The main objective of the EVS project is to bring young people closer to sustainable&organic agriculture and to encourage them to reflect on the importance of sustainable&environmentally friendly food production as part of an active EU citizenship, a contribution to various environmental challenges and to a healthy lifestyle.

Farming is a priority of the EU, providing food security for millions of consumers and meeting global challenges such as preserving environmental resources and facing climate change. To think about how future farming should be, what influence EU policies have or how consumers can make a choice for healthy food produced in an environmentally-friendly way, is a key topic for the future of the EU. Therefore, we want to raise awareness about the importance of sustainable agriculture & protection of the environment and underline the important role that EU policies play by giving volunteers the opportunity of a "European" experience in our office to gain an insight into important EU policies and learn about their impacts. We hope that when the volunteers return to their home countries, they will have enriched their interest in environmental and sustainability issues with a sound knowledge of organic farming in the EU and EU policies. In this way they can in turn positively influence society in their countries and see how important it is as part of an active EU citizenship to get informed and involved in EU policies

Volunteers will get to know the different working areas of IFOAM EU and work on their own project while they're here. They will also have trainings from our staff; a practical training on an organic farm and will set up an own seminar session for young people on the topic of sustainable food production to pass on their knowledge. The realisation of the training will be in the hands of the volunteers, providing a great learning opportunity and good basis for young people to think about sustainability issues and how to integrate them not only on a European scale but locally, within the area where the EVS is conducted. Volunteers will be able to pass on that knowledge acquired when they return to their home country. The volunteers will gain important skills on the job such as time management, prioritising and language skills, which will enhance employability. The organic sector is growing in the EU and offers a perspective for committed young people. IFOAM EU offers a multicultural working environment, so volunteers will learn more about how to work with and respect other cultures.