



## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT UNAREC

### What is UNAREC?

Union Nationale des Associations Regionales études ET chantiers  
(National Union of regional associations' études ET chantiers)

Études ET chantiers was created in 1962 by several Youth movements and follows the idea of non-violence and humanism as well as international co-operation and exchanges in the "Education Populaire" movement – a French concept meaning non formal education. We are engaged in the world-wide movement of international voluntary services (short term and long term) through partnerships with 99 organisations in more than 60 countries.

Our "Union" is composed by 5 regional associations, with a national secretariat in Paris:

+EC-Idf : études ET chantiers Ile de France–Paris area and North of France

+ECL: études ET chantiers Lorraine–East part of France

+ECB: études ET chantiers Bretagne–West part of France

+ECmp: études ET chantiers Midi Pyrenees – South West part of France  
ECec: études ET chantiers espace central →Centre and South-East of France and the International Delegation.

Each of the regional organisations run permanent project independently from each other, but they work together on the workcamp programme which is co-ordinated at the National and International level by the International Delegation in Clermont-Ferrand.

We organise around 70 international camps every year (and through out the year) – some of them are for younger volunteers (14-17 years old). This summer we will propose again projects for "pre-teen" volunteers (11-13 years old) as it was a big success last year! All our projects are open to senior volunteers. Another large part of our activities is to develop activities with adults facing social or economical difficulties.

### UNAREC ADULT WORKCAMPS

Usually we host 12 volunteers on each of our workcamps (9/10 international volunteers +2/3 French participants) but some projects are open to 8 volunteers only.

On our adult projects you work about 30 hours per week; most of the time you don't work on week-ends, but it might happen for different reasons.

In our workcamps, all activities are decided together with the volunteers and the camp leaders. You will live an experience in a group and things are planned within the group.

The languages spoken on our workcamps are English and French, except on specific international French speaking camps (indicated in the description).

Every day life: the group will organise teams so that everybody can participate in the cleaning, tidying up, and preparation of the meals... do not forget your recipes!

Activities: on your arrival, leaders will propose several activities; but your ideas are welcomed and everything can be discussed. So be imaginative, the workcamp is a place for having fun! We don't expect you to do activities on your own, going to visit friends living nearby or going alone to watch a movie!

Leading team: camp leaders are not there to manage everything; they advise volunteers, suggest various activities; they are also a link between the different actors of the workcamp: the organising association, the project sponsor, the local population and the volunteers. Our camp leaders are usually staff paid, but we also host volunteer co-leaders.

Age Limit: 18 years old minimum –no maximum; we accept 17 year old participants (1 or 2) if they already have had a volunteer experience and if they are mature enough to join an adult project (a motivation letter is necessary for minor volunteers)

On each project we open 1 or 2 places for people facing social or psychological difficulties (like living in orphanages or in specialized institutions). Be aware that these volunteers are expected a lot from a workcamp experience; it is for them a big adventure and good contacts with International volunteers are really important for them.

Insurance: our association covers the volunteers from the first to the last day of the project (civil liability, personal accident, assistance repatriation). Our insurance does not cover lost or stolen objects, or illness (except those due to accidents). Volunteers from the E.U countries MUST bring a European Health card (replacing the E111 form) to cover their cost (medical, pharmaceutical and hospitalisation cover). No advance of money will be given to them.

### Teenage Workcamps

## IBG e.V. – Frankreich UNAREC – Stand 09.03.08

In 1962 Etudes & Chantiers/UNAREC has started to organise workcamps for Teens. They are organised following the “Minor’s Protection Act” under the control of Youth and Sports ministry. These rules facilitate the organisation of workcamps and the security of the volunteers.

As on adult camps, volunteers achieve a concrete project; they work about 25 hours per week.

The leader team is composed of 3 people who are qualified in leading; they are staff paid and they are responsible for the volunteers.

Teenagers are taken in charge on their arrival at the train station; they can’t leave the camp without an authorisation signed by the parents and sent to our organisation.

Each volunteer must send a “health form” with the confirmation of arrival at least 15 days before the camp starts.

Camp languages are French and English in every project.

On each project we open 1 or 2 places for youth facing social difficulties (like living in orphanages). Be aware that these volunteers are expected a lot from a workcamp experience; good contacts with International volunteers are really important for them.

Insurance: our association covers the volunteers from the first to the last day of the project (civil liability, personal accident, assistance repatriation). Our insurance does not cover lost or stolen objects, or illness (except those due to accidents).

Volunteers from the E.U countries MUST bring a European Health card to cover their cost (medical, pharmaceutical and hospitalisation cover).

To participate in these camps, volunteers must pay extra-fees before going to the project (200 €) to their sending organisation which give us the money at the end of the season. We don’t want the Teenagers bring the extra-fees on the project. The extra fees cover the camp leaders’ salaries and costs.