

Call for application 2017/2018 now open

The South-North Volunteer Programme of United Evangelical Mission

The volunteer programmes of United Evangelical Mission are a chance for young people to get to know other cultures, encounter life in a foreign cultural context, and expose and work in an environment different from one's own. Since 2002, United Evangelical Mission is inviting young people from Africa and Asia to participate in the South-North Volunteer Programme. Volunteers have the chance to grow personally in an informal learning process during their one-year-voluntary service in Germany, establish cross-cultural competence and intercultural leadership skills by working alongside those with a different background and viewpoints. They can learn about and contribute to existing partnerships and build up new ones. After their voluntary service, the returnees can share what they have learned during their service with their own communities and networks at home. Host institutions in Germany get the chance to receive highly motivated volunteers that may bring in a new, different understanding of every day working culture, new perspectives and insights.

The South-North Volunteer programme runs annually from April to end of March. Applicants should be available from January to prepare for their service and attend a German language course if necessary.

What is weltwärts?

Since 2016, all South-North volunteers of UEM participate in the *weltwärts* program, a program by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Please note: since all South-North Volunteers are taking part in *weltwärts*, **our South-North Voluntary program is a development service, it is not a missionary!** Our placements might be in youth centres, in schools, in kindergartens or in organisations with a focus on disabled people, adult education, working with

refugees or elderly people. within civil society organisation doing secular community based work, although in a church-related work field.



For more information about weltwärts, please also check:

<http://www.weltwaerts.de/en/sending-organisations.html>

Who is financing the South-North Volunteer Programme?

UEM is covering the costs for the application of Visa, travel expenses during Visa Application (flight, bus, taxi), a German Intensive Language Course (4 months maximum) between Dezember 2016 and March 2017 and flight ticket to/from Germany. During their stay in

Germany, all Volunteers receive a monthly pocket money and are part of social security (health security e.g.). South-North Volunteers receive free accommodation and food allowance in their placements. UEM is asking all Volunteers to take part in the fundraising programme “United Action for Volunteers”.

For more information about the United Action for Volunteers campaign, please visit:

<http://www.vemission.org/themen/united-action/united-action-for-volunteers.html>

What is the programme schedule?

South North Volunteers are expected to fully participate in the life and activities of their hosting institution in Germany. They will stay for 12 month in Germany.

Tentative programme schedule for placement in Germany:

- June 2016: Call for applications among UEM member
- July – September 2016: Pre-Selection within UEM member churches
- 30 September 2016: deadline for proposal of candidates toward UEM
- November 2016: Selection of candidates of UEM and hosting churches
- December 2016-March 2017: preparation by the sending church, German language course within home country, Visa and formalities
- 1 April 2017: Arrival in Germany
- 1 April 2017 – end of March 2018: living and working in Germany
- 1 May to 5 May 2017: Introduction seminar by UEM
- 11 to 15 May 2017: Mid-Term reflection seminar by UEM
- November 2017: Seminar political education
- 9 to 11 March 2018: Seminar development politics
- 12 to 18 March: final reflection seminar
- End of March 2018: end of voluntary service and return to home country

What are the requirements?

Applicants should

- be available from January 2017. This schedule includes a German language course and a preparation time in the home country of the applicant.
- be between 18 and 28 years old and should have finished secondary school. Applicants with work experience are invited to apply.
- be ready to learn German and speak English fluently
- be an active member of their home congregation (as youth group leader, in youth projects or others), documented through certificate or recommendation letter
- have the will to serve and work hard when required
- have specific interest in development policies and prepare for a development voluntary service in Germany
- want to integrate into a society with another cultural background than their owns
- have the will to go through good and difficult times

Who can apply?

For the South-North volunteer program the main target group are African and Asian youth between 18-28 years who have finished their secondary or tertiary education and people with work experience. **We also highly encourage applications from people with disability.**

The youth should be active in at least one area of activity of the sending organization and should have the full support of their sending member and congregation.

All UEM Members in Africa and Asia are invited to apply, their candidates should be active members of their church, ideally in youth leadership roles, suitable to take over leadership roles in the future and enjoy the full support of the church, expressed by their church`s endorsement.

How to apply?

UEM looks for eight applicants for a placement in an organization within the civil-society in Germany. All volunteers will be placed in non-governmental organizations. Please note that applications have to be submitted through UEM member churches, NOT by individual candidates and also not by individual congregations. Young people who would like to apply are asked to contact their church office.

The closing date for submitting applications is 30 September 2016. Every UEM member church is encouraged to suggest between 2 candidates. Both female and male applicants should be considered.

What is part of the application?

Every application submitted to UEM should be send in **one PDF** format (limited to 6 MB) by the church office. The full application consists of the following documents:

- 1.) copy of the data sheet of the passport (valid until July 2018)
- 2.) completed application form
- 3.) curriculum vitae
- 4.) one-page motivation letter written by the applicant, explaining why she or he wants to participate in this programme
- 5.) completed church endorsement form
- 6.) completed medical examination form and
- 7.) recommendation letter by a person that knows the applicant and her or his skills (e.g. from youth leader, teacher...)

Every UEM member is asked to forward the (digital) application of their suitable candidates to the UEM officer for South-North Volunteer Programme, Mrs. Carolin Daubertshäuser until 30 September 2016 by the latest, daubertshaeuser-c@vemission.org. Feel free to contact Mrs. Daubertshäuser for further questions.

What is the date of submission?

The deadline for sending your proposal of candidates toward UEM Officer for South-North Volunteer Programme is **30 September 2016** by the latest. Later submission and incomplete applications will not be considered.