



Quality Label checklist



♥ Quality time

• What is new?

The new programme for the European Solidarity Corps runs from 2021-2027. Its renewal means that there will be a few changes for volunteering. The focus shifts from various separate project applications to a more long-term strategic concept: what do you want to achieve as an organisation with Solidarity Corps volunteering and how are you going to tackle this?

This reflection exercise is the first step towards obtaining a new Quality Label. It ensures that you carefully consider the quality of your project(s) and discuss it with your colleagues.

After you've acquired the new Quality Label for applicants, you can request an annual budget for your volunteering plans. Do you only want to be a partner in activities? Then a Quality Label for partners is sufficient.

• What hasn't changed?

- The **objectives and principles** of the European Solidarity Corps remain mostly the same. You can still consult them in the 2020 Programme Guide.
- You can be **host organisation, sending organisation, or both**. You can also read what each of these roles entails in the 2020 Programme Guide.
- All volunteering opportunities remain the same: long-term, short-term, volunteering teams, in-country. Examine each type of volunteering activity so you can decide whether or not to incorporate them into your strategic plan.



♥ Where can you find the information?

Specific administrative steps are mandatory in this process.

Check www.europeansolidaritycorps.be regularly for news, the programme guide and application forms.

Do not hesitate to contact us at projects@jint.be

♥ Take your time

Make a long-term plan: think carefully about what contributes to quality. Use the **expertise within your organisation** to plan out your volunteering projects. What should you consider before you start your application?

• Profile & motivation

Who are you as an organisation? What do you do? What are your goals? Why do you want to be part of the European Solidarity Corps and how do you contribute to the objectives of the programme?



• Activities

What kind of recurring volunteering activities are you planning in the coming years? What challenges do you want to tackle with these activities? Why and how does this contribute to the realisation of your organisational goals?



• **Inclusion**

How inclusive is your organisation's work? Do you want to invest (even more) in inclusion and why? If so, how will you approach this? How does that fit with the goals of your organisation? What support can you offer to participants with additional needs? How accessible can your organisation be for young volunteers (e.g. selection criteria)?



• **Quality of the support**

How will your organisation approach the practical and content-specific support of participants in a qualitative way? Think about how that could vary as a host or support organisation, or for short-term or long-term projects. Don't forget to create a plan for security and conflict management. How do you ensure transparent recruitment, selection, clearly defined tasks and role for the volunteers in your operation?



• **Learning process**

How do you ensure that the participants go through a qualitative learning process during their activity? How do you see the role of a mentor? Think about how you can support learning and learning recognition through Youthpass.



• **Operational capacity, management & coordination**

How will you approach all planned volunteering activities: from preparation to dissemination of the results? Who is involved, when and in which way? Think about all elements of project management: budget management, partnerships, logistics, communications, employee competences, visibility, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (as a partner, some of these will be less important than as an applicant).



• **Strategy only for the Quality Label for applicants**

Take another look at your plans: what goals do you want to achieve? What impact do you want to have? How do your Solidarity Corps activities contribute to achieving those goals? Think about how your activities will work towards reaching these goals over several years. Make sure your plans and objectives are in proportion to the size and identity of your organisation. Think about the different options but stay true to your organisation's way of working. Do sustainability and solidarity have a place in your way of working and/or activities? Think about how you will monitor whether your goals are being achieved throughout the process. Be ambitious but realistic.



♥ Q!App

The Q! App, or Quality Mobility App, was developed to support you in setting up learning mobility projects. The app asks 16 questions that are relevant to set up a qualitative project. Have a look at <https://www.qualitymobility.app/>