



**of European
Voluntary
Service
Organisations**

ANNUAL REPORT 2003

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Introduction

From technical platform towards a cooperation network – this was the main topic of the Alliance General Assembly 2003 in Soest (The Netherlands), and it was the streamline of all discussions last year.

A new stage of the Alliance history started in 2003. After 20 years of the Alliance being a technical platform of the European voluntary organisations for volunteer exchanges, the members debated the new quality of the cooperation and of the work in the Alliance.

The result of this debate is a new preamble of the Alliance Constitution:

***“The Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations (the Alliance) is an International Non-Governmental Youth Organisation (INGYO) that represents national organisations running international voluntary service projects (workcamps). Each organisation promotes community development, intercultural education, understanding and peace through voluntary service. While all members organise international workcamps, many are also active in other fields. The common aim of all international workcamps is to provide a resource and support to local communities, while at the same time giving individuals from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to meet and live an intercultural experience.*”**

The Alliance aims at providing the voluntary organisations with opportunities to discuss and exchange experiences and information within Europe. It also aims at facilitating and improving co-operation between voluntary service organisations. While the Alliance is a membership organisation, it aims to be open to other partners in the field of international voluntary service.”

The Alliance functions through a fully democratic process: each year the members participate in a General Assembly, through which the annual Plan of Action is debated and approved. An Executive Committee made up of six members (President, Vice President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Introduction Sixth Member) is elected to take responsibility for implementation. Working Groups are also formed each year to focus on specific areas of activity.

The biggest achievement of this new period is expanding rights for the Non-European organisations in the Alliance. Our current members from Canada,

Japan, Mexico, South Korea, and the USA now have nearly the same rights as all the European organisations.

Never before has the Alliance run so many seminars and trainings. Cooperation between the members is now more than exchanges only; it means as well that the Alliance will keep a high standard of voluntary work, and will create a system for exchanging the members' knowledge and developing the voluntary work. The members expressed their interest in having common trainings and seminars in different fields of voluntary work. That's why we had again the Training for Trainers, the meeting and training for the Alliance member organisations' staff, and a seminar about teenagers in the workcamps.

For this new quality the members decided to set up some new working groups, for instance, a North-South Working Group.

At the same time, the importance of voluntary work is increasing. Voluntary organisations are a part of a worldwide movement for peace and social equality with the aim of creating another world, a peaceful world with a high standard of human and social rights. Never before has the Alliance had such a big exchange programme; never before we had as many volunteers as this year and from as many countries. So, there is also a big interest of people to do voluntary work.

Also, the Alliance could welcome a new member: the Young Researches of Serbia – Voluntary Service of Serbia (YSS-VSS). Thus, in January 2004 the Alliance consists of 23 Full Members in 17 countries (Armenia, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom), 4 Associate Members in 3 countries (Canada, Japan, and the USA), and 11 candidate members in 8 countries (Belarus, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Serbia and Montenegro, South Korea, and the USA).

This year of Alliance was quite different comparing to many previous ones. How can it be characterized?

I cannot think of anything better than headline of GA 2001 “*Changing faces, facing changes*”.

Following the results of the previous discussions between members, results of numerous workshops and recommendations produced by working groups, decisions of GA 2002 *the new EC* has begun the work on *strategic changes* in Alliance – its new identity, future structure, ways of functioning and co-operation with partners, etc. The results of this work will be finally reflected in the proposals for the revision of the Constitution and Standing Orders, and they will have to be approved by members at GA 2003.

These results and proposals are presented in details in the other reports, especially the one of the Constitution Working Group. Here I just want to say that President participated in the work of CWG on behalf of EC. And this was probably *the highlight* of my work this year – the most difficult, but also the most interesting task.

Another important task of the President is to organize the work of EC. This year Alliance EC hold 7 meetings, including “off-season” one in Clermont-Ferrand in January, which took place out of regular schedule and in connection with the meetings of different working groups. The experiment proved to be quite successful, and I hope such a productive set up of meetings will be continued in the future. This goes well in line with the *increase of the role of working groups* in the life of the Alliance and creates *new form of collaboration* between EC and such groups.

It is nice to realize that besides dealing with all kind of running issues EC has made a serious progress preparing strategic changes in Alliance, planning external representation, searching connection between Alliance events

through the year, providing support for “old” and developing *new* Alliance projects.

You surely remember that GA 2002 ended up in the situation when Alliance did not have General Secretary – quite unusual situation for Alliance as well as for any international network. Fortunately the temporary solution was found after Alternative-V offered to host the position of Alliance GS and Alliance Administrative Assistant. Here I want to thank Alternative-V and personally Oksana Yuryk for this commitment and her work in the position of GS in the difficult personal situation. Also I want to thank Lesya Andriychuk who has been carrying the work of the Alliance Administrative Assistant (AAA) efficiently and with high responsibility. EC hopes that Lesya will continue her work next year(s).

Performing its regular work EC came to the conclusion that Alliance *does not need* to set up an International Secretariat *now*. The amount of work can be managed by EC, supported by different *assistant positions*, and working groups appointed by GA. As an experiment two new positions were created in addition to AAA – Alliance Financial Assistant (AFA) and Alliance Publication Assistant (APA).

The first one, AFA is obviously to support Treasurer taking away technical, routine tasks thus enabling Treasurer to concentrate more on financial policy of the Alliance.

APA is aimed at the developing Alliance publications for the use of members, as well as for external representation of Alliance’s work. This position is currently linked to the President, and the first results of the APA work were presented at GA. It became possible (but also necessary) to have assistant positions thanks to the increase of the grant A3029, which, however, clearly required existence of one full time (or few part time) paid positions in Alliance.

These three positions linked to EC demonstrate the *new and unique* way of managing big international network without having heavy and expensive international secretariat, yet being productive and efficient. It seems that present structure – slightly larger voluntary EC + number of contracted assistants - is a *good response* to the requests of members on creating the permanent secretariat of the Alliance.

Before going to the Plan of Actions I want to mention separately Alliance *External Relations* work, as it has formed a solid part of work of all EC members. Fortunately, Alliance finally has the 6th member in charge of external relations, and it has the External Relations Working Group. VJF as the 6th member has been working on the future plan of external representation, as well as carrying out the practical representation tasks. Thanks to it Alliance was properly represented in the European Youth Forum. Like in the past, the external relations have been under special attention of the EC to ensure proper representation so that the Alliance is known and recognized internationally. Thanks to the good division of external relations tasks among EC members Alliance external policy became more *coherent and sustainable*. Alliance has further improved its relations with the main funding bodies – the European Commission and the European Youth Foundation. Relations with the partner networks - YAP, SCI, ICYE, AVSO, NDVA, and SEEYN were further developed and deepened. More detailed report on external relations will be presented separately.

It is hard to make a report which would satisfy everybody. For some it is too long and simply boring, for others – too short or not concrete enough. But I thank you for reading it so far and kindly ask, when you will be reading evaluation of the Alliance Plan of Action, to think about amount of work done and level of commitment and dedication of many Alliance members, who give

voluntarily their time and energy for the *common Alliance course*.

Thank all of you so much!

7. Evaluation of the Plan of Action

Alliance events and projects

Regular events

- The **Post Camp Event** was hosted by **Alternative-V (Ukraine)**. Its theme was **“From Workcamps to Active Youth Representation in International or European Institutions”**. **30 participants** from 11 organisations took part in it. Unfortunately many participants could not come because of visa and travel problems. Participants analyzed the event and made a number of interesting suggestions for the future PCE. Moreover, the international preparation team for the next PCE was created there, and it took the subject of preparation and exchange of camp leaders, which is of high interest of many Alliance members.
- **Training for Trainers Seminar II**. The second part of TtT seminar with focus on methodology of training took place in February 2003 in the European Youth Centre in **Strasbourg**. There were about **30 participants** representing 20 member organisations. Evaluation showed the success of this training event and satisfaction with the work of the prepteam, appointed by GA 2002. It is good to see the development of cooperation with EYF granting the event and EYC hosting it. As a result, Training for Trainers has become a new regular event of the Alliance. The next training with emphasis on preparation of trainers for the camp leaders seminar will take place in January 2004 in Strasbourg. The grant application was approved. The prepteam to be led by the Alliance Course Director (IBG) was appointed by GA 2003.
- **Technical Meeting** was hosted by **INEX Slovakia in Piestany, Slovakia**. This

complicated event (as it was joined with SCI TM) was perfectly organized and run, and received the best remarks of the participants. Over **110 participants** from 62 organisations took part in the Alliance TM. Alliance Plenary Meeting took place at the time of TM, as well as meetings of several Alliance working groups.

- The **General Assembly & General Conference** were hosted by **SIW in Soest, The Netherlands**. The subject of the General Conference was “**The Balance of Personal Growth and Social Development**” – this event hosted 78 participants from 41 organisations.

Other events

- **Training event on exchange matters or Staff Evaluation-Training Seminar** took place on 24-28/09 in Glyncomel Center in **South Wales**, hosted by **UNA Exchange**. About **30 participants** from 20 organisations took part in it. This event provided possibility for the long awaited evaluation of the Alliance’s methods and practices of exchanges. A number of recommendations for the technical procedures (Guidebook) were proposed. EC hopes that such events would revitalize the Staff Platform and help moving forward with such topics as exchange of leaders, exchange of information and practices on the European Youth Programme, exchange of practices on work with M/ LTV, etc.
- **Teenage exchanges training seminar** took place on 3-7/12 in **Castres, France**, hosted by the new Alliance member **Compagnons Batisseurs France**. It hosted 30 participants from 19 organisations. It is another event, which is not directly included in the Plan of Action.

Projects

- **EVS Workcamps**. Application for the new round of EVS Workcamps project was accepted by the European Commission and takes place in August 2003 – June 2004. UNAREC is still acting as a coordinator of

this project, using the experience gained in the past years, however providing lighter coordination due to the new regulation. More member organisations are involved in this project. It is positive that Alliance reached its quota of 50 volunteers to exchange last term of the project July 2002 – June 2003, and there is a good chance to do the same this time. At the moment around 10 volunteers have been exchanged.

- In connection to the **EVS Workcamps** project a profound **evaluation** was organised in January 2003 in **Clermont-Ferrand**, hosted by **UNAREC**. Similar evaluation meeting is scheduled for January 2004. Unfortunately, evaluation meeting with the representatives of two other networks, SCI & YAP was abandoned due to the lack of interest from our partners.
- Accessing Working Group appointed by GA 2002 has started the work on the preparation and publication of the **booklet on practice of accessing of voluntary service**. Unfortunately, this work is going slower than planned due to lack of financial support.
- Cooperation with AVSO on **CEE Large Scale Project** was continued this year. It is still Aleksander Kurushev (EstYES) and Waldemar Korycki (FIYE) acting as the Alliance contact persons being the members of the project’s Steering Group. This year was the last one of the project, and it is culminated with Youth Volunteers Fair in European Youth Centre in Budapest in July 2003, where a number of Alliance members from the region as well as partner organisations took part. This project is a good respond to the growing interest of members in Eastern Europe to be involved in EVS. Another dimension of this project is development of the relations with AVSO, a partner network playing significant role in lobbying for voluntary service in European institutions.

- **Alliance web services.** I can ensure you that issue of development of Alliance web site has been permanently on the EC agenda. Thanks to the Alliance Web-Master Kemal Abiska of Jeunesses et Reconstruction the web site has been maintained through the year. One can easily see the development of it. New features like GA & GS documents online, registration via Internet, members' forum, etc. are added. These examples show the way Alliance web site could develop to become an interactive everyday tool for the members. It is only up to members now to begin to use it actively. Let me use this moment to thank Kemal Abiska for his efforts improving and developing Alliance web services.
- **Alliance Web Directory** is another new tool offered and maintained by Waldemar Korycki of FIYE, Poland. It is a very interesting efficient instrument for exchange of volunteers with the great potential, which has been tried by most of the members this season. A short training session on use of this tool was organized at TM. Another one was held at Staff Training in Wales. We also received a feedback and evaluation from members on its use at Staff Training seminar. Definitely there is a way to improve it, some proposals were made and the work will be continued. One of the requests of members is to open Alliance Web Directory for use by partner organisations – however, there was no agreement of GA for this. Clearly this instrument will be efficient only when all members start to update and use it regularly. Last season it did not work 100%, let's hope it will improve in coming year. In the meantime let me sincerely thank Waldemar Korycki for his work on the Alliance Web Directory.

2. Management of the Alliance.

- **Plan for external representation and affairs** - the work in this direction has been initiated by EC, especially the 6th

member (in charge of external relations) VJF and External Relations Working Group (ERWG). It will be presented later in the report on the external activities and policies.

- The needs for the **Alliance Secretariat** and registered office have been studied by both EC and CWG. The first conclusions are presented earlier in this report. It is planned to have a discussion on it with the members during GA. Depending on results of it this task may be continued. Perhaps the most urgent task for Alliance now is not the Secretariat as such, but to have a permanent postal address where correspondence can be easily and efficiently managed. EC is looking for solutions.
- A number of **changes to the Constitution and Standing Orders** are proposed by EC based on the work of the CWG. It became clear that many of changes cannot be realized as fast as we thought it would be possible. Therefore it makes sense to give CWG a mandate of GA to continue started work for another year or two. It would be also quite healthy to have clear picture of co-relation between EC and CWG and determine CWG rights and responsibilities.
- Unfortunately, it turned to be impossible task for EC and CWG to begin the work on 3-5 years Alliance's development plan. But actually this work has started indirectly – many of proposed changes to the Constitution and Standing Orders as well as Alliance practices give the direction to the development of Alliance for the many next years. Definitely, this important work will be continued by new EC and CWG with the support of members.

3. Co-operation between members.

- An introductory session on the Alliance was held for the newcomers at TM in Piestany.
- Apparently the core of Staff Platform was set up at GA 2002 as a prepteam of Staff Training Seminar. The event took place at the end of September in Wales, and it has been reported on earlier. Another Staff Platform related seminar on exchange of teenage volunteers took place in Castres, France in December. Besides these major events there were number of productive meetings of what we call Staff Platform during GC 2002, TM 2003 and at seminar in January 2003 in Clermont-Ferrand.
- The study of training needs of members has been started by prepteam of Training for Trainers. Also special session was held at Staff Training in Wales. The first results and feed back will be taken into account while preparing Training for Trainers 2004. EC hopes that this work will be continued next year.

4. Information and communication.

The new methods for internal communication were further developed through Alliance Web Site and Alliance Web Directory. More instruments can be easily offered if needed. The new good tools already exist, but it will take time before it becomes a habit of members to use them in daily work. I believe, EC has a role to play in promoting these new ways of communication using IT tools.



Aleksander Kurushev
Alliance President

After the GA 2002 the position of the General Secretary of the Alliance remained vacant and was proposed by the EC to Alternative-V. This means that the General Secretary was appointed after the GA 2002.

Starting from January 2003, the main tasks of the General Secretary were concentrated on keeping the archives of the Alliance, providing members with the EC minutes, answering requests from different organisations regarding membership in the Alliance and co-operation with the Alliance, preparing the mailings for the General Assembly.

Thus, 2 organisations were invited for the introductory contact to the General Conference of the Alliance 2003 – IBO Italy and Nizhny Novgorod Voluntary Service (NNVS, Russian Federation), one organisation applied for the Associate membership status – Young Researchers of Serbia/Voluntary Service Serbia. Other organisations have been provided with information on Alliance Standards of Exchange, Invitation List and application for membership procedures.

It is recognized by the EC that the invitation list system is not fully answering the questions and needs for dealing with relations with networks or partner organisations. Thus, a clear Invitation List procedure, as proposed by the Constitutional WG, was included in the Standing Orders.

The work of the General Secretary was done in close co-operation with the Alliance Administrative Assistant (AAA) – this position is also hosted by Alternative-V since early 2003.

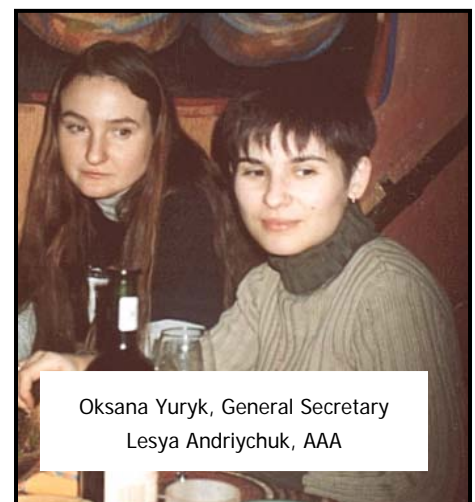
The main workload for the AAA is preparation of the GA and maintaining the Alliance e-mail address. On an average, weekly about 50 messages reach this address. The messages can be divided in the following categories:

- requests from the individuals (volunteers);
- requests from the organisations (about co-operation, membership, information requests);
- newsletters, information on funding possibilities, events organised by other networks and European/International institutions;
- information and requests from the donors/sponsors;
- Spam.

The current AAA Lesya Andriychuk is dealing with this task on a highly professional level, providing members and EC with information on a regular basis.

Unfortunately, due to the internal reasons, Alternative-V is no longer able to maintain the position of the General Secretary and resigned from the position at the GA 2003.

Oksana Yuryk
Alternative-V, Ukraine
Alliance General Secretary



Oksana Yuryk, General Secretary
Lesya Andriychuk, AAA

The 2002 accounts

These accounts are showing:

- a surplus of 4.069,86 euros (confirmed after audits);
- a balance with better reserves (“Liabilities”) that will help to keep us sustainable in the future;
- an improving situation regarding the grants from EYF and EU, particularly administrative grants (C & A3029).

All figures were given at the General Assembly, after being corrected and commented by, first, the External Auditor, Christian GAUZY, and then by the Internal Auditor, Laura WARHIG, IBG.

Accounting and work of the Treasurer

Following GA 2002 in Roenshoved, Treasurer's work was concentrated on:

- Preparing 7 grant applications, follow up and reports;
- Bookkeeping and accounts of the financial year 2002 and 2003;
- Financial flow and payments, including cash box;
- Co-ordination with our bank in Denmark – NORDEA;
- Contracting with member organisations concerning events and projects (contracts, agreements, etc.);
- Improving our permanent accounting procedure, using a regular accounting plan and our Banana software;
- Reinforcing relations with our 2 mains sponsors: the Council of Europe (European Youth Foundation & European Youth Centre) and the European Commission (Youth Unit).

Conclusion

If the financial year shows good result, I would like to stress three statements that lead to improvements:

1. This year result (surplus) should be dedicated to increase our “reserves” in order to cover the past deficits and to prepare ourselves to face increasing running costs, not to mention future permanent staff and headquarters that would need bigger “provisions”. As last year, I suggest to keep the same level of surplus for at least 3 more years!

2. Our position regarding our sponsors is improving. Still, their internal evolutions will lead us to difficulties in 2004: EU is changing the legal procedure about European funding. So, all grant systems and envelopes will change next year: we could have NO A3029 grant in 2004 (25.000 euros!).

3. Following the last GA, we opened a new Alliance assistant task for finances: Alliance Financial Assistant (AFA). This helped the Treasurer a lot, and gave the EC a chance to follow finances more accurately (2002 accounts were presented in May, EC meeting in Berlin!).

4. A discussion started within the Alliance on **membership fees** and contributions (members, Constitution working group, Executive Committee). This was not a request from the Treasurer. Still, this issue is important, and this GA should clarify the members expectations on this subject. I would like to stress that the Alliance will face in the future years a double evolution: more “running costs” (3 to 4 permanent working groups; 3 assistant tasks, active external relations, punctual support to members, etc.) & less “public grants” (disengagement of EU funding, freezing of EYF support). This means that we will have to generate bigger incomes.

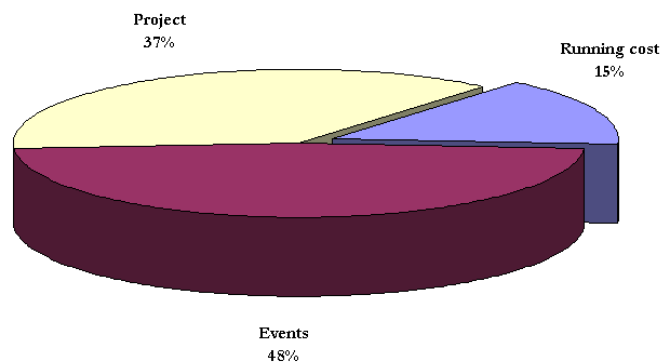
Statement on Alliance's running costs

This term include all expenses that concern the regular functioning of the Alliance:

- Statutory life: GA, EC, etc. (as defined by the Constitution and Standing orders);
- Administration and finances;
- Working groups and external relations;
- General publications and communication;
- Punctual supports to projects and members,
- Development (this topic could be separated)
- Eventual staff (secretariat, direction, etc.).

Running costs should be financed by members and EYF or EU administrative grants (C & A3029), while projects or events are covered by participants, grants (local, national, European, etc.) or private funding.

2002 accounts Running costs 37 150 € Projects 92 348 € Events 117 942 €



Alliance has what could be considerate a (very?) low running costs level: 15%.

For a NGO of this size (38 members with this number of events and projects) the Alliance is working with one original management: no staff (but assistants), no central office, etc ... Many international NGOs have running costs around 25 to 30 %, and some much more...

2002 running expenses				
37 150 €	Travel	10 733,57 €	28,89%	4%
15% of all costs	Communication	1 863,14 €	5,02%	1%
	Exceptional	9 887,35 €	26,61%	4%
	Other expenses	10 047,86 €	27,05%	4%

Evolutions

As mentioned in Treasurer report, we are facing two trends:

1. more "running costs" (3 to 4 permanent working groups; 3 assistant tasks, active external relations, punctual support to members, etc.)
2. less "public grants" (disengagement of EU funding, freezing of EYF support).

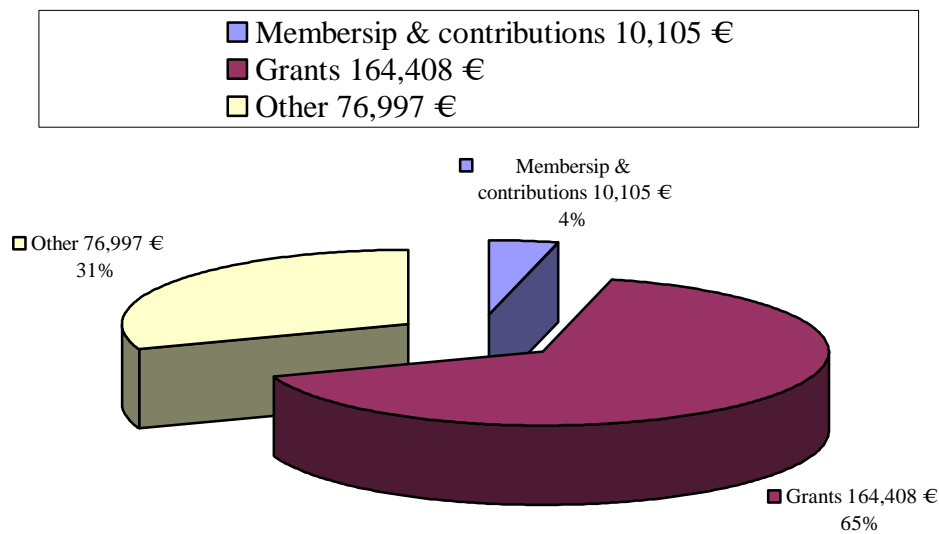
Yet, running costs went through other evolutions:

- provision for risks: the incident that occurred with EYF grant (16000 €) illustrates that we have to be ready to cover such a loss with a "contribution" every year that will increase our reserves;

- reserves: they represent our capacity to cover either critical year or consequences from member decisions (i.e. to have a central office in Brussels, etc.);
- development: this is a new issue as Alliance is still a young international NGO. After years dedicated to organise our management, then to face serious financial difficulties, and to recover reserves, we will be in a position to finance development projects that could improve member's cooperation. The *web directory* is a first concrete and formalised project of this type.

☞ **GA's 2003 decision on membership system: after this discussion, members decided that membership fees should be kept at a low level (but could be increased) and that contributions system (for events or projects) should be developed and increased.**

HOW WE FINANCE OUR ACTIVITY



EC members at work

For the first time the General Assembly 2002 elected a 6th member of the EC, who should be responsible for the external relations and representation throughout the year. At the same time, a working group on external relations was appointed. It was a new position with certain tasks that were defined in the Standing Orders, but also with some tasks, which were not so clear. The 6th member and the working group were asked to initiate a plan of external relations according to the needs of the Alliance. During the year we found out that this work was not very easy.

As outcome of a meeting with SEEYN representatives during the GC 2002 the ALLIANCE got an invitation for the SEEYN conference, which was attended by Torsten Löser.



SEEYN meeting 2002 Ohrid, Macedonia

Right after the Alliance GA the General Assembly of the European Youth Forum, which is held every two years, took place in Malta. Farid Ghrich (CBB) and Claudia Nickel participated on behalf of the Alliance. The European Youth Forum is the biggest youth platform in Europe. In the frame of this platform we have the opportunity to meet and to co-operate with voluntary organisations like SCI, YAP, ICYE, EEE-YFU, EFIL and others. We always discuss common strategies to ensure that our voice and interests will be heard in the Youth Forum, where the youth organisations of the political parties have a strong influence.

In February 2003 a meeting of the 6 organisations which coordinated the IYV in 2001 took place. The UNESCO Youth Unit attended this meeting to have more information on the volunteer sector. It was agreed that information should be exchanged in a regular way, but there are no plans for new common projects in the near future. One annual meeting is foreseen with the IYV group. This means that there is now a regular co-operation with different voluntary organisations in the frame of these 2 platforms.

We tried to combine the Alliance TM with the one of SCI. During the TM in Piestany a common EC meeting of the Alliance and CCIVS took place in order to have a deeper co-operation, as many Alliance members are members of CCIVS as well.



Alliance - CCIVS meeting 2003 Piestany, Slovakia

The Alliance followed the invitation to the AVSO plenary meeting in March 2003. Although the ALLIANCE is no longer considered as a "sister network" of AVSO by a decision of the AVSO members; there is still the offer by AVSO to share certain facilities in their office in Brussels. The Large Scale project was finished in July 2003. Aleksander Kurushev (EstYES) and Waldemar Koricky (FIYE) followed as members of the steering group this project for the last three years.

In September 2003 the European Mediterranean Youth Platform was launched to give the possibility to establish contacts with organisations in this region. Franziska Hacke (IBG) took part on behalf of the Alliance. The Alliance was present as an observer at the UNESCO World Youth Forum in September 2003.

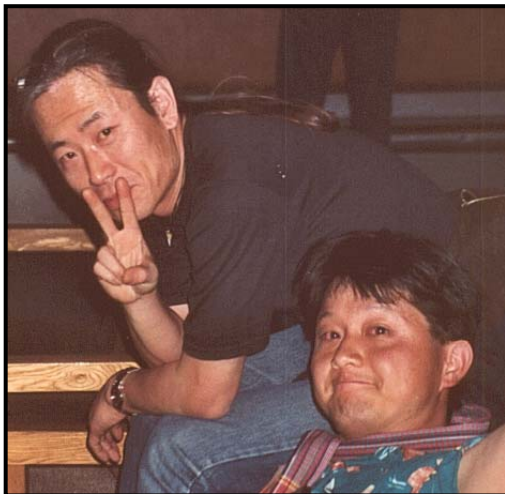
Different meetings with Kai Shinichiro (NICE) and Jinsu Yom (IWO) as President and Vice-President of NVDA took place during the last GA and TM. Finally, the Asian Training for Trainers took place in October 2003 in South Korea. The Alliance supported this event by sending a delegation with a co-ordinator, a speaker and a trainer.

During this GA/GC we continued our work using the possibility to meet the representatives of different networks face to face.

As you can see, we tried to follow a lot of events and to maintain contact with different partners. We want to thank all the people who supported this work, especially the members of the working group. It is really worth working in this field of external relations, because the Alliance gains and learns a lot from other organisations.

Claudia Nickel, Roman Kühn
VJF, Sixth Member on External Relations

**NVDA representatives at
Alliance Technical Meeting 2003,
Piestany, Slovakia**



International work



The activities of the Alliance are arranged to support and develop the programmes and interests of members.

In addition to the General Assembly, there are 4 regular events each year.

The **Post Camp Event** in December/January, which is aimed at the active volunteers of member organisations, to provide a themed programme of workshops and activities.

**03-09 January Alternative-V, Ukraine hosted in Lviv
30 participants from 11 organisations
on the topic “From Workcamps to Active Youth Representation in International
or European Institutions”**

The **Training for Trainers** in January/February is an activity, which supports the leadership training abilities of member organisations. Since 2000 it has been a two-part course to develop the skills and abilities of individual trainers inside the organisations. The programme is supported by the Council of Europe through the provision of the European Youth Centre.

**February 2002 in the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg
30 participants from 20 organisations
on the topic “Methodologies of Training”**

The **Technical Meeting** in March, which enables the members and invited partner organisations to exchange annual workcamp programmes and discuss relevant issues, principally through bi-lateral discussions.

**4 to 9 March 2003: INEX, Slovakia hosted in Piestany
Over 110 participants from 62 organisations**

The **General Conference** in November which provides opportunities for the staff and volunteers of member organisations to exchange ideas and experiences about subjects of common and current interest.

**4-9 November 2003: SIW, The Netherlands hosted in Soest
78 participants from 41 organisations
on the topic “Finding the balance between personal growth“
and social development”**

Staff Training Seminar, Glyncornel, 24-28/09 2003

The Alliance General Assembly in 2002 included in its Plan of Action a Staff Training Seminar, to give members the opportunity to work on issues of common concern. UNA Exchange hosted the event at Glyncornel Environmental Centre between 24-28 September 2003. 27 participants from Alliance member organisations, plus one person from MCE Mongolia, joined the Staff Training.

A Prep Team was set up at the 2002 GA, made up of six people. The Prep Team was responsible for the content of the Staff Training; for preparing the programme and for facilitating the majority of sessions. Additional input was provided by Kemal Abiska and Waldemar Korycki specifically for the IT sessions, and by other participants where they had particular expertise.

There were three full working days in the Seminar. The first day covered technical exchange issues (eg. info-sheets, visas, reservations/quotas, cancellations, etc.). The second day focused on training and preparation of leaders/volunteers, increasing inclusion (eg. senior volunteers exchange, EVS Workcamps, Large Scale Project) and the Youth Programme. The third day involved a training session on the Alliance database and website and discussions on the future development of the Alliance (eg. structure of GA, TM, etc.).

The Alliance Staff Training was followed by a UNA Exchange North/Seminar, taking advantage of the fact that we were already together (with travel costs at least partly paid).

Outcomes/conclusions

- Some confusion surrounded the name of this event: was it a training, or post-season evaluation?
- Many participants found this to be a good opportunity to focus on very practical issues; however, it was suggested that it would be more efficient to incorporate this work into existing Alliance events.
- There was a healthy and active exchange of ideas, experiences and information throughout the Seminar.
- The IT sessions provided participants with a useful interactive training in new technologies, e.g. Alliance database and website.
- In terms of concrete outcomes, the Seminar drew up a list of 'Conclusions and Recommendations' on technical issues.
- Proposals were drafted on different subjects such as leaders exchanges, Training for Trainers, preparation of volunteers, structure of future Alliance events.
- The proposals will be in the full report of the Seminar and to some degree discussed during this General Assembly, but it is recommended that the Alliance has a plan to take them forward, eg. through the Plenary Meeting in March.

Exchange of Teenagers Seminar, Castres, 3-7/12 2003

The Seminar was hosted by Compagnons Batisseurs France in the "Domaine de Gourgeade", a manor located in the peaceful outskirts of Castres. It gathered more than 30 persons coming from 19 organisations and 14 countries.

The seminar participants discussed many important issues related to exchange of the teenage volunteers, including the hosting aspect and the sending aspect. It was also a good opportunity for the organisations to discuss their own experiences and look at differences in every country, e.g. different legislation, medical rules, etc.

The participants also discussed the common recommendations and tools that can be further on used by all organisations involved in the teenage exchanges.



As a follow-up 4 concrete projects involving 16 organisations and 64 volunteers were planned for Summer 2004:

CBF - France- would like to host a project about culture and tradition; partners agreed to be involved: UNA EXCHANGE (Wales) - LEGAMBIENTE (Italy) - CBB (Belgium);

UNAREC - France- would like to host a project about civil protection with Teenagers;

UNA EXCHANGE is ready to host a project in Wales;

CBB is thinking to organise a project using the experience they have working with handicapped people.



Alliance also runs some projects that are mainly implemented by the members and for the members.

EVS Workcamp Project

(see details page 19)

AVSO CEE Large Scale Project

Cooperation with AVSO on **CEE Large Scale Project** was continued this year. It is still Aleksander Kurushev (EstYES) and Waldemar Korycki (FIYE) acting as the Alliance contact persons being the members of the project's Steering Group. This year was the last one of the project, and it is culminated with Youth Volunteers Fair in European Youth Centre in Budapest in July 2003, where a number of Alliance members from the region as well as partner organisations took part. This project is a good respond to the growing interest of members in Eastern Europe to be involved in EVS. Another dimension of this project is development of the relations with AVSO, a partner network playing significant role in lobbying for voluntary service in European institutions.

Web services

www.alliance-network.org

At the GA, the report was divided into two parts: a report by the Webmaster Kemal Abiska, Jeunesse et Reconstruction and a report by the Webdirector Waldemar Korycki, FIYE.

The Web site has been maintained through the year. New features like GA & GS documents online, registration via Internet, members' forum, etc. are added. These examples show the way Alliance web site could develop to become an interactive everyday tool for the members. It is only up to members now to begin to use it actively.

Alliance Web Directory is another new tool offered and maintained by Waldemar Korycki of FIYE, Poland. It is a very interesting efficient instrument for exchange of volunteers with the great potential, which has been tried by most of the members this season. This tool was launched in early 2003 after a relevant decision was taken by GA 2002. A short training session on use of this tool was organized at TM. Another one was held at Staff Training in Wales. We also received a feedback and evaluation from members on its use at Staff Training seminar. Definitely there is a way to improve it, some proposals were made and the work will be continued. Clearly this instrument will be efficient only when all members start to update and use it regularly.

in 2003

38 Alliance Members

16795 volunteers

- 72% sent abroad
- 28% in the country

37 % males – 63 % females

11% under 18

71% between 18 and 25

18% over 25 years old

1331 workcamps

17088 places proposed

Environment	40%
Renovation	20%
Culture	8%

14141 volunteers present

86% of the places filled

5% of Teenager projects (62)

124 persons staffed by Alliance members to run the workcamp programme

in 1997

24 Alliance Members

12675 volunteers

- 71% sent abroad
- 29% in the country

48 % males – 52 % females

14% under 18

75% between 18 and 25

11% over 25 years old

983 workcamps

11441 places proposed

Environment	33%
Construction	17%
Renovation	13%

9908 volunteers present

86% of the places filled

7,6% of Teenager projects (75)

106 persons staffed by Alliance members to run the workcamp programme



EVS WORKCAMP PILOT PROJECT 2003 EVALUATION 2003

Exchanges realised:

10 volunteers sent and 10 volunteers hosted. 1 cancellation on Legambiente workcamp. 1 cancellation from IBG. YAP asked us to place a volunteer on a Legambiente workcamp. This is not really easy for us because of the new rules. We asked Jens Menster about the procedure and the financial process. For the moment Jens didn't give us an answer.

Here the list of the volunteers placed:

Name	Sending	Hosting	
Neiring	CBB	UNAREC	
Fedossejev	Estyes	Concordia UK	
Barraud	UNAREC	IBG	
Resoli	UNA	Lunaria	
Boisgirard	Concordia	Legambiente	
Krimm	Estyes	Legambiente	
Zeggagh	CB fr	Legambiente	Cancellation
Kolodziejzka	FIYE	Legambiente	
Romano	Legambiente	IBG	
Ribolli	Lunaria	UNA	
Jones	Concordia UK	VJF	
Osmanov	Estyes	VJF	

Administrative difficulties:

We sent to all the members of the EVS workcamp project forms and an internal user's guide.

We asked them about the process, and it seems that it is not so clear! It seems that the AXA form is not so easy to use. Now we fill the form directly on AXA's website.

We remind you that for the Commission, a project is not a workcamp but a workcamp organisation. So, the Alliance member organizations can open places on every workcamp they want or they consider adapted for an EVS short term volunteer. This fact explains why we can't provide a "Friday list" for such places.

Co-ordination:

The co-ordination according to the new rules and the procedure will have more a pedagogical and administrative role in the process.

Precisely:

- 1- Reach to obtain all the administrative documents from the partners for the final report
- 2- Answer and give support to sending and hosting organisation about the procedure
- 3- Be a contact for the Commission and negotiate with her
- 4- Create events like the "Mentor training" Alliance's partners
- 5- Preparing the new EVS workcamp 2004

We try to work closely with all partners involved in the EVS workcamp 2004.

Conclusion: It is difficult to use the new rules; however, in general the Project is implemented successfully.



Ze Big Week End, Campsirago, 24-26/10 2003

The Big Week end is a Youth Post Camp gathering volunteers (disadvantaged young people) who participated to an Alliance EVS workcamp – the EVS Workcamps Evaluation meeting. This "Big week end" 2003 was the third event of this kind organised by the Alliance. It was hosted by Legambiente in Campsirago... a little village in Lombardia.

10 participants participated in this evaluation from 7 member organisations (Concordia-UK, EstYES, INEX SDA, Legambiente, CBF, Lunaria, UNA Exchange) from 6 countries – 4 males, 6 females.

- 5 trainers:

- Paolo Maddonni (Legambiente – hosting organisation)
- Marcello Mariuzzo (Lunaria)
- Anna Kuzina (EstYES)
- Manuela Oether (IBG)
- Sylvie Dumoulin (CBB)

And a big support from + Luca, Alfonso and Marco (Legambiente) who were always "there" to help us.

In the EVS ST program run this year again by the Alliance, one of our priorities is still the evaluation and the follow up of the volunteers. It was very important to meet these volunteers and to give them the opportunity to participate to a "Post Camp" like other volunteers, and share their experience.

The main **objectives** of this event are:

- x** To **evaluate** each volunteer's experience (their workcamp) : what was good, what was not good, what they would have changed...
- x** To **see further**: after this experience, what do I feel like doing?
- x** To **meet and share**
- x** To **have a good time** together!

The different backgrounds of volunteers and trainers brought a variety of experiences and specific approaches. This week-end gave us the opportunity to meet these volunteers: through games and talks we have evaluated with them their experience and we have helped them thinking about their future, through volunteering... or not. After this week end, here is what we can say concerning the next future of the 10 participants:

- 2 volunteers are now already involved in a longer term project
- 2 volunteers are interested by the idea of looking for a longer term project
- 3 volunteers are interested to be a volunteer first in their local community
- 3 are more interested by building their personal life (studies, job, etc...)

We all know that one of the goals of the EVS Short Term Programme is to enable youngsters to think about a longer term experience. Two of the participants were already going on a longer term project right after the Big Week end (Kadri and Maxime, both in



Italy). Two other volunteers expressed the precise wish to keep on with a longer term experience. The rest of the group did not express this idea so precisely.

FOLLOW UP

All these volunteers have the same wish of going on in voluntary service, either for a long term or a short term.

We really want to make sure that these volunteers will be able to participate in the activities they wish, with the support of their sending organisation

Plan of action 2003 realised

Action	Who	When
<i>1. Alliance Events and Projects</i>		
Regular events:		
• one Post Camp Event	Alternative V	3-8 January 2003
• one Training for trainers, seminar II	Prep Team & EC	9-16 February 2003
• one Technical Meeting (join with SCI)	INEX Slovakia	4-9 March 2003
• one General Assembly/one General Conference	SIW	November 2003
Other events:		
• Training/evaluation event about exchanges matters	<i>Prep team & EC</i>	second half of 2003
Projects:		
• Apply for & organise EVS workcamps project with SCI & YAP	EC (VP & T) UNAREC Steering group	Throughout the year
• - Organise two evaluation events January (internal) & march (for the 3 networks)		
• - Publish the booklet on practice for developing Accessing voluntary service		
• Follow-up with AVSO Central and East European large scale project	EC	Throughout the year
• Implement Alliance web services : Web site and Web directory	EC & Contracted members	Throughout the year



Action	Who	When
<i>2. Management of the Alliance</i>		
Initiate a plan for External representations and affairs	EC (6 th member) & working group A	Throughout the year
Study the needs for a Alliance's Secretariat and registered office	EC & working group B	GA 2003
Propose changes to the Constitution and Standing Orders, especially for new membership policy and future events.	EC & working group B	GA 2003
Propose a 3 or 5 years Alliance development plan	EC & working group B	GA 2003
<i>3. Co-operation between members</i>		
Run an introductory session on the Alliance and the exchange work for newcomers at the TM	EC & Staff platform Prep Team	March
Organise one or two Staff platform meetings to discuss issues and needs to improve exchanges programmes	Staff platform Prep Team	During events
Study the wider training needs of members	TFT prep team & Staff platform Prep Team	GA 2003
<i>4. Information and communication</i>		
Seek new methods for improving internal communication	EC (President)	Throughout the year

Taking into account the result of the former Plan of Action (2003), the GA proposed to concentrate the Alliance action in 2004 on the following points.

Action	Who	When
<i>1. Alliance Events and Projects</i>		
Regular events:		
a) one Post Camp Event	Inex SDA	02/01-09/01/2004
b) one Training for trainers	ACD & Prep Team	25/01-1/02/2004
c) one Technical Meeting	UNA Exchange	10-16/03/2004
d) one General Assembly/one General Conference	HUJ	02-08/11/2004
Other events:		
a) one new training event (outside Tft held in EYC)	TWG	
Projects:		
a) Apply for & organise EVS Workcamps Project; Organise one Evaluation Event; Publish the booklet on practice for developing Accessing voluntary service	EC (VP & T) UNAREC Accessibility group	Throughout the year
b) Launch one Alliance large scale project on rural youth development	EC & CVG	Throughout the year
c) Follow up "still active" project	Lunaria	Throughout the year
d) Finalise Alliance web services : Web site and Web directory	EC & Contracted members	Throughout the year
e) Produce the Training Handbook	TWG	



Alliance General Assembly 2003
Soest, The Netherlands



Action	Who	When
<i>2. Management of the Alliance</i>		
a) Maintain and follow-up a plan for External representation and affairs	EC (6 th member) & ER working group	GA 2004
b) Study the possibilities & implications for a Alliance's official and postal address	EC & working group	GA 2004
c) Continue the work on developing the Constitution and Standing Orders and other proposals, following the direction set out by the GA	EC & CWG	GA 2004
d) Propose a 3 or 5 year Alliance development plan	EC & CWG	GA 2004
e) Promote & monitor consistency between Alliance events	EC	GA 2004
f) Start new management of WGs with the tasks of coordination, reporting and financial management	EC (GS) and WGs	
g) Propose a status of "sister-network"	ERWG & CWG	GA 2004
h) Evaluate the Web Directory and further developments, including E-Vet proposal and contractual relations	SDWG	GA 2004
<i>3. Co-operation between members</i>		
a) Run an introductory session on the Alliance and the exchange work for newcomers at the TM.	EC & SDWG	March
b) Organise one or two staff development meetings to discuss issues and needs to improve exchanges programmes	SDWG	During events
c) Formulate and provide follow-up on the wider training needs of members.	SDWG & TWG	GA 2004
d) Study common issues between members on North-South exchanges	NSWG	GA 2004

Action	Who	When
<p><i>4. Information and communication</i></p> <p>a) Seek and put into action new methods for improving internal communication.</p> <p>b) Develop consistent way for presenting Alliance materials, mainly materials resulting from Alliance events.</p>	<p>EC (President)</p> <p>EC + APA</p>	<p>Throughout the year</p> <p>Throughout the year</p>





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Alternative-V Ukraine www.alternative-v.com.ua 1992

The Ukrainian Association for Youth Co-operation 'Alternative-V' is a non-political, non-profit public organisation, founded in 1992. Alternative-V was created to facilitate co-operation between youth organisations, to involve Ukrainian young people in youth programmes in the fields of education, culture, ecology, historical heritage protection and helping people of disadvantaged background. Alternative-V aims to contribute to the development of a more peaceful society and the decrease of social injustice. Alternative-V currently has branches in different regions of Ukraine.

CBB Belgium www.compagnonsbatisseurs.be 1953

(Compagnons Batisseurs Belgique)

Compagnons Batisseurs was created to assist in reconstruction work following the Second World War. Volunteers from different countries worked together to rebuild peace and houses with hands and heads. The goals of CBB workcamps are: meeting people inside the group, the organisation, the locality; helping manually; and supporting volunteers to take responsibility for their decisions.

CBF France www.compagnonsbatisseurs-grandsud.org 1957

(Compagnons Batisseurs France)

Compagnon Batisseurs works well as short term voluntary service and also carries out LTV and EVS projects and exchanges. Often CB France works with minority groups such as the Romas.

CJ Canada/Quebec www.cj.qc.ca 1980

(Chantiers Jeunesse)

Chantiers Jeunesse is a non-profit and non-governmental organisation, which aims at developing active and engaged young citizens, support local development and the development of the full potential of individuals. CJ offers learning and training projects in collaboration with partners in Quebec and abroad, based on solidarity and respect of differences.

Concordia France www.concordia-association.org 1950

Concordia is a non-formal educational youth organisation, which uses international workcamps to promote international exchanges. Concordia is a national non-governmental, non-profit making organisation, with well-established experiences and a long involvement of its members. The activities of Concordia continue throughout the year with weekend or short holiday workcamps, long term voluntary service, the integration of people with difficulties, study and activity groups (e.g. North-South, International). Concordia is a democratic organisation, led by dynamic and motivated volunteers and young people, and supported by paid staff. There are six regional offices in France.



Concordia United Kingdom www.concordia-iye.org.uk 1943

Concordia is a youth charity and for profit organisation that promotes international youth exchange through participation in international volunteer projects. The organisation aims to encourage and enable young people internationally to come together to work for a common goal with the aim of promoting greater international understanding, co-operation and thus peace. Concordia works in partnership with local community organisations in order to support local development initiatives through international volunteer projects. Concordia refers to itself as a youth/international volunteer organisation.

Council, CIEE USA www.ciee.org 1947

(Council on International Education Exchanges)

The Council on International Educational Exchange, known as the Council and often referred to as CIEE, is a private, non-profit membership organisation, whose mission is to help people gain understanding, acquire knowledge and develop skills for living in a globally interdependent and culturally diverse world. Council was founded in the aftermath of World War II to encourage travel and foster international understanding through supporting young people to study, work, volunteer and travel abroad. Today Council is one of the largest international education organisations in the world with almost 800 professionals and support staff working in more than 30 countries.

CVG Greece www.cvgpeep.gr 1987

(Conservation Volunteers Greece)

CVG is a non-profit, non-governmental, volunteer organisation promoting conservation work and intercultural exchanges between young people from all over the world. Activities include mainly short term voluntary service projects (workcamps). CVG organises a series of training seminars for young people willing to be animators and group leaders as well as seminars for members of other organisations and local institutions interested to develop voluntary projects. Since 1997 CVG has been actively involved in the EVS programme as a hosting and also as a sending organisation. CVG refers to itself as a youth and workcamp organisation.

DEINETA Lithuania 1988

Deineta is aimed at promoting international co-operation and understanding between people of different nationalities. Deineta organises international workcamps in Lithuania and has started to work on LTV projects, national seminars and trainings.

ESTYES Estonia www.estyes.ee 1991

The aims of ESTYES are: to increase international understanding and solidarity between countries and people and to promote continuous dialogue between young people all over the world. ESTYES aims at enabling young people by living and working together to learn from each other, discover the variety of cultures, broaden horizons, thus building bridges over cultural differences. Another important aim is to help in the solution of actual problems in Estonia by the means of voluntary service activities. ESTYES refers to itself as a youth exchange and workcamp organisation.

FIYE Poland www.fiye.org 1989
(*Foundation for International Youth Exchange*)

FIYE is a vibrant Polish non-governmental and non-profit organisation. Since its establishment FIYE has been active in the field of voluntary service and particularly committed to international youth exchange programmes. FIYE has developed and successfully carried out a considerable number of volunteer projects with special regard to short-term workcamps and long-term programmes (6 and 12 months duration). FIYE considers voluntary service programmes as a unique and excellent form of maintaining international contacts, fostering youth exchange, allowing the participants to fight cross-cultural barriers and developing bonds of long-lasting friendship. Furthermore, FIYE aims at popularising the currently vital concepts of mutual help, solidarity, peace and civic awareness. Volunteers participating in FIYE's projects always emphasise the fact that due to the 'Polish experience' they have grown responsible, open-minded and above all, they managed to stand up to a challenge, test themselves in demanding conditions and initiate cross-cultural dialogue, which they consider rewarding and valuable in today's world.

Gençtur Turkey www.genctur.com 1979

Gençtur's aims are to offer possibilities for young people from Turkey and other countries to get to know each others cultures and to diminish the prejudices about each other through the international voluntary workcamps. Domestic workcamps offers a great chance to get close contact with the local population and to introduce the Turkish culture to foreign participants, while workcamps abroad give the chance to provide cultural exchange for Turkish young people. Gençtur refers to itself as a workcamp organisation.

GSM Turkey www.gsm-youth.org 1985
Youth Services Centre (Gençlik Servisleri Merkezi)

GSM, founded in 1985 by a group of young people, is a non-governmental youth organisation. The main aim of GSM is to facilitate the collaboration of youth from all around the world in a peaceful atmosphere without prejudice, where they can share their rich cultural backgrounds. The main activities are Euro-Mediterranean youth meetings, international youth seminars, study visits, youth exchanges, training courses, the European Youth Festival and national youth camps. As another major activity, GSM also organises international voluntary workcamps across Turkey. The aim of the camps, which are organised in co-operation with universities, municipalities and local initiatives, is to enable young people from different countries to come together and exchange ideas while engaging in a public project.



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HUJ Armenia www.huj.am 1965

(Voluntary Service of Armenia)

HUJ organises activities of Armenian and foreign volunteers in international workcamps in Armenia; sends Armenian volunteers to participate in international workcamps, seminars, workshops, training, and information meetings; promotes intercultural learning and mutual understanding by encouraging cultural exchanges, visits and seminars; encourages young people to take an active part in social activities via non-profit organisations; sensitise young people towards equal opportunities for men and women and to encourage women to lead an active life in all sectors of society; co-operate with state government, authorities, NGOs, political and religious organisations and enterprises in order to fulfil mutual aims and projects; provide care for orphans, handicapped people, refugees and socially vulnerable groups; enable young people to become aware of the importance of democracy in the formation of society and thus encourage them to play an active role in its institutions.

IBG Germany www.workcamps.com 1965

(Internationale Begegnung in Gemeinschaftsdiensten e.V)

The aim of IBG is to promote international and intercultural understanding and peace, mainly by organising international workcamps in Germany and by sending volunteers to workcamps abroad. IBG organises medium and longer term projects such as EVS. IBG refers to itself as a workcamp organisation. IBG is a registered charity and does not have a political or religious affiliation.

IJGD Germany www.ijgd.de 1948

(Internationale Jugendgemeinschaftsdienste)

IJGD is a non-profit, non-denominational organisation, which aims at encouraging young people to become aware of existing social and environmental conditions, enabling them to be active and responsible participants in a democratic society. The experiential learning in a workcamp leads to an examination of one's own cultural norms and values and consequently helps to break down barriers between people because of their cultural, social and racial differences. This development of international understanding is regarded as a contribution to the furtherance of world peace.

INEX - SDA Czech Republic www.inexsda.cz 1991

(Association for Voluntary Service)

INEX SDA is a voluntary non governmental, non profit-making youth organisation, which focuses on international voluntary projects. To promote voluntary help, solidarity, civil society and intercultural understanding through voluntary service, INEX - SDA organises short term, as well as long term voluntary projects and exchanges.

INEX – SDA runs its activities in the Czech Republic within following areas:

- 1/ Development of rural regions – running the rural centre in Eastern Bohemia, so called Blue Stone House and other regional branches, dealing with sustainable life and management of regional projects;
- 2/ Short term voluntary projects (workcamps) – camps are divided into five programmes according to their study parts;
- 3/ Long term projects – working under several programmes;



4/ Disadvantaged children – “Big Brother, Big Sister” programme working with children from disadvantaged background;

5/ Development Education – preparing development Education seminars, establishing Czech Forum for Development Co-operation together with other Czech NGOS dealing with development issues.

INEX Slovakia Slovakia www.inex.sk 1993

INEX Slovakia is a non-profit organisation, the main aim of which is to play an active role within the international youth exchanges that promote international understanding, intercultural learning and tolerance. International volunteer projects are a simple means of achieving these goals. They provide opportunities for young people of different national and cultural backgrounds to live and work together, facilitate personal growth and a sense of personal responsibility. In addition to the international workcamps taking place mainly in the summer months, INEX also organises training for present and future camp leaders, summer camps for children and students, study visits and other youth activities.

IWO South Korea www.1.or.kr 1999

(International Workcamp Organisation)

IWO is a non profit, non governmental organisation with youth volunteers. We aim at promoting peace and solidarity, voluntary service, mutual understanding, respect, tolerance between the young people: encouraging them to find out their own values in the world; helping them to improve intercultural communications; helping the local communities to develop. We are focusing on the International Volunteer Projects and Intercultural Youth Exchange Projects to realise the aims. Our main activities are international workcamps, long-term volunteer projects; series of training seminars for volunteers, co-ordinators, project partners: youth training seminars for youth involvement, leadership, project management.

J&R France www.volontariat.org 1948

(Jeunesse et Reconstruction)

Jeunesse et Reconstruction is non-profit organisation and has no political affiliation. It participates in the development of international exchanges and organises workcamps, farming camps, mid and long term projects and languages courses. J&R aims to fight social, racial, political or religious discrimination by proposing activities where everyone can find a place. It aims at helping peace and fraternity through exchanges, to participate actively in a collective project, to promote citizenship and help young people to know themselves better through social and economic realities.

KMC Czech Republic www.kmc.cz 1965

(Klub mladých cestovatelů)

KMC has been established to encourage youth and student activities in the sphere of voluntary service and budget travelling. From 1990, KMC is an independent organisation following the aims and attitudes of young people with respect to acknowledge the history, life and culture of their home country and other countries regardless of race, nationality, political conviction and religious confession. One of the activities of KMC is international workcamps.



Legambiente Italy www.legambiente.com 1980

Legambiente is a leading environmental organisation in Italy with 20 regional committees and more than 2,000 local groups. Legambiente runs national and international campaigns aimed at reducing traffic and air pollution, against pesticides, proposing new energy policies, enhancing use of renewable sources, energy efficiency and energy conservation, etc. Since 1994, Legambiente has been organising a volunteer campaign promoting summer-camps in many protected areas both in Italy and abroad. The campaign is aimed at enhancing public awareness of environmental issues, such as forest-fire or habitat degradation; collecting information on natural resources; promoting green tourism in order to develop a sustainable economy; and helping people take an active role in the conservation of our natural and cultural heritage.

LUNARIA Italy <http://www.lunaria.org> 1992

International Voluntary Service is only a part of Lunaria.

Other activities of Lunaria are:

- National campaigns to work on peace and environment issues within Italian budget laws;
- Improving the situation for immigrants in Italy;
- Help desk for asylum seekers in Italy;
- Research on 3rd sector;
- Socrates programme promoting MTV to senior volunteers (55-70 years of age) in five different EU countries.

LYVS Belarus www.lyvs.bn.by 1994

(League of Youth Voluntary Service)

LYVS is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation. It is based on the principle of free membership. It assists young people in accomplishing initiatives based on volunteer work.

MAR Bulgaria www.mar.bg 1992

(Bulgarian Youth Alliance for Development)

The aims of MAR are to strengthen the international contacts and multi-understanding among young people from all over the world, stimulating their awareness of other cultures and lifestyles and to promote among young people the idea of voluntary work. MAR also aims at facilitating individual growth, acquisition of skills and imparting a sense of responsibility amongst the volunteers, as well as giving them opportunities to create new ideas for working, living and learning. MAR wants to support community initiatives and assist in community development. MAR refers to itself as a youth and workcamp organisation.

MS Denmark www.ms.dk 1944

(Mellempfolkeligt Samvirke / Danish Association for International Co-operation)

The overall aim of MS is furthering international understanding and solidarity beyond national and cultural boundaries. All MS activities are based on co-operation across borders based in solidarity and the struggle for a more equitable distribution of the riches of the earth. Lobbying and information work is an important element of all MS activities.



The (youth) Exchange Programme provides opportunities for young people to gain an insight into other cultures. The MS programme consists of activities in most parts of the world. MS refers to itself as a voluntary organisation.

NICE Japan www.nice1.gr.jp 1990
(*Never-ending International workCamps Exchange*)

NICE aims to create/develop/revive an ecological, self-sufficient and warm-hearted civilisation. NICE promotes exciting voluntary actions through fresh ideas and mobility as a youth non-profit organisation. NICE encourages and supports activities of local communities, creating opportunities to meet new people and start new actions by involving many locals. NICE makes bridges between isolated communities and invites youth to depopulated areas, promoting global friendship, understanding, and solidarity.

NIG Germany 1990

NIG is a non-governmental, non-religious private members' organisation aimed at promoting peace and international understanding across borders. It works especially in the fields of the environment, solidarity with 3rd World countries and against discrimination. NIG offers specific Eastern German related issues such as work on unemployment.

RAI Spain/Catalonia www.planeta-rai.org 1992
(*Recursos d'Animacio Intercultural*)

RAI is an independent non-profit youth association that works for inter-culturality, solidarity and social engagement among young people in the entire world. RAI aims promoting intercultural education, understanding and peace through voluntary and socially active participation, at promoting community development, and at encouraging young people from different backgrounds to meet and share their experience.

SIW The Netherlands www.siw.nl 1953
(*Internationale Vrijwilligers Projekten*)

The objectives of SIW are to encourage international contact and understanding, to stimulate the development of young people, and to do socially, culturally and environmentally useful work. These objectives are primarily realised by sending young people from the Netherlands to volunteer projects in other countries and welcoming young people in international voluntary projects in the Netherlands. SIW refers to itself as a workcamp organisation.

SVI Spain www.mtas.es/injuve 1950's
(*Instituto de la Juventud*)

SVI is the International Voluntary Service department of the Youth Institute of Spain and deals only with the workcamp activities aimed at young people who are between 18 and 26 years old. Its main objectives are to stimulate the exchange of ideas and youth global development, strengthening their own intercultural learning processes, their personal development and the reinforcement of democratic values. It also aims at integrating experiences, personal knowledge and the global development of young people in the carrying out of activities in the frame of voluntary work.



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UNA Exchange United Kingdom/Wales www.unaexchange.org 1973

The aims of UNA Exchange, a registered charity, are: to promote international understanding through the medium of voluntary service; to assist in community development by acting as a means to stimulate new ideas and projects and to encourage the concept of voluntary service as a force in the common search for peace, equality and social justice. UNA Exchange provides opportunities for the people of Wales to understand international issues through direct contact with people from other countries. The central activities of the organisation involve international volunteer work in local communities: international workcamps; EVS projects and medium term volunteering. UNA Exchange refers to itself as a national voluntary youth organisation.

UNAREC France www.unarec.org 1962

(Union Etudes et Chantiers)

Etudes & Chantiers was a non profit and non governmental organisation, created in 1962 by several youth movements that became "UNAREC" in 1987. Our Union gathers regional organisations (currently 5), running permanent projects independently, but working together on national programmes, as well as in the field of international voluntary service (more particularly with the workcamp programme).

Our aims are: to promote active citizenship for all (young and adults) through local to international development projects, to support access of disadvantaged populations to employment, social integration, and international mobility, to support local initiatives, rural or urban, for improving cultural, social or economical community development. In practice we refer to ourselves as a non-formal educational movement, using workcamps or work projects ("chantier") as a step to intercultural or integration apprenticeship.



VFP USA www.vfp.org 1982
(*Volunteers for Peace*)

VFP promotes international voluntary service as an effective means of intercultural education and community service. VFP organises programmes where people from diverse backgrounds can work together to help overcome the need, violence and environmental decay facing our planet. Workcamps are truly the microcosm of a world where nations join together giving priority to improving life for humanity. They are a practical way to both prevent and resolve conflict.

VIMEX Mexico www.vimex.org.mx 1985
(*Voluntarios Internacionales Mexico AC*)

VIMEX is based at Mexico City; our aims are: to help in social way with voluntary work, to promote the unity and communication between countries of the world through volunteers exchanges. It promotes international workcamps in different fields like environment, culture, renovation of historic buildings, work with animals with extinguish problems and help the Mexican students to study foreign languages.

Vive Mexico Mexico www.vivemexico.org 1997

Vive Mexico is a non-profit making, Non-Governmental Organisation that has been co-ordinating workcamps in Mexico since 1997. The main activities of Vive Mexico involve the organisation of workcamps as a tool to help in different programmes for the culture, social and ecological issues of Mexico but also to promote intercultural exchanges and understanding between the participants and the local communities in 11 states of the Mexican republic. Vive Mexico also organises other activities such as medium and long-term volunteer service projects. Its philosophy consists of involving young people of different nationalities to projects focused on aid and co-operation with the objective to provide a space where the energy and creativity of the group can be channelled in a background that promotes the brotherhood and solidarity between the nations of the world. At the same time the aim is to make the participants aware that the problems are a human responsibility.

VJF Germany www.vjf.de 1990
(*Vereinigung Junger Freiwilliger*)

VJF was founded as an independent, non-governmental workcamp organisation, committed to the ideas of solidarity, humanism and mutual understanding among young people from all over the world. VJF believes that common work and other activities should make young people think about such problems as maintenance of peace, preservation of the natural environment, solidarity with developing countries, fight against old and new fascism, against racial hatred and all forms of discrimination, be it social, racial, sexual, political or religious. VJF refers to itself as a workcamp and voluntary service organisation.

YRS/VSS Serbia and Montenegro www.mis.org.yu 1976
(*Young Researchers of Serbia/Voluntary Service of Serbia*)

Young Researchers of Serbia/Voluntary Service of Serbia (YRS/VSS) is non-profit non-governmental organisation, the main aims of which are education and exchange of, as well as work with young people. As an umbrella organisation, it gathers 25 clubs and societies from University centres and other towns in Serbia, such as Geographic Exploring Association, Students' Biological Research Society, Ethno Club, etc, whose members take active part in the activities of YRS. The main activity of YRS is research programs.



"Finding the balance between personal growth" and social development"
 Working group during Alliance General Conference 2003, Soest, The Netherlands



„From a Technical Platform to a Cooperative Network“
 The General Assembly 2003 opened the membership for Non-European Organisations.



The Executive Committee made up of six members (President, Vice President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Fifth and 6th Member) is elected to take responsibility for implementing of the Plan.

The EC members are elected for 1 or 2 years (depending on the mandates) and no member may serve on the EC for more than 6 consecutive years.

General Assembly 2002

General Assembly 2003

President	Aleksandr Kurushev (EstYES)	Aleksandr Kurushev (EstYES)
Vice President	Remco Wernsen (SIW)	Remco Wernsen (SIW)
General Secretary	Oksana Yuryk (Alternative-V)	Torsten Löser (IJGD)
Treasurer	François Ribaud (UNAREC)	François Ribaud (UNAREC)
5 th Member	Torsten Löser (IJGD)	Luca Stasi (Legambiente)
6 th Member	Claudia Nickel (VJF)	Roman Kühn (VJF)
<i>(external relations)</i>		



Working Groups are also formed each year to focus on specific areas of activity.

To carry on the work approved by the General Assembly 2003, six working groups were established. The EC will work closely with the working groups.

External Relations Working Group:

Roman Kuehn, VJF; Claudia Nickel, VJF; Franziska Hacke, IBG; Kobayashi Kazuhiko, NICE were appointed to establish the working group.

Accessibility Working Group:

Sylvie Dumoulin, CBB; Sheila Smith, UNA Exchange; Gerhard Wolf, CBF; Christoph Meder, IBG; Ema de Marco, Concordia France were appointed to establish the working group.

Constitution Working Group:

Marie Jean Dupuis, UNAREC; Marco Paoli, Concordia France; Torsten Löser, IJGD; Christoph Meder, IBG; Remco Wernsen, SIW; and a representative of MS were appointed to establish the working group.

Training Working Group:

Anna Kuzina, EstYES; Gwyn Lewis, Concordia UK; Kobayashi Kazuhiko, NICE; Dines Justesen, MS; Michael Shurig, NIG; Anny Benetou, CVG and Maria Karpodini, CVG were appointed to establish the working group.

Staff Development Working Group:

Annick Corominola, CBF; Aleksander Kurushev, EstYES; Erika Moritz, IJGD; Sam Powell, UNA Exchange; Zafer Yilmaz, Genctur; Ivana Vesela, INEX Slovakia were appointed to establish the working group.

North-South Working Group:

Francesco Volpini, Concordia; Marie Jean Dupuis, UNAREC; Helle Seiersen, MS; Jana Krczmarova, INEX SDA; Vidal Flores Giron, VIMEX; Sam Powell, UNA Exchange and Helen Bartlett, Concordia UK with Sam Powell, UNA Exchange and Helen Bartlett, Concordia UK to be coordinators were appointed to establish the working group.



Alliance Partners

The Alliance does not work alone. Worldwide we have a lot of old and good partners, which also work in the field of voluntary work. More and more organisations would like to work together with the Alliance to exchange volunteers and experiences and to take part in the Alliance work, as you can see it every year at the Alliance General Conference.

Because of this development the General Assembly 2003 decided to create a new status for our partners.

Partner Organisations can be only organisation which are independent national organisations and involved in international voluntary service.

On international level we work very close together with the following international and regional networks:

- Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS);
- Association of Voluntary Service Organisations (AVSO);
- Network for Voluntary Development in Asia (NVDA);
- South East European Youth Network (SEEYN);
- Youth Action for Peace (YAP);
- Service Civil International (SCI).

In 2003 the Alliance has 28 partners in 23 countries.

Organisation	Country	Organisation	Country
AYAFE	Azerbaijan	NUESTRA TIERRA	Mexico
OKC	Bosnia-Herzegovina	MCE	Mongolia
VCZ	Croatia	ADP	Montenegro
ALLIANSSI	Finland	CJM	Morocco
SJ	France	CSM	Morocco
CFD	Germany	JEC	Morocco
Open Houses	Germany	NIFC	Nepal
PRO-INTERNATIONAL	Germany	IPJ	Portugal
CIA	Greece	NNVS	Russia
YAP Hungary	Hungary	W4U	Russia
PKBI	Indonesia	Greenway	Thailand
YAP-Italia	Italy	ATAV	Tunisia
CIEE J	Japan	FORUM	Ukraine
SPIC	Latvia	WORLD PULSE	USA



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