



## **CNAJEP**

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### **The Background to CNAJEP**

#### **Introduction**

CNAJEP, along with all the other voluntary organisations it is composed of, actively strives for democratic and republican ideals and access to legitimate entitlements. It is convinced that involvement of the social movement in political, economic, cultural and social policies is at the very heart of the democratic process.

It seeks to achieve this through education, innovation and social intervention with and on behalf of children, young people and adults in the key areas of their social life by ensuring that they themselves play a central and determinant role. This sense of empowerment through action contributes to their civic awareness as stakeholders of their own future.

#### **Overview**

CNAJEP, Committee for National and International Relations of Youth and Community Education Organisations acts as a voluntary co-ordinator of organisations, unions, federations and national youth and community education movements. It was set up in 1968.

Registered as a youth and community education organisation CNAJEP is currently made up of 74 national member organisations. Most of these are federations or confederations, which group together departmental and regional organisations. This constitutes a network of around 4 million members.

#### **Aims/Objectives**

As operator, CNAJEP provides a permanent link between its network of member organisations in terms of communication as well as a forum for debate on current issues at all levels.

The main objectives of CNAJEP are :

- As representative of youth and community education movements before the Authorities and during joint or voluntary organisation commissions

- As a 'watchdog' able to raise interesting issues with its member organisations
- As a collective 'thinktank' within the relevant areas of expertise and according to the guidelines laid down by the Authorities
- As a platform, facilitating an ongoing exchange of ideas and co-operation

To achieve these objectives, CNAJEP must be a resource and communication centre, producing, assembling and circulating information.

### **Axes of Development**

As operator of the network of member organisations CNAJEP encourages involvement of its members through active participation on a daily basis, combining reflection and action through :

Exchange, discussing and comparing experiences of each of the members, taking into account the specific needs of the target public (children-young people, adults) whatever their area of activity

The joint elaboration of proposals and viewpoints seeking to improve youth and official policies but also to shift and even to lobby against any implementation contrary to the values of community education.

Encourage open-ended debate of voluntary organisations at both national and international levels

CNAJEP wishes to encourage dialogue at all levels within the areas of youth and community education.

CNAJEP subscribes to an international dimension by sharing its findings with representatives and partners from other geographical zones (Europe, member states of the European Union, Central and Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean, Asia (Vietnam) as well as through international activities in various political, social, economic and cultural fields.

Enhance the voluntary and democratic sector

CNAJEP actively contributes to the democratic forum through ongoing discussions with all components of the social institution (Official Authorities, voluntary organisation networks, institutions) at local, regional, national and international level.

### **THE PARTNERS OF CNAJEP**

#### **Institutional partners**

CNAJEP is member of national co-ordinating voluntary bodies such as Coordination Sud (which groups together French organisations and agencies of international solidarity), the CPCA (Permanent Conference of Voluntary Co-ordinators).

It also has representational status within joint national public agencies such as CNVA (National Council for Voluntary Organisations), INJEP (National Institute for Youth and Community Education), OFAJ (Franco-German Youth Office), CIDJ (Youth Information Centre), FNDVA (National Fund for Development of Voluntary Organisations), CNEPJ (National Council for

Community Education and Youth), COCODEV (Commission for Co-operation and Development), CPJ (Permanent Youth Council), Youth for Europe and European Voluntary Service Committees

### **The international partners of CNAJEP**

At European level; CNAJEP is a member of the European Youth Forum, which groups together 40 European youth committees and 47 international non-governmental youth organisations. CNAJEP is an information point for the European Youth Forum. Furthermore, it has numerous contacts on projects and works in close co-operation with European Youth committees.

It is also a member of CEDAG (European Committee of General Interest Organisations)

### **Fields of activity**

Children/Youth/Men and Women/Youth camps Culture/Education/Citizenship/Training-Employment/Holidays/Leisure/Youth work/Prevention/Housing/local authorities/Inclusion/Social and cultural activities/Sport/Quality of life/local development/Solidarity (international)

Community Education/Casual and long term volunteering/Taxation/Relations with Official Authorities/Setting up of platforms of debate.