

INFO PACK

H2O - HOPE TO OUTSHINE (FLOW 1)

Your guide to the project

VOLUNTEERING TEAMS IN HIGH PRIORITY AREAS

29 JUNE - 12 AUGUST 2026

Sicily, Italy

30 PLACES AVAILABLE



Hope To Outshine



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**



Co-funded by
the European Union

PROJECT DATES AND TRAVEL

Activity days: from 30th of June to 11th of August, 2026

Arrival day: 29th of June, 2026

Departure day: 12th of August, 2026

Length of the project: 43 activity days + 2 travel days (arrival and departure)

H2O - Hope to Outshine is a team-based project, so it's very important that all volunteers arrive and depart on the official project dates. For organizational reasons, unfortunately **we cannot accommodate arrivals or departures on different days.**

PLEASE NOTE.

When planning their travel, volunteers are strongly encouraged to choose **Palermo Airport**, as it offers the best public transport connections to the project locations.

The official meeting point for all volunteers will be the venue of the Welcome Training, where the project activities will begin.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Hope2Outshine (H2O) it's Volunteering Teams project aimed at addressing key environmental and social challenges in Sicily, with a strong focus on the water crisis, waste management, and the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities. The project provides European volunteers with learning experiences based on Non-Formal Education, immersing them in local communities to promote sustainable practices, strengthen social cohesion, and co-create practical and long-lasting solutions. Through hands-on activities, intercultural exchange, and community engagement, H2O fosters local resilience and contributes to making Sicily a model of sustainability and inclusion.

3 KEY AREAS: ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION, RESILIENCE

WASTE & CIRCULAR ECONOMY: Strengthen local waste management through practical actions and community engagement, promoting recycling, reuse and circular practices.

WATER & CLIMATE RESILIENCE: Raise awareness on water saving and sustainable water management to increase community resilience to climate challenges.

YOUTH INCLUSION: Engage young people with fewer opportunities in volunteering and learning activities, supporting active participation and empowerment.

INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE: Foster exchange and social cohesion between European volunteers and local communities through shared experiences.

COMMUNITY REGENERATION: Revitalize public spaces using recycled materials as symbols of collaboration and environmental responsibility.

LOCAL NETWORKS & SUSTAINABILITY: Build local volunteer networks and partnerships to ensure continuity and long-term impact of project activities.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The project activities will be implemented in 3 different areas of Sicily, in different rural and coastal municipalities, ensuring a strong territorial impact across rural and semi-urban contexts. The project will start with an initial Welcome and Orientation Phase, during which volunteers will be introduced to the local context, project objectives, non-formal education methods and community-based approaches.

Volunteers will be actively involved in experiential and non-formal learning activities, working closely with local communities, young people with fewer opportunities and partner organizations.

The activities will include:

- **the mapping of critical environmental areas,**
- **clean-up actions in public spaces and coastal areas,**
- **participatory recycling and creative reuse workshops,**
- **solidarity initiatives**
- **social inclusion activities.**

Particular attention will be given to water-saving awareness, climate resilience and environmental education through interactive workshops, outdoor activities and community events addressing environmental, cultural and social inclusion themes.

PROJECT OUTPUTS

During the project, volunteers will be also involved in additional activities that will be carried out to complement core project actions and contribute to the co-creation of project tools and outputs:

- **Hope2Outshine Awareness Campaign – Part 1.** Volunteers will co-create content for the first awareness campaign on sustainable waste management and water saving, including visual materials and key messages to engage local communities and promote participation.
- **Hope2Outshine: Journey of Change – Part 1 (Video Documentary).** Storytelling and media sessions to produce the first part of the video documentary, documenting the initial phase of the project. Volunteers will capture community engagement, early activities, and personal experiences, showing the start-up of the project and its initial impact.
- **Impact Map – Transforming Spaces, Empowering Communities.** Participatory workshops to map degraded spaces, collect photos, descriptions, and proposals from volunteers and community members, laying the foundation for regeneration actions in the next year.
- **H2O EcoHero Challenge.** Co-design sessions to develop the EcoHero Challenge, an immersive role-playing game combining learning and real-life environmental action. Volunteers will create missions, group challenges, and escape room scenarios focused on waste management, water saving, and green space protection, preparing the game for implementation the next year
- **Additional Non-Formal community activities:** Tailored youth, environmental and community-based activities using non-formal education methods, fostering inclusion, flexibility, and strong local ownership, while preparing for the next flow of volunteering.

PRODUCTS

Developed by the project with the contributions of volunteers

HOPE2OUTSHINE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

A campaign to raise awareness on sustainable waste management and water saving, using visuals, infographics and clear messages for local communities and the wider public.

HOPE2OUTSHINE: JOURNEY OF CHANGE

A video documentary capturing the first volunteering flow, showing community engagement, volunteer experiences, early activities and initial project impact.

IMPACT MAP – TRANSFORMING SPACES, EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

An interactive platform allowing communities to map degraded spaces, propose solutions, and track progress of clean-up and regeneration actions.

H2O ECOHERO CHALLENGE

An immersive role-playing game combining learning and real-life environmental action, with missions and challenges on waste management, water saving and green space protection.

PROJECT STRUCTURE

PROJECT DAYS



Main characteristics of the project:

- training and evaluation activities (in yellow, pink and fuxia)
- implementation of the activities in 3 different local communities + surrounding areas
- Each group carries out activities in the three venues indicated. Strauss organizes the logistics of travel on switching days (violet).

Please note that for logistical reasons this programme may be subject to minor changes.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

TRAVEL COSTS

All volunteers will receive a **reimbursement of their travel expenses** from their home country to Mussomeli, in line with the official ESC and European standards for projects of this kind. The reimbursement is designed to ensure that travel costs do not become a barrier to participation, so volunteers can join the project without worrying about excessive expenses. The process is straightforward and transparent and participants will be guided on how to claim their travel costs and provide the necessary documentation. This ensures that everyone can reach the project safely and comfortably, and fully focus on the volunteering experience. Strauss APS will take care of organizing and covering all local transportation related to project activities, ensuring that volunteers can safely and comfortably participate in activities across different areas of Sicily

ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

The accommodation is provided by the facilities hosting volunteers throughout the project. Participants will receive a **pocket food allowance** to cover meals on their own during the project, with access to fully equipped kitchens in the facilities. During the Welcome Preparation and Final Evaluation, accommodation and meals will be provided by Strauss APS. All accommodations and services will meet minimum quality and safety standards to ensure a comfortable and safe stay for all volunteers.

ALLOWANCE

Volunteers will receive a **daily personal allowance** for the entire duration of the project, including both the 43 official project days and the 2 travel days to and from Italy. This allowance is separate from the food pocket provided for preparing meals and is intended to cover personal expenses. The allowance ensures that each volunteer has the flexibility and support to manage day-to-day needs independently while participating in the project, contributing to a comfortable and enjoyable volunteering experience.

INSURANCE

Once selected, the volunteer will be automatically enrolled by Henner insurance, which will be **complementary** to the European Health Insurance Card.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND FREE-TIME

Project activities will generally take place 5 days per week, with a daily schedule of around 6 hours. Volunteers are entitled to 2 consecutive **days off** each week and 3 additional **vacation days** during their stay. For logistical reasons, 2 of these vacation days will be fixed in advance.

PARTICIPANT PROFILE

- Age: 18-30 years old
- Motivated to engage with the project topic and the objectives of the ESC programme
- Flexible, adaptable, and open to new experiences
- Cooperative and willing to contribute to team activities
- Curious, eager to learn, and ready to take part in new challenges
- Interest in project outputs (media campaigns, videos, gamification) is a plus, but not required
- The selection process is designed to actively encourage participation of **young people with fewer opportunities**, ensuring fair access and prioritizing motivation and potential over prior experience or specific skills

LINKS AND CONTACTS



[WHATSAPP](#)



[INSTAGRAM](#)



[FACEBOOK](#)



[TIKTOK](#)



[YOUTUBE](#)



[DISCORD](#)



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Hope To Outshine



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