



INFO-PACK-VC UGANDA 2026-2027

**Amplifying Voice for Climate Action (AVCA)
Volunteering with Viatores Christi in Uganda.**



Amplifying the Voice for Climate Action (AVCA)



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**



ASPEm
ASSOCIAZIONE SOLIDARIETÀ PAESI EMERGENTI



VISIONEERS
CONNECTING WORLDS



Asociación CDRO

VC | ASPEm | VISIONEERS | Asociación CDRO

In partnership with:



Justice & Peace Hoima (JPC)



**Bulindi Chimpanzee & Community
Project (BCCP)**



Funded by
the European Union



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**

PROJECT NAME

Amplifying Voice for Climate Action (AVCA) Project.

PROJECT CODE

101250792- AVCA – ESC-HUMAID-2025-VOLUN

PURPOSE OF THE INFO-PACK

This info-pack is designed for volunteers and sending organizations participating in the European Solidarity Corps humanitarian aid and volunteering project.

INSTRUCTIONS

Read it carefully and for any further information or inquires please contact:

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Funded by
the European Union

ABOUT AVCA

The project is made up of the following organisations that have the Humanitarian Aid Quality Label: Viatores Christi CLG (VC) from Ireland as the lead and supporting and VC Uganda as hosting; ASPEM Italy as supporting, CDRO Guatemala and ASPEM Bolivia as hosting; and VISIONEERS Germany as supporting and VISIONEERS Costa Rica as hosting.

AVCA project aims to deploy 31 volunteers in Uganda, Bolivia, Guatemala and Costa Rica.





OUR MISSION

The project is designed to:

- Bring more equity to the communities
- Reduce the societal challenges that the communities face
- Reinforce the vulnerable individuals in society
- Bring the sense of solidarity to the communities that need aid
- Share knowledge, skills, behaviours/attitudes between the volunteers and communities
- Exchange of good practices and working at the EU level
- Support green practices in the communities
- Establish intercultural learning
- Reinforce the participants with the 8 Key Competencies of Youthpass
- Provide non-formal and informal learning environment for the participants as well as the target groups.
- Enhance the employability of the participants with fewer opportunities
- Establish the principles of the Sustainable Development Goals within the communities



SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

VC - Ireland
Viatores Christi
<https://vcvolunteers.ie/>



VISIONEERS–Germany



ASPEM -Italy



Hosting organization: VC Uganda



ACTIVITY 1: VOLUNTEERING IN UGANDA



- VC Uganda will host 4 volunteers for 340 days
- Dates for activity: 10/10/2026 to 14/09/2027

Who we are

- VC Uganda was established in 2013 as a branch office of VC Dublin which is a faith-based, sustainable development organization working with over 30 partners around the world by engaging & resourcing volunteer expertise & other Technical services since 1960.
- In the recent past, VC Uganda has worked with over 13 partners in the East African region alone i.e. Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda & South Sudan engaging over 20 international volunteers to work alongside the local teams while building the local capacities in the region.
- We are a Quality Label approved hosting organization under the EU ESC volunteering initiative.

Aim

Work with our partner organizations in the field to improve lives of people by improving access to basic services.

Objective

Increase access to VC in-field technical support to VC partners in the region as a contribution towards local capacity building in the development & humanitarian sector.

Social media platforms

- <http://www.viatoreschristi.com/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/viatores.christi>
- <https://twitter.com/ViatoresChristi>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/vc-ug/>
- <http://www.facebook.com/viatoreschristiUG?Mmibextid=zbWKwL>
- <https://viatores.talentlms.com>

Volunteer Tasks & Responsibilities

Work alongside the local teams-JPC & BCCP Hoima to promote good climate change Practices through:

1. Community Environmental awareness and education
2. Tree nursery, planting and habitat restoration
3. Social education and industrial awareness
4. Alternative livelihoods and sustainable agriculture



Training for volunteers

VC will enroll all volunteers for appropriate training on our VC venture training programme which offers online interactive training imparting practical skills for project planning, grant applications, monitoring, research techniques, safeguarding etc. and practices and a host of other skills.

During in-field support visits, the volunteers have an opportunity to share knowledge and experience around managing burn out at work, safeguarding, cultural adaptation & experience.

Locations & working hours

VC Uganda

- VC Regional Office located at Nsambya in Kampala city & led by a female Uganda.
- The office supports all VC local partners in the region in different aspects and it is the focal point for all EU volunteers under the AVCA project in Uganda.
- All volunteers will have to attend the cultural adaptation and cultural experience sessions.
- Similar sessions will be done at the respective local assignment centres to strengthen the cultural adaptation and experience.

Hoima Catholic Diocese

- The volunteer will be working with the Justice and Peace Commission(JPC).
- Most of the diocesan staff are priests working alongside other lay staff.
- It is an advocacy army of Hoima Diocese that addresses the social injustices and hardships of the poor and marginalized in the society to ensure people can live and enjoy a dignified life; operating in the 5 political districts of Masindi, Buliisa, Kibaale and Hoima focusing on human rights and environmental justice in schools and local communities.

- Hoima Diocese works with all people as long as they respect their values, traditions and culture.
- Situated in Hoima City (a.k.a Oil city) in the mid-western region of Uganda covering Bunyoro Kitara, home to a variety of people, cultures and ethnicities.
- Operates both in urban and rural settings (schools & local communities).
- About 4hrs in private and 5hrs in public transport away from Kampala city with a tarmac road.
- Led by a Ugandan male diocesan Catholic priest.

Bulindi Chimpanzee and Community Project (BCCP)

- BCCP is an initiative to protect wild chimpanzees and empower local communities in Western Uganda
- Protects vital habitats, supporting local livelihoods, and securing a future where people and wildlife thrive together.
- Located in Hoima City
- About 4hrs in private and 5hrs in public transport away from Kampala city with a tarmac road.
- Led by a British primatologist, researcher, and conservationist supported by a number of Ugandan staff members.

Hours Per day: 8hrs with a one-hour lunch break

Working Time: 9:00am-5:00pm (Local time)

Working Days: Monday -Friday



Volunteer Profile

- Volunteers should be between 18yrs and under 35 in line with EU ESC requirements (Adults).
- As a representative of VC you are asked to live by example.
- Respect for the values, culture and traditions of the community you will work with notwithstanding the diversity and differences.
- Respect for human dignity & diversity at all times regardless of all other factors.
- Attend the VC pre-departure training in preparation for your assignment.
- Attend cultural adaptation & cultural orientation sessions with VC Uganda.
- Must be patient and tolerant.
- Must be willing to live within the local conditions of the local community they are working with.



General Rules to consider

- Must live within the means of the communities they are working with.
- Must not leave the assignment centre without prior knowledge of your local mentor(s) at the centre and VC regional office.
- Confidentiality during engagement is very important. Volunteers must not share any information outside the organization and or VC.
- Decent dressing (most of our partners are Christian faith-based organizations such as dioceses, congregations etc.) - This is an African setting where dressing is a big concern for most local communities. Decent trousers, blouses, dresses, skirts will be required for work. On weekends, one can dress the way they desire as long as it does not attract and or contradict with the culture of the local setting.
- You will be required to wear the EU branded T-Shirts/caps during ESC activities for easy identification and programme promotional purposes.
- Never at any one time engage in local politics during their engagement.
- Abide by advice from the local working team and VC Uganda or other local authorities as regards security, travels and movements.
- Just like any other place in the world, any place can be dangerous if one does not take precaution of their personal security.

- In cases of conflicts or any issues, always contact the appointed local mentor(s) for guidance; and or VC regional coordinator for further management.
- Never at any one time move with your valuables displayed in public; and leaving your accommodation unlocked. This may attract criminals.
- Strangers will strictly not be allowed in your accommodation.
- Try to avoid getting caught in riots/demonstrations. Even organized demonstrations can turn nasty and without warning.
- Be careful on what you post and or write on blogs and social media and you MUST seek approval if it relates to the project and organisation.
- Traffic accidents are one of the biggest killers of aid/development workers-avoid risky modes of transport.
- All volunteers must adhere to safeguarding and vulnerable adults policy; and other appropriate VC & partner local policies and volunteers will sign a compliance form.

Other specific things for volunteers to consider

- Volunteers should consider seeing their doctors before travel and also take anti-malarial drugs before or shortly after arriving for the assignment. Malaria is one of the major ailments in Uganda and very dangerous especially to non-residents and or if not well managed.
- “Bodabodas” (motorcycle public transport) are the quickest means of transport for short distances but very dangerous. Precaution should be taken around this and you should only use transport recommended by the local work team and or VC Uganda

COORDINATION & MENTORSHIP

VC Uganda AVCA Coordinator

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JPC & BCCP AVCA Safeguarding Officer

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ACCOMMODATION

JPC Hoima Diocese & BCCP (4 Volunteers)

- Volunteer accommodation provided at Millennium Hotel located in Hoima Catholic Diocese Mission area. The diocese works with diverse groups of people from all walks of life-religious & lay. You are therefore, expected to embrace diversity; and respect their values & ethos.
- Situated in a Catholic mission area and therefore frequented by religious people.
- It is a place that respects & believes in humanity and diversity.
- Self-contained rooms
- Wi-Fi available at the premises
- Hot spots via mobile data for mobile internet.
- Kitchen facilities are available for volunteers to prepare their own meals at given schedules. A restaurant is also available if a volunteer chooses to buy meals instead of preparing their meals.
- Modern laundry services available at a fee and at given schedules.
- Mixture of local meals and common international foods.
- Required to be at the premises by 21:00hr (9:00PM local time) latest for safety and security purposes.
- Use of any illegal drugs is strictly prohibited and is a serious crime.
- Misconduct of any form might call for an expulsion from the premises in consultation with VC regional office.

Food

Food allowance will be given to each volunteer to prepare their own meals in the provided kitchen facility and or buy meals from the restaurant at hotel.

TRAVEL

All volunteers

- Your passport should be valid for a minimum period of 6 months from the date of entry into Uganda.
- You will need a valid G1 volunteer permit (at a fee of \$250 for 12 months) which is applied for online.
- All visa/work permit applications must be submitted online via the only official Uganda E-Visa at website: <https://visas.immigration.go.ug/>
- Visa/permit fee is applicable to all except the Exempted countries such as Ireland.
- Carry your valid yellow fever cards/Immunization cards
- Carry your anti-malarial drugs advised by your local doctor/physician before travel.
- A driver will be arranged to collect all volunteers from Entebbe Airport to VC Uganda Regional Office.
- Transport to your respective assignment centres will be organized by VC Uganda in liaison with your local mentor (s).
- Transport during your engagement will only be organized by your respective mentors & coordinators for only agreed project work activities

Note:

1. You will be welcomed by the VC Regional Manager upon your arrival in the country.
2. Later, after the induction phase at regional office, you will be introduced to your respective Directors/mentors at assignment centres who will also welcome you to their respective communities they will be working with.

Kampala City



OTHER INFORMATION

KAMPALA-UGANDA'S CAPITAL CITY

Kampala is the capital city of Uganda and has a population of 1,797,722 (UBOS: 2024 Census). It is divided into five political divisions of Kampala Central, Kawempe, Makindye, Nkawa and Rubaga. Annual population growth rate is at 4.3%

CULTURAL ASPECT

- Has a diverse range of ethnic groups
- Christians make up 85.2% of Uganda's population.
- Football is the national sport in Uganda.
- Uganda is ethnologically diverse, with at least 40 languages in usage. Luganda is the most common language. English and Swahili are the official languages of Uganda, even though English is more popular.
- The mass media in Uganda includes print, television, radio and online sectors, and coverage is split between state-run outlets and privately held outlets as well as English-language outlets and Luganda-language outlets.
- Social media is a 'big thing' in Uganda with lots of youtubers and content creators especially among the youths.
- Clothing- in Uganda, the kanzu is the national dress of men in the country. Women from central and eastern Uganda wear a dress with a sash tied around the waist and large exaggerated shoulders called a gomesi. Women from the west and north-west drape a long cloth around their waists and shoulders called suuka. Women from the south-west wear a long baggy skirt and tie a short matching cloth across their shoulders known as omushanana. Women also wear a floor-length dress called a busuti, which was introduced by the 19th-century missionaries.
- Decent clothing is expected everywhere especially in areas outside Kampala and places and homes that do still highly carry the African customs and norms.

WEATHER/CLIMATE

- Uganda is largely tropical with two rainy seasons per year, March to May and September to December.
- Warm climate.
- A rain coat/umbrella would be good.
- Sunscreen lotions (Available here but a little bit expensive)
- Mosquito repellants (Available locally)



- Anti-malarial drugs advised by your local doctor/physician back home.
- One or two sweaters or jackets for evenings and rainy seasons.
- A pair of 'tough shoes' sneakers would be good for the rainy season and tough roads.

Facilities such as malls, supermarkets are available with lots of international stuff just in case you forget some personal items.

SOME USEFUL VOCABULARY

Luganda is the most spoken language in Uganda. Every little corner in the country vibrates with the language's dialect, yet the world knows so little about it.

- Muzungu -----Anyone with white skin
- Oli Otya -----How are you
- Ssebo/Nnyabo -----Sir/madam
- Wasuze otya nno -----Good morning
- Osibye Otya nno-----Good afternoon
- Webale -----Thank you
- Owange -----Excuse me
- Amazzi -----Water
- Mmere -----Food
- Mukwano ----- Lover/Friend
- Nkooye -----I am tired
- Tugende -----Let's go
- Jangu-----Come

**Uganda is a hospitable country;
Hospitality is deeply ingrained in most Ugandans.**



LOCAL CONTACTS

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