

Why be an EV Capital candidate?

Participation in the competition:

1. Strengthens volunteering at the local level and connects local volunteering actions, policies and programmes to the European Context.
2. Enables volunteers, volunteer-involving and volunteer infrastructure organisations to collaborate more closely with local policy makers in a common cause to strengthen, inspire and celebrate volunteers in their area.
3. Requires a detailed audit of volunteer provision at the local level and therefore helps to identify strengths and weaknesses of the approaches taken and provide a catalyst for improvements.
4. Enables stakeholders from different fields and sectors to come together and further develop their local volunteering policy and practice frameworks using European standards as guidelines.
5. Assists the development of volunteering and solidarity in Europe more widely as the examples shared serve as inspiration for others all across Europe.
6. Provides the opportunity to join a unique community of practice of municipalities (and other levels of local and regional authorities) that have expertise in, and a shared concern for, strengthening, inspiring and celebrating **VOLUNTEERING** and **SOLIDARITY**- the European Volunteering Capital Candidates Community (EVCCC).

Volunteering at its best is friendly, uplifting and rewarding.
We invite you to step forward into a friendly, uplifting and rewarding process to be the best you can be and be a European Volunteering Capital Candidate.

#EVCapital

7. Gives you the opportunity, under the EV Capital framework, to organise different actions that will contribute to the growth and development of quality volunteering opportunities available in your municipality and ensure greater impact of the volunteers on their communities.
8. Enables your municipality to apply for funds for hosting and sending European Solidarity Corps Volunteers.
9. Increases the appreciation and understanding of the local volunteering policies and programmes in place in the winning municipality thanks to a study visit for interested stakeholders.
10. With the support of CEV secretariat, gives your municipality the chance to be a host of a CEV event during the title year or in the following year as part of the legacy actions.
11. Makes possible your contribution to, and participation in CEV events and other activities and opportunities that become available throughout the year.
12. Provides a space to participate, organise and be part of other initiatives according to your needs and interests, as part of the framework of the “**European Volunteering Capital Candidates Community**” (EVCCC).

Becoming a candidate is to affirm your belief in volunteering, to give volunteers a high priority in your policy and practice, and to express your willingness to make a difference for the care and wellbeing of all your citizens. The competition is an aid to bring about some bold and imaginative thinking and ideas, to bring people together in your team and to make known your own passion and possibilities.

The benefits of volunteering are proven and evidenced. So are the benefits of putting your municipality name forward as a CANDIDATE! You'll have a unique platform for publicity and communications. An opportunity for creativity and inquiry. A supportive network and access to the knowledge, expertise, and help from us at CEV.

#EVCapital