

STATEMENT OF VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT

VIRTUAL SERVICE PILOT – Q4 2023 BRIDGE.

DUE MARCH 15, 2023 -- FOR START DATES BETWEEN: JULY 10, 2023 AND SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Virtual Service Description:	Support Teacher Training and Improve Students' Proficiency in English
Reference Number:	UKR1070
Country:	Ukraine
Number of VSPPs Requested:	1
Eligibility:	<input type="checkbox"/> RPCVs from Click here to enter text. only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All RPCVs (any RPCV from any country)
Engagement Start Date:	On or about 9-Oct-23
Engagement End Date:	On or about 15-Apr-24
Length of Engagement:	The length of engagement will be approximately 27 weeks long, including orientation
Sector & Priorities:	Primary: Education Secondary: (if necessary) Choose an item. Check if COVID-19 related: <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Climate Change related <input type="checkbox"/> Check if Volunteer Service Initiative (VSI) related <input type="checkbox"/> If related to other agency initiative, priority, or the strategic plan, please indicate here: Click or tap here to enter text.
Expanding Reach & Collaboration:	Would this engagement allow post to expand where or who they can reach geographically or expand how they can otherwise serve the host country? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please briefly explain: Because of war. Check if in-country PCVs or PCRVs are also collaborating on this engagement with the Host Country Partner: <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, please briefly explain: Click here to enter text.

SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS:

The VSPP will report to the Peace Corps TEFL Program Manager, and Regional Program Manager. The VSPP will be expected to abide by the Virtual Service Pilot Participant and Donation Agreement and Participant Principles of Engagement. The VSPP will also be expected to check-in with the designated Host Country Counterpart on a weekly basis as will be discussed during orientation with the Host County Partner.

Post staff name, title and email address: Tamara Prydatko, Peace Corps Ukraine, TEFL PM, tprydatko@peacecorps.gov; Oleg Smiychyk, Peace Corps Ukraine, Regional PM, osmiychyk@peacecorps.gov;

PARTNER BACKGROUND:

Host Country Partner:	Halytskyi Professional College named after Vyacheslav Chornovil
Type of Entity:	Government
Host Country Partner's Mission and Goals:	<p>Halytskyi College teaching staff has the following mission and goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To foster a supportive environment that promotes effective communication and language fluency, development of soft skills, such as critical thinking, leadership, creativity. - To create a community of English language learners and educators who can collaborate, share ideas, and support each other. - To promote a broader understanding of the English language and enhance intercultural competence. - To support teachers'/students' well-being by providing opportunities for self-care and stress reduction. - To introduce students to a variety of strategies which may help them choose their career paths. - To introduce teachers to a variety of strategies which may improve their professional skills. <p>https://tkmcim.wordpress.com/ http://gi.edu.ua/</p>
Name and Title of VSPP Host Country Counterpart:	Oksana Turchyn, Foreign Languages Consultant, English Language Teacher; oksvold7@gmail.com ;

ACTIVITY/PROJECT BACKGROUND: (1-2 PARAGRAPHS)

Halytskyi College in Ukraine, named after Vyacheslav Chornovil, is an establishment of higher education of Ternopil territorial community. It consists of three structural units: gymnasium harmony, professional college, and vocational school. College activities are aimed at implementing high-quality informal education, covering three main areas of education: socio-cultural, personal development, and vocational training. Halytskyi College actively supports initiatives aimed at the implementation of international projects in the fields of science, education, and culture, and cooperates with foreign educational institutions in the areas of design, modern information technology (IT), hotel-restaurant and tourist business, public relations, and media education.

The Virtual Service Pilot Participant (VSPP) will engage with students of Halytskyi Professional College to improve their English language skills and confidence in English, through various activities such as speaking practice sessions, vocabulary building exercises, and language immersion. The VSPP will guide students on career paths and/or educational opportunities, as well as support them in

navigating their academic lives. The VSPP will teach students and teachers to recognize the importance of cultural understanding in language learning and incorporate cultural activities to expose students and teachers to American culture, customs, and perspectives.

Halytskyi Professional College serves as the teachers' professional development center. The VSPP will also support the professional development of English teachers by co-facilitating teacher training sessions. These activities will provide teachers with resources, strategies, and best practices to enhance their teaching methodologies and pedagogical skills. The VSPP will train teachers in teaching communicative English through productive skills development. This will give teachers new insights into teaching English.

Halytskyi Professional College has previously worked with a Peace Corps Volunteer and understand that the role of a VSPP is very different than a two-year Volunteer.

VIRTUAL SERVICE ENGAGEMENT AND TASKS:

The VSPP will engage in the following tasks, in collaboration with their Host Country Partners:

- Co-develop a digital survey tool to determine the teacher and student learning needs
- Co-analyze the survey results and identify priority learning objectives
- Co-plan teachers' club workshops curriculum
- Co-plan students' club workshops curriculum
- Co-facilitate English Teachers' Club once per month (1.5 hours long)
- Co-facilitate weekly 1-hour students' club meetings focusing on language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) for high school students, 14-16 years old
- Share teaching resources, readings for students and teachers including grammar guides, vocabulary lists, online learning platforms, and language learning applications supporting students' independent learning and teachers' professional development
- Provide teachers with feedback for improvement or ideas for new activities
- Co-develop the resource package of at least 15 workshop session outlines and resources

This engagement is expected to be approximately 27 weeks. VSPPs are expected to engage on the tasks listed above for an estimated 5-15 hours per week.

Meetings between VSPPs and Host Country Counterparts will take place during normal office hours, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Ukrainian local time. Specific times will be determined during orientation.

The Host Country Counterpart will have access to Zoom, WhatsApp, and Telegram for regular communication and collaboration.

Per the Child Protection Code of Conduct, when engaging online with minors (0-18), two adults must be present.

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS:

Education: Bachelor's degree in education, teaching, or related field

Experience:

- 2 years of teaching English experience
- 2 years of facilitating teacher trainings for EFL teachers
- Experience with facilitation of distance education using Zoom and online teaching platforms

Intercultural skills and motivation: Flexible, strong cross-cultural agility, high tolerance for ambiguity, able to work independently, resourceful, creative, and genuinely motivated and capable to serve virtually

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

Education: Master's degree in education, teaching, OR TEFL/TESOL, Cambridge or similar certificate

Technical Skills: Familiarity with virtual engagement and communication

Experience:

- Experience with training, coaching, or mentoring teachers to improve their teaching and presentation skills
- Experience working with refugees, internationally displaced persons, or people affected by conflict

STANDARD LANGUAGE == DO NOT EDIT ANY OF THE TEXT BELOW

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The Peace Corps mission is to promote world peace and friendship by fulfilling three goals:

1. To help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women.
2. To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served.
3. To help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.

Goal 1 will be achieved through the VSPP's engagement and completion of the above tasks. The counterpart and VSPP may also choose to identify an activity that aligns with Goal 2. Additionally, the VSPP may identify a Goal 3 activity to implement during their engagement. A number of recommendations and tools for Goal 3 activities are outlined [here](#).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENGAGEMENT:

VSPPs will be engaging with the host country partner, in coordination with Peace Corps post staff, remotely from the US. They should have access to a computer, internet, and telephone in order to enable direct engagement with the Peace Corps overseas office and the Host Country Counterpart assigned by the host country partner.

Orientation with the host country partner will be provided, within the designated virtual service hours, during the first week of virtual service via an online presentation and discussion. The host country partner will provide an overview of its organization, the local context, and how they envision collaborating with the VSPP.

The VSPP will have regular check-ins with their counterpart and bi-weekly check-ins with Peace Corps staff. Spending unstructured time with counterparts can be critical to relationship-building and is encouraged through activities such as coffee chats and informal calls within the weekly 5-15 hours.

ENGAGEMENT SPECIFIC SAFETY AND SECURITY:

The VSPP will receive an orientation on Peace Corps' Child Protection Policy and how it relates to online engagement along with IT security best practices. The VSPP will be expected to follow safety and security guidelines for online engagement to ensure their safety and that of the Host Country Partner and their counterpart, and any beneficiaries of the engagement.