



▶ Kevin Kiffer (France, right) UN Youth Volunteer with UNDP in Brazzaville, the Republic of the Congo, surveys beneficiaries to identify their aspirations and to encourage the involvement of communities in local development.

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# Engaging with UNV



## // UNDP/UNV YOUTH VOLUNTEERING TRUST FUND

There are more than 1.8 billion young people on the planet – the largest population in history. They represent a tremendous outlet of ideas and inspiration, a source of leadership and creativity, and a powerful engine for driving sustainable development forward. At the same time, they face challenges. Young people are disproportionately affected by poverty and social exclusion, and their ability to participate in development processes is limited.

In response, the UN Youth Volunteers Programme aims to contribute to the development of young people, empowering them to come up with solutions to the most pressing challenges of our day and equipping them with the skills and knowledge, as volunteers, to put their ideas into action.

The programme also aims to bring the voice of youth into the development discourse and help young people to realize their full social, economic and human potential.

The UNV Youth Volunteering Trust Fund is a critical mechanism for supporting youth volunteerism worldwide. By partnering with UNV through the Fund, governments, foundations, companies and others have the opportunity to engage young people from around the world in development processes and results.



## AREAS OF FOCUS OF THE TRUST FUND

The UNV Youth Volunteering Trust Fund is a flexible mechanism, providing rapid support to evolving needs and capacity development for partners around the world in line with their geographic and thematic priorities. When considering applications for fund resources, criteria such as inclusion, innovativeness, strategic importance, support to national priorities, and sustainability will be evaluated. Kinds of initiatives that can be supported by Trust Fund resources are, for example:

**South-South youth volunteer exchange:** Providing volunteer opportunities for young people, especially from the Global South, with United Nations projects and programmes.

**Innovative volunteering:** Helping UN partners to implement their programmatic work through innovative youth-led volunteer solutions.



**Empowerment and social inclusion of youth with disabilities:** Providing governments and civil society with technical expertise, volunteers, and training to support the educational, employment, and social needs of youth with disabilities.

**Social entrepreneurship:** Supporting youth social entrepreneurs who are coming up with innovative development solutions.

**Young women:** Mobilizing volunteers to provide microcredit and training support schemes to support the financial independence of young women.

**Capacity development:** Supporting the development of national legislation and policies, coordination centres, and training programmes on youth volunteerism.

*“Youth participation and volunteering are critical for achieving sustainable human development and UNDP will continue to attach high importance to the youth agenda, including through the UN Youth Volunteers Programme.”*

UNDP Administrator Helen Clark



## HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TRUST FUND

The UNV Youth Volunteering Trust Fund is an open trust fund and as such can receive contributions from governments of Member States of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies, inter-governmental or non-governmental organizations and private sources. Contributions to the Trust Fund can be made as voluntary contributions that are “un-earmarked,” i.e., without limitation to a specific project, or as “earmarked” contributions for the purpose of co-financing a specific project. Contributions that are not earmarked allow for greater coordination and management of the UN Youth Volunteers Programme, while earmarking can provide an opportunity to align priorities of the various stakeholders.

### BENEFICIARIES

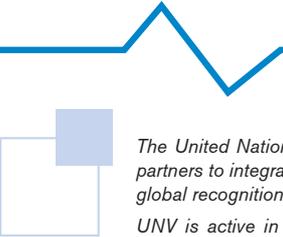
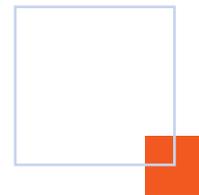
The primary beneficiaries of the Fund will be young people around the world. The Fund will also be used to support capacity development activities of partner governments, civil society organizations, and youth networks with the aim of providing an enabling environment for youth volunteering and engagement in peace and development.

### GOVERNANCE

Governance of the UNV Youth Volunteering Trust Fund follows UNDP rules and procedures for trust funds. It was launched jointly by UNV and UNDP, which administers UNV.

### CURRENT STATUS

The Government of Germany has contributed to the UNV Youth Volunteering Trust Fund. UNV welcomes further support from other development partners, in order to reach as many youth around the world as possible. For further information, 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).



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.