



MY STORY OF RESISTANCE
FROM EXCLUSION TO ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

VOLUNTEERING IN INDIA

Bangalore, India

FROM NOVEMBER, 2020 - TO AUGUST, 2021

Info package

9 MONTH VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY IN BANGALORE AT THE SCMI

VENUE

SCMI has its main office in Bangalore, capital of Karnataka state. SCM House is a big structure with staff offices, staff flats, a kitchen, other rooms for different uses and a big hall that can be used for conferences, workshops and celebrations. SCMI is active in many other parts of India and has a collaboration network with many other local and international organizations. The main seat has a central position in Bangalore, near a big park. It is possible to move around the city by feet or with "tuk-tuk". Next to the building there are several shops with basic food items, and it is possible to reach fruit markets, supermarkets and shopping malls with public transport.

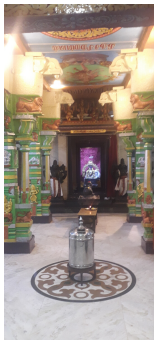
CONTENT AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

The work in the office is from 9:00 to 16:00/17:00, with a lunch break from 13 to 14. You will work from Monday to Friday, but the regular staff works also on Saturday mornings. In case of events, working times can change and you will be asked to be flexible. The office's tasks are to publish newsletter, monthly newspapers, coordinate events and initiatives that are organized in the different regions for sensitizing students to social issues.

In the first phase you will help the staff in office work, support them in the daily tasks. Every time there will be a seminar, a conference or an event in another region of India you will have the chance to participate in it. This first phase will help you better understand how the organization is structured and the work is organized. It will also be helpful to let you and the staff understand how utilizing your skills, interests and abilities will be possible later during the service.



ACTIVITIES OF THE HOSTING ORGANIZATION



After this first phase you will be proposed some more structured activities. Possibly, you will spend a few weeks in one of the colleges in another region of India. Here the students have a very low level of English and they are not used to meeting other cultures. You will spend some time organizing activities for students (theater, sport, leisure activities), supporting them in the learning of English, basic computer skills and promoting the cultural exchange.



The Indian society is very strict and traditional, therefore the challenge is to transmit to the local young people the values of diversity, freedom, justice and the idea that there are many different ways to live and to do things. You will be able to organize workshops to involve young people in activities that will raise awareness about social issues.

The main tasks will be:

- supporting staff members in the office work (administration tasks, newsletters, communication about initiatives);
- providing support in the management of the SCM House;
- participating and supporting the organization of seminars, events, conferences;
- visiting and organizing activities in colleges for students (leisure activities, activities of non-formal education, workshops, training courses);
- organizing activities for students in Bangalore to promote active citizenship and cultural awareness;
- mobilizing students regarding social issues.



MY STORY OF RESISTANCE

PROJECT-RELATED TASKS

During the first two and a half months you, besides supporting the work of the organization, are expected to gather knowledge about the situation of minority youth in the country. Together with SCM, you will organize a meeting with local students and youth in January, 2021 where they can exchange and share knowledge and experiences about their situation in Indian society and the historical and present day struggles.

In the second phase, ways of resisting social exclusion and towards equal and active citizenship will be discovered and discussed in a meeting in March, 2021.

Storytelling methods will be promoted and practiced during a third, final local meeting "My Story of Resistance" in May, 2021.

You will also actively participate in creating an online campaign about resistance and storytelling in May 2021.

There will be two volunteers taking part in this project in India: one from Italy and one from Hungary.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

ACCOMMODATION

You and the Italian volunteer will live in the SCM House (free of charge) in the same apartment, with separate rooms, sharing a kitchen and a bathroom.

It is important to be aware that the living standards outside Europe are different! In some placements it is not usual to have some appliances common in Europe, such as washing machine, dishwasher or air conditioning.

Wi-Fi connection is guaranteed in the flat.

SUPPORT

Pocket money: a total of €816 for the nine months, transferred in the beginning and the middle of the service in two sums.

Adequate food provisions will be guaranteed, either by a monthly budget directly given to you or by the access to the placement's facilities (e.g. workplace canteen). It practically means that if there is an event in the House you will be given food, otherwise you will get money for buying your own food to cook.

TRAVEL

You are expected to arrange your own travel to and from India, but the sending organisation is happy to help. Travel costs will be reimbursed up to €820 upon presenting the travel documents (payment confirmations, tickets, boarding cards).

Visa costs will be reimbursed up to €60

If needed, reimbursement of travel between accommodation and placement is also foreseen. Any travel costs you have to accomplish your tasks will be covered by the project budget, included travel to participate in training courses, where foreseen.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

HEALTH

Health insurance will be provided through a private company. Costs of vaccination will be supported up to €150 upon presenting original invoices.



TRAINING AND LANGUAGE COURSES

Language lessons or courses will be offered in Hindi or English. You can participate in workshops organized by SCMI. Before and after your departure and your return the sending and the hosting organizations will secure meetings and workshops for you where all your questions and concerns will be addressed. Training moments are fundamental for the project implementation and the volunteer experience as a whole.



WHO CAN APPLY

Roma and non-Roma young people between the age of 18 and 30, who have legal residence in Hungary.

It is important that you have a minimum knowledge in English. It is preferred to have had already some experience in a foreign country and this would not be your first travel abroad.

The cultural distance is very big, it is important to remember that this EVS doesn't take place in Europe but in another continent. You have to be prepared to face a big cultural difference: The way of understanding the work, time, relationships and the organization of free time are very different and it takes time to understand and accept it. This part is mainly evident in the first moment of the experience and it is also an essential learning experience.

HOW TO APPLY?

- Fill out the **Application form**:
<https://forms.gle/sRdMrDthqJcyUL1s5>
- Send your **CV** and **motivation letter**
to anna.daroczi@phirenamenca.eu

PROJEKT INFO

This voluntary service is realized within an Erasmus Plus KA2 project: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices - Capacity Building for Youth in ACP Countries, Latin America and Asia. It entails the exchange of the total of nine volunteers in Hungary, India, Italy, Nicaragua and Spain, a youth exchange in Spain and a final project meeting in Nicaragua.



PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

SENDING ORGANIZATION

RGDTS- Phiren Amenca, Hungary

RGDTS - Phiren Amenca is a network of Roma and non-Roma volunteers and voluntary service organizations creating opportunities for non-formal education, dialogue and engagement, in order to challenge stereotypes and racism. They promote active dialogue and engagement in society to strengthen trust, mutual understanding and respect between Roma and non-Roma. As a Roma and non-Roma network, the organization creates equal opportunities for all young people in society, especially through giving equal access to voluntary service.

Web: <http://phirenamenca.eu/>

Facebook: Phiren Amenca

HOSTING ORGANIZATION

Student Christian Movement of India (SCMI)

The Student Christian Movement of India (SCMI) is a students' movement which maintains a fellowship of students, teachers and senior friends with commitment to translate Faith into action. SCMI over the years has been inspiring several students across generations, regions and languages to participate in transforming the Church and society, has been nurturing the values of ecumenism, unity, peace and justice, and has been in the mission of shaping young leaders with integrity and commitment. SCMI encourages inclusive partnership of all church traditions, people of all faiths, and varied social, economic and political expressions.

Web: www.scmindia.org

Blog: www.communicationscmi.wordpress.com

