



Small Islands Organisation
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INTERREG VOLUNTEER - Islands Sustainable Development SMALL ISLANDS ORGANISATION

Focus areas: Sustainable Development, Sustainable Tourism, Environmental and Island Territorial Management

Role: Volunteer

Expected starting date: End of March 2021

Status required: young professionals or recent graduates; this offer is also open to 2nd-year Master students if European volunteer contracts are accepted by their university

Duration: 6 months

Location: Office work in Aix-en-Provence (South of France) and remote

Closing date for applications: March 15, 2021

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The [Small islands organisation \(SMILO\)](#) is an NGO that supports small islands of less than 150km² towards the sustainable management of their territory and resources. Our approach aims to guarantee that human development respects and fosters islands' good ecological and environmental status, thanks to a shared governance. The main objective is to bolster integrated operations for the preservation and sustainable management of the island's natural resources, in relation to water and sanitation, waste, energy, biodiversity, landscapes and heritage issues. The local dynamics and the sustainable practices are recognised with the awarding of the "Sustainable Island" label. Currently, 18 islands are involved in our certification process. Within this process, SMILO manages the Islands Fund, which finances concrete operations on the islands. To strengthen cooperation and the promotion of good practices between islands, SMILO coordinates an international network, with members from Europe, the Mediterranean, West Africa, the Indian Ocean, and Southeast Asia.

SMILO is supported by international key-players involved in island and coastal protection, including the European Interreg Maritime program 2014-2020 and Maritime and Fisheries Fund, Prince Albert II from Monaco Foundation, the French Facility for Global Environment, and the Interreg MED Programme, amongst others. For more information, our [2019 Annual Report](#) is available on our website.

INTERREG VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMME

SMILO is an associated partner of the [DestiMED PLUS project](#). This project brings together 9 Mediterranean Regions to develop and promote ecotourism in their Protected Areas. DestiMED PLUS builds on the successes of MEET and DestiMED projects and aims to improve levels of integration between regional tourism and conservation policies in Mediterranean protected areas through the creation of ecotourism itineraries which are developed using a collaborative approach, both locally and regionally.

In March 2017, DG REGIO joined the initiative to offer young people aged 18-30 the possibility to serve as 'Interreg reporters' supporting an Interreg programme in promoting the concrete results of

Interreg projects or as 'Interreg project partners' on a concrete project. [This webpage will give you info and updates on the development of the initiative.](#)

In the framework of this programme, SMILO is looking for its new volunteer!

JOB DESCRIPTION

For this volunteer opportunity, we are looking for young professionals or recent graduates with experience in project implementation. The position offers great flexibility in terms of working hours but also requires a great sense of initiative, commitment and autonomy. You will be working with us in Aix-en-Provence, but also remotely due to Covid-19 pandemic.

As a volunteer, you will:

- Be at the interface with the Interreg MED Programme and the DestiMED PLUS project, building bridges with other SMILO related projects and initiatives. You will contribute to building cooperation with SMILO's international partners, especially international island networks and organisations;
- Follow onsite initiatives that promote good sustainable practices for visitors, such as our plastic-free islands programme in the French Mediterranean;
- Support us planning international events (mostly online) on Sustainable Tourism and Island Sustainable Development;
- Support our communications effort, in particular on social media.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Master degree in disciplines related to environmental protection (such as political science, international relations, international law, economics, environmental engineering)
- Previous experience in project implementation
- Fluent in English and French (writing and speaking)
- International experience
- Excellent writing and communication skills, and ability to take initiative
- Enthusiasm and belief that a systemic change is possible (!)
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate and work well with diverse cultures and people.
- Previous experience with NGOs or start-ups, as well as on islands is a plus
- Any additional language (Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Arabic) is a plus

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Job interviews: mid-end March 2021

Working location: Remote and in the buildings of the French Coastal Management Agency (Conservatoire du littoral), 3 rue Marcel Arnaud, 13100, Aix-en-Provence

Allowance: 26 Euro per day ; travel costs from and to residence – Aix-en-Provence are covered by the programme (amount based on distance calculator)

Estimated hours of work required per week: 30 hours

APPLICATION

Applicants should send a CV and a cover letter (in English or French) to the following address: secretariat@smilo-program.org by **March 15, 2021 at midnight (Paris time) at the latest.**