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## European Solidarity Corps' projects with GOB Menorca (Maó, Balearic Islands)

**2022 – 2023**

Hi everyone!

GOB Menorca are looking for 2 people  
to get involved in our ESC projects for 2022!

### Who are we and what do we do?

We are a non-profit organisation called *Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa (GOB)* working in the Balearic Islands. The section of the association based here in Menorca was created back in 1977 and has become a key part of Menorcan society, with more than 1,200 members and many people actively involved in collaborating with projects and volunteering. Its basic objective is to aid the conservation of the island's environment and ecosystems while balancing it with human activities.

The institution is politically and economically independent. Its aim is also to participate within civil society to enforce the democratic right of people to voice their opinions and for them to engage with all matters concerning environmental issues. We also aim to positively influence the way in which people use land and its natural resources, to analyse the consequences of human activity and to promote sustainable alternatives.

In order to continue this mission, we host people from all over Europe via the **European Solidarity Corps** program, and have been doing so for almost 10 years. We heavily rely on the energy and idea-sharing that occurs through these programs and run a variety of projects where European Volunteers have the opportunity to work within a team of professionals and experienced volunteers. If you need more info about the European Solidarity Corp program, the framework within which we work, you will find all the details at: [https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity\\_en](https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity_en)

## What do we expect from a European Volunteers?

Volunteers are expected to take part in the organisation for approximately 35 hours per week (which includes the language courses). Volunteering hours are mostly in the mornings, but occasional activities and events can also take place in the evenings. Volunteers who wish to participate in the project must demonstrate a high level of motivation, a keen interest in environmental matters and values similar to that which is promoted by the organisation. We highly value previous voluntary experience, enthusiasm for teamwork and being an active citizen. We are looking for an independent person with initiative who can adapt to the dynamic, fast-paced work environment.

Volunteers should be open-minded and able to accept new ways of working together when necessary. As volunteers tend to be involved in different projects, work experience will be gained across the whole organisation and will be managed by different people responsible for each project. Volunteers gain a broad understanding of the organisation's work (the Centre for Wild Animal recuperation, Environmental Education, Vivarium of Autochthonous plants, central office help, Voluntary work, etc.). The volunteers can help at the Animal Recuperation Centre, the nursery garden for autochthonous plants, as well as take part in special volunteer days via our agricultural Land Stewardship project *Custòdia Agrària*. The different types of tasks vary depending on the time of the year.

Another important part of the role involves helping with the management and development of the local volunteer programmes. Volunteers will have at their disposal all of the organisation's locations: the central office in Maó (based in a converted windmill); the nursery garden for autochthonous plants situated near the industrial estate of Maó; and the Recuperation Centre for wild animals in Ciutadella. Volunteers will receive a training session on arrival covering introduction to the organisation and the particular tasks to be carried out.

Due to the small size of the organisation, employees usually are involved in tasks aside from their role. Similarly, volunteers will be encouraged to participate actively, to contribute ideas and help when a new line of work is opened or a situation calls for it. Working at GOB Menorca implies feeling part of the team and sharing life values centred around sustainability. Volunteers are offered a language course at the Official School for Adults. Depending on the volunteer's Spanish language level, there is also the possibility of learning Catalan.

The person responsible for Environmental Education and Volunteers will be in charge of coordinating the work of the volunteers in the organisation, but also there will be other supervisors depending on the sphere of activity in which the volunteer is involved. A mentoring service is also available where volunteers can seek advice from a long-term volunteer with in-depth knowledge of the organisation. This volunteering experience allows participants to develop their social skills, initiative, self-sufficiency, creativity, the ability to adapt to new situations, teamwork and leadership. There will also be opportunities to design, manage and carry out their own activities. Additionally, this is an opportunity to develop Spanish and Catalan language proficiency.

Applicants must send a cover letter and CV applying for the voluntary role of interest. The organisation's selection committee (volunteer manager, organisation coordinator and mentor) will evaluate each applicant's **cover letter** and **curriculum vitae**.

## **Which are the specific roles we're looking for?**

### **1 positions in our Sustainable Gardening project**

The volunteers will help at the nursery garden for autochthonous plants. The different types of work vary depending on the time of the year.

The daily tasks include watering seedlings in the greenhouse, the plants for sale, the garden and compost. Weekly tasks include weeding plants, and cleaning pathways and the garden hut. Volunteers will also assist plant propagation and production, including sowing seeds and transplanting, weeding and fertilizing plants. In addition, the volunteer will help with landscaping and maintaining the public and private spaces, and building and maintaining green filters for the purification of wastewater "wastewater gardens". The volunteers also will assist visitors at "Es Viver", showing them the facilities and introducing the project. Volunteers will be integrated in "Es Viver"'s workshops' programme regarding sustainable gardening and related issues. Volunteers are encouraged to assist various sustainability workshops the organization runs and to collaborate to improve the nursery garden. The volunteer should enjoy working in nature and be physically capable of doing easy to moderate outdoor work.

The volunteers will be managed by nursery garden Lead responsible for coordinating the project, thus gaining in-depth understanding of the organisation in the nursery for autochthonous plants.

A minimum level of English or Spanish is required to be able to communicate with the supervisors and the organisation staff. A valid driving licence is necessary for many of the organisation's activities.

### **1 position in Social Media, Communications and Local Volunteering**

This person will help the association with communication and social media tasks such as sharing news, knowledge and information, creating content, monitoring our social media channels, accompanying events and taking photos. They will work closely with various project officers to share the incredible work done via each project.

There will be opportunities to create content and visuals in relation to our land stewardship project, the wildlife rescue center, the plant nursery and generally of GOB Menorca. The volunteer will also assist in creating materials for fundraising and informational events and a video to celebrate the organization's 45th anniversary. Work will be based in our office in Mahon, however, the volunteer will also attend some events at the Wildlife Rescue Centre, activities at the plant nursery and other activities organized throughout the year such as excursions, fundraising and celebration events.

A minimum level of English or Spanish is required to be able to communicate with the supervisors and the staff. A valid driving license is valued as it would be necessary for many of the organization's activities. We value an interest in communications, graphic design, publicity, photography or web design but overall a positive, proactive attitude and motivation to learn.