

INTERREG VOLUNTEER YOUTH (IVY)



What is IVY?



Interreg Volunteer Youth (IVY)

IVY is a **volunteering programme** to promote **Interreg cooperation**.

With IVY, Interreg programmes and projects can host volunteers to receive support in areas of **communication** and **project implementation**. Volunteers contribute with **new ideas** and bring **young people's perspectives**.

- Started in March 2017;
- Promoted by the European Commission's [Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy](#);
- Managed by the [Association of European Border Regions \(AEBR\)](#).



Why Interreg Volunteer Youth (IVY)?

The Interreg Volunteer Youth initiative aims to promote cooperation by achieving the following three goals:

- **Support implementation and communication** of Interreg projects and programmes, thanks to the involvement of motivated young people
- Make the benefits of cooperation **more visible among local communities** and beyond
- **Empower young people** to engage in cooperation



2 ways of volunteering

Interreg Reporter

- Hosted by the Interreg Programmes' bodies (MA, NA, JS, NCP)
- Helps with disseminating information on the benefit of European Territorial Cooperation on the ground, through reporting successful Interreg projects



Interreg Project Partner

- Deployed within one the Interreg Project Beneficiaries
- Helps implement Interreg specific projects in the field of own interest (environment, public administration, transport, social inclusion, etc)



How does IVY work?



Catalina Bejarano, IVY mentor



1

Each IVY experience is tailored on the needs of the host organisation

1. The programme identifies the areas of communication they'd like to receive support for
2. The programme submits the "Programme Note", describing tasks and competences wished for
3. AEBR's team look for candidates based on the information provided



How does IVY work?

END
HERE



IVY volunteer and IVY mentor

2

Host organisations have full control of the IVY experience

1. The programme decides who to host, after having had the possibility to know various candidates
2. The programme and the volunteer decide the details of the experience (start date, length, etc.)
3. AEBR's team arranges all necessary documents to enable the volunteering activity



How does IVY work?

3

The IVY team at AEBR fully supports host organisations and volunteers



Bektha, Cinzia and Milena, IVY Team

1. AEBR takes care of administrative steps by:
 - preparing the volunteering agreement
 - insuring the volunteer (health, accident and liability coverage)
2. AEBR transfers volunteer a financial support (ca. 700/1 000 euros per month) and a contribution to travel costs, plus additional support if needed
3. AEBR's team arranges a first call with the volunteers, providing useful information



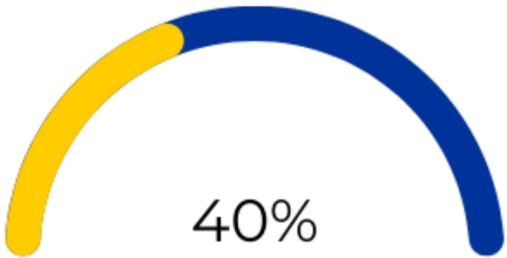
How to apply?



How to apply to host with IVY?

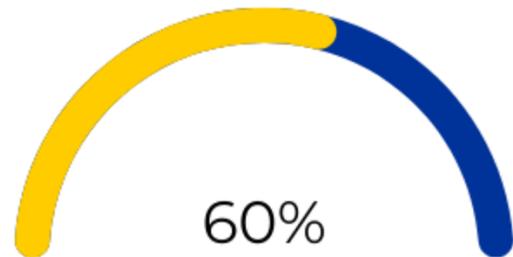
Submit your application

- 1) identify the activities you need support with;
- 2) fill in the programme note and submit it by email at ivy@aebr.eu



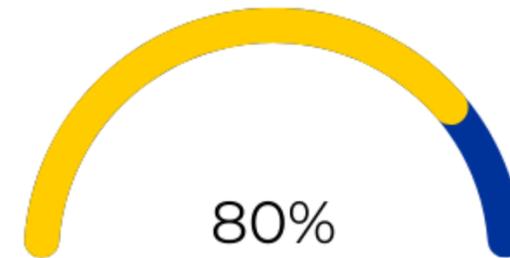
The selection process

- 3) the IVY team reviews the application within few days;
- 4) the IVY team looks for candidates: you receive a pre-selection of candidates according to your needs



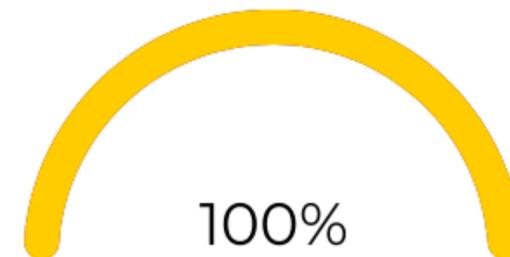
Find the perfect match

- 5) you chose the candidates you want to have an introductory call with to discuss each others' expectations and the details of the mission;
- 6) you select the candidate best suited to the needs of your programme



Get ready to start!

- 7) the IVY team takes care of all administrative steps for the enrollment of the volunteer and the IVY mission is set to start.



Where to find the application & guidelines?

www.interregyouth.com/host-organizations/how-to-apply/



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How do I apply to host an IVY volunteer?

The application procedure is very simple, and hosting a volunteer is undoubtedly an enriching experience for both parties, which allows your organisation to work with motivated young people who are eager to have an impact on regional development.

For a detailed overview of the experience, download the [Guidelines for IVY Host Organisations](#).

In short, this is the application procedure to host IVY volunteers:

1. **Download the application documents** here: the Programme Note for Programmes, the Project Notes and the MA/JS Approval file for Project beneficiaries:

Programmes

Projects

MA/JS Approval

Project beneficiaries are asked to submit a formal confirmation by the related Joint Secretariat/Managing Authority (i.e., Interreg, IPA-CBC or ENI-CBC Programme) that the project beneficiary willing to host an IVY volunteer is currently involved in an ongoing Interreg project.

2. **Fill in the application documents** and send the draft to ivy@aebr.eu

3. **The AEBR team will review your application file** and provide feedback if necessary.

We review your application documents within few days after submission. Once approved, you are set to host!

Between the submission and the actual start of the mission it can take 4 to 8 weeks to find the perfect match and prepare necessary documents.



How does it work in practice?



How to organise an IVY experience?



Each experience can be 2 to 6 months long



Programmes can host up to 2 volunteers per year, project beneficiaries 1 per year



Applications are always open, on a rolling basis



Volunteers are deployed for a maximum of 35 hours per week



Volunteers relocate to the place of work of the host organisation



What does volunteering mean in practice?

Involve the volunteers in tasks which are helpful to show the benefits of cooperation:

- communication about Interreg (articles, newsletters, posts for social media, support for event organisation);
- communication with project partners;
- promotion of projects with local media and stakeholders;
- implementation of activities that express the solidarity aspects of projects



A novelty for 2024: IVY volunteers in consultations!



IVY volunteers for Interreg post 2027!



Interreg programmes can involve IVY volunteers in the consultation on the future of Interreg with two **objectives**:

- 1) provide **support** to programmes
- 2) **involve** young people in the consultations

How?

- 1 additional volunteer for programmes which carry out the consultation on Interreg post 2027
- they provide additional support, complement and supplement the work of paid staff
- they bring the added value of involving young people in the process and therefore gaining a new perspective



IVY volunteers for Interreg post 2027!



Possible tasks? Support to ...

- identify key stakeholders and the target groups
- develop the consultation plan
- promote the consultation, including communication of follow up
- engage stakeholders: prepare consultation material, contact stakeholders and seek their input
- collect input
- evaluate input to help understand the results
- preparation of the “harvesting reports”
- evaluate the consultation process



organisation of own consultation with own funding!

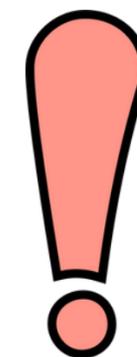


IVY volunteers for Interreg post 2027!



Organisation of own consultation with own funding: “Citizens’ Engagement Activities”

Volunteers can actively contribute to the consultations on their own as they receive specific fundings to organise their own consultations through so called “Citizens’ Engagement Activities”.



IVY volunteers can request up to 3 000 euros to organise their own event to support the consultations on the future of Interreg



Who are IVY volunteers?



Co-funded by the
European Union



Why take part in IVY?

Host organisations benefit from the **support of a skilled and motivated young person** to implement their project with new ideas, fresh perspectives and creativity.

Free to host : a financial support, contribution to travel costs and insurance coverage is provided to volunteers by the IVY programme.

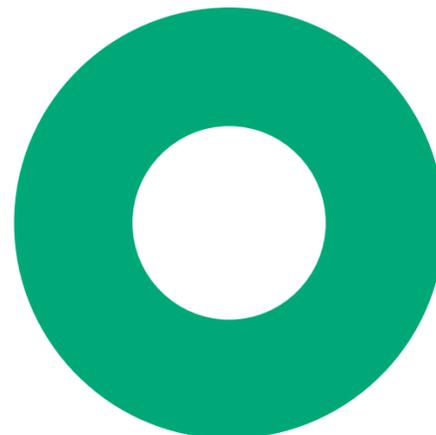
An **enriching experience** for both the host and the volunteer to **foster cooperation**.





*“IVY is a very **valuable investment in current and future territorial cooperation:** it helps making it more visible and understandable, it **promotes innovation,** and it involves and trains potential ‘activists’ **among the younger generations**”*

Martin Guillermo-Ramírez, AEER's Secretary General





Do you want to
become a host?
Contact us!



ivy@aebr.eu



@InterregYouth



Interreg Volunteer Youth

www.interregyouth.com

