



▶ **Mohammad Abbas**, national UN Volunteer Reception Coordinator for UNHCR in Egypt, assists with the queries of a registered refugee in Cairo. Out of the 120,000 registered applications, he helps to identify the most vulnerable cases in order to best utilize the capacity of services available. (UNHCR, 2015)

# Engaging with UNV



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

UNV partners with UN entities, governments, civil society, volunteer-involving organizations, regional organizations and the private sector to leverage volunteerism as an essential mechanism that meaningfully engages people in social, environmental and economic transformation.

We work in partnership with development stakeholders to foster progress towards inclusive and sustainable peace and development through volunteerism. Partnerships between UNV and other organizations are characterized by a commitment to shared goals and outcomes, a clear definition of roles and responsibilities and a framework for mutual accountability.

UNV's comparative advantage is its knowledge and ability to leverage the transformative potential of volunteerism, community voluntary action and civic engagement through active partnerships with diverse partners.

With almost 7,000 UN Volunteers in the field, 25,000 qualified potential volunteers on our roster, around 11,500 UN Online Volunteers and over 300,000 potential online volunteers, UNV provides a talent solution for our partners.

UN Volunteers are willing and able to work in all development and peace situations, including some of the most difficult contexts and remote locations. They work in local communities to leverage synergies between local knowledge and expert solutions. Additionally, they constitute a flexible, cost-effective resource in ensuring scale, impact and sustainability in peace and development interventions, including in crisis and post-crisis situations.

UNV, as a catalyst, knowledge broker and convener, seeks to leverage volunteer knowledge, research and technology to develop innovative solutions that improve the quality of life at community level. Working with UNV enables partners to increase the visibility of their international engagement and people-centred development cooperation.





## HOW TO PARTNER WITH UNV?

There are four principle modalities for partners to contribute financial resources to UNV.

### UNV Special Voluntary Fund

The Special Voluntary Fund (SVF) is a general multi-donor fund that enables UNV to implement innovative interventions that demonstrate the value and impact of volunteerism and volunteers in achieving peace and development results, support the establishment of national volunteer infrastructure, conduct research on volunteerism for development and create a global network of volunteer engagement.

Since its inception in 1970, funding partners have contributed to the SVF and left the allocation of these funds at the discretion of the organization. During 2014-2015, UNV funded 38 global, regional and country-level projects through the SVF, amounting to a total of US \$11.2 million.

#### Who contributes to the SVF?

Funding partners include UN Member State governments, UN entities, other international, non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations, foundations and the private sector. During the 2014-2015 biennium, UNV received US \$7.9 million from UN Member States, including the governments of Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Czech Republic, China, Germany, India, Ireland, Israel, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Morocco, Switzerland, Sweden and Thailand.

#### How does UNV report on the use of SVF contributions?

Resource contributions to the SVF are audited with other UNV accounts by the United Nations Board of External Auditors, as part of UNDP's overall financial reporting structure. UNV issued a report on the Special Voluntary Fund 2014-2015, as a special annex to the UNV Annual Report 2016. This outlines SVF disbursement, utilization and governance, and provides a forward outlook.

### UNDP/UNV Trust Funds

Trust Funds provide a versatile instrument for donors wishing to leverage the potential of volunteerism through UNV, while enhancing the organization's flexibility and responsiveness. Funding partners can contribute to Trust Funds in support of broad programmatic priorities, such as UNDP/UNV practice areas and regional programmes, or to support specific strategic priorities that are defined in

national plans, UN Development Assistance Frameworks or Delivering as One Frameworks, for example.

#### Who contributes to UNDP/UNV Trust Funds?

Trust Funds attract a wide range of development partners from both developed and developing countries. The terms of reference establishing the Trust Fund indicate whether it is open to all donors (like the UNDP/UNV Youth Volunteer Trust Fund established in 2012 to leverage resources for the UN Youth Volunteer Programme) or restricted to a single donor (like the Japan Trust Fund, which was established in 1994 based on an agreement between the Government of Japan and UNV to provide a fund that promotes poverty eradication, peace building and humanitarian assistance through volunteerism and university volunteers).

#### How does UNV administer Trust Funds?

UNV administers Trust Funds in accordance with UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules. Project management and expenditures are governed by the regulations, rules, policies and procedures of UNDP and, where applicable, the regulations, rules, policies and procedures of the executing entities or implementing partners. UNDP serves as the administrative agent for a number of Multi-Donor Trust Funds. Participating UN entities receiving financial resources from these funds assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the resources received.

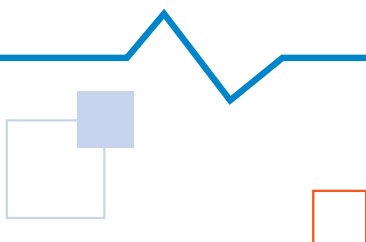
Multi-Donor Trust Funds are generally established with a multi-tier governance structure that promotes strong national and UN inter-agency coordination, including peer and technical reviews, and collaboration with national governments and contributors/partners.

Multi-Donor Trust Funds have common governance elements, including a policy body (comprising national authorities, United Nations and contributors/partners, as appropriate) that sets fund policy; a steering committee or similar entity that makes funding decisions (comprising national authorities, partner UN and other entities); and a technical secretariat that reviews programmes and projects submitted for funding.

#### How does UNV report on the use of Trust Fund resources?

Trust Funds are separate accounting entities, accounted for and reported on separately to the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board, which requires the designation of a Trust Fund manager.

Reporting requirements are agreed upon during negotiations with the donor and are reflected in the finalized







▶ UN Volunteers María Celia Sahuayan Calsin and Roberto Carlos Loaiza Dueñas talk with a beneficiary of the solid waste management project, part of the Poverty Environment Initiative in Arequipa, Peru. (Red Circle Films, 2014)

project document. Substantive progress reports and financial statements are submitted to donors on an annual basis. In cases where several donors have contributed to the same project, the same substantive and financial reports are submitted to all contributors.

#### Full funding of UN Volunteers

Fully Funding UN Volunteers enables partners to cover the full costs of UN Volunteer assignments for nationals of their own country serving as UN Volunteers. Funding partners can also fund international UN Volunteers of other nationalities (including from the global South) as well as national UN Volunteers. Fully funded UN Volunteers complete assignments in specific thematic and/or programmatic areas and countries that correspond to the priorities of both UNV and the funding partner.

#### What is the UNV Full Funding Programme?

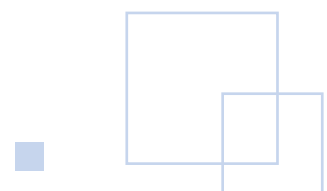
The Full Funding Programme was established in 1971. Through this funding mechanism, UNV helps governments and other partners link their development priorities in a given country with the priorities of national governments and the United Nations system. At the same time, governments offer their own and other nationals opportunities to share their knowledge and skills and to gain experience within the United Nations system.

Fully funded UN Volunteers are currently deployed under two UN Volunteer modalities. Under the regular international UN Volunteer modality, fully funded UNV Specialists are usually mid-career professionals who hit the ground running and are deployed for a period of 12 months to four years. They provide substantive support to achieving the development results set out by their host United Nations partners. Volunteers deployed under the UN Youth Volunteer modality are between 18 and 29 years of age and usually serve for 12 months.

#### Who participates in the Full Funding Programme?

At its onset, the Full Funding Programme was supported by Denmark and Japan. Over the years, its scope has expanded beyond UN Member States governments to include universities, civil society organizations and the private sector. Moreover, some governments have expanded the concept to fund UN Volunteers who are nationals of programme countries, reinforcing the spirit of South-South exchange through triangular cooperation agreements. During 2015, UNV fielded about 450 fully funded UN Volunteers.

In 2016, UNV issued its second Full Funding Programme Report 2014-2015, which can be accessed on our web site.





► Askal Tilahun (Ethiopia), UN Volunteer Community Services Officer with the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Malawi, greets a young Rwandan refugee near a water point at Dzaleka refugee camp, which caters to the needs of 20,000 people from different African nations. (Eldson Chagara, 2015)

## Cost sharing

Cost sharing enables governments and donors to co-finance specific UNV programmes, projects or events through a third party cost sharing agreement. Donors engaging in third party cost sharing have the advantage of selecting the specific project they wish to co-finance and engage in monitoring its progress.

### Who can participate in cost sharing?

Cost sharing agreements can be concluded with UN Member State governments, UN entities, other international, non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations, foundations and the private sector.

### How does UNV report on the use of cost sharing contributions?

Reporting requirements are agreed upon during negotiations with the donors and are reflected in the finalized cost sharing agreement. A substantive progress report and a financial statement are submitted to donors on an annual basis. In cases where several donors have contributed to the same project, the same substantive and financial reports are submitted to all funding partners.

“UN Youth Volunteers bring indisputable benefits to the United Nations system and a lot of positive and refreshing energy. Thumbs up!”

Velibor Popovic, Governance Specialist and Team Leader, Governance Unit, UNDP Cambodia

For more information about UNV, please visit [www.unv.org](http://www.unv.org)

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme contributes to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide. We work with partners to integrate qualified, highly motivated and well supported UN Volunteers into development programming and promote the value and global recognition of volunteerism.

UNV is active in around 130 countries every year. With field presences in over 80 countries, UNV is represented worldwide. UNV is administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).