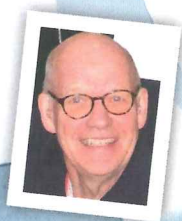




Education and Culture DG



# Adult Volunteering: Learning for Life

The Grundtvig programme's contribution  
to the European Year of Volunteering 2011



Education  
and  
Training

## Understanding what volunteers offer

VOLUE – Validation of non-formal learning in voluntary work

### WEBSITE

<http://projectin.net/volue>

### PARTNERS

GERMANY

DJI – Youth Institute

SLOVAKIA

C.A.R.D.O.

SWEDEN

Open College Network

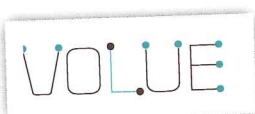
THE NETHERLANDS

Steunpunt Scouting Gelderland (Coordinator)

UNITED KINGDOM

Volunteer Development Scotland

Learning partnership 2009-2011



Volunteers are continually learning as they carry out their tasks, but how can their knowledge and understanding be validated if there is no exam and diploma to fall back on? The VOLUE partnership set out to develop and exchange ideas on how best to recognise and validate non-formal learning in voluntary work. Guidelines were produced to help organisations understand and become more aware of the value non-formal learning. The organisations concerned would then be able to develop a vision for the validation of such learning. Validation would allow volunteers to use their skills and abilities to find a job or consolidate their occupational ambitions. The work should make volunteering a more attractive proposition, while strengthening the organisations that get involved in the validation process.

One of the project's key end products is a booklet that describes the benefits of recognition and validation for volunteers, volunteering organisations and employers. The booklet brings together the elements required to develop a recognition and validation strategy. Examples of tools and methods are provided, along with a list of recommendations for volunteering organisations.

In addition, the project coordinator developed a handy two-sided card: one side was entitled, 'Recognition: 10 steps for the volunteer', the other side was headed 'Recognition: 10 ways to support the volunteer'. The project won a prize in the Netherlands for the 'Best adult education project with an international dimension'.



'Guidance for recognition and validation of learning in volunteering'

*Available in English*

