UNV partnering with the Russian Federation

The partnership between the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme and the Russian Federation on the Full Funding programme started in 2017. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-Russia Trust Fund for Development and UNV implemented a joint project on knowledge management and capacity building that anticipated an increase in the number of Russian nationals in the UNV global talent pool, as well as awareness raising of the Russian public of UNV.

The President of the Russian Federation declared 2018 the “Year of Volunteer”, which resulted in funding by the Government of the participation of Russian nationals in United Nations operations as UN Volunteers. In March 2018, UNV and the Russian Federation signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

In December 2018, the government approved the Concept for Development of Volunteering in Russia until 2025, with the aim of increasing the participation of Russian citizens in the activities of UNV, as well as support for volunteer projects implemented with the support of the UNDP-Russia Trust Fund for Development. The concept also foresees sharing best practices of volunteer organizations in the implementation of international volunteer programmes and the development/replication of initiatives across the country.

In 2019, 50 Russians served as UN Volunteers, 19 of whom were funded by the Government of the Russian Federation.

At the end of 2019, UNV and the Government of the Russian Federation expanded their collaboration to deploy international Russian UN Volunteers for the next three years (2020-2022), through a new contribution of three million US dollars.

For further information, visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and check out the 2019 annual report on the partnership between the Russian Federation and UNV. Also refer to UNV's Annual Report 2019, including our Special Voluntary Fund and Full Funding reports.