

IBO-Nederland

Activity Report 2020



Two Dutch volunteers at project Wissembourg, Fr.

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Report 2020

Plans 2020

At the start of 2020 IBO-Nederland had good prospects: the number of volunteers that would join a project this year looked promising. The goal was to place at least 150 - 175 volunteers.

Projects

- We had 8 international projects planned.
- We had 8 social projects planned in the Netherlands for Dutch volunteers.
- And 8 group projects abroad were ready for take-off.
- At the CC in February we reserved 73 places for Dutch volunteers in projects organized by the other IBO's.
- We were in the process of setting up a new project in Ghana.

Volunteers

- 8 groups, a total of 142 volunteers, were ready to go to projects in Moldova (3 groups), Slovakia (1), Romania (2), Poland (1) and Uganda (1).
- On March 16th, 19 individual volunteers had accepted a project proposal and 6 more were in the process of enrollment. Normally, most individual volunteers enroll in May and June – so with 25 individual volunteers by March 16th, it looked promising.

COVID-19

On March 11, 2020 the spread of disease COVID-19 was recognized as a pandemic.

Consequences for IBO:

- International travel became (nearly) impossible
- Difficulty with organizing work and accommodation for a group of volunteers, while adhering to the rules to stop the spread of the virus.
- Sometimes too many risks for the target group to let the projects take place.
- People were no longer inclined to volunteer abroad, even if there were possibilities

For IBO-Nederland it meant we had to cancel all groups and all summer projects, except for a few projects in the Netherlands.

Most other IBO's also had to cancel the majority of projects.

Results 2020

Starting in August, we could send some volunteers to projects in Germany and France, organized by IBO-DE.

At the moment, October 2020, IBO-Nederland placed **11 volunteers**.

- 2 volunteers at Weekje Weg (NL)
- 3 volunteers at Hitzacker (DE)
- 1 volunteer at Mannheim (DE)
- 2 volunteers at Kalbe (DE)
- 3 volunteers at Wissembourg (Fr.)

Of the 25 'original' volunteers, who were in the enrollment-process before March 16th, 6 volunteers joined a project. Three of them could join their originally chosen project (2x in NL, 1 in DE) – the other three joined a different project at a different time.

The other 19 'original' volunteers did not join any project, though they were offered the possibilities. Some did not want to travel in these times of COVID, others were not available during the project periods that were offered or the projects did not 'fit' – the kind of work or the destination was not attractive enough.

Five volunteers enrolled later – after it was clear which projects would (most likely) take place.

Evaluations

In order to evaluate the projects, all volunteers received an evaluation form with questions about the project, accommodation, meals, group and project information. These questions could be answered with marks from 1- 5 (very negative/totally disagree – very positive/ totally agree).

7 (out of 11) volunteers filled their evaluation form. They were very positive about their projects: they gave an average mark of **8,6** (out of 10).

Weekje Weg in Vierhouten (IBO-NL)

The foundation *Weekje Weg* organizes holiday weeks for families with young children that live in poverty. They needed (extra) volunteers to assist during these weeks and to set up an entertainment program for the children. 3 Dutch IBO-volunteers were placed in three separate weeks.

Questions	Answers	Comments
I support the goal of the project.	5	<i>Weekje Weg</i> is a good organization
The work of the volunteers is useful.	5	
IBO-support on this project is necessary in the future	5	
There was sufficient contact with the target group	5	
The work was sufficient, enough for all volunteers to keep them busy.	5	
There were sufficient materials and tools to work with.	5	
The (technical) guidance was sufficient	5	
The work was done safely.	5	
The work was practically feasible.	5	
We were warmly welcomed.	5	
The accommodation was suitable.	4	
We were informed well about the local situation (culture, safety, etc.)	5	
The meals were good.	4	The food was all right, but I did not enjoy it – it was not to my taste
It was possible to be in contact with locals.	3	
The atmosphere in the group was good	5	
I was satisfied with the number of volunteers in the group	5	This was fine.

The information I received from IBO was clear.	5	
The project met my expectations.	5	
I had unexpected expenses	No	
Overall grade for my IBO – project (1 – 10, 1 is very negative, 10 is very positive).	10	I learned a lot, it was well organized and I felt supported in everything I did.
How did you initially get to know IBO?	Magazine	Oneworld
Why did you choose IBO?	other	It was something I've wanted to do
Would you recommend IBO to your friends?	Yes	
What is your best project memory ?	Group feeling, contributed to people	

Wissembourg (IBO-DE)

Questions	Answers	Comments	Answers	Comments	Answers	Comments
I support the goal of the project.	5	There is a lot of work. They'll need volunteers for years to come. It's fun to see the (real) results and the people are very grateful for the help they receive.	5		5	
The work of the volunteers is useful.	5		5		4	
IBO-support on this project is necessary in the future	5		5	There is so much work – volunteers can come here for years to come	3	
There was sufficient contact with the target group	5		5		5	
The work was sufficient, enough for all volunteers to keep them busy.	5		4	Sometimes, at the end of the day, there was no work left – we took an earlier break then, that was fine!	5	

There were sufficient materials and tools to work with.	5	Sufficient material but not always sufficient safety equipment available. Later in the second week there was more attention to this and more stuff available.	5		5	
The (technical) guidance was sufficient	4		5		4	
The work was done safely.	3		3	I missed explanation about how to work safely	4	
The work was practically feasible.	4		5		3	There was various heavy work, and safe execution was not always thought of (e.g. dust mask when drilling the terrace), after consultation these were available
We were warmly welcomed.	5	Super hospitable and super well cared for.	5		5	
The accommodation was suitable.	5		5		5	
We were informed well about the local situation (culture, safety, etc.)	5		5		5	
The meals were good.	5	The meals were always top notch and there was always plenty. Every day you could also choose and two different cakes as a snack.	5	The food was great and we had lots of pie	5	
It was possible to be in contact with locals.	4		5		5	fantastic residents, they were very warm and grateful
The atmosphere in the group was good	3	There was a difference in motivation. Especially a number of people who	5	Yes, it was very <i>gezellig</i> .	5	

		carried out this project as an internship had a withdrawn attitude.				
I was satisfied with the number of volunteers in the group	4	Size was good.	5		5	
The information I received from IBO was clear.	4		5		5	
The project met my expectations.	4		5		5	
I had unexpected expenses	No		No		No	
Overall grade for my IBO – project (1 – 10, 1 is very negative, 10 is very positive).	9	super cool place to be allowed to work. You are well taken care of, especially when it comes to food. There are many lovely people who take the time to explain things to you. Own initiatives are highly appreciated. You will notice that they are looking for how to organize this project. As a result, they are eager to learn and like to hear feedback from the volunteers.	9		8	
How did you initially get to know IBO?	Family/ friends		Family/ friends		Family/ friends	
Why did you choose IBO?	Participated before		Low costs		low costs, availability	and I wanted to embark on a completely new adventure
Would you recommend IBO to your friends?					Yes	

What is your best project memory ?	The celebration of the completed construction projects in the first week with a flamkuchen party.	The final party in the cellar of the castle which we had partly renovated. All the cakes that were freshly baked for us every day,	after the first week we went to admire the different baustellen with everyone. with a drink in hand, music made by three residents, we walked around there. the sun was shining and everyone was happy, a very nice evening
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Mannheim (IBO-DE)

Questions	Answers	Comments
I support the goal of the project.	5	I support the objectives of the project. However, I thought the project description did not quite match the situation on site. The target group was not (yet) there, because the houses were not yet ready. More could have been done with that. Different projects and target groups in the 'barac' took place simultaneously. Not a problem in itself. But it is good to communicate this as well.
The work of the volunteers is useful.	5	
IBO-support on this project is necessary in the future	3	
There was sufficient contact with the target group	2	
The work was sufficient, enough for all volunteers to keep them busy.	5	
There were sufficient materials and tools to work with.	4	There was certainly plenty to do. With so many people working at the same time, a few ground rules would have been useful. Especially when it comes to returning used tools to the workshop.
The (technical) guidance was sufficient	4	
The work was done safely.	4	
The work was practically feasible.	4	
We were warmly welcomed.	4	
The accommodation was suitable.	3	Sleeping on camp beds is really no fun. This was the opinion of most of the participants. Okay, you don't expect hotel amenities, but after a hard day's work, a bed, or at least a mattress, is the minimum (for me). During the 1st week there was also no running water at the building / residence location (except for large water tanks). Showering and going to the toilet was possible in Phillip's studio. Communication was poor. Everyone was mainly busy. At the same time, that (usually) didn't matter much. We ate when dinner was ready. Much went well by itself. The local population were mainly the artists present (from Mannheim who had been involved for some time and the external auxiliaries).
We were informed well about the local situation (culture, safety, etc.)	3	

The meals were good.	5	
It was possible to be in contact with locals.	4	The contact with people from there (also) appealed to me.
The atmosphere in the group was good	4	
I was satisfied with the number of volunteers in the group	4	The group was ok. More than half German engineering students who could do the construction camp as an internship.
The information I received from IBO was clear.	4	
The project met my expectations.	3	Neutral, because I thought the project description did not match the situation on site. If the social objectives for the defined target group had been worked out better, for example through a visit to the Diakonie in Heidelberg, I think it would have worked out better. Or you should have brought the project more than what I feel it was now, namely an art / architecture project for studios and artists' homes in particular. But yes, at the same time it was a project consisting of several smaller ones.
I had unexpected expenses	No	
Overall grade for my IBO – project (1 – 10, 1 is very negative, 10 is very positive).	8	The camp was - again - a nice change between working (together), meeting people, doing fun things, getting to know a city and country and space for relaxation. An educational experience with many beautiful memories.
How did you initially get to know IBO?	volunteer center / volunteer-vacancy site	
Why did you choose IBO?	IBO-goals	I would also be interested in a camp with only people over 30s.
Would you recommend IBO to your friends?	yes	
What is your best project memory ?	too many to mention. I especially think the wonderful conversations I have had with people and the trust we had in each other.	

Hitzacker (IBO-DE)

Questions	Answers	Comments	Answers	Comments
I support the goal of the project.	5	It is very important that the houses were finished on time, because people came to live in them who needed them. With	4	I am largely behind the goal, but not entirely behind the way they are trying to achieve it. It seems to me as if they established the vision years ago and now stubbornly adhere to it, while some aspects of that vision, such as attracting a third of the residents with a migrant background, do not seem to work, especially since these people are hardly involved in the process. involved. Ecological construction is all very good, of course, but no one had thought about collecting rainwater, for example.

		this we could help as volunteers.		
The work of the volunteers is useful.	5		5	
IBO-support on this project is necessary in the future	5		5	
There was sufficient contact with the target group	5		5	
The work was sufficient, enough for all volunteers to keep them busy.	5		5	
There were sufficient materials and tools to work with.	5		5	
The (technical) guidance was sufficient	5	There were good safety precautions and it was clearly explained what to do. There were many different kinds of work.	4	Everything we needed was there and the guidance was good. The work was supervised by several people from the village, all of whom without exception spoke German rather than English. This meant that as long as you worked together with other volunteers who also did not speak German, you received excellent explanations in English, but as soon as a German was present, the supervisor suddenly spoke hardly any English anymore so everything was explained in German and the other volunteer had to translate. That also means that you will not receive all the details of the explanation.
The work was done safely.	5		5	
The work was practically feasible.	5		4	
We were warmly welcomed.	5		3	For me, the biggest problem with this project was that they decided that the working language could be German with an English translation. There were more Germans, we worked with a group of about 15 people, of which a maximum of 5 were not German. For me it goes without saying that if not everyone speaks the local language but does speak English (because they really spoke it, they just didn't want to), you automatically switch to English together. This was definitely not the case here, they just kept sticking to everything bilingual, with more extensive German and someone

				who had to translate everything continuously because certain people refused to speak another language. In the last few days this only got a little better. This was really annoying for me, because I understand some German, but not good enough to fully understand it, so my head was constantly translating and I was exhausted every day. I indicated this with the evaluation form on site and told the organization that I wanted to talk to them about it, but unfortunately they never got back to this. For future projects, I would make sure that they either start speaking English, or that other volunteers speak German too, or that the group is more international, because I wouldn't do it again this way.
The accommodation was suitable.	5		5	
We were informed well about the local situation (culture, safety, etc.)	5		5	
The meals were good.	5		5	
It was possible to be in contact with locals.	5		5	
The atmosphere in the group was good	5		4	The group was quite large, there were also a number of people who were not through the Bauorden, but that was fine in itself. People kept coming in for a few days, this was a bit messy at times, and perhaps not entirely responsible at this time? We did not keep our distance within the group, because we were all there for two weeks anyway, but outsiders were added. Within the group, the Germans often reverted to German, so it was not always easy to join a conversation.
I was satisfied with the number of volunteers in the group	5		4	
The information I received from IBO was clear.	2	It was not entirely clear in advance what the project entailed. It would be helpful if there were also some photos of the project on the site.	5	
The project met my expectations.	5		4	
I had unexpected expenses	No		No	

Overall grade for my IBO – project (1 – 10, 1 is very negative, 10 is very positive).	10	It is a very important project because everyone will live there in an environmentally friendly way and because everyone is welcome.	8	It is a really nice project, we had nice people, varied work and a lot of trips in the area, but that everything was in German just took it down a lot for me.
How did you initially get to know IBO?	Family/ friends		Information market	
Why did you choose IBO?	Other	I found the ideas of this project very important and it was not too far to travel.	Participated before	
Would you recommend IBO to your friends?	yes		yes	
What is your best project memory ?	Working with the group was always very pleasant, even when it was very hard work.		The music evenings, we had several musical instruments and people and made wonderful music.	

Kalbe (IBO-DE)

Questions	Answers	Comments
I support the goal of the project.	3	
The work of the volunteers is useful.	3	
IBO-support on this project is necessary in the future	3	
There was sufficient contact with the target group	2	I would rather invest in other projects. I felt like cheap labour at times, as we also had little explanation about the purpose of the project. Later we did get this information from the other volunteers, so we got to know better what we were doing and why.
The work was sufficient, enough for all volunteers to keep them busy.	5	
There were sufficient materials and tools to work with.	4	
The (technical) guidance was sufficient	3	
The work was done safely.	3	

The work was practically feasible.	4	There was more than enough work. In the beginning, there was some confusion among themselves (among the people of the project) about the activities that had priority. This was communicated better and more clearly over the days. There was almost no technical guidance available, we mainly had to figure out / try things ourselves.
We were warmly welcomed.	3	
The accommodation was suitable.	5	
We were informed well about the local situation (culture, safety, etc.)	3	I have missed support from the target group (artists) themselves. Now we were mainly working with our own club. I would have liked it if we would have worked together more. Accommodation was very good and we were well looked after by Ralf and our cook.
The meals were good.	4	
It was possible to be in contact with locals.	2	
The atmosphere in the group was good	5	All hard workers and nice people.
I was satisfied with the number of volunteers in the group	5	
The information I received from IBO was clear.	5	Very clear communication.
The project met my expectations.	3	
I had unexpected expenses	No	
Overall grade for my IBO – project (1 – 10, 1 is very negative, 10 is very positive).	7	Had two nice weeks. Next time I would choose a project where I could mean something for a vulnerable target group. I would also like to be more in contact with the target group, so that you get the feeling that you are doing something good for the other person. I now had less feeling for the target group I was working for.
How did you initially get to know IBO?	Family/ friends	
Why did you choose IBO?		Convinced by family member
Would you recommend IBO to your friends?	Not sure	Not for a project like this. Maybe another project. I am satisfied with the IBO Organization. I also thought it was good that the boss of IBO Germany showed his face during our project.
What is your best project memory ?	Working with the clay and being together at the fire pit!	

