Establishing a Youth Volunteer Scheme:
Guidance note based on UNV experience
UNV Guidance Note: Establishing a Youth Volunteer Scheme

Establishing a Youth Volunteer Scheme is a guidance note developed based on lessons learned and good practice from UNV field experiences in working with national partners to establish youth volunteer schemes. The publication builds on these experiences to describe in general lines the process for establishing a youth volunteer schemes.

This guidance note regards youth volunteer schemes as volunteering programmes through which young people can contribute to positive sustainable change in their own or host communities, build their professional skills and competencies and promote a culture of volunteerism and reciprocity through leading by example. Such schemes are one of many possible approaches for engaging young people as volunteers to contribute to development and peace in their communities.

Governments, international organizations, civil society organizations, youth networks, universities and schools can provide the institutional structure and support for youth volunteer schemes. The type of youth volunteer scheme discussed in this publication focuses mainly on the placement of young volunteers by an organizing entity with different host organizations. Volunteering stakeholders are encouraged to use the practical guidance, while adapting it to local contexts and needs.
Sustainable Development Goal: SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals