

International short term voluntary projects

*as a mean to address
structural problems of border regions*

Short-term volunteering

WHO WE ARE

- ▶ Non-governmental and non-profit organization
- ▶ Founded in 1991

CORE ACTIVITIES:

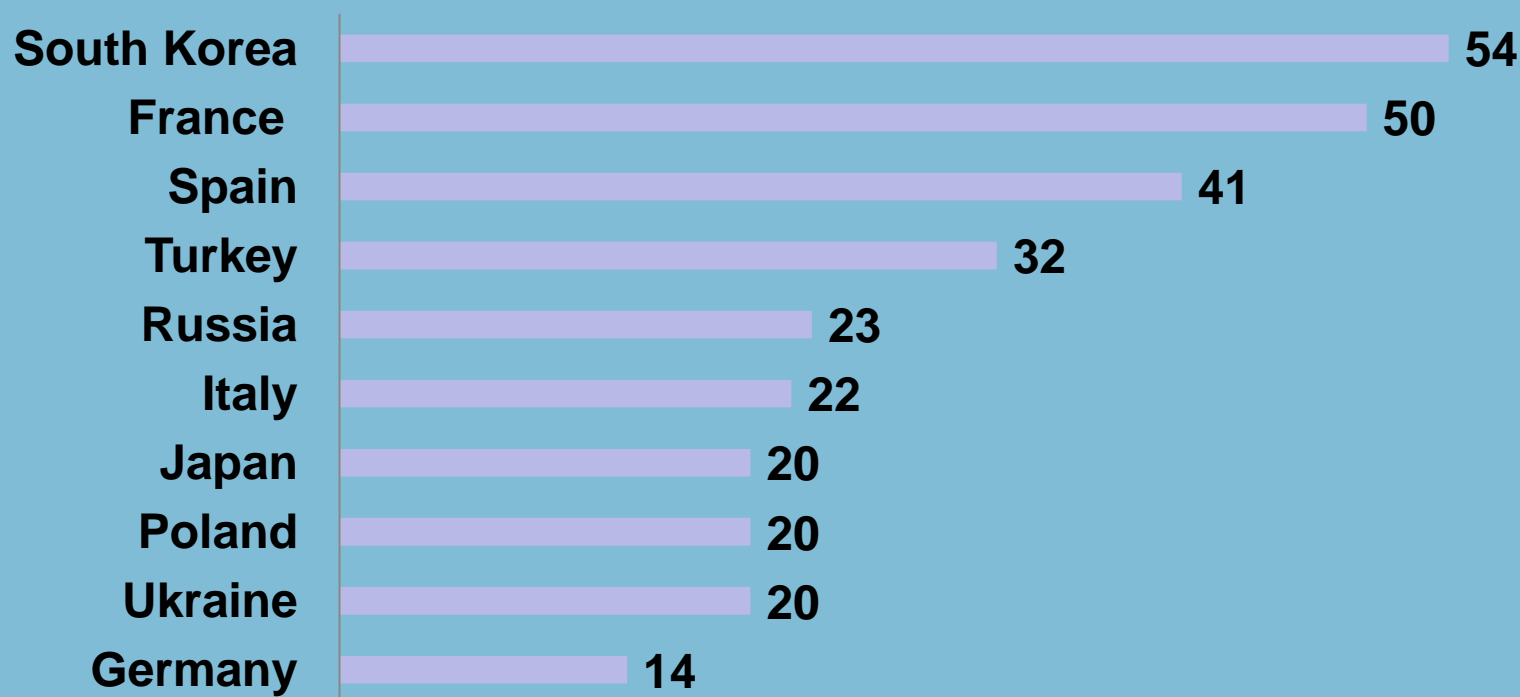
- ▶ international voluntary projects, educational programs and campaigns

OUR MISSION

- ▶ assist the development of a tolerant and open society
- ▶ encourage an active and responsible approach to the world around us both locally and globally

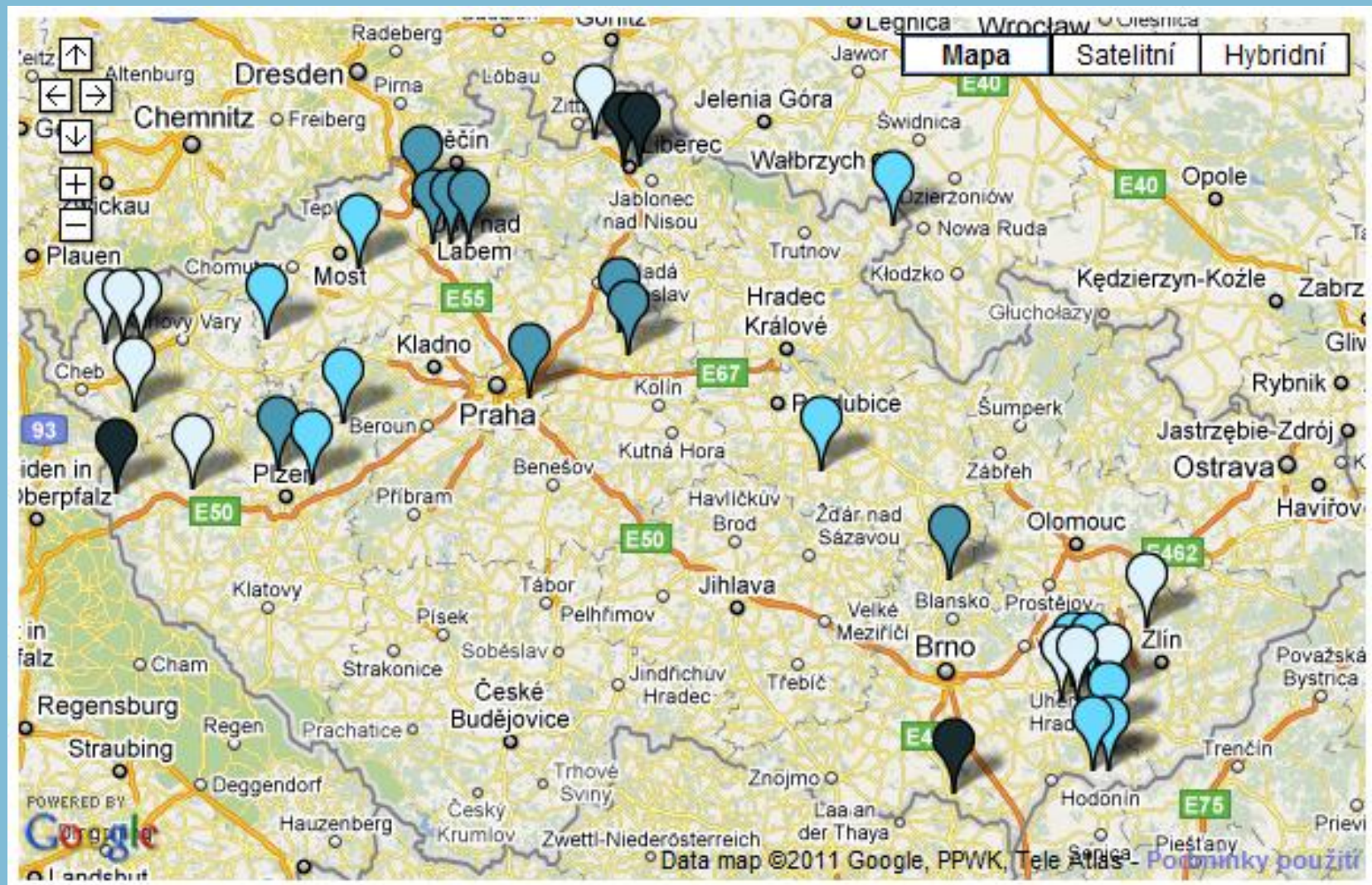
Short-term volunteering

Origin of the volunteers - 2010



Plus 70 – 80 Czech voluntary project leaders

Short-term volunteering



Short-term volunteering

- ▶ From the **age of 18** (no max age) no formal qualification needed
- ▶ Duration: **2 to 3 weeks**
- ▶ Group-Size: **8 – 14 volunteers**
- ▶ Language of communication: **English**
- ▶ **Accommodation and food** are provided
- ▶ Participant fee and travel expenses paid by volunteer

Short-term volunteering

MAIN FOCUS OF THE WORK

- ▶ Environmental protection
- ▶ Social support
- ▶ Rural development
- ▶ Preservation of cultural heritage

+ NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

- ▶ discussions, workshops, cultural events
- ▶ informal meetings
- ▶ activities with children, youth ...



Short-term volunteering



EXCAMPLE A)
Castle Hartenberg

Since 2000



EXCAMPLE B)
Horse Farm Chmelistná

New cooperation

Short-term volunteering



Common problems:

- unemployment, migration of qualified and young people
- social exclusion (ghettos),
- general neglect of the region (cultural heritage, environment, civic engagement),

Short-term volunteering

EXAMPLE A)

Castle Hartenberg (2000 - 2011)

- more than 50 projects
- cultural heritage preservation
- cultural and educational programs



Short-term volunteering



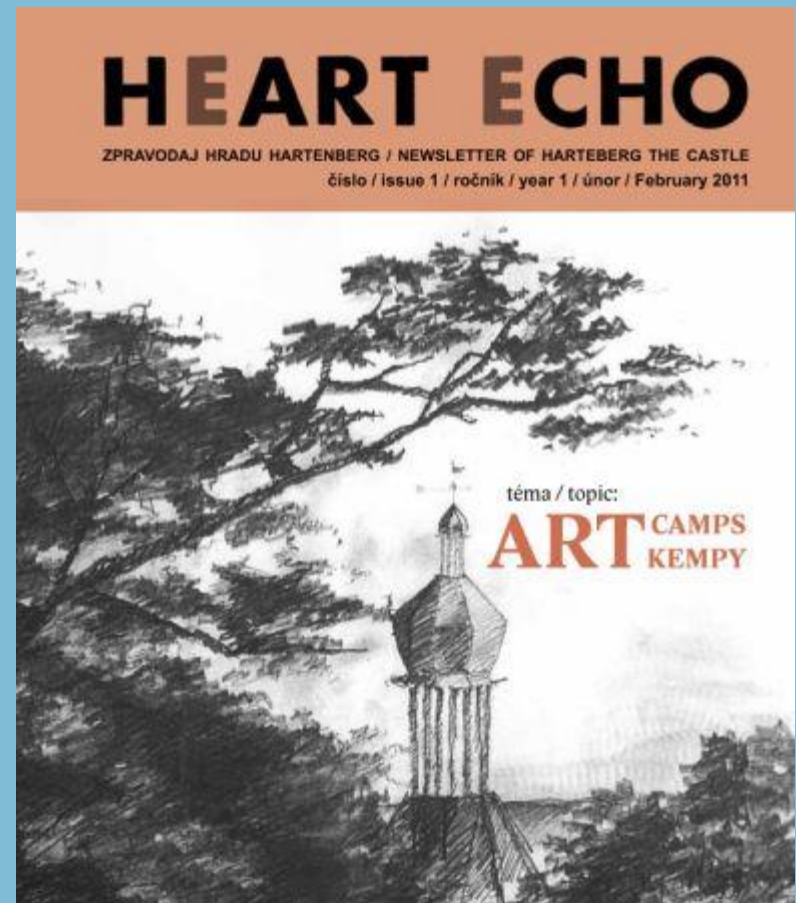
Short-term volunteering



Short-term volunteering



Short-term volunteering



Examples of good practice

EXAMPLE B) **Horse Farm Chmelistná**

3 weeks in April/May 2011
in Chmelištná (West Bohemia)

- ▶ 10 volunteers
- ▶ Rural development
and social integration



Short-term volunteering



Short-term volunteering



Short-term volunteering



Examples of good practice



Short-term volunteering

Challenges:

- financing
- sustainability of the project
 - regarding the support of the local partner
 - regarding the volunteer
- involve local population

Short-term volunteering

NEW VIRGIN FOREST – September 2011

- 14 volunteers
- 2 leaders
- Age: 18 – 26
- Visegrad-countries plus Germany and Austria
- ecological work
- Non-formal education

