Who is responsible for the organisation?

The VEY in Berlin is run by three charitable organisations. They are responsible for the content and organisational implementation of the VEY.

Jugendwerk Aufbau Ost JAO gGmbH
Landsberger Allee 565
12679 Berlin, Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)30/5353977
www.foej-jao.de

Stiftung Naturschutz Berlin
Potsdamer Strasse 68
10785 Berlin, Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)30/26394140
www.stiftung-naturschutz.de

Vereinigung Junger Freiwilliger e. V.
Berliner Allee 59/61
13088 Berlin, Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)30/42850603
www.vjf.de

“It was just a normal school then.”
Irina Papke

Then: VEY 2008 / 2009 at the Umweltschule am Falkplatz (responsible: Vereinigung Junger Freiwilliger), today: training to become a primary school teacher

“Actually I also wanted to collect frogs.”
Jöran Fliege

Then: VEY 2005 / 2006 at sunbeam GmbH (responsible: Jugendwerk Aufbau Ost), today: works there as the Art Director (experienced and leading communication designer)

“It made me think more politically”
Britta Steffenhagen


Further details available at: www.berlin.de/foej

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Communication
Am Kölischen Park 1, 10179 Berlin
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Apply now for the Volunteer Ecological Year in Berlin!
The Volunteer Ecological Year (VEY) (Freiwilliges Ökologisches Jahr – FÖJ) in Berlin offers teenagers and young adults the opportunity to actively engage in environmental protection for one year. Through practical activities, extensive ecological knowledge is acquired that is deepened in accompanying seminars. Young people at the threshold between school and further education can test and orient themselves professionally. No special school leaving certificates or qualifications are required. The VEY offers an excellent opportunity to discover your own skills and interests, and to develop yourself personally.

Where can volunteers be active?
If you are interested in taking part in a Volunteer Ecological Year you can choose from a variety of work locations. During the VEY, the volunteers can create wetlands and ponds or plant trees and shrubs. In forest, gardening and animal nursing schools you can work with children and teach them how to take a responsible approach to plants and animals. You can also get involved in press and public relations work or the production of operating instructions as well as in scientific analysis activities in laboratories and research facilities. Regardless where you ultimately decide to work, you should be interested in ecological issues and enjoy working in nature with animals and people.

What benefits are provided by the VEY?
The participants will receive a monthly allowance of currently 510 euros. Social insurance contributions will be paid for the duration of the employment. Participants will be entitled to 26 working days of holiday if they take part for twelve months. Child benefit will be paid in accordance with statutory requirements. During the course of the VEY, up to five one-week seminars will take place at different locations on different topics from the environmental sector. Among other things, there will be exciting excursions, interesting specialist presentations and an active exchange of experiences during the VEY. Participation in the seminars is binding and free of charge.

When does the VEY begin and how long does it last?
In Berlin the VEY always starts on 1 September and usually lasts for 12 months, or 6 months at the very least. A regular working week lasts for 39 hours.

How to apply for the VEY?
In Berlin there are currently 360 places in the VEY. Anyone wishing to apply should get in contact with one of the funding bodies approved by the State of Berlin. This will provide you with information about the various operational areas and workplaces. Since the application deadlines and conditions are not the same for all funding bodies, you should find out information and apply as soon as possible. Parental consent is required in the case of minors.