

VOLUNTEERING

KEEPING MOUNTAIN VILLAGES ALIVE

Artieda (Aragón, Spain)

2021

March 15 - December 12

Take part in the struggle of the rural areas with
the European Solidarity Corps



REGION AND PYRENEES

The origin of Aragón

Jacetania region is part of the territory known as Viello Aragón, a mountain area at the base of the Pyrenees where one of the most important kingdoms in Europe had its origin.

To this day, this Aragonese region is distinguished for keeping its cultural legacy alive, and along with its environmental and scenic wealth, makes the place an interesting area for tourism that maintains traditional uses of the land (agriculture and livestock) in the valleys where snow business hasn't arrived.



ARTIEDA

The struggle of rural areas to survive

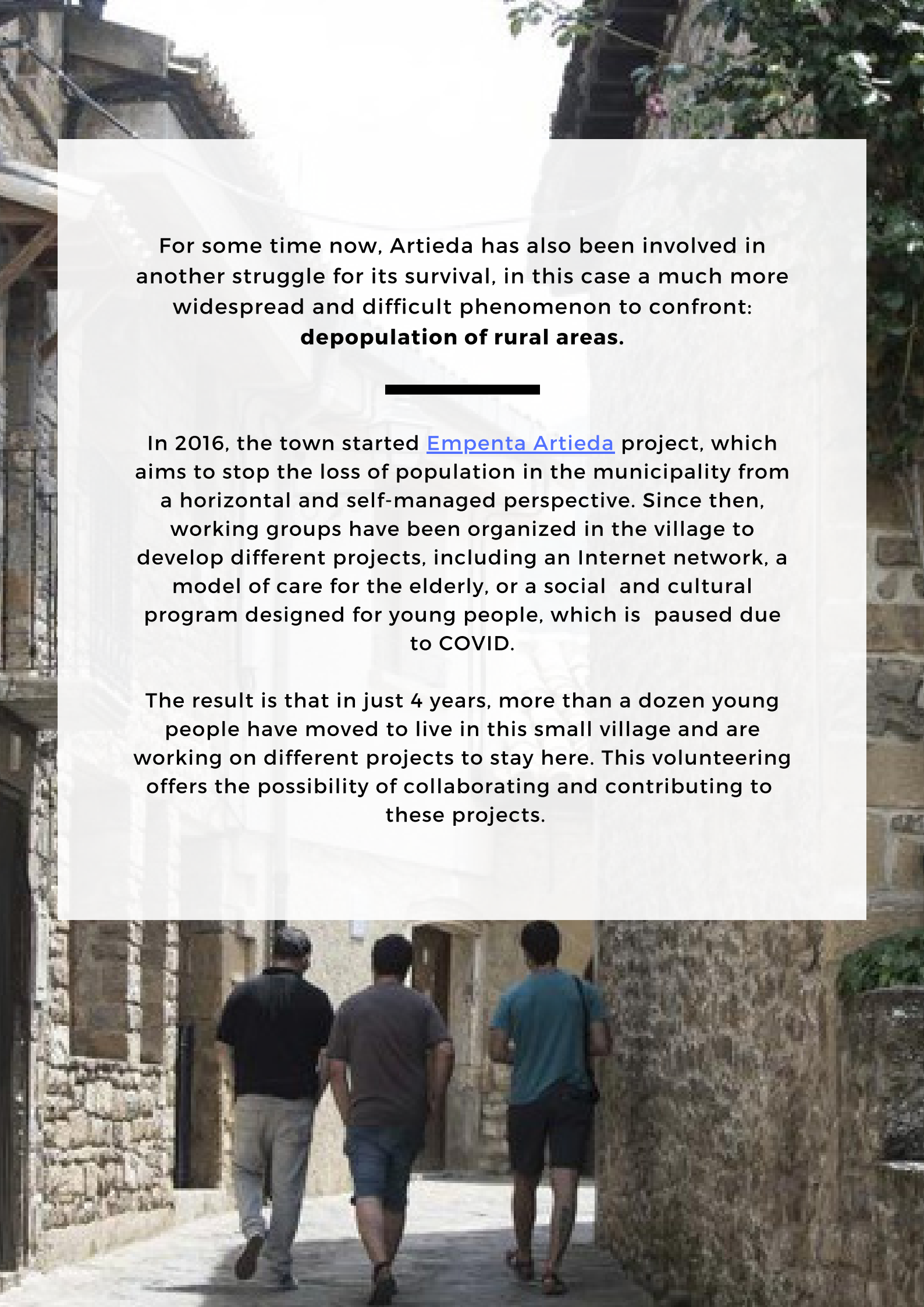
The case of Artieda is an example of this situation.

Comarca de la Jacetania collaborates with this municipality where volunteering will take place due to its particular characteristics related to the demographic challenge of the European rural environment.



Artieda is a small town (with only 70 inhabitants) that, despite its size, started almost 40 years ago a long struggle against the construction of a large dam that, if carried out, would end part of its livelihood:

The [regrowth of Yesa](#).



For some time now, Artieda has also been involved in another struggle for its survival, in this case a much more widespread and difficult phenomenon to confront:
depopulation of rural areas.

In 2016, the town started [Empenta Artieda](#) project, which aims to stop the loss of population in the municipality from a horizontal and self-managed perspective. Since then, working groups have been organized in the village to develop different projects, including an Internet network, a model of care for the elderly, or a social and cultural program designed for young people, which is paused due to COVID.

The result is that in just 4 years, more than a dozen young people have moved to live in this small village and are working on different projects to stay here. This volunteering offers the possibility of collaborating and contributing to these projects.



VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Sustainability, food sovereignty and rural life

Volunteers will learn the principles of food sovereignty and will have the opportunity to develop their skills in the fields of ecological gardening, green building and environmental education.

Chores:

- Support maintenance of an educational ecological garden and an experimental garden of aromatic and medicinal plants.
- Reconstruction of walls and farmyards with dry stone technique.
- Support construction of small structures for community use, such as chicken coop, recreation area, solar dryer for aromatic plants, etc.
- Support planning and execution of educational and awareness raising workshops for groups of children and adults on agroecology and food sovereignty.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Community participation and local development

Volunteers will participate in local development activities and active citizenship. They will learn organizational skills and coordination of social and cultural activities for the local community.

Chores:

- Participation in meetings and activities of the local development project Empenta Artieda
- Support project management and coordination
- Logistical support on carrying out social and cultural activities (conferences, concerts, workshops, training courses, etc.)
- Support on the realization of group activities for children, teenagers, young adults

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS

Sustainable tourism

The volunteers will develop management skills of rural tourism facilities, stimulation of social networks, tourism promotion and customer service.

Chores:

- Support management of the Pilgrims' Hostel and Municipal Camping
- Translation of texts
- Support carrying out guided tours for tourists to the Artieda Tower Museum
- Production of content and management of social networks
- Collaboration in the tourist development of the French Camino de Santiago in Aragón

PARTICIPANTS PROFILE

Young people between 18 and 30 years old
who reside in one of the participating countries of the
European Solidarity Corps

Places in this project:

2 places

**We are looking for people
who:**

- Seek to be in contact with nature
- Are active, willing to participate and take the initiative
- Have a critical spirit and want to contribute to the construction of a more sustainable and human development model
- Want to live in a small village in a rural mountain context, away from the city
- Are motivated to learn and participate in activities in the fields of: agroecology, rural development and sustainable tourism.

PRACTICAL ASPECTS

Accommodation and meals

The two volunteers will stay in a municipal apartment with capacity for three people.

The **accommodation** has:

- 2 bathrooms (To be shared among the people who live together)
- Kitchen room (To be shared among the people who live together)
- 3 individual rooms: Each volunteer will have their own room.
 - Rooms will be assigned by draw the arrival day.
 - Sheets, blankets and bath towels are provided so it is NOT necessary to bring them. Internet and heating are also included.

Maintenance: Upon arrival volunteers will be accompanied to open an account number in a Spanish bank, in which the following amounts will be paid monthly:

- POCKET MONEY: € 150 / month
- MAINTENANCE MONEY (Breakfasts, dinners and meals on holidays as well as transport): € 196 / month
 - Meals on weekdays (not weekends or holidays) are covered by the organization.

PRACTICAL ASPECTS

Travel

The host entity will coordinate with the volunteers about their availability to travel and will be in charge of providing guidance on the purchase of tickets, transportation, etc. Both on the way in and on the way back, you will be informed of the maximum amount of money you can spend, and once the expense has been made and the documentation (invoice or travel tickets, etc.) has been submitted, it will be reimbursed in your account number.

In case the volunteer makes an expense higher than that approved by the ENA, only the approved amount will be paid, the difference will have to be assumed by the volunteer.

Holidays

In addition to the two days a week break, volunteers will have two more free days every month. They can enjoy them monthly or accumulate them to use them whenever they want.

Protection insurance

Volunteers belonging to the EU should not forget the European Health Card, likewise, the sending entity will manage everything necessary to request CIGNA Insurance. Depending on the current health criteria, a COVID test may be requested depending on the health legislation applying at that time.

PRACTICAL ASPECTS

Tutors

The host entity will assign a personal tutor to each volunteer who will ensure that their experience is as welcoming as possible and will manage any unforeseen events that may arise.

Linguistic support

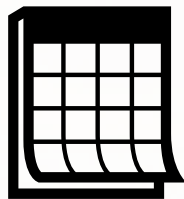
It will be carried out in two ways:

1. Volunteers will be integrated with the town's neighborhood network to work on the linguistic aspect.
2. Language Platform, OLS.

Training

Volunteers will attend the Arrival Training courses offered by the National Agency or by the host organization and the Intermediate Evaluation seminars organized by the National Agency. (The assistance will depend on what is marked at the time by the Ministry of Health and always as a consequence of the COVID situation at that time)

DATES AND LOCATION



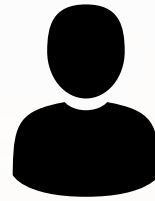
The stay has a duration of **9 months** from March 15 to December 12, 2021 (**273 days**)

- **March 15:** travel day to Spain.
- **December 12:** day of return to country of residence

The project will be developed entirely in [Artieda](#) ([Zaragoza](#), [Aragon](#)) although some activities will take place in the surroundings.



IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS



Climate: Artieda is located at the base of the Pyrenees. During the summer the temperatures are warm and pleasant, but in the months close to winter they drop considerably, although they are not extreme.

Rural areas: If you want to participate in this project, you must be aware that the Jacetania region is a rural area with a low population density and that the cities closest to Artieda are:

- Jaca (50 km away) with 13,000 inhabitants
- Pamplona (70 km away) with 200,000 inhabitants
- Zaragoza (170 km) with 960,000 inhabitants

For any trip to these or other destinations, there is public transport and there are usually people from the town willing to share a car.

HOW TO TAKE PART

If you want to participate in the project:

- Register on the [European Solidarity Corps web](#) and request to participate in this project
- Get in touch with us before January 18:
 - through the email juventud@jacetania.es
 - call us during business hours at (0034) 974 35 60 62

2 available places



We will wait for you!