

03 November 2016



Yasmine, one of the Blue Room participants talking at the Partnerships Forum 2016 (UNV, 2016)

Blue Room talks 2016

On Thursday, 13 October, as part of the first day of the Partnerships Forum in Bonn, “Blue Room talks” took place in the World Conference Center. Blue Room talks - a concept of the UNV Communications Section in collaboration with Deutsche Welle Akademie, are a way for UNV to showcase the real life experiences of UN Volunteers.

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The Blue Room speakers moved us with their talks. Their inspiring stories about their volunteering experiences were very personal and came right from their hearts. Through these talks, the UN Volunteers made us realize that global peace and development can be a reality.

Neza moved us with his call for peace for South Sudan. His open palm and his words, “commitment and resilience are vital for volunteers working in peace and reconciliation.” Watch Neza’s talk [here](#)

Wendy’s impassioned experience from Columbia echoes her words, “peace is unstoppable.” Watch Wendy’s talk [here](#)

Rachel’s work in Lebanon stirred deep emotions about forced displacement and the plight of refugees. “The entire world is my home.” Watch Rachel’s talk [here](#)

Thiago’s volunteer work in Swat, Pakistan, inspired by his home in Brazil, transported us to a world where his engagement with local communities reinforces South-South cooperation. “We are working to create an impact.” Watch Thiago’s talk [here](#)

Blue Room Talks took us to Niger and we all heard Angela’s words “little actions can transform life in communities.” Watch Angela’s talk [here](#)

And then Paula shared that “translation is my passion and I am using my passion in life for a greater purpose.” Watch Paula’s talk [here](#)

Sulaiman from Sri Lanka inspired us, “volunteers see opportunity, not obligation.” Watch Sulaiman’s talk [here](#)

Yasmine gave a moving account of her work with asylum seekers and refugees in Egypt, “Volunteerism shook me to the core.” Watch Yasmine’s talk [here](#)

And finally the last Blue Room speaker for the day, Aissata’s heartfelt words, “we are all equal, we are all the same,” left us wanting to hear more from our volunteers. Watch Aissata’s talk [here](#)

Sustainable Development Goal: [SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals](#)