguesa do Voluntariado (CPV)
Conselho Nacional para a Promoção do Voluntariado (CNPV)
Fundação Eugénio de Almeida
The Portuguese Cancer League
Banco de Voluntariado de Tavira

Romania

Pro Vobis Centrul National de Resurse pentru Voluntariat
VOLUM
Centrul de Voluntariat Reșița

Russia	Perm Center of Volunteerism Development (PCVD)
Slovakia	CARDO National Volunteer Centre Platform of Volunteer Centres and Organisations
Slovenia	Slovenska filantropija
Spain	Federació Catalana de Voluntariat Social Fundación Hazlo posible Plataforma Andaluza de Voluntariado (PAV) Plataforma del Voluntariado de España (PVE) Federació d'Organitzacions Catalanes de Gent Gran, Dones i Família (FOCAGG) D.G. de Participación Ciudadana y Voluntariado (Junta de Andalucía) Departament de Benestar Social i Família Federación de Asociaciones de Voluntarios de 'la Caixa' (FASVOL)
Sweden	Forum
Turkey	The Corporate Volunteer Association (ÖSGD)
United Kingdom	Volunteer Development Scotland NCVO Volunteer NOW Department for Social Development (DSD) Northern Ireland Greater London Volunteering

A bit of history:

On 5 December 1995, CEV organised the **first ever European Day for Volunteering in the European Parliament**, in Brussels, Belgium, with the active support of the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Council of the European Union and UNESCO.

CEV's initiative and facilitating role was a crucial element in the civil society campaign for **the European Year of Volunteering 2011**, together with partner networks active in volunteering at the European level.

These networks formed the 'EYV 2011 Alliance' and CEV was mandated to host the Secretariat for the implementation of the civil society strand of EYV 2011 from 2010 to 2012 with a project grant from the Europe for Citizens Programme.

CEV Secretariat



Andrea Nagy
Communications and Events Officer



Sara Fasoli
Project and Events Assistant



Lamiae Goumri
Administrative Assistant



Monica Ferri, Giulia Bordin &
Dominika Jurkiewicz
CEV Interns

The CEV Secretariat is located in Brussels and co-ordinates CEV's activities by:

- **Developing partnerships** with EU and other institutions at different levels, civil society organisations as a member of various Alliances, and with other volunteering stakeholders.
- **Sharing knowledge** through publications, social media, training courses, studies and other initiatives & events.
- **Training members and other stakeholders** on volunteering related issues.
- **Advocating for supportive volunteering policies** as a member of EU expert groups, attending and presenting at hearings & consultations, and organising CEV policy conferences.



Gabriella Civico, CEV Director

Over 20 years supporting volunteering in Europe!

Outreach



European Youth Work Convention 2015



The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society



Volunteers and students from Rome.



Volunteers and students from HTW/HWR Berlin.

CEV Study Visits

CEV hosted several study visits from partner organisations in Europe and beyond, sharing information about volunteering policies, programmes and practice in Europe.



Delegates from Korean Volunteer Centres.

CEV is a partner in the following projects:



The VOLCAR project aims to deliver guidance for volunteers to raise their employability through support in getting their learning outcomes validated and recognised. The VOLCAR Project is an Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership project coordinated by EDOS Foundation (The Netherlands) and the partners are CEV and volunteer centre BONSAI (Dubrovnik, Croatia). The project is being implemented between September 2015 and August 2017.



GR-EAT- Guidelines for Recognition European Advanced Tool aims to enhance the recognition of Non-Formal and Informal Learning and to provide youth-led organisations with support & guidance to implement internal systems of recognition of the competences of their volunteers. AEGEE, in partnership with WOSM, YEU and La Ligue implement this Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership project between November 2014 and November 2016. CEV is a member of the European Advisory Board providing advice and guidance on the intellectual outputs.



SAFE (System for recording and valuation of volunteer work as a means of improving transparency and efficiency in the economic management of NGOs) aimed to collect information on the different types of volunteer work in the Czech Republic and to improve the record keeping of volunteer hours at national level in order to reach a clearer understanding of the value of volunteering. The project was led by CRDM (Czech Council of Children and Youth / Česká rada dětí a mládeže), with CEV and Green Circle as partners. It was funded through the European Social Fund and implemented between November 2013 and June 2015.



The **EVARS (Elderly Volunteers- A resource for the Society)** project aimed to improve the potential of senior volunteers, without professionalising their role, as an extra and valuable resource in society. The project consortium consisted of 5 partners from 4 countries & the lead partner was University College Lillebælt from the Region of Southern Denmark. The South Denmark European Office was the co-ordinator. The project was implemented between December 2013 and November 2015 and was funded by European Commission Lifelong Learning Programme. CEV was a member of the European Reference Group.

Capacity Building Conference “PICK AND MIX – a multi-perspective approach to volunteer centres” 23-24 April 2015 | Zadar, Croatia



The CEV Capacity Building Conference “PICK AND MIX – a multi-perspective approach to volunteer centres”

provided opportunities for 80 participants from 15 countries to get an insight into innovative and new approaches to volunteer management as well as the role of volunteer centres in the development of volunteering, and the community as a whole. 9 workshops were delivered by CEV Members:

- The Role and the Future of Volunteer Centres- VCO (HR)
- 9 Steps Methodology in Volunteer Management- Pro Vobis (RO)
- Facilitating Employee Volunteering- Pro Vobis (RO)
- Techniques in Engaging Children and Youth- PERM (RU)
- Quality Standards in Volunteer Centres- Volunteer Ireland (IE)
- Practice in Volunteer Management- France Benevolat (FR)
- Facilitating Online Volunteering- Good Network Foundation (PL)
- Volunteer Centres as an Advocacy Mechanism- Platform of Volunteer Centres and Organisations (SK)
- Volunteer Motivation and Economic Value- CNE- Portuguese Catholic Scouts (PT)



Hosted by: The Association for Civil Society Development SMART, Volunteer Centre Osijek and The National Foundation for Civil Society Development (NZRCD) Croatia



Advocacy



Volunteering is directly relevant for several EU policy fields: Recognition and Validation of NFIL, EU Aid Volunteers, Erasmus +, Citizenship, Citizen's Dialogue, Health and Well-being, Active Ageing, Life-Long Learning, CSR, Economic Growth, Neighbourhood policies, Work-Life balance, etc.

The creation of an enabling environment for volunteering in Europe is a priority for CEV. In order to achieve this it is crucial that EU policies are co-ordinated and that volunteering is measured in a comparable way. CEV staff and volunteers work with policy-makers to develop more effective, evidence-based policies for volunteering.

The **CEV Seminar on Volunteer Measurement** took place on 18 March at the King Baudouin Foundation in Brussels, providing space for discussion and an exchange of views about the data collected by the European countries that have implemented or partially implemented the ILO Manual on the Measurement of Volunteer Work.



The **CEV "Volunteering in European Welfare & Social Services" VIEWSS Final Conclusions Presentation** was hosted by MEP Brando Benifei at the Red Cross EU Office in Brussels on 24 February.

Networks

Whilst a network itself CEV is also an active member of European and international networks:



Civil Society Europe is the coordinating body for European networks of civil society organisations that are willing to work towards regenerating the European project around the shared values of Equality, Solidarity, Inclusiveness and Democracy. In 2015 CEV hosted the Civil Society Europe Secretariat.



The EESC Liaison Group with European CSOs and networks provides the only institutional bridge to the EU institutions, thereby establishing vertical civil dialogue, in accordance with Art. 11(1) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), and offering a space for synergies between different actors on issues of common interest, and thus creating a place for horizontal civil dialogue (Art. 11(2) TEU).



The EQF Advisory Group supports Member States to put in place NFIL validation arrangements by 2018, as agreed in the 2012 Council Recommendation on Validation of Non-formal and Informal Learning, allowing individuals to obtain a qualification (or parts of qualifications) on the basis of validated knowledge, skills and competences gained through informal and non-formal experiences such as volunteering. The role of the Youth Expert Group is to support the implementation of Youth Policy in all Member States. The sub-group on **Mobility of Young Volunteers** aims to facilitate the implementation of the Recommendation on Mobility of Young Volunteers across the EU.



The European Alliance for Volunteering acts as a collaborative and supportive hub for European, national and regional organisations involving volunteers or who support or promote volunteering to advocate for positive change in the volunteering sector.



The Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe constitutes civil society's pillar in the Council of Europe "quadrilogue" with the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities.



The Third Sector Impact research aims at analysing the conceptualisation, size, scope, and impact of the third sector, the barriers it is facing, and potential avenues for overcoming these barriers in European countries.



The ITSSOIN project (Impact of the Third Sector as SOcial INnovation) investigates the impact of the Third Sector and civic engagement on society, which goes beyond their economic benefits or the natural virtue of caring for others.

CEV General Assembly and Policy Conference: “Helping Hands: Hope for Europe”

8-9 October 2015 | Brussels, Belgium



WHAT WAS SAID?



WHAT HAPPENED?

[Click here to read the Report.](#)

The conference revisited some of the key statements from EYV 2011 and considered those commitments, promises and aspirations alongside examples of varying developments in volunteering policy and practice across Europe in the subsequent five years. The participants shared their experiences in order to assess whether the foreseen legacy, has become a reality, and whether EYV 2011 did in fact “Make a Difference”? There is common agreement in Europe that volunteering is a choice based on free will that results in voluntary acts of kindness and expressions of solidarity that change people’s lives and have the power to change attitudes.

Volunteering is a choice for change!

The conference concluded that 5 years after EYV 2011, the required policy agenda for volunteering for the coming years can be illustrated **through a focus on the 5 ‘Rs’.**

5 years
RRRS



WHAT I THINK



WHAT NEXT?

Event organised in the framework of:

GRAND-DUCHÉ DE
Présidence
du Conseil de
l'Union européenne • **Luxembourg**

Supported by: **Fundación Bancaria Caixa**

Recognition

The learning achieved by volunteers needs to be properly recognised and accredited when desired.

Real Value

The contribution of volunteering to the economy and social cohesion & convergence should be measured and better understood.

Regulatory Framework

Europe still requires a co-ordinated volunteering policy with a single contact point in the EU institutions.

Resources

Proper funding and support should be provided.

Refugees

Volunteers are the backbone to the support being offered to people in need, who are seeking sanctuary in Europe.



Cristina Rigman, CEV President
Cahen Corinne, Minister of Family and Integration, Luxembourg
Caroline Milbert, Agence du Bénévolat Luxembourg
Crochet Marc, Agence du Bénévolat Luxembourg



“Helping Hands - Hope for Europe”



European Volunteering Capital Competition



Lisbon is European Volunteering Capital 2015

The official opening ceremony of the European Volunteering Capital 2015 took place on 5 March in Lisbon. CEV Vice President Joao Teixeira was present and thanked the municipality for the support shown to volunteering and the volunteers for their commitment and contribution. Several events were organised (meetings, workshops and a volunteering marketplace) to celebrate the title.

On 4 December, together with the closing ceremony for Lisbon European Volunteering Capital 2015, the City of Lisbon also hosted the Winners Announcement Ceremony for the #EVCapital competitions 2016 and 2017. The event was attended by the candidate municipalities and other stakeholders.





London was awarded the title European Volunteering Capital 2016 and Sligo will be the European Volunteering Capital 2017.

The winners were chosen by a jury of international experts evaluating the way in which PAVE recommendations are implemented by the candidate municipalities. There were **11 candidates from 5 countries for 2016 and 8 candidates from 5 countries for 2017**: Belfast (2016, 2017), Bruges (2016, 2017), Cagliari (2016, 2017), Cascais (2016), Edinburgh (2016), **London** (2016, 2017), Lucca (2016), Perm (2016, 2017), Rome (2016), **Sligo** (2017), Varese (2016, 2017), and Viterbo (2016, 2017).

Jury

Joaquin Durany, Employee Volunteering European Network (EVEN) (La Caixa)

Jutta Gützkow, Council of Europe (Head of Civil Society Division)

Jutta Koenig-Georgiades, European Commission (DG Home Europe for Citizens Programme)

Fernando Medina, Committee of the Regions (Mayor of Lisbon)

Cristina Rigman, CEV President

Ariane Rodert, European Economic and Social Committee (Vice President Group III)

Ivo Vajgl, Member of the European Parliament (Slovenia)



EVEN #CEVEVEN

EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERING EUROPEAN NETWORK

The **Employee Volunteering European Network (EVEN)** currently has 10 corporate members Fundación Telefonica, Intel, FASVOL, Fundación Repsol, IBERDROLA, IBM, The Moody's Foundation, Cooperatie VGS, Kellogg's, Samsung and 36 volunteer-involving organisations in membership.

Established by the European Volunteer Centre (CEV) in 2013, EVEN aims to increase the number of employers and volunteer-involving organisations with the capacity & willingness to implement good quality employee volunteering and give greater visibility to these initiatives.

Capacity building events both online and face-to-face enable affiliate members to increase their competencies and knowledge about employee volunteering. EVEN events also give members the opportunity to share experiences and have access to reliable and competent partners for employee volunteering projects.

Membership of the Employee Volunteering European Network (EVEN) helps employers and volunteer-involving organisations to:

- **Increase the numbers** of employers and volunteer-involving organisations with the capacity and willingness to implement good quality employee volunteering.
- **Increase competencies** in employee volunteering through EVEN training courses.
- **Have access** to reliable and competent partners for employee volunteering and share experiences and new developments
- **Give recognition and credibility** to entities from all sectors that are able to implement good quality employee volunteering projects.



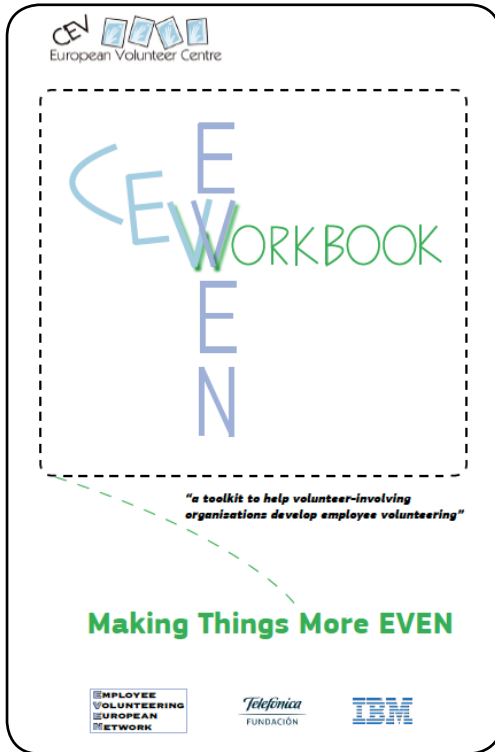
**Founding
Members**



**Corporate
Members
2015**



THE MOODY'S FOUNDATION



In 2015, the CEV-EVEN Workbook and a video clip describing EVEN objectives were published. The CEV-EVEN Workbook is available in English, Dutch, French, Italian, Polish, Portugues, and Spanish.

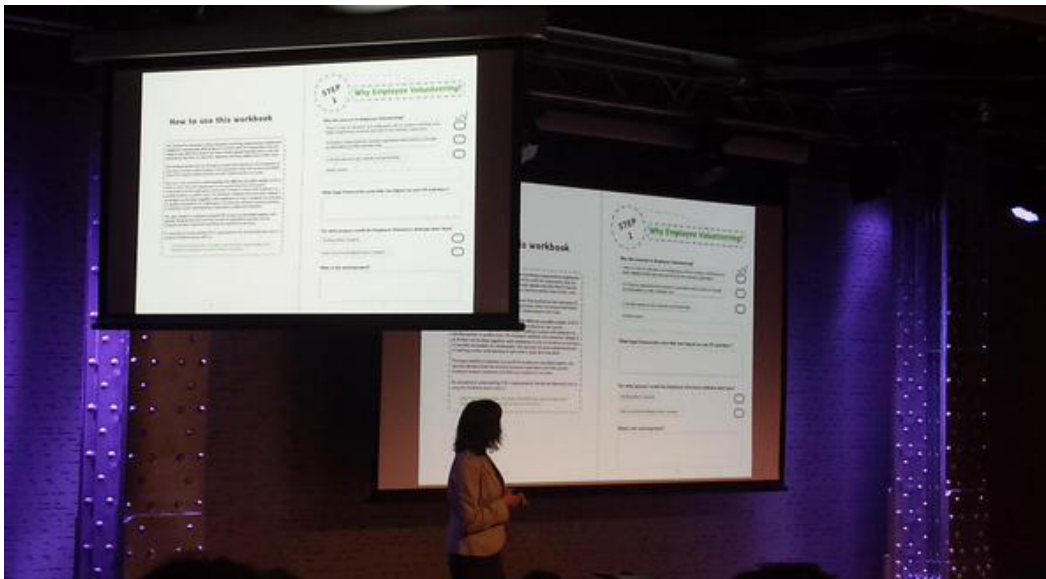
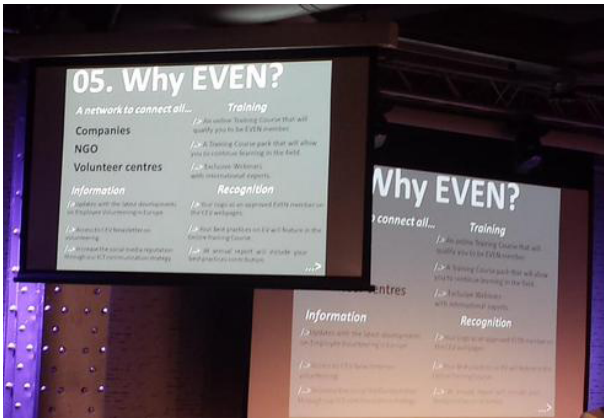
The CEV-EVEN Workbook is designed by EVEN members to help volunteer-involving organisations implement employee volunteering (EV) projects. It is useful for organisations that are ready to start their first projects and have already agreed internally that EV has the potential to help them meet their objectives and bring added value to their work. The workbook guides the user through a process that emphasises the importance of ensuring a common understanding in the organisation about the purpose and added value of EV projects before decisions towards implementation are made.

The user is also assisted in understanding the different possible models of EV in order to select the most appropriate for the agreed objectives and specific circumstances of the organisation, project and the needs of the beneficiaries.

The steps needed to implement successful EV projects are described together with specially designed exercises and tools to assist organisations and their partner employers prepare, implement and follow up impactful EV activities.

[Click here to download the Workbook.](#)





The CEV EVEN Workbook was launched during the “Making Things More EVEN” conference that took place in Madrid, Spain on 13 March hosted by Fundación Telefonica and Fundación Bancaria Caixa.

PARTICIPATING

CEV organises **international conferences** about volunteering, **study visits** in Brussels and keeps its membership informed about the activities of the EU as well as about volunteering in other European countries.

CEV supports **the collection of comparable data** on volunteering in Europe in order to **facilitate evidence-based policies**.

LEADING

CEV enables **volunteers' voices to be heard** at the EU level and informs the policy-makers about their concerns. CEV also contributes to the **recognition of volunteering** through the **European Volunteering Capital** competition.

CEV helps gain more **visibility for volunteers** & raises their profile at national, regional and local levels, by being part of a **European network**.

CONNECTING

CEV creates **networking opportunities** for experts from across Europe, helping them to become partners in international initiatives implemented by CEV members and/or by corporate members of **EVEN**.

CEV **helps build partnerships** for future projects and is a catalyst for innovative ideas for volunteer activities.



Finances

Operating costs - 209,386.25 Euros



Income:

57.14% EU Grant

25.48% Membership contributions

17.38% Other income



Expenditure:

72.22% Staff costs

23.63% Overheads

4.15% Events

European Volunteer Centre | Centre Européen du Volontariat | CEV

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