

2014-2015 REPORT UNV SPECIAL VOLUNTARY FUND

The new Sustainable Development Agenda calls for a greater focus on innovation, participation and flexibility. The global development landscape has changed dramatically since the SVF was first established in 1970, and continues to change at a rapid pace. This brings challenges for traditional development actors, but it also brings profound opportunities for organizations that are agile and able to adapt.

UNV is reorienting itself to be an innovative, creative and cutting-edge UN agency that is able to mobilize people, enable participation and catalyze change. Continued investment in the SVF is essential to preserving UNV's agility, ability to identify new development solutions, deepen the global understanding of volunteerism and invest in positive change.

The SVF, therefore, is the primary source of funding for piloting and scaling UNV initiatives that test and demonstrate the relevance and added value of volunteerism and of volunteer contributions to peace and development and in response to national development objectives.

SVF DISBURSEMENT 2014-2015

The SVF is an indispensable component of UNV funding. Many SVF-funded projects are highly innovative, respond to critical development challenges, and are quite often pilot projects. They demonstrate the relevance of volunteerism to sustainable development and are in line with the five new global programmes outlined in the 2014-17 UNV Strategic Framework.

Developing a new pipeline of SVF-supported joint UN programmes and projects at the country level has enabled UNV to engage more systematically in the UN common country programming processes. It has also shaped, in consultation with governments and civil



His Excellency Ruben Armando Escalante Hasbun, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the UN speaks at the UNV launch of the second State of the World's Volunteerism report in New York. (Joel Sheakoski, 2015)

National UN Volunteer Project Manager George Gachie (Kenya) shares a moment with another UN Volunteer in Kibera slums, after introducing a visiting consultant to the community where he is leading a Participatory Slum Upgrading Project (PSUP) for UN-Habitat. Launched in 2008, the PSUP is a joint effort of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, the European Commission and UN-Habitat. (UNV, 2015)



society, the role that volunteers and volunteerism can play in tackling sustainable development challenges and providing solutions. According to the 2014-2015 report to the Executive Board of the UNDP, UNFPA and the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), 50 project concept notes have been endorsed, with US \$5 million from the SVF invested in joint projects strategically leveraging a significant 18-fold multiplier effect, by engaging a total financial envelope of nearly US \$90 million in commitments from partners. It is anticipated that as these projects are implemented, UN partners will provide more effective development solutions integrating volunteers and volunteerism, and scale up and replicate accordingly.

SVF DONORS

Contributions to the SVF, critical for continued innovation in integrating volunteers and volunteerism with UN partners through seed funding, and for the production of knowledge products, declined by 11 per cent in the 2014-2015 biennium. For this period, the SVF received US \$7.9 million from UN Member States, including the governments of **Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Czech Republic, China, Germany, India, Ireland, Israel, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Morocco, Switzerland, Sweden and Thailand.**

UTILIZATION OF SVF FUNDING FOR PROJECTS

To ensure that the money contributed to the SVF generates maximum impact on the ground, a strategic approach is used to select projects for funding. Projects funded by SVF comply with the UNV Strategic Framework and contribute to achieving the organization's priority objectives. Moreover, in the interest of coherence of UN interventions on the ground, projects are also selected on the basis of the added value they can offer to the

efforts of partner entities within the UN system and to the achievement of the partner countries' national development priorities, as reflected in UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF).

GOVERNANCE

In the field, UNV strives to integrate results and indicators related to volunteerism into UNDAFs, *UN Delivering as One* plans and partner entity country programmes. UNV operates in a complex and mutually-reinforcing environment of UN organizations to which it contributes the unique added value of volunteerism.

All projects funded by the SVF are approved by UNV's Programme Advisory Board and Project Appraisal Committee. The main purpose of all UNV interventions is the achievement of development results through UNV's work with UN partners. Results-based management is applied at various levels. Like all UNV projects, those funded through SVF comply with the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures monitoring and evaluation systems. This will translate into even more strategic planning, as well as more efficient and effective use of SVF funds.

SVF GOING FORWARD

Continued investment in the SVF is essential to preserving UNV's agility, ability to identify new development solutions, deepen the global understanding of volunteerism and invest in positive change. UNDP Governing Council decision 92/35 by the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS expanded the SVF mandate to facilitate the impact of volunteerism and, as such, was a strong show of support for UNV from UN Member States. The SVF is a critical resource for UNV, enabling the organization to make strategic investments through seed

funding; to develop creative and innovative solutions to development challenges, and to meaningfully contribute leading research and knowledge products to the global volunteering community. The flexibility of the SVF allows UNV to make strategic investments where UNV sees an opportunity to make a transformational, innovative or unique impact.

Seed funding and scaling

The SVF will continue to be leveraged by UNV to make targeted investments in areas where volunteerism has a transformative impact. Under UNV's five global programmes, the SVF will continue to better leverage volunteers and volunteerism in achieving results linked to the achievement of the SDGs in the priority areas of basic social services, community resilience for environment and disaster risk reduction, peacebuilding, youth, and national capacity development through volunteer schemes, all with a cross-cutting theme of knowledge and innovation.

The SVF represents UNV's investment in such programmes and associated projects, and is crucial for new partnerships to deliver relevant and creative solutions. In **Gabon**, for example, modest resources were invested toward a feasibility study and project drafting for a National Volunteer Scheme. This has led to a nearly US \$5 million cost-sharing agreement with the Government and a joint UNV, UNDP and UNFPA programme for the establishment of a volunteer infrastructure initiative in support of the youth in the country. A similar initiative is under exploration in **Cameroon**, again with UNV placing seed-resources into a feasibility study.

Innovation

The SVF is critical for continued innovation and systematic impact in integrating volunteers and volunteerism in peace and development efforts. UNV continues to reorient itself within an evolving development landscape towards being a partner- and innovation-focused organization, poised to deliver greater results. The SVF upholds the key pillar of innovation for UNV by enabling the agency to develop, pilot and scale innovative new approaches to its programming and research agenda. For example, in **Viet Nam**, alongside capacity building activities for volunteer leaders and the National Volunteer Awards, UNV provided SVF funding and collaborated with the Youth Union and the Viet Nam Volunteer Centre to develop an online matching platform to facilitate volunteering.

Knowledge sharing and products

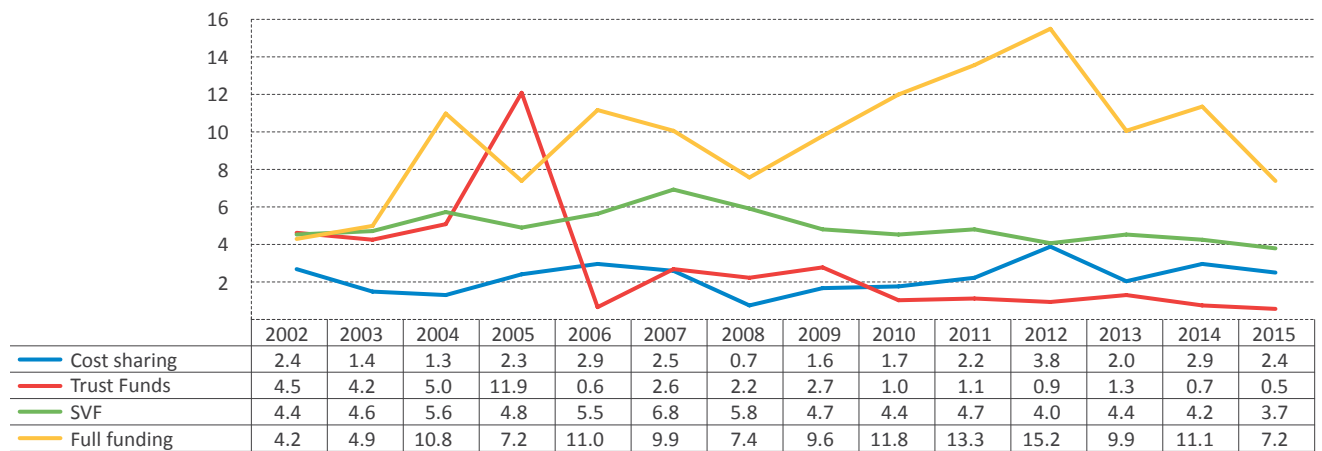
By recognizing UNV's comparative advantage in the global development arena, UNV is constantly improving knowledge-based expertise, leveraging innovative advisory solutions and developing leading knowledge and research products. In 2015, UNV contributed to 16 studies on volunteerism, supported workshops on Participatory Methodology for Assessing the Contribution of Volunteering to Development and developed knowledge products such as the 2015 State of the World's Volunteerism Report, *Transforming Governance*. The SVF will enable UNV to continue carrying out crucial research in the context of volunteerism for peace and development, in support of the new global research agenda on volunteerism.



Stepanka Pechackova (Czech Republic) is a UN Youth Volunteer Communications, Outreach and Youth Officer with the UNV Field Unit and UNDP Country Office in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. She often gives presentations to local school children to promote volunteerism. (UNV, 2015)

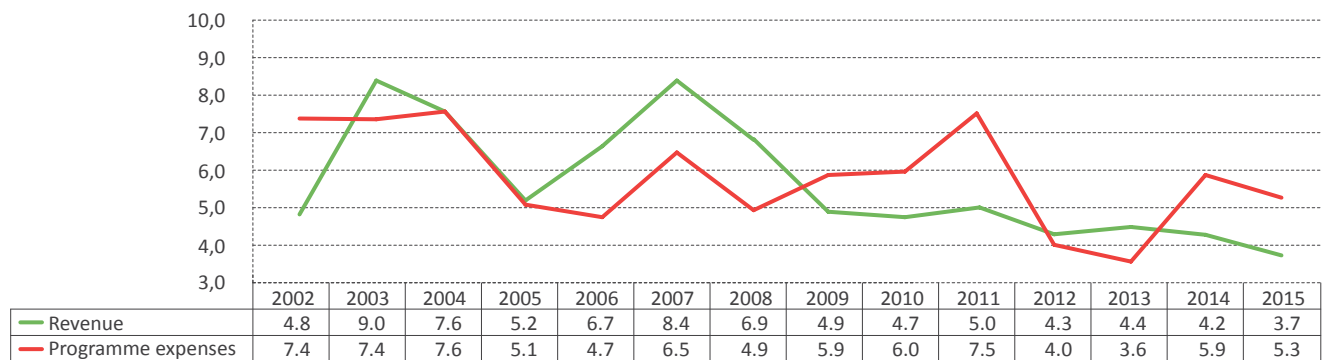
SVF Revenue and Programme Expenses – 2014-2015

UNV FUNDS: REVENUE 2002-2015* (Millions of US \$)

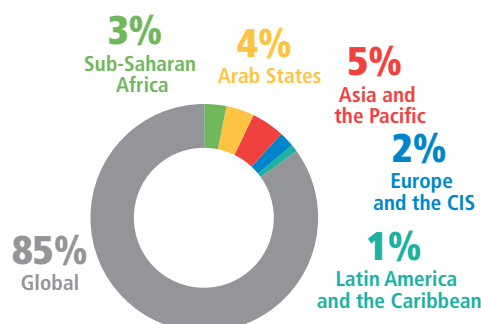


*Interest and miscellaneous income not included.

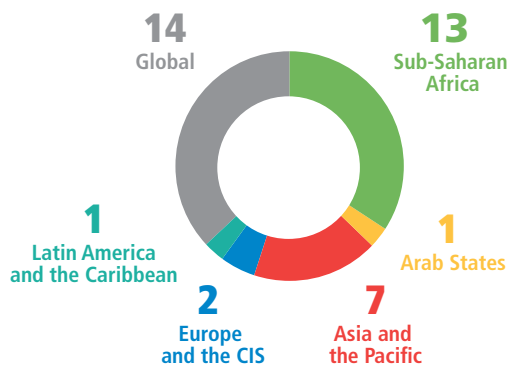
SVF: REVENUE AND PROGRAMME EXPENSES 2002-2015 (Millions of US \$)



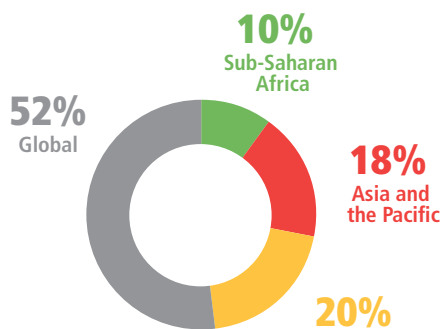
SVF PROGRAMME EXPENSES BY REGION – 2014-2015: US \$11.2 MILLION



NUMBER OF ACTIVE SVF PROJECTS BY REGION – 2014-2015



SVF PROGRAMME EXPENSES ON YOUTH – 2014-2015:
US \$2.6 million



Friends of UNICEF, a local Iraqi youth volunteer group, interacted with the public in Baghdad as part of International Volunteer Day 2015 celebrations. Iraqis expressed their hopes and sent out messages for partnership, peace, dignity and a safe and brighter future for Iraq. (UNAMI, 2015)



Status of SVF-funded projects active during the period 2014-2015 (Thousands of US \$)

COUNTRY	PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)	UNV Programme Results	2014-2015 Expenses	Total Project (All year Expenses + Budgets)
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA				
Regional – Africa	ECOWAS: Youth Ambassadors for Peace – 50999	Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities	269	354
Burundi	BDI10: National Youth Volunteers for the Achievement of the MDGs – 86684	NA (tagged to field unit results)	235	500
Mozambique	MOZ10 – B0358: Establishment of a National Volunteer Agency – 74799	NA (tagged to field unit results)	130	168
Niger	NER10: B0362 National Crisis and Disaster Prevention and Management Programme – 69815	NA (tagged to field unit results)	107	202
Guinea Bissau	GNB10 – B0340: Reinforcement of the Capacity of Civil Society Organizations to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – 76890	NA (tagged to field unit results)	81	288
Mauritania	MRT10: National Volunteer Scheme – 88629/30	NA (tagged to field unit results)	78	265
Swaziland	SWZ10 – B0376: Swaziland HIV/AIDS – 78848	NA (tagged to field unit results)	60	213
Regional – Africa	UNV Support to Ebola outbreak response – 92566	Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities	45	45
Lesotho	LSO10 – B0344: Support to the implementation of a National Volunteer Corps of Young Graduates – 71140	NA (tagged to field unit results)	28	280
Cabo Verde	CPV10 – B0312: Appui à la mise en place d'un Programme National de Volontariat au Cabo Verde – 71937	NA (tagged to field unit results)	16	346
Zambia	UNV/UNCCD Framework – 53037	Outcome 07 – Disaster Risk Reduction/ Capacity development	15	56
Rwanda	RWA10 B0366: Delivery as One to meet Development Needs and Rights of Rwandan Adolescents and Youth 2009-2011 – 71981	NA (tagged to field unit results)	3	44
Ethiopia	ETH10: National Volunteer Scheme – 89707	NA (tagged to field unit results)	–	50
Subtotal			1,067	2,811
ARAB STATES				
Regional – Arab States	Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better Future – 85604	Outcome 08 – Youth/Contributions	257	453
Regional – Arab States	Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better Future – 85602	Outcome 10 – Youth/Opportunities	140	194
Regional – Arab States	Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better Future – 85603	Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities	111	168
Subtotal			508	815
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC				
Sri Lanka	Support to Volunteerism: Volunteer Orientation and Information Centre – 51172	Outcome 08 – Youth/Contributions	195	614
Nepal	UNV10 with ASL to B0422: Support for the Local Governance and Community Development Programme in Nepal, Phase II – 88539	Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities	195	292
Regional – Asia	UNDP1 – B0441: Partners for Prevention, Phase I – 62541	NA (tagged to field unit results)	93	551
Regional – Asia	Partners for Prevention, Phase II – 93008	Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities	91	309
Viet Nam	UNV10 B0438: Strengthening the Capacity of the Viet Nam Volunteer Information Resource Centre for Promoting Volunteerism for Development, Phase II – 88183	Outcome 10 – Youth/Opportunities	91	400

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COUNTRY	PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)	UNV Programme Results	2014-2015 Expenses	Total Project (All year Expenses + Budgets)
India	Strengthening National Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and National Service Scheme in India – 95970	Outcome 13 – National and Sub-National Capacities	22	113
India	Strengthening National Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and National Service Scheme in India – 95968	Outcome 13 – National and Sub-National Capacities	10	214
India	Strengthening National Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and National Service Scheme in India – 95972	Outcome 13 – National and Sub-National Capacities	–	71
India	Strengthening National Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and National Service Scheme in India – 95971	Outcome 13 – National and Sub-National Capacities	–	73
Indonesia	IDN10 – B0408: People-centred Development Project, Phase II 76143	NA (tagged to field unit results)	(25)	177
Subtotal			672	2,814
EUROPE AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES				
Uzbekistan	UZB10 – B0584: Social Innovation and Volunteerism in Uzbekistan – 83372	NA (tagged to field unit results)	125	197
Ukraine	UKR10 – B0582: Youth Football Volunteers – Sports and Volunteering for the MDGs – 81158	NA (tagged to field unit results)	67	141
Subtotal			192	338
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN				
Peru	UNDP1 – B0522: Joint UNDP-UNEP Poverty Environment Initiative, Phase II	NA (tagged to field unit results)	124	124
Subtotal			124	124
GLOBAL				
Global	Advisory Services – 84493	Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment	1,551	3,354
Global	State of the World's Volunteerism Report, Phase II – 88078/79	Outcome 11 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Volunteerism Integration	990	992
Global	UNV10 B0172: Programme Officer Empowerment Mechanism III – 15365	Other	969	6,103
Global	Youth – 95457	Outcome 08 – Youth/Contributions	746	2,264
Global	Rio+20 – 85861	Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment	576	794
Global	Volunteer Management – 84491	Outcome 11 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Volunteerism Integration	488	563
Global	UNV Online Volunteering service – 84492	Outcome 11 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Volunteerism Integration	482	828
Global	Peacebuilding – 95461	Outcome 01 – Peacebuilding/UN Capacity	359	2,670
Global	UN Youth Volunteer Programme – 82945	Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities	325	469
Global	Volunteer Learning – 84713	Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment	291	532
Global	Knowledge Management – 84648	Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment	251	505
Global	Rio+20 – 85851	Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment	222	244
Global	Rio+20 – 85858	Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment	217	378
Global	Rio+20 – 85860	Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment	178	237

COUNTRY	PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)	UNV Programme Results	2014-2015 Expenses	Total Project (All year Expenses + Budgets)
Global	Youth – 95470	Outcome 10 – Youth/Opportunities	157	1,049
Global	Support to Peacebuilding – 89075	Outcome 01 – Peacebuilding/UN Capacity	139	139
Global	Disaster Risk Reduction – 95459	Outcome 03 – Disaster Risk Reduction/UN Effectiveness	127	1,695
Global	Youth – 95464	Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities	106	899
Global	UNV Facility for Evaluation – 15131	Other	94	552
Global	Support to Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction – 89133	Outcome 07 – Disaster Risk Reduction/ Capacity development	85	85
Global	Basic Social Services – 95458	Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities	82	1,253
Global	Support to Basic Social Services – 89132	Outcome 02 BSS UN Capacity	80	80
Global	Peacebuilding – 95456	Outcome 05 – Peacebuilding/Local Ownership	52	169
Global	Disaster Risk Reduction – 95467	Outcome 03 – Disaster Risk Reduction/ UN Effectiveness	30	210
Global	Field Unit personnel capacity development – 84092	Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/ Enabling Environment	24	57
Global	Rio+20 – 85859	Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/ Enabling Environment	16	65
Global	Disaster Risk Reduction – 95463	Outcome 07 – Disaster Risk Reduction/ Capacity development	7	236
Global	Youth – 95468	Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities	7	327
Global	Basic Social Services – 96159	Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities	–	100
Global	Youth – 96120	Outcome 10 – Youth/Opportunities	–	170
Global	Basic Social Services – 95465	Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities	–	201
Global	Peacebuilding – 95987	Outcome 01 – Peacebuilding/UN Capacity	–	310
Global	Peacebuilding – 95462	Outcome 05 – Peacebuilding/Local Ownership	–	71
Global	Gender Promotion Initiative – 94825	Outcome 01 – Peacebuilding/UN Capacity	–	42
Global	Gender Promotion Initiative – 94824	Outcome 05 – Peacebuilding/Local Ownership	–	60
Global	Gender Promotion Initiative – 94823	Outcome 04 – Peacebuilding/Inclusive Participation	–	20
	Subtotal		8,651	27,723
GRAND TOTAL			11,214	34,625