

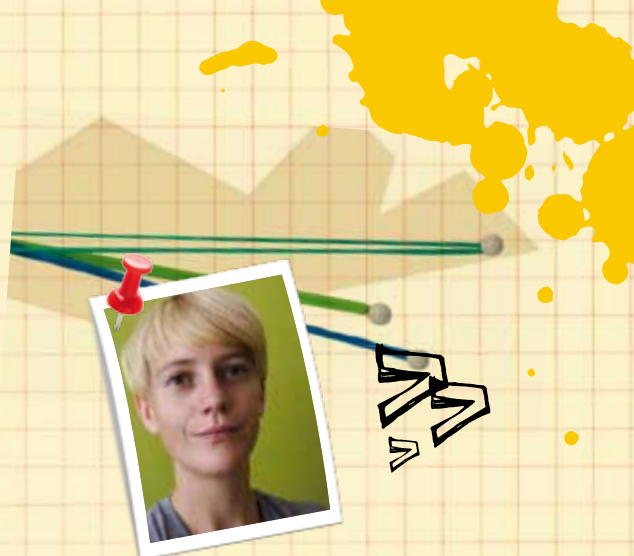


# The art of volunteering

by Marlies Pöschl

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*Marlies Pöschl met four international volunteers currently taking part in projects in Vienna and asked them to express their thoughts about the art of volunteering in words and symbols. What are the challenges that they meet? What are the opportunities that they have?*



**Mimmi Thomée,**  
20, from Sweden, EVS volunteer at Greenpeace

**In the beginning everything's good, and then it may go down a little, you might miss your home, it may be hard to be in a new city with a new culture where there is so much you don't know. But I think this is the way to become bigger as a person. I think during this year I will become bigger, in many ways.**

I am placed in the Ocean's department, but my work is actually very diverse. Sometimes I am researching products in supermarkets, for example Tuna, for our database, but I also help paint banners for our actions. At the moment I am looking for an interpreter for the African Voices tour, where fishermen from Africa are going to speak in front of politicians.

The biggest challenge for me here is I want to be independent and not have to ask people all the time, but still I feel that I have to, that's something I want to reduce.

