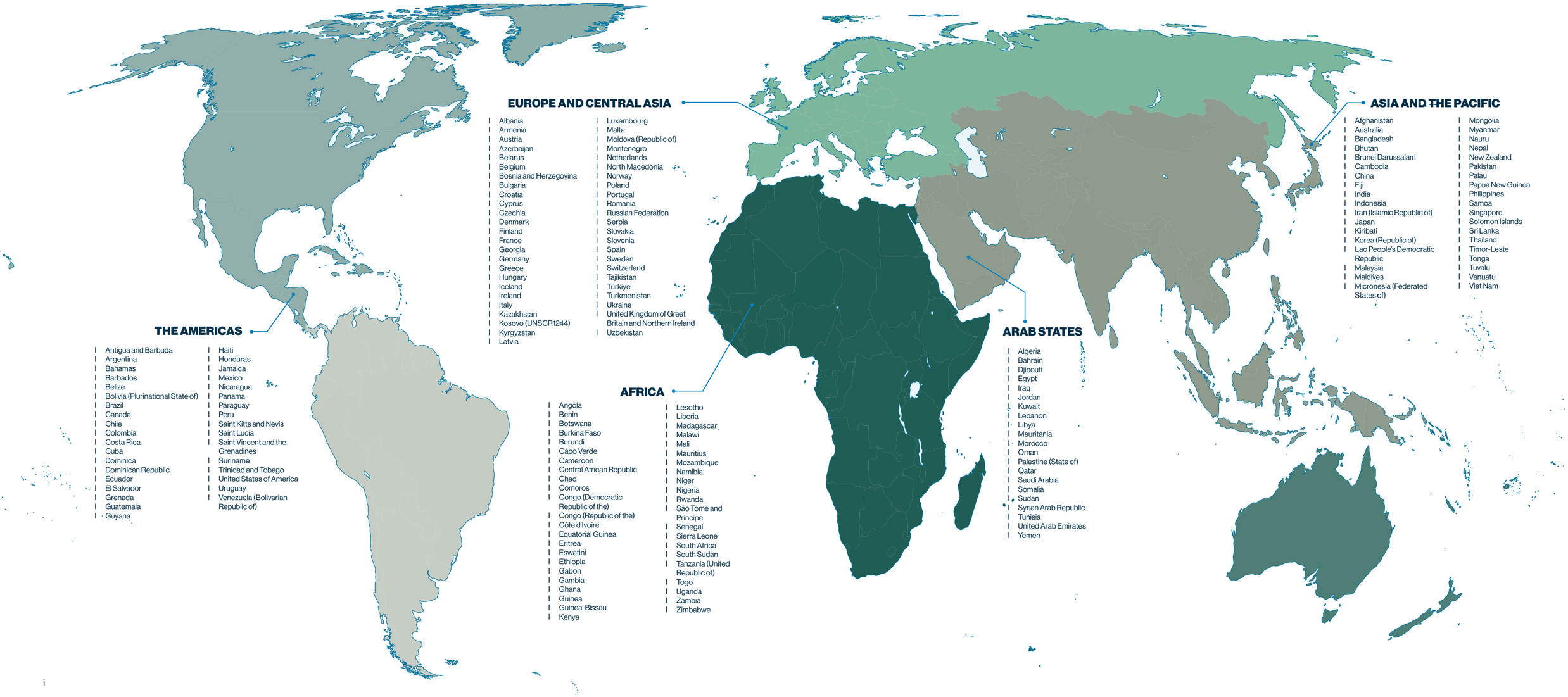
UN VOLUNTEERS

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER YEAR 2026

Humanity, Represented

Celebrating the 185 nationalities of the United Nations Volunteers



EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

- Albania
- Armenia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Italy
- Kazakhstan
- Kosovo (UNSCR1244)
- Kyrgyzstan
- Latvia
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Moldova (Republic of)
- Montenegro
- Netherlands
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Tajikistan
- Türkiye
- Turkmenistan
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- Uzbekistan

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

- Afghanistan
- Australia
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Brunei Darussalam
- Cambodia
- China
- Fiji
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran (Islamic Republic of)
- Japan
- Kiribati
- Korea (Republic of)
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Micronesia (Federated States of)
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Nauru
- Nepal
- New Zealand
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Samoa
- Singapore
- Solomon Islands
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- Tonga
- Tuvalu
- Vanuatu
- Viet Nam

THE AMERICAS

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Grenada
- Guatemala
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United States of America
- Uruguay
- Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

ARAB STATES

- Algeria
- Bahrain
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Mauritania
- Morocco
- Oman
- Palestine (State of)
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Syrian Arab Republic
- Tunisia
- United Arab Emirates
- Yemen

AFRICA

- Angola
- Benin
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cabo Verde
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Comoros
- Congo (Democratic Republic of the)
- Congo (Republic of the)
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- São Tomé and Príncipe
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Tanzania (United Republic of)
- Togo
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe



FOREWORD.

Open this book at any page and you'll meet someone from a different corner of the world. A volunteer from Nepal. A volunteer from Colombia. A volunteer from Niger, Ethiopia, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, or Yemen. Different languages. Different histories and flags. Different life stories. **Yet they all made the same choice: to serve.**

At a time when the world feels increasingly divided, choosing to help another person is no small act. It is a statement about the world we want.

With 185 nationalities represented in this book, every volunteer is bound by that same belief— **our lives are measured not only by what we achieve for ourselves, but by what we contribute to others.**

And that may be the closest thing the world has to a photograph of humanity at its best.

Toily Kurbanov
UNV Executive Coordinator



AFGHANISTAN •

Nasratullah Amarkhil, *national UN Volunteer Staff Counsellor at UNICEF Afghanistan, listens to people in crisis—especially children and families affected by war—and trains community volunteers to support others with care, 2020.*



ALBANIA

Eduart Koci, *national UN Volunteer Community Exchange Worker, supports some of Albania's most marginalized communities in accessing public services and registering their civil rights, 2011.*



ALGERIA

Amani Bensekhria, *national UN Volunteer Youth and Disability Inclusion Associate with UNICEF, ensures children and young people with disabilities can access public services, 2026.*



ANGOLA

Constantino José Morais, *national UN Volunteer Advocacy and Communications Officer with UNICEF Angola, speaks with a mother at a community health facility and shares information on vaccinations, 2025.*



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Arita Phillip, *national UN Volunteer Associate Programme Specialist with UNESCO, takes part in the World Clean-Up Day. She helps young people improve media literacy, 2024.*



ARGENTINA

Natalia Jimena Caneva, *national UN Volunteer Digital Content Assistant with UNV, promotes gender equality and creates digital campaigns focusing on the underrepresented groups in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2023.*



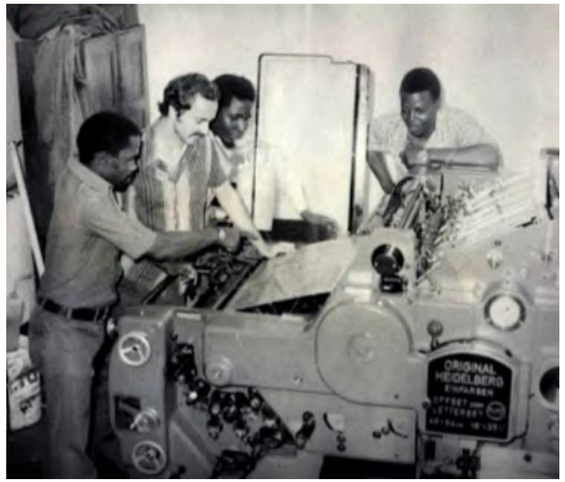
ARMENIA

Ani Papyan, *international UN Volunteer Protection Assistant with UNHCR, visits a displaced family in Belarus, listening to their needs and connecting them to legal support, health services and safe housing, 2024.*



AUSTRALIA

Jessica Farr, *international UN Volunteer Associate Protection Officer with UNHCR in Somalia, helps refugees and displaced people stay safe as the country moves towards peace, 2025.*



AUSTRIA

Manfred Finger, *second from left, international UN Volunteer, trains local staff in Tanzania on how to use a printing press, 1977.*

AZERBAIJAN

Jamila Mammadli, *national UN Volunteer Coordination Associate, helped coordinate Azerbaijan's work at COP29, while advocating for inclusion and equal participation for persons with disabilities, 2024.*



BAHAMAS

Dylan Miles, *first from left, national UN Volunteer Administration and Communications Assistant with UNRCO, supports disability inclusion, youth and gender equality across the Bahamas, 2025.*



BAHRAIN

Ayoob Asad, *national UN Volunteer Disability Inclusion Support Officer at UNRCO in Bahrain, shares: "It is about empowering others to believe in their own abilities", 2026.*

BANGLADESH

Iffat Ahamed, *national UN Volunteer Communications Assistant with IMO, breaks barriers as a woman in Chattogram's shipyards, a typically male-dominated industry, 2024.*



BARBADOS

Terrell Davis, *national UN Youth Volunteer Information and Communication Technology Assistant with UNICEF, plants a tree during International Volunteer Day at a primary school in Belleplaine, St. Andrew, 2023.*



BELARUS

Aliaksandr (Sasha) Audzevich, *national UN Volunteer with UNDP, helped make workplaces accessible for persons with disabilities — then rode a hand bike from Georgia to the Canary Islands to keep spreading a message of hope, 2025.*



BELGIUM

Gaël Thiébault, *first from left, international UN Volunteer Agriculture Officer with FAO in Ecuador, supports local farmers and rural communities in building more sustainable livelihoods, 2011.*



BELIZE

Joshua Muñoz, *national UN Volunteer Monitoring and Evaluation Officer with UNICEF, presents child nutrition findings to Mayan leaders in Toledo District, 2026.*

BENIN .

Émilienne Aligbonon, *national UN Volunteer Psychologist with UNDP, draws alongside a child living with albinism on International Albinism Awareness Day, 2023.*



BHUTAN .

Choyang Namgay Dolma, *second from left, national UN Volunteer Youth Specialist with UNICEF Bhutan, works with young people, helping them learn new skills for their communities, 2024.*



PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA

Janeth Pinto Mollinedo, *one of 15 indigenous UN Volunteers with the Global Environment Facility forestry project, helps communities in the Department of La Paz learn about the project and take part in it, 2017.*



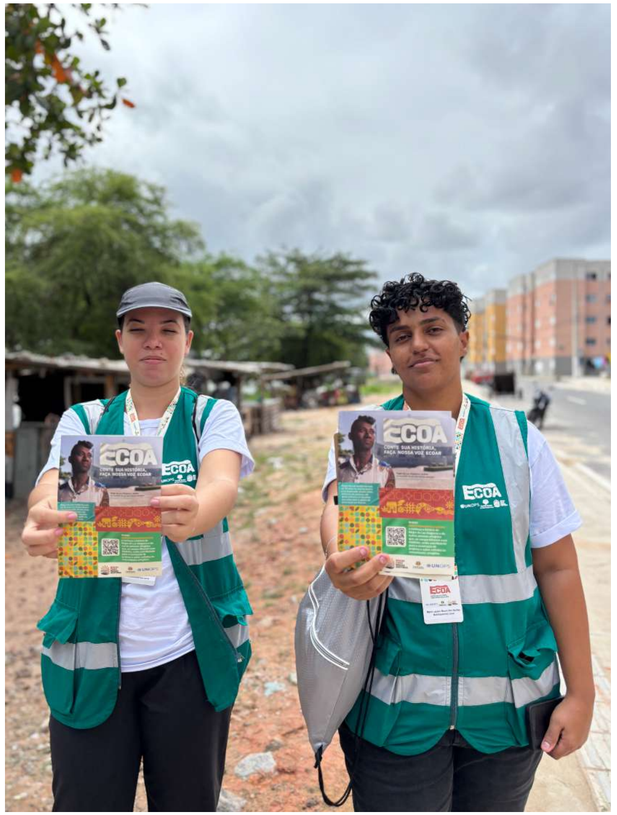
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Nadina Imamović, *national UN Volunteer Programme Associate with UNDP, highlights the voices of persons with disabilities—drawing on her own experience of living with low vision, 2025.*



BOTSWANA

Peloyame Lesilo, *national UN Volunteer Transparency and Accountability Officer with UNDP, leads a workshop on gender-based violence for community leaders, 2023.*



BRAZIL

Weldja Marques Lima *and* ***Nicole Araújo da Silva,*** *national UN Community Volunteers with the Nosso Chão, Nossa História programme, listen to families affected by Maceió's mining disaster and help them take part in repair and memory projects, 2025.*



BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Sufrizul Husseini, *international UN Volunteer Coordination Officer with UNRCO in Malaysia, uses his training as an economist to help the UN and national partners in Brunei Darussalam and Singapore work towards the Sustainable Development Goals, 2026.*



BULGARIA

Elena Krasimirova Kizheva, *national UN Community Volunteer Programme Support with UNHCR, interacts with children displaced by the war in Ukraine, offering them care and a sense of normalcy, 2023.*



BURKINA FASO •

Élodie Toé, *national UN Volunteer Midwife with UNFPA, delivers babies, screens children for malnutrition and vaccinates against polio and malaria, 2026.*

BURUNDI •

Estella Nduwimana, *international UN Volunteer Staff Counsellor with UN Women in Senegal, speaks at a public event on mental health and well-being in the workplace, 2023.*



CABO VERDE

Carla Soares, *national UN Volunteer Partnerships Officer with UNV in Cabo Verde, works with schools, health centres and local authorities to improve children's access to school transport, sanitation and vaccination, 2025.*



CAMBODIA

Mom Chan, *national UN Volunteer Project Officer with UNDP Cambodia, works with Indigenous communities across the country to protect their forests, secure their land rights and improve their livelihoods, 2024.*



CAMEROON

Monique Blanche Mesa, *national UN Volunteer midwife with UNFPA, teaches mothers about breastfeeding positions to prevent complications, 2023.*



CANADA

Michael Gort, *international UN Volunteer Human Rights Monitor with MINUGUA in Guatemala in 1995, is today Canada's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations. He remains, in his own words, "a UN Volunteer at heart", 1995.*



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC .

Founfonme Ablawa Florence Allognon, *national UN Volunteer Electoral Adviser with MINUSCA, trains election officials and works with local authorities and communities to make elections more transparent, accurate and credible, 2026.*



CHAD .

Noubaramadji Nartabe, *national UN Volunteer Community Services Protection Assistant with UNHCR, supports refugees in Chad access humanitarian assistance, 2025.*



CHILE

Rolando Mancilla, *centre, national UN Volunteer Emergencies Specialist with UNICEF, works with his team on the ground in Chile to make sure children and families receive help when disaster strikes, 2025.*



CHINA

Caihong Wang, *international UN Volunteer Project Analyst with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation, travels to communities across Sierra Leone to assess their development needs, 2019.*



COLOMBIA •

Johana Tejada López, *international UN Volunteer Gender-Based Violence Expert with UNICEF in Panama, sits with a migrant mother and child at a safe space created for women and girls crossing the Darién jungle, 2024.*



COMOROS •

Houda Abdoulbastoi, *national UN Volunteer Technical Advisor with UNDP, works alongside communities in Foumbouni to reforest their land, 2020.*



REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO .

Schariette Orsili Manguida-Eguylazock-Mizonza, *national UN Volunteer with UNICEF, amplifies youth voices—on the street and through U-Report's digital community of over 40,000 young people—so that children's rights are heard, 2025.*



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO .

Angel Bapedi, *national UN Volunteer Young Champion with UNICEF, sits with a pregnant woman in Central Kasaï—sharing information on polio vaccination and child health, 2025.*



COSTA RICA •

Paola Lucía Barrantes Picado, *national UN Volunteer Safe Spaces Promoter with UNICEF, builds safe spaces for children and youth in parks, schools and community gatherings, 2025.*

CÔTE D'IVOIRE •

Mathurin Badé, *national UN Volunteer Image Reporter with UNDP, captures photostories behind development work, 2025.*



CROATIA

Sonja Agata Bišćan, *international UN Volunteer Project Development and Reporting Officer with IOM in the Syrian Arab Republic, helps design projects that meet urgent needs and help displaced families return home, 2026.*



CUBA

Miguel Ernesto Gómez Masjuán, *national UN Volunteer Digital Communications Specialist with UNICEF, documents the delivery of a vaccine refrigerator to a hospital in Artemisa, telling the story of Cuba's COVID-19 health response, 2022.*



CYPRUS

Nikoletta Michaela Michael, *national UN Volunteer Partnership Specialist with UNDP in Cyprus, is the first national UN Volunteer in the country. She works on peacebuilding between the two communities of the island and advances gender equality, 2026.*



CZECHIA

Tereza Sikorová, *international UN Volunteer with UNFPA in the Republic of Moldova, paints with a child in Chișinău—a city where thousands of Ukrainian refugees have found shelter and where she works on the frontline with refugees and women facing domestic violence, 2025.*



DENMARK

Clara Frostholm Prip, *international UN Volunteer Communications Analyst with UNDP in Libya, takes the floor at a peacebuilding event—giving a voice to the work of rebuilding trust between communities, 2025.*

DJIBOUTI

Idmane Moussa Ali, *national UN Volunteer Programme Assistant at UNDP Djibouti, shares a laugh with a colleague during International Volunteer Day. In her role, she supports young people's action on climate change, 2022.*



DOMINICA .

Gezel Mondesire-Charles, *national UN Volunteer with UNICEF, rolls up her sleeves for a community clean-up in Dominica, 2025.*



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC .

Olga Altman, *national UN Volunteer Technical Officer with UNDP, works to advance the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the Dominican Republic, 2023.*



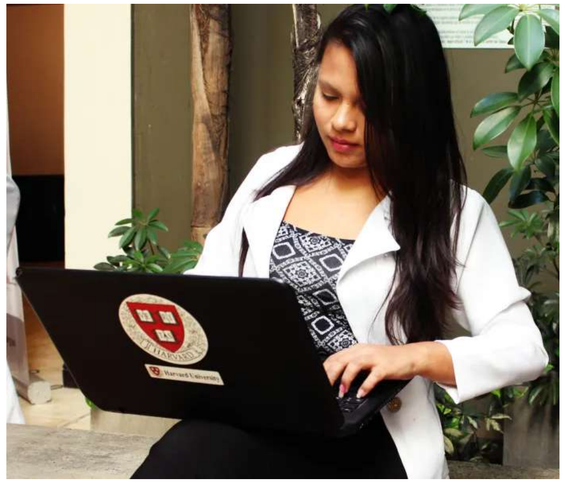
ECUADOR .

Fabián Alejandro Ruiz Silva, *national UN Volunteer Diversity and Inclusion Specialist with UNRCO, draws on his own experience of living with a disability to analyse poverty and shape UN solutions for the most vulnerable in Ecuador,* 2023.



EGYPT .

Ahmed Anas Awad, *national UN Volunteer Information Management Officer with WHO Egypt, speaks with a Palestinian patient being medically evacuated to Greece, 2024.*



EL SALVADOR

Cindy Fabiola Alfaro, *Online Volunteer, writes articles and designs social media content about the Sustainable Development Goals—showing that a computer and the will to change the world are all you need to make an impact, 2016.*



EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Emilia Montserrat Oyana Efuman, *national UN Volunteer Nutrition Specialist with UNICEF, shares knowledge with health workers to improve care for mothers and children, 2026.*



ERITREA

Selam Ghile Kahsu, *international UN Volunteer Movement Control Assistant with MINUSCA in the Central African Republic, coordinates air transport of personnel and supplies for the United Nations, 2024.*



ESWATINI

Zanele Ngomane, *left on the first row, national UN Volunteer Portfolio Officer with IFAD, meets farmers and youth entrepreneurs in Eswatini to promote sustainable agriculture, 2026.*

ETHIOPIA

Tesfaye Diro Balcha, *left, national UN Volunteer Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Specialist with UNDP, bridges emergency response and longer-term recovery in conflict-affected areas, 2025.*



FIJI

Lusiana Kabanavalelevu Nasegai, *centre, national UN Volunteer Specialist and Programme Assistant with UNV, helps coordinate volunteer assignments across 14 Pacific Island countries, 2025.*



FINLAND •

Miina Huotari, *centre, international UN Volunteer Human Rights Officer with OHCHR in Guatemala, participates in a field security training, 2025.*

FRANCE •

Océane Musaniwabo Mlanao, *international UN Volunteer Human Rights Officer with OHCHR in Cambodia, works on better conditions for detainees in prisons, 2025.*



GABON .

Roger Nguema, *60-year-old national UN Community Volunteer with UNDP, meets with village leaders to document traditional ecological knowledge and local environmental practices, 2026.*



THE GAMBIA .

Mamadou Bah, *first from right, national UN Volunteer Community Change Management Specialist with UNICEF, meets with village elders to discuss community feedback on COVID-19 prevention, 2020.*



GEORGIA .

Tamta Konjaria, *national UN Volunteer Programme Specialist with UNDP, talks with young people about ending plastic pollution in Georgia, 2024.*



GERMANY .

Jonas Aechtner, *second from left, international UN Volunteer Communications Officer with UNDP in Lao People's Democratic Republic, documents environmental work that focuses on protecting rivers, forests and the communities, 2017.*



GHANA

Esi Mawuena Christon-Quao, *centre, international UN Volunteer Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist with FAO in The Gambia, visits a fish landing site, seeing first-hand its impact on food security, 2021.*



GREECE

Evgenia Polychronidi, *centre left, international UN Volunteer Associate Protection Officer with UNHCR in Poland, monitors rights violations and provides legal guidance to Ukrainian refugees, 2024.*



GRENADA

Nathale Clarke-Lewis, *left, national UN Volunteer Child Rights Monitoring Specialist with UNICEF, joins colleagues to prepare soup for families in need in Barbados, 2023.*



GUATEMALA

Ana Isabel Interiano Pérez, *second from right, national UN Volunteer Youth Innovation Associate with UNICEF, helps fly drones near Guatemala City to reach communities cut off by climate disasters, 2023.*



GUINEA

Thierno Kadiatou Baldé, *national UN Volunteer with UNDP, sits with community members in Nafadji to promote peace between border communities with Mali, 2025.*



GUINEA-BISSAU

Oumar Sheriff Embaló, *national UN Volunteer Construction Officer with UNICEF, checks on school sanitation works, making sure every child has access to a clean and safe place to learn, 2025.*



GUYANA

Susanna Elizabeth Williams, *national UN Volunteer Programme Coordination Officer with UNDP, speaks at a conference on ending violence against women and girls, 2025.*



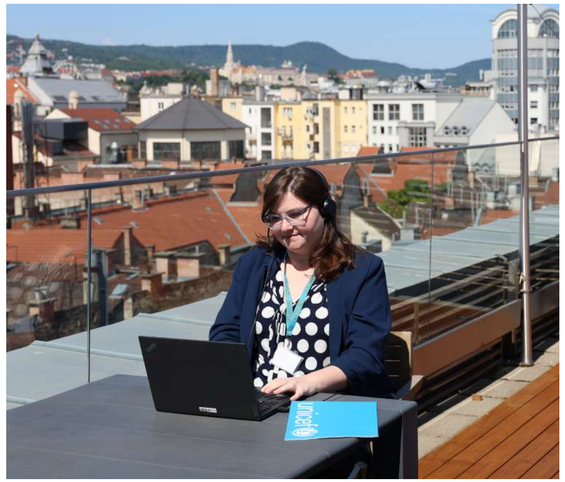
HAITI

Monise Télémaque, *right, international UN Volunteer Monitoring and Evaluation Officer with the UN Peacebuilding Fund Secretariat in Guinea, tracks projects, ensuring data is reliable, lessons are captured and agencies remain accountable, 2025.*



HONDURAS.

Alexis Sagastume, *left, national UN Volunteer Programme Specialist, supports children, young people and persons with disabilities from violence in Honduras, 2009.*



HUNGARY.

Edina Lovass, *national UN Volunteer People and Culture Officer with UNICEF, helps staff across the world navigate health benefits, disability grants and pensions—making sure the people who serve others are also looked after, 2026.*



ICELAND

Guðrún Helga Diop Jóhannsdóttir, *Online Volunteer, contributes data on Iceland's digital government services for the UN e-government survey, 2018.*



INDIA

Shikha Srikant, *national UN Volunteer Programme Officer with UNDP, joins farmers in a rice paddy during a field visit, 2025.*



INDONESIA

Riana Wulandari, *national UN Volunteer Health Officer with UNICEF, focuses on the voices of young people in mental health support in schools, 2025.*

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Golazin Hemmaty, *national UN Volunteer Media and Communications Officer with UNICEF, interacts with children in Tehran, 2025.*



IRAQ .

Zryan Ismael *and* ***Tamarah Baldawi,*** *national UN Volunteers with UNDP, keep the Erbil office running, including day-to-day support and procurement, so that operations reach the people who need them, 2023.*



IRELAND .

Molly Lynch, *international UN Volunteer Climate and Environment Assistant with UNICEF, rolls up her sleeves for climate resilience at a school in Barbados, 2023.*



ITALY

Mauro Puzzo, *international UN Volunteer Legal Aid Officer with UNDP in The Gambia, meets with community members to help them understand their legal rights, 2014.*



JAMAICA

Priyanka Mais, *national UN Volunteer Economics and Data Management Assistant with UNRCO, with primary school children on Read Across Jamaica Day, 2024.*



JAPAN

Yoshikazu Ito, *one of the very first UN Volunteers, served as international UN Volunteer Irrigation Technician in Yemen in 1972—here, decades later, still proudly celebrating the spirit of volunteerism, 2017.*



JORDAN

Eyad Mohammad Fakeraldeen Lutfi Alzgool, *national UN Volunteer Marine Reserve Ranger with UNDP, dives alongside a sea turtle in the Aqaba Marine Reserve—protecting Jordan's underwater ecosystems and the communities that depend on them, 2023.*



KAZAKHSTAN

Eldana Karimova, *international UN Volunteer with UNDP in Thailand, works with young people across Asia and the Pacific to create green jobs and build the skills needed for a sustainable economy, 2025.*



KENYA

Jane Angalia Mwendwa, *national UN Volunteer Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist with WFP, suits up for a beekeeping training session in Kenya, 2024.*



KIRIBATI

Lepani Penijamini Vunituraga, *left, national UN Volunteer Humanitarian Affairs Officer with OCHA, inspects the Bonriki Water Reserve during a drought response, 2025.*



REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Ae Young Jung, *second from left, international UN Volunteer Communications Assistant with UN Women in Colombia, tells stories of rural women in Colombia who are taking on entrepreneurship initiatives for their economic independence, 2024.*



KOSOVO*.

Anita Shabani, *national UN Volunteer Programme Assistant with FAO, supports farmers and rural communities in building more sustainable and inclusive livelihoods, 2023.*

*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).



KUWAIT.

Bandar Alsharhan, *second from left, national UN Volunteer Youth Programme Officer with UNDP, makes sure young people have a voice in Kuwait's national development, 2025.*



KYRGYZSTAN .

Iulia Votslava, *international UN Volunteer Human Rights Officer with OHCHR in the Republic of Moldova, monitors the safety and rights of Ukrainian refugees arriving in the country, 2024.*



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC .

Paleena Xaiyalath, *national UN Volunteer Junior Officer in Programme Management with WHO in Lao PDR, ensures hospitals receive vital medical supplies, including oxygen equipment for health facilities, 2023.*



LATVIA .

Viljams Glens Avis, *international UN Volunteer Logistics Associate with IOM in Germany, moves people and goods across UN programme sites, 2026.*

LEBANON .

Ghiwa Farah, *national UN Volunteer with UNDP, performs an inspection to validate site measurements from project drawings, 2025.*



LESOTHO

Thabiso Masenyetse, *left, national UN Volunteer Disability Inclusion Officer with UNRCO, is visually impaired and uses his own experience to push for a more inclusive UN—training staff and making documents accessible to all, 2023.*



LIBERIA

Matenneh Kimberlyn Barmoh, *national UN Volunteer Youth Advocate and Child Protection Officer with UNICEF, documents children's stories, visits safe homes for orphans and tracks the impact of child protection programmes across Liberia, 2025.*



LIBYA

Asraa Alghali, *national UN Volunteer Education Sector Coordinator with UNICEF, is the first national female UN Volunteer with disability to serve in Libya. She connects government and civil society to support children's education, 2022.*



LUXEMBOURG

Jeff Kridel, *centre, international UN Volunteer Political Affairs Officer with MINUSCA in the Central African Republic, meets with local community members to support peace efforts and dialogue in the villages, 2024.*



MADAGASCAR .

Flora Atta, *first from right, national UN Volunteer Communications Specialist with WHO in Madagascar, sits with women in a village to listen to their needs and gather stories that support health and vaccination campaigns, 2022.*

MALAWI .

Olive Makuwira, *international UN Volunteer Midwife with UNFPA in South Sudan, trains midwives and supports safe deliveries for internally displaced families living in Juba's displacement camps, 2014.*



MALAYSIA

Adilah Shokri, *national UN Volunteer Data Development Assistant with UNDP, helps run the Climate Finance Innovation Lab, which turns climate project ideas into investable proposals, 2026.*



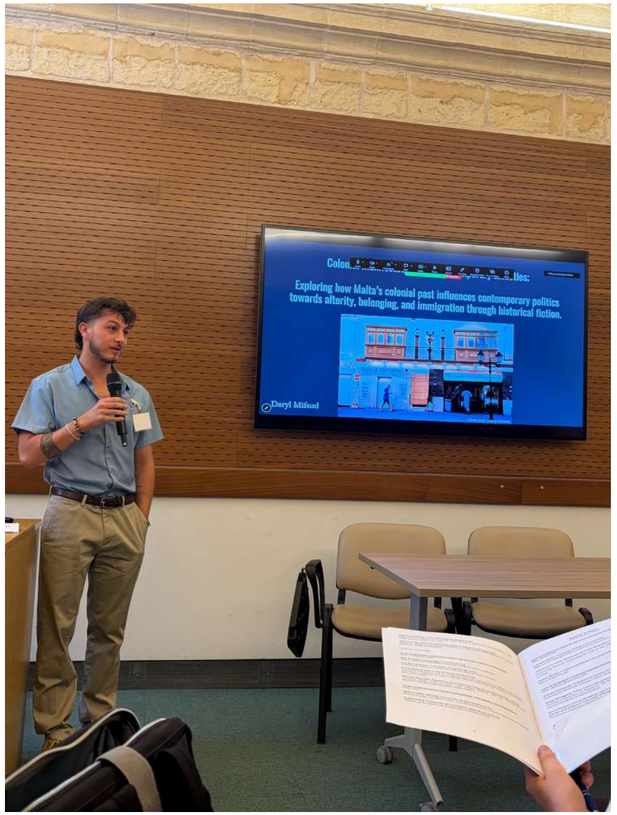
MALDIVES

Hussain Kausar Waheed, *national UN Youth Volunteer Project Support Officer with UNODC, trains law enforcement officers in maritime crime prevention, helping the Maldives better detect, investigate and prosecute crime at sea, 2023.*



MALI

Dr. Hamidou Koita, *national UN Volunteer Doctor with IOM, provides emergency care to migrants, 2026.*



MALTA

Daryl Mifsud, *international UN Volunteer Coordination Analyst with the UN Women Regional Office for Arab States, studies how gender equality commitments work out in practice across 17 countries, bringing a small island's perspective to a global effort, 2026.*



MAURITANIA

Amadou Diop, *national UN Volunteer Youth Specialist with UNFPA in Mauritania, works with young people and youth leaders across Mauritania and brings them into the fold of volunteering, 2025.*

MAURITIUS

Sia Gujadhur, *national UN Volunteer with UNDP in Mauritius, introduces children and community members to UN through virtual reality, making complex global issues accessible and engaging, 2025.*



MEXICO

Humberto Gutierrez, *national UN Volunteer with UNHCR in Mexico, supports the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women as a Registration Assistant, 2022.*



FEDERATED STATES
OF MICRONESIA

Martha Asher *and* ***Elina Resepwil,*** *national UN Volunteers with WHO, encourage families to vaccinate their children against measles, mumps and rubella, 2023.*

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Valeria Gîrștega, *national UN Volunteer Specialist Psychological Support Officer with UNFPA, offers refugees and host communities emotional support and connects them to services for gender-based violence and reproductive health, 2022.*



MONGOLIA

Nomin Purevbaatar *and* ***Baasankhuu Surenjav,*** *national UN Volunteers who supported COP17 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, met with United Nations Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed, 2026.*



MONTENEGRO

Luka Vukadinovic, *left, international UN Volunteer Civil Affairs Officer with UNMIK in Kosovo*, travels to remote communities to support dialogue between minority groups and local authorities, 2016.*

*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).



MOROCCO

Ayah Isbayene, *first from left, national UN Volunteer Programme and Finance Assistant with UN Women, manages budgets, organizes major campaigns and trains partners with one goal: ending violence against women in Morocco, 2023.*



MOZAMBIQUE •

Merlin Karen de Jesus André, *national UN Volunteer Child Protection Specialist and Child Marriage with UNICEF Mozambique, works to give every child a safer future, 2025.*

MYANMAR •

Yan Myo Aung, *national UN Volunteer Structural Engineer with UNDP, inspects homes affected by earthquakes, prioritizing women-headed households and those of marginalized communities, including persons with disabilities and transgender individuals, 2025.*



NAMIBIA

Pelgrina Shimanu Ndumba, *right, national UN Volunteer Project Officer with UNDP, focuses on changing mindsets about how disability is viewed and works alongside persons with albinism and other groups often left behind, 2023.*



NAURU

Monique Batsiua, *national UN Volunteer Project Assistant with UNDP, supports a project that helps improve public services, including electoral processes, voter education and addressing gender barriers in politics, 2025.*



NEPAL

Ashok Chaudhary, *national UN Volunteer with UNFPA, assesses flood-affected Nuwakot and Rasuwa Districts in Nepal, for emergency supply distribution in early September, 2026.*



NETHERLANDS

Elena Mansour, *international UN Volunteer Security Analysis and Training Assistant with WFP in Egypt, reports on security and political developments regarding food security, 2023.*

NEW ZEALAND

Will Seal, *international UN Volunteer Communications Officer with WHO, travels to remote islands in Tuvalu to document the effects of climate change on some of the world's most vulnerable communities, 2019.*



NICARAGUA

Silvia Illescas, *international UN Volunteer Health Advocacy and Coordination Officer with WHO in Lao PDR, visits families in rural villages to assess their health needs and connect them with the care they need, 2018.*



NIGER •

Adamou Sani Dan Salaou, *national UN Volunteer Communications Assistant with WFP, brings stories of food insecurity and communities to the fore, 2025.*

NIGERIA •

Mustapha Hassan, *national UN Volunteer with UNFPA, leads digital literacy sessions for adolescent girls at Muna displacement camp in Maiduguri, northeastern Nigeria, 2026.*



NORTH MACEDONIA

Nino Sotirovski, *national UN Volunteer Social Policy Officer with UNICEF, analyses data to make sure services reach the children in need, including Roma and those with disabilities, 2026.*



NORWAY

Andrea Aakre, *international UN Volunteer Ocean Governance Assistant with UNDP in Namibia, helps protect Namibia's oceans and coastline, and makes young Namibians aware of the effects of climate change, 2021.*



OMAN

Nadeen Al Towaiya, *national UN Volunteer with UNICEF, connects with families and children at public events across Oman—raising awareness about children's rights and encouraging communities to support UNICEF's work, 2025.*

PAKISTAN

Wajahat Hussain Soomro, *national UN Volunteer with WFP, distributes food rations to people affected by monsoon floods in Larkana district, Sindh province, Pakistan, 2022.*



PALAU

Uong Jameson Yalap, *national UN Volunteer Sustainable Development Assistant with ESCAP, helps Palau measure its national development goals and track progress, 2023.*



STATE OF PALESTINE

Mohammad Sarhan, *international UN Volunteer with the Communications and Information Technology Section with UNAMID in Darfur, Sudan, proves, as he puts it, that persons with disabilities are "as talented and gifted as everyone else", 2011.*



PANAMA

José Cuan, *national UN Volunteer Auxiliary Technician with UNDP, visits rural communities to assess water quality and infrastructure, making sure families have safe and reliable drinking water, 2026.*



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Christopher Kageni, *first from left, national UN Volunteer with UN Women, supports Papua New Guinea's COVID-19 response in Port Moresby, getting hygiene supplies to communities and helping local market vendors through the crisis, 2020.*

PARAGUAY .

Cecilia Azucena Masi, *national UN Volunteer Health and Nutrition Projects Manager with UNICEF, helps prevent malnutrition in Paraguay by assessing children's nutritional needs and promoting a healthy diet in schools, 2025.*



PERU .

Mirtha Yhovira Moran Mendoza, *national UN Volunteer with IOM, provides healthcare and COVID-19 prevention support to refugees and migrants passing through Tumbes, one of the country's busiest border crossings, 2025.*





PHILIPPINES

Nirold Altalaguire, *national UN Volunteer Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Officer with UNICEF, brings clean water, safe toilets and hygiene education to families living in conflict-affected areas, 2024.*





POLAND

Karol Pawel Zientek, *international UN Volunteer Political and Reporting Officer with UNAMA in Afghanistan, travels across Afghanistan to monitor and document the political situation on the ground, 2021.*

PORTUGAL .

Angela Peça, *international UN Volunteer Nurse with MINUSMA in Mali, cares for patients at the UN clinic in Bamako, Mali, providing medical support to peacekeeping personnel and local staff, 2018.*

QATAR .

Hiba Benkirane, *national UN Volunteer, worked behind the scenes at the Second World Summit for Social Development in Qatar. She was one of more than 100 UN Volunteers who provided administrative and logistical support throughout the global event, 2025.*



ROMANIA •

Anna Fedorova, *national UN Volunteer Digital Community-Based Management Assistant with UNHCR, keeps Ukrainian refugees informed about their rights and safety, and shows them where to turn for basic services, 2025.*



RUSSIAN FEDERATION •

Natalia Peshkova, *international UN Volunteer Operations Officer with MINUSCA in the Central African Republic, supports local communities and journalists access information about peace agreements and related processes, 2023.*



RWANDA

Elysee Niyigena, *international UN Volunteer Communications Officer with the UN Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, tells the story of UN peacekeeping support across the country, 2025.*



SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

Wendy Williams, *national UN Volunteer Programme Coordinator with UNICEF, raises awareness of menstrual health education and climate action among young people in the Eastern Caribbean, 2024.*



SAINT LUCIA

Vincent Lewis, *national UN Volunteer Programme Coordinator with UNICEF, shares a moment with Australian cricket player and UNICEF Ambassador Pat Cummins, during the Cricket for Good Initiative, 2024.*

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Kimeisha Kelly-Ann Bailey, *national UN Volunteer Communication and Knowledge Management Officer with UNDP, prepares young participants for a dry forest hike in Bequia, 2025.*



SAMOA

Gataiamanu Anifevira Sesilia Ah Him, *right, national UN Youth Volunteer with UNICEF, works alongside young people to highlight their participation in digital campaigns and youth forums, 2025.*



SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

Josimar Bragança, *national UN Community Volunteer with UNICEF, creates digital learning content for schools and helps teachers use online tools to bring education to life for children across the country, 2023.*



SAUDI ARABIA .

Wisam Al-Ghanim, *one of 654 national UN Volunteers at COP16 in Riyadh, captured photos and videos to document the global effort to stop desertification, 2024.*



SENEGAL .

Saloum Diane, *first from right, national UN Volunteer Citizen Engagement Specialist with UNDP in Ziguinchor, helps youth, women and vulnerable groups connect with local institutions and advises cooperatives on irrigation, 2025.*



SERBIA

Sabina Drmaku, *national UN Community Volunteer with UNDP in Serbia, visits Roma settlements to educate women on the importance of gynaecological check-ups for prevention of cervical cancer and other diseases, 2018.*



SIERRA LEONE

Salamatu Brimatu Bangura, *international UN Volunteer Electrician Technician with MINUSCA in the Central African Republic, installs solar panels and electrical systems, helping power peacekeeping operations sustainably, 2024.*



SINGAPORE •

Qihui Gui, *international UN Volunteer Project Assistant with UNODC in Vienna, supports access to controlled medicines by raising funds and organizing events, helping ensure that people who need critical medications can access them, 2026.*



SLOVAKIA •

Kevin Chris Huwel, *first from left, international UN Volunteer Associate Programme Management Officer with UNODC in Tanzania, helps East African countries address synthetic drugs and organized crime—working with governments, scientists and law enforcement, 2026.*

SLOVENIA

Tina Maver, *international UN Volunteer Country Support Communications Officer with the WHO Regional Office in Egypt, helps WHO teams across the Eastern Mediterranean make sure people get clear health information, 2026.*



SOLOMON ISLANDS

Peter Aufiu, *second from left, national UN Volunteer Logistics and Warehouse Assistant with UNDP, helps ballots reach the finish line—ensuring electoral supplies and equipment move efficiently across the Solomon Islands during the election period, 2025.*

SOMALIA

Hana Abdi Salad, *national UN Volunteer Specialist Youth and Innovation Associate with UNICEF, plants a tree in a public green space to promote volunteerism, 2023.*



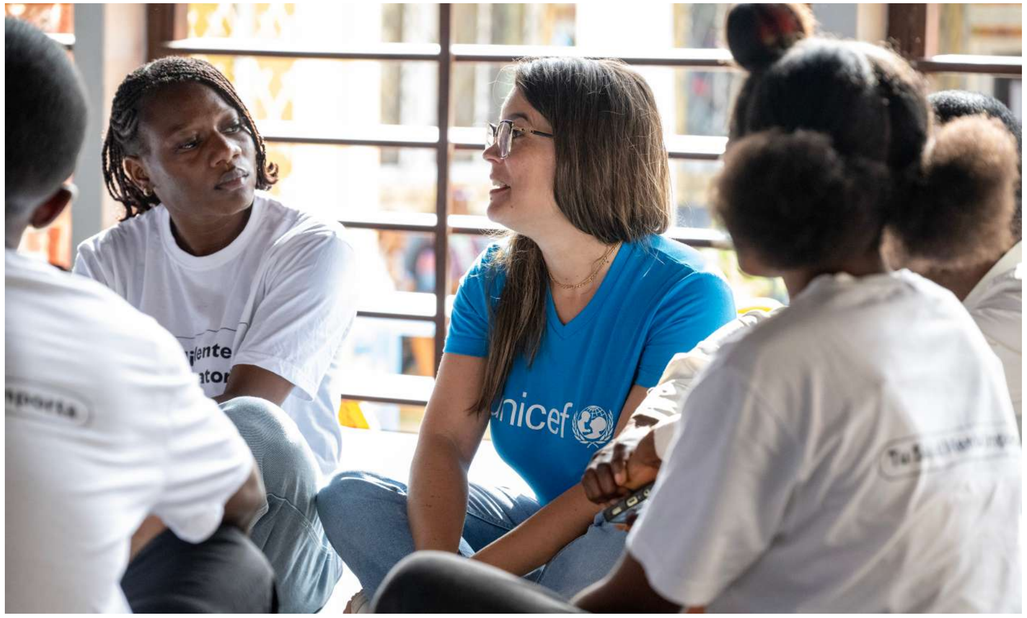
SOUTH AFRICA

Lungelo Nozipho Fanelesibonge Matangira, *national UN Volunteer Digital and Social Media Associate with UNICEF, visits schools and connects with children to tell the stories that bring UNICEF's work to life, 2025.*



SOUTH SUDAN

Jason William Gbagaza Gbambi, *national UN Volunteer Community Outreach Officer with UNMISS, connects local communities with the UN mission—teaching women and community leaders to protect themselves from sexual exploitation and abuse, 2021.*



SPAIN

Cristina Matos López, *international UN Volunteer Expert in Inclusion, Disability and Mental Health with UNICEF in Equatorial Guinea, interacts with young people to initiate conversations about mental health, 2025.*



SRI LANKA .

Kalum Aluthgamage, *national UN Volunteer Climate Smart Agriculture Development Coordinator with UNDP, works with smallholder farmers in Sri Lanka's dry zone to help them adapt their crops and farming practices to the changing climate, 2023.*

SUDAN .

Mohammed Hassan Mohammed, *national UN Volunteer Planning and Monitoring Officer with UNICEF Sudan, tracks and reports on programmes for donor funding, 2025.*



SURINAME

Glynis Williams, *centre, national UN Volunteer Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Specialist with UNICEF, raises awareness of clean drinking water and sanitation, 2024.*

SWEDEN

Jana Abbas, *international UN Volunteer Humanitarian Affairs Associate with UNICEF in Jordan, supports safe spaces in Za'atari refugee camp, including a cinema, where thousands of refugee children have watched a film for the first time, 2025.*



SWITZERLAND

Anja Menninger, *right, international UN Volunteer Programme Associate for Gender-Responsive Leadership with UN Women in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, works with women's networks in Rohingya refugee camps and host communities to support women's leadership and community ties, 2024.*



SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Gaby Dib, *left, international UN Volunteer Duty and Planning Officer with MONUSCO in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, helps improve aviation safety and communications standards, 2023.*



TAJIKISTAN •

Firuza Alieva, *left, national UN Volunteer Communications Officer with WHO, tells the stories behind WHO's work—from delivering wheelchairs and hearing aids to people with disabilities, to promoting maternal care, 2025.*



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA •

Peter Luhanga, *a 64-year-old national UN Volunteer Finance Associate with UNDP, brings decades of experience following his retirement. He now supports financial and administrative tasks for UNDP projects in the country, 2025.*



THAILAND

Namchok Petsaen, *national UN Volunteer Communications Assistant with UNDP, faced accessibility challenges as a wheelchair user and he designed and built his own adapted motorbike, 2023.*



TIMOR-LESTE

Julio Tali Meta Da Silva, *national UN Volunteer Communications Assistant with UNICEF, films and writes stories about health, education and child protection of remote communities in particular, 2025.*



TOGO

Marie-France Coco Bleu, *national UN Volunteer Programme Monitoring Officer with UNICEF, works with children in need to show the power of volunteering in lifting local communities, 2024.*



TONGA

Brenda He Vahafolau Moala, *national UN Volunteer Project Assistant with UNDP, contributes to the overall objective of protecting Tonga's coral reefs, mangroves and wetlands from climate change, 2026.*



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Matthew Sealy, *national UN Volunteer with UNRCO in Trinidad and Tobago, brings people and policy together, listening to communities across both islands about their needs and hopes for the future, 2026.*



TUNISIA

Bouthaina Jhimi, *national UN Volunteer Project Assistant with UNDP, helps put the country's environment goals to the forefront, including reducing carbon emissions, addressing climate change and protecting communities from its effects, 2025.*

TÜRKİYE

Begüm Özertürk, *left, national UN Volunteer Communication Assistant with UNICEF, works in displacement camps to connect with children and families—making sure their stories are heard far and wide, 2025.*





TURKMENISTAN

Maya Islamova, *national UN Volunteer Data Visualization Assistant with UNICEF, is the only national UN Volunteer in the country. She designs visual stories to convey UNICEF's mandate of protecting children's rights, 2025.*



TUVALU

Miriam Taukiei, *national UN Volunteer Climate Mobility Officer with IOM, works with the government and communities to organize workshops and trainings on community resilience initiatives, 2026.*

UGANDA

Jonathan Ssekitondo, *right, national UN Volunteer Communications Officer with WHO, conducts an interview with a community health worker, 2023.*



UKRAINE

Serhii Revenko, *national UN Volunteer 3D Scanning Engineer with UNESCO, documents war-damaged cultural heritage sites across Ukraine so they can be restored accurately, 2025.*



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Jamal Alhaj, *centre, national UN Volunteer Partnerships Associate with WFP in Dubai, contributes to the work of Gulf countries and private donors in advancing food security across the region, 2025.*



UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND •

Debra Hope, *second from left, international UN Volunteer Specialist Midwifery Educator with UNICEF India, trains students and nurses on ensuring safe births and maternal health, 2024.*



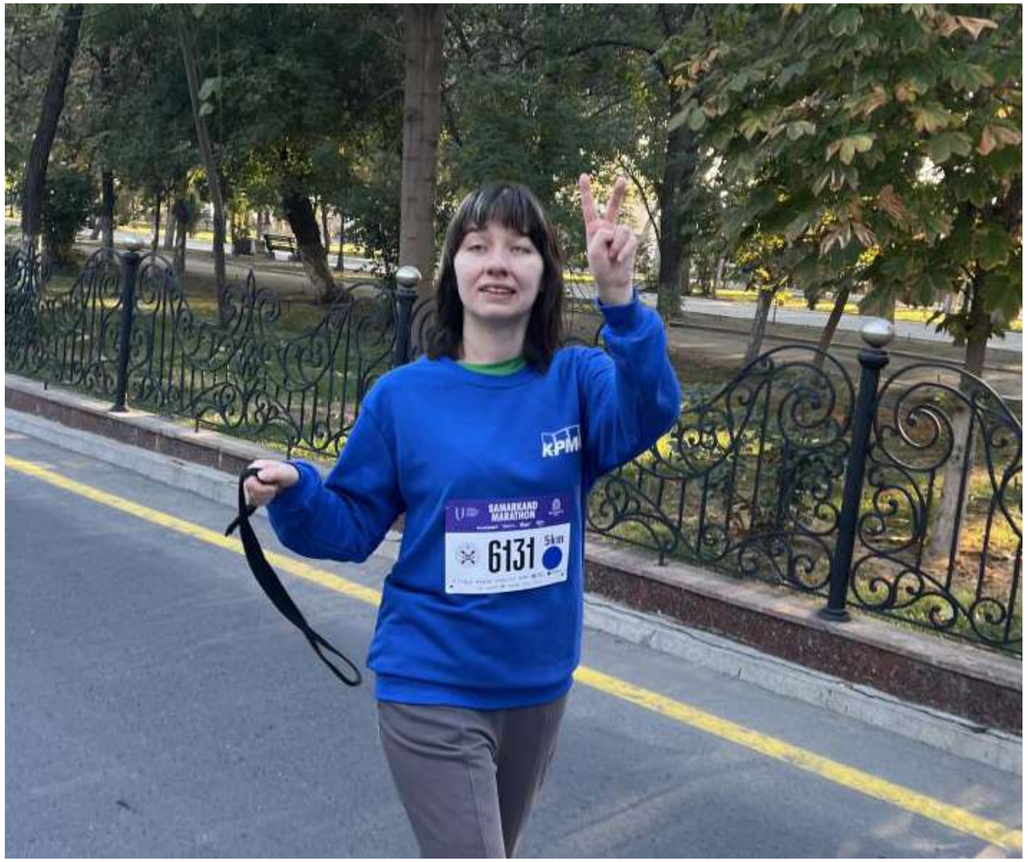
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA •

Alex Mailloux, *right, one of the first UN Volunteers, worked alongside a UNICEF nutritionist in Mali to share relevant knowledge with local health staff and families, 1974.*



URUGUAY.

Nora Frioni, *a 65-year-old national UN Volunteer Early Childhood Development and Nutrition Expert with UNICEF, draws on her decades of experience in child health and psychology, and promotes healthy beginnings for children, 2024.*



UZBEKISTAN.

Firuza Rasmukhamedova, *national UN Volunteer Disability-Inclusive Communications and Outreach Specialist with UNRCO, finished second in the 5 km inclusive race at the Samarkand Marathon, running for visibility, not just a medal, 2025.*



VANUATU

Josian Tangi Merick, *second from left, national UN Volunteer Project Officer with UN Women, works with women market vendors, local governments and organizations to advance women's economic rights and opportunities across the Pacific islands, 2023.*



BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

María Gabriela Aguilar, *national UN Volunteer Gender-Based Violence Associate with UNFPA, reaches out to women and girls in vulnerable communities to make sure they know their rights and can access the support they need, 2025.*



VIET NAM •

Nguyen Thanh Thao *is one of nearly 100 UN Volunteers who supported the signing ceremony of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime in Hanoi, the world's first global treaty to combat cybercrime, signed by 72 countries, 2025.*

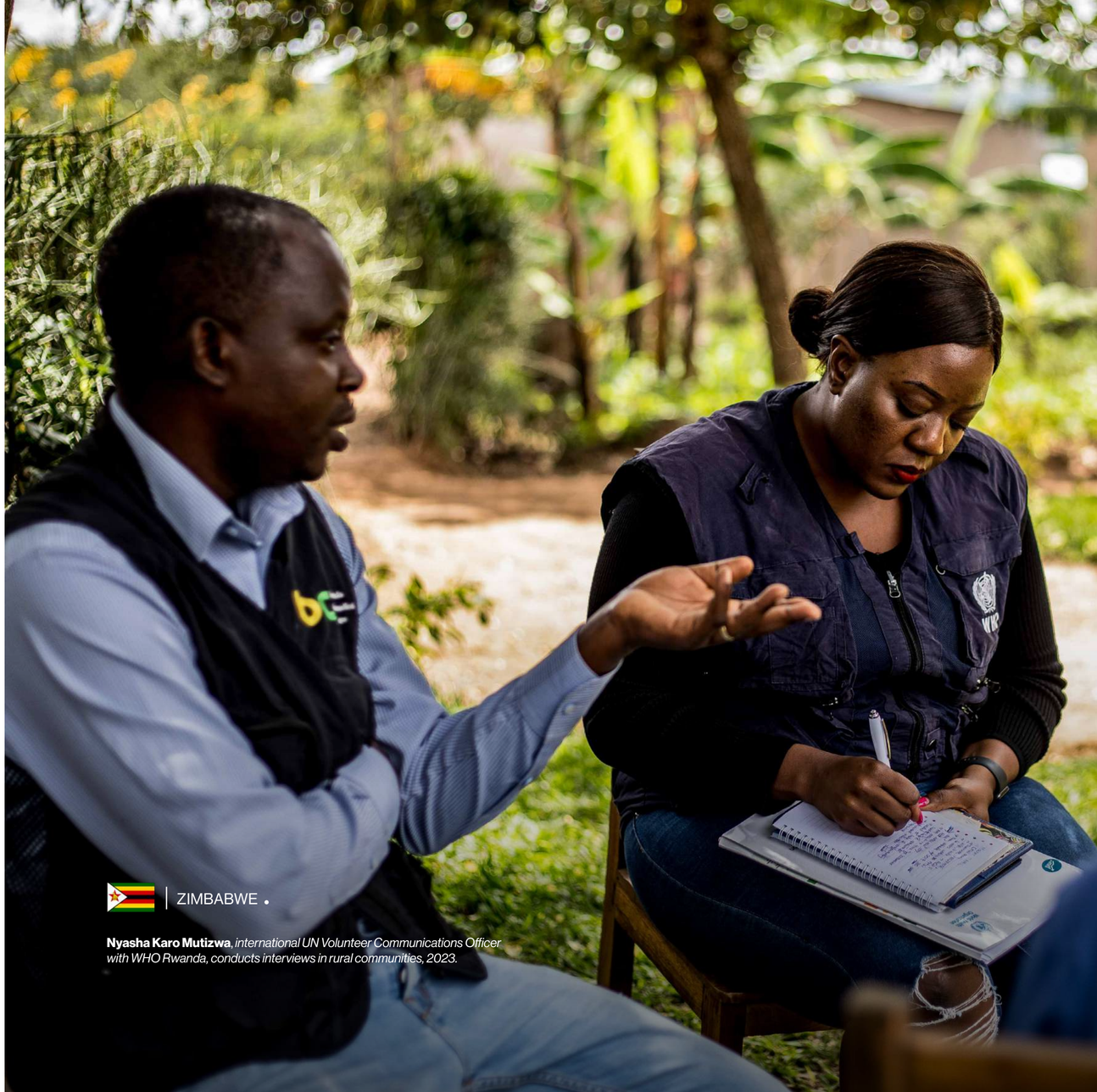
YEMEN •

Belal Abdulkareem Othman Al-Madhehagi, *second from left, national UN Volunteer Humanitarian Affairs Officer with OCHA, visits camps for displaced people in Sada'a to understand what support they need, 2022.*



ZAMBIA

Dora Chinyama, *national UN Volunteer Education Assistant with UNHCR Zambia, helps refugee children access quality education, 2021.*



ZIMBABWE

Nyasha Karo Mutizwa, *international UN Volunteer Communications Officer with WHO Rwanda, conducts interviews in rural communities, 2023.*

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) is grateful to partners for their contributions to the **Special Voluntary Fund (SVF)**.

Established in 1970, the Fund supports the United Nations initiatives in crises and emergencies, expands access for diverse groups and promotes volunteerism for sustainable development.

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ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

IFAD Investing in rural people

International Maritime Organization

IOM UN Migration

OCHA United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

UNDP

unesco

UNFPA

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

unicef for every child

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation

Peacebuilding Fund

United Nations Peacekeeping

United Nations Development Coordination Office

UN Women United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

WFP World Food Programme

World Health Organization

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS.

FAO — Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

IFAD — International Fund for Agricultural Development

IMO — International Maritime Organization

IOM — International Organization for Migration

MINUGUA — United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

MINUSCA — United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic

MINUSMA — United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali

MONUSCO — United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

OCHA — United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

OHCHR — Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

UNAMA — United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

UNAMID — African Union–United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

UNDP — United Nations Development Programme

UNESCO — United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFPA — United Nations Population Fund

UNHCR — Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF — United Nations Children's Fund

UNMIK — United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

UNMISS — United Nations Mission in South Sudan

UNODC — United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

UNRCO — United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office

UNV — United Nations Volunteers

WFP — World Food Programme

WHO — World Health Organization

UN Women — United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

COP16 — Sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

COP17 — Seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

COP29 — Twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

ESCAP — Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

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UN VOLUNTEERS

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER YEAR 2026

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