Clay Nayton (Canada, right) is a UN Volunteer Community-based Drug Treatment Programme Officer with UNODC in rural Cambodia. Clay helps develop tailored strategies to prevent drug use and treat drug dependence. Here, he is talking to peer educators and people affected by drug use in Stung Treng, Lao PDR. (UNODC Cambodia, 2013)

UNV partnering with UNODC

Since 1999, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has been partnering with the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme to research, counteract and provide resources to combat illicit drugs, crime, and trafficking. Between 2008-2018, 150 UN Volunteers served with UNODC supporting the office’s mission to contribute to the achievement of security and justice for all.

How does the recruitment of UN Volunteers add value to UNODC?

As an efficient, speedy and diverse talent solution for UN partners, UN Volunteers serve
with UN entities to bring people to the forefront of development, peace and humanitarian issues. UNV manages a pool of over 250,000 talented and qualified UN Volunteers who can be deployed to bolster the delivery of UNODC’s programmes and support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In 2018, UNV and the UN Secretariat signed a new Memorandum of Understanding – which also applies to UNODC – to further strengthen the partnership between the entities.

UN Volunteers, by the very nature of volunteerism’s inclusiveness, advance UNODC efforts in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime. They contribute in the areas of organized crime and trafficking, corruption, crime prevention and criminal justice reform, drug abuse prevention and health, and terrorism prevention by collecting data, conducting field research and analyzing trends, as well as making policy recommendations.

Read more about UN Volunteers serving with UNODC.

UN Volunteers are experienced personnel available to support UNODC’s mandate. In 2018, over 80 per cent of UN Volunteers came from the global South, offering an understanding of complex local development challenges and societal norms. UN Volunteers can strengthen the impact, sustainability and inclusivity of development initiatives, fostering participation and generating local ownership.

How can your office recruit UN Volunteers?

UNV offers different categories of UN Volunteers to suit the needs of UN partners needs, such as international and national specialists, youth or online volunteers. UN Volunteers can serve from two weeks to up to four years, depending on the category of volunteer. UNV manages all contractual, legal and management aspects to help minimize the administrative impacts for the host organization.

To partner with UNV and recruit UN Volunteers to support UNODC’s programmes and operations, contact the UNV Field Representation or Regional Office for guidance and support.

For further information, refer to UNV’s website at: https://toolkit.unv.org.