

22 August 2017

Service Line: UN Volunteers for international and national events

In order to support UN partners, international organizations and Member States at major national and international gatherings, UNV enables the rapid mobilization of UN Volunteers for the administrative, logistical and technical organization of national and international events and makes sure first-class event management is provided.



Volunteers provide support to the "Future Energy" Expo 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan. (UNV, 2017)

The UNV programme can assemble teams of international, national, Youth and UN Online Volunteers to support the organization of national and international summits, conferences and workshops. Volunteers form a purposeful and strategic collective to handle various tasks across the spectrum of event management, from technical and co-ordinational support to substantial administrative, promotional and monitoring arrangements.

The UNV event teams consist of groups of about 10 UN Volunteers who recruit, train and manage a network of hundreds or even thousands additional local volunteers. UN Online Volunteers can also be involved in the design of communication materials, the development of web pages and the translation of relevant information.



UN Volunteers deployed under this service line can strengthen the organizers' capacity to plan the event and conceptualize each panel, prepare a carefully crafted project, design a communications strategy that promotes peace, humanitarian, gender and youth issues, and proceed with pre-event preparation and promotion.

With the help of additional volunteers recruited on site, tasks are assigned and core processes are taken care of and coordinated with the help of targeted and innovative solutions. At the event, UN Volunteers manage guest relations, technical systems, disseminate information and assist with photography, audio and video recording and interviews. Upon closure, evaluation is provided including recognition and appreciation of the volunteers' effort. Volunteers would have gained valuable experience and a future infrastructure to facilitate volunteer mobilization in the country will be in place.

Volunteering has really changed my way of thinking. When I became a volunteer for the Global South to South Development Expo in Kenya and interacted with other volunteers, including UN Volunteers, I realized my potential and passion for community development. I thank UNV for this lifetime opportunity.

Joseph Bonke Ongoro, volunteer at the Global South-South Development Expo 2013 in Kenya

UNV has a history of success in the management of major international events and conferences through volunteers. Examples are the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in 2016, the 2015 Lima Climate Conference (COP20), the different editions of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), the annual meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the UN Environment Assembly, the Earth Summit, the Beijing 2008 Summer Olympics, the ["Future Energy" Expo 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan](#) or the [2017 Climate Change Conference \(COP23\) held in Bonn](#).

As you can see in the video below, UNV in Peru developed an integrated and systematic approach to managing the 2016 Annual Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank Group. Eight national UN Volunteers summoned and trained an additional 1,000 volunteers to support the preparations, with a resounding success.

UNV works with partners to integrate qualified and highly motivated UN Volunteers into development programs and promote the value and global recognition of volunteerism. UNV mobilizes a much-needed resource for qualified young people, who are ready to make their energy and skills available for UN partners to draw upon in the pursuit of peace and development.

Broad consultations with UN entities led to the establishment of UNV service lines. These embody a set of standardized volunteer services based on standard Descriptions of Assignments dedicated to facilitate developmental efforts across UN entities.

[Download our brochure on the UNV Service Line: UN Volunteers for International and National Events](#)

→ [Interested in other UNV Service Lines?](#)

Source URL: <https://www.unv.org/unv-service-lines/un-volunteers-national-and-international-events>