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## The Programme for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development

Global Peacebuilders Programme 2015–16

### THE HRD PROGRAMME

The Programme for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development (HRD Programme) is a joint partnership between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, the Hiroshima Peacebuilders Center as the current implementing partner and UNV. It was established in 2007, is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and phase 8 was deployed in 2015–16.

The HRD Programme aims to advance the reach and impact of volunteerism through the strategic deployment of skilled individuals to UN agencies engaged in peacebuilding and development. Working alongside national counterparts, UN Volunteers with the HRD Programme contribute to empowering women, youth



**UNV is proud of the contributions volunteers make to development and peace. The young women and men serving under the HRD Programme are among these committed individuals, who often work in some of the world's most complex contexts. These UN Volunteers bring valuable knowledge and enthusiasm to their assignments and take back home invaluable international experience from serving with the United Nations family.**

Olivier Adam, Executive Coordinator, UNV





and marginalized groups, build trust among local communities involved in some of the world's most fragile peace processes, and work at regional and national levels to improve UN coordination.

Promoting volunteerism is a key aspect of the sustainable contribution that these volunteers make around the world. They provide a model for how volunteerism can propel individuals and communities from being the passive recipients of assistance to becoming the drivers of their own peace, reconciliation and development processes.

The successful implementation of the HRD Programme hinges upon the joint collaboration of many colleagues through UNV headquarters, our Tokyo Liaison Office and UNV Field Units.

### What is a UN Volunteer's added value?

- Innovation
- Commitment to the pursuit of peace and development
- Focus on sustainable solutions
- Willingness to learn
- Service-oriented professionalism
- Skills that fit the host agency's needs
- Models of change
- Capacity development of local counterparts



### PHASE 8, 2015-16

In 2015-16, the HRD Programme deployed UN Volunteers to a wide range of geographical and thematic contexts. From countering sexual harassment on campus in Bangladesh to supporting equitable access to early childhood care and education in the troubled Mindanao region of the Philippines, HRD Programme participants flew the flag of volunteerism high while contributing to conflict resolution, ending violence against women, empowering marginalized youth and harnessing technology to deliver positive change.

### NUMBER OF HRD VOLUNTEERS FOR PHASE 8 SERVING IN 11 COUNTRIES



### MEET MAKI, UN WOMEN/BANGLADESH



Working to address the root causes of violence against women, Maki's assignment with UN Women in Bangladesh centred around the Partners 4 Prevention project – an ongoing joint effort by UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UNV. The ultimate

goal is to create an enabling environment for change in the social and institutional structures that create and maintain unequal power relations between men and women. The promotion of volunteerism to prevent violence against women is one of the key components of P4P, and Maki's impact on her national UN Volunteer counterparts through capacity development, training and mentoring put the spirit of volunteerism at the centre of her work to create lasting attitudinal change. Results include:

- Awareness-raising about sexual harassment on campus reached 28,000 students and 2,900 staff
- 30 stakeholders in government agencies and NGOs trained in effective interventions to prevent violence against women
- Capacity development of four national UN Volunteers for P4P project through training and peer-to-peer support

// **The HRD Programme gave us the opportunity to work with a UN Volunteer with diverse knowledge about the issues of violence against women, and it brought diversity into our office culture.**





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## MEET ASAKA, UNDP/LESOTHO



Lesotho's young generation – now 40 per cent of the overall population – represents a critical opportunity for building a more peaceful and prosperous future for the country. Asaka was posted to UNDP as a team leader on youth empowerment, and being a UN Volunteer brought an added dimension to the youth-oriented projects she worked on. She exemplified the values of volunteerism and capitalized on

this natural advantage when building partnerships with CSOs and local youth groups. Results include:

- 50 members of civil society organizations mobilized in new youth network
- 40 young people from around Lesotho invited to represent their districts at youth workshop
- 200 parliamentarians and youth collaborated in a workshop on the Sustainable Development Goals

**// Asaka brought both specific skills that proved useful to the work of the unit within UNDP and the UN at large as well as an international dimension that helped to portray the UN as a global organization that values multiculturalism and draws on expertise from around the world.**

Asaka's supervisor



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## DEPLOYMENT OF HRD VOLUNTEERS FOR PHASE 8 PER UN AGENCY



## OVERVIEW OF TYPE OF HRD ASSIGNMENTS

2	Associate Protection Officer
2	Associate Protection Officer
1	Peace and Development Associate
1	Reconciliation & Development Support Officer
1	Associate Programme Officer
1	Civil Affairs Reports Officer
1	Political Affairs Officer
1	Education & Peacebuilding Officer
1	Associate Peacebuilding Officer
1	Child Protection & Peacebuilding Officer
1	Peacebuilding Officer
1	Child Protection Officer

## MEET KOTA, UNHCR/KENYA



With an influx of new arrivals from South Sudan in 2014–15, the Government of Kenya continued its strong humanitarian tradition of generosity and hospitality towards refugees. Kota's main role with UNHCR was to conduct interviews with asylum-seekers and identify their protection needs, particularly regarding security and health. Results included:

- Over 170,000 refugees in Kakuma camp (more than half recent arrivals from South Sudan) assisted with basic needs and protection

- Additional interviews conducted with vulnerable individuals such as unaccompanied children, victims of sexual and gender-based violence, and LGBTI people
- Additional resources and partners mobilized to develop and sustain humanitarian solutions

// **UN Volunteers like Kota bring very critical support to the programme. He made a big difference to our team and demonstrated the volunteer spirit by being flexible and willing to help with whatever task he was called upon to do.**

Kota's supervisor



## IN TOMOKO'S WORDS, UNICEF/PHILIPPINES



I will never forget my very first visit to Mindanao, where I was given the opportunity to visit a school in a far-flung area. Children had a long walk to their school – as long as two to three hours – in an extremely hot climate, and in many cases on an empty stomach, because their family could not afford to buy breakfast. Some children had to take a ride across the river with a small boat, which is clearly not the safest transportation, especially in the rainy season. Although the school was publicly funded, a shortage of classroom facilities seemed to be a serious issue, and some of the classrooms, chairs and tables were handmade by the parents and community. However harsh the situation was, the teachers were giving all

their efforts to continue the children's schooling and prevent dropouts.

The situation in Mindanao is overwhelming. As a UN Volunteer, you encounter hard times facing the fact that you can do so little, despite the large need for support. However, during the course of work, I've learned from my Filipino colleagues that it is always important to focus on the bright side and to build onto the seeds of hope even in very challenging situations. No matter how small a step it is, I believe that providing children with equitable access to quality education will feed into establishing foundations for peace in Mindanao, and I am truly grateful to UNV for providing such a valuable opportunity for me to take part in this important endeavour.



For further information, please visit [www.unv.org](http://www.unv.org) or contact the UNV Field Unit in your country or the responsible UNV Regional Office. The UNV Annual Reports highlight UNV's collaboration with UNV funding partners.

*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 administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).*



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