



**Directorate-General for Global Affairs,
Culture, Education and International
Development/
Delegation for the External Action of Local
Governments**

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PRESS RELEASE

Launch of the call for proposals “Youth III” to support decentralized cooperation

(16.01.2017 – 17.04.2017)

For the third consecutive year, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development is supporting decentralized cooperation focusing on young people with the launch of its call for proposals “Youth III”.

Open from 16 January 2017 to 17 April 2017, this call for proposals supports decentralized cooperation in the areas of **vocational training for young people and international and European mobility in volunteer programmes**. This year, projects may range from 12 to 24 months.

Providing young people with international opportunities is a strong point of France. It helps guarantee future jobs and open them up to the world and to others. It is also a way for France to develop the outreach of its local governments abroad. When young people participate in decentralized cooperation projects, alongside local governments, they help to strengthen them, inject energy into them and root them firmly in the countries concerned and in the population’s daily lives.

As part of this call for proposals, local governments are invited to submit their projects concerning the following actions:

- **Hosting and sending young volunteers as part of decentralized cooperation projects**, in line with the principles of reciprocity, gender equality and social diversity.
- **Supporting exchange programmes between vocational training providers in the countries targeted by cooperation**, in order to increase the options for international and European mobility between students, teachers and trainers;
- **Developing exchange programmes relating to vocational training capacity building of local governments** (governance, structuring the available training, etc.), which is key to inclusive and sustainable local economic development;
- **Supporting the processes of exchanging, creating and/or strengthening vocational training in countries.**

The Ministry of the Urban Affairs, Youth and Sport, the Ministry of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry, France Volontaires, the Agence du Service Civique, and the United Nations Development Programme support this initiative.

The Schneider Electric Foundation, a partner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, is helping to fund this call for proposals as part of its aim to reduce the energy divide in developing countries.

[See the rules for the call for proposals](#)

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