



BIOGRAPHY

UNV EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR

FLAVIA PANSIERI



The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that contributes to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide. Volunteerism is a powerful means of engaging people in tackling development challenges, and it can transform the pace and nature of development. Volunteerism benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer by strengthening trust, solidarity and reciprocity among citizens, and by purposefully creating opportunities for participation. UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for recognition of volunteers, working with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing an increasing number and diversity of volunteers, including experienced UNV volunteers, throughout the world. UNV embraces volunteerism as universal and inclusive, and recognizes volunteerism in its diversity as well as the values that sustain it: free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity.

Flavia Pansieri was appointed Executive Coordinator of UNV in February 2008. Prior to joining UNV she served as the United Nations Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Republic of Yemen (September 2004 – January 2008). In the past 25 years she has held a number of increasingly responsible positions in a number of UN system agencies and in various countries and headquarters locations.

Ms. Pansieri started her UN career in 1983 with UNDP in China, where she was responsible for the UNV and TOKTEN programmes, as well as for projects in the energy sector. She continued with UNDP in Bangladesh (1987 – 1990) and Myanmar (1990 – 1993), followed by a posting to Laos as Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and thereafter from 1995 to 1998 at UNODC Headquarters in Vienna directing, planning and evaluating activities.

As the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM) in New York (1998 – 2001), she engaged in promoting women's economic, social and political participation and in raising awareness about gender equality issues. Before taking up the RC/RR position in Yemen, she was in charge of the Country Division of the Regional Bureau for Arab States at UNDP, providing guidance and support to programme activities in the various countries of the Arab region.

Ms. Pansieri is an Italian national with a doctoral degree in Philosophy from Milan University, and one in Chinese Language and Literature from Venice University. She is a fluent speaker of Chinese, English, German, French, Spanish and Italian.

United Nations Volunteers

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