



« Workshop on Youth volunteering issues » Dr Bénédicte Halba – dr Jürgen Schumacher IAVE, Amsterdam, 16th of January 2001

Presenters: Dr Bénédicte Halba, IRIV

Dr Juergen Schumacher, ISIS

1. **General presentation** European team on Youth volunteering issues (B. Halba)

- ➤ Aim : a European network to exchange knowledge and experiments on youth volunteering issues
- ➤ Partners: a European team of 6 countries (France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom), 6 experts (AEVOL, FIVOL, IRIV, IRV, ISIS, NOV)
- ➤ Context: a European program, the Youth for Europe Program: a program for all young people and the European Youth Foundation for the publication

2. Youth volunteering and National Policy (J. Schumacher)

- Figures on Youth volunteering and its development over time in the countries participating Evidence for decline in some countries, assumption in others
- ➤ Background of political action: fear that the value of solidarity could become less binding for society, volunteering of young people as a means of wealth
- ➤ Political programs, institutions or actions set up during the last decade in the 6 participating countries

3. Youth volunteering promotion: strategies, methods and tools (B. Halba)

- > Strategies: general framework of action in the 6 countries (in a comparison perspective: common points and specificity)
- Methods youth volunteering issues on the point of view of both youngsters and associations
- ➤ Tools : Measures to improve youth volunteering or to promote it (such as guides, web sites, medias...)

4. Prospective and recommendations (J. Schumacher)

- ➤ Information and communication about volunteering
- Attractive opportunities to volunteer: fun, challenge, meeting people, travel
- ➤ Official recognition : Formal status, gratification and credits
- ➤ Volunteering and education : an issue in school and university
- ➤ Volunteering and labor market : competition or complemtarity

5. a European team on Youth volunteering and after ?(B. Halba)

- ➤ Dissemination of the information : a publication in English (first trimester of 2001) and presentation on the partners' web sites
- Extension of the network to other countries, in Europe and outside Europe
- Further developments: an exchange program of voluntary experiments among youngsters (to show good practice in each country), a permanent observatory for exchanging news, information and new trends in the field of youth volunteering (through a web site for instance)

Testimonies: Kristin Sverdrup, from AEVOL, for the Spanish context

Tiziana Cruciani from FIVOL for the Italian context

Debate: What would you expect from a European team?

Should youngsters volunteer?

Timing 20 minutes for J. Schumacher's points

20 minutes for B. Halba's points

5-10 minutes for K. Sverdrup's intervention

5-10 minutes for T. Cruciani's intervention

15-25 minutes for the debate with the public