



UNV SPECIAL VOLUNTARY FUND

Multi-Year Report 2009-2013



UN

Volunteers

inspiration in action

Cover:

*In Kenya, Bernard Onyango serves as a Neighbourhood Volunteer in the Kibera area of Nairobi, forging paths for peace among communities affected by the post-election violence in early 2008.
(Harald Franzen, 2009)*

UNV is administered by the United Nations
Development Programme (UNDP)



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Contents

Preface	3
Introduction.....	4
Donors, Project Selection and Governance Mechanisms	6
Donors	6
Project Selection and Governance	6
Successful Peace and Development Interventions Funded Through the SVF from 2009 to 2013.....	8
Delivery of Basic Services.....	8
Environment and Climate Change.....	13
Crisis Prevention and Recovery	15
Humanitarian Assistance and Support to United Nations Missions	17
The Social Inclusion Pillars: Youth, Gender and Marginalized Groups.....	18
Cross-cutting Interventions.....	23
Promotion of Volunteerism and Enhancing Volunteer Infrastructure	23
Global Advocacy for Volunteerism in Development.....	26
Enhancing UNV Organizational Capacity.....	31
Conclusion: The way forward	34
Annexes.....	36
SVF Revenue and Programme Expenditure from 2009 to 2013	36
Status of SVF-funded projects active during the period from 2009 to 2013	38





Preface

It is a particular pleasure for me to present to you the *UNV Special Voluntary Fund (SVF) Multi-Year Report 2009-2013*. This report is the first of its kind, but it will not be the last. From this year on, the United Nations Volunteer (UNV) programme will deliver reports specifically dedicated to the projects funded through the SVF, to fully reflect and highlight their variety and relevance. These reports will be published on a regular basis. While they will still need to be read in conjunction with the UNV Annual Report, this new mode of reporting constitutes an acknowledgement on the part of UNV that the previous mode of reporting, while adequate in the past, is no longer sufficiently specific and in-depth to meet current requirements.

The SVF is the second most important source of funding for UNV. Projects and programmes around the globe benefit from the generosity of donors who entrust their voluntary contributions to UNV and leave the allocation of these substantial funds at the discretion of our organization. We are keenly aware of the responsibility conferred on us by the willingness of UN Member States and other donors to support our work. Therefore, we spare no effort to ensure that this money is put to the best possible use to further our common aim of supporting sustainable development through the promotion of volunteerism. Moreover, we will take accountability and quality assurance to a new level as UNV embarks on implementation of the new Strategic Framework 2014-2017, with its evidence-based approach and reinforced emphasis on results-based management.

This report testifies to the commitment, creativity and spirit of innovation characteristic of SVF-funded initiatives. The projects/programmes featured in the report also underscore the vital role played by UNV and UN Volunteers in supporting the work of the United Nations delivering as one to maximize impact. Clearly, there is considerable merit in mainstreaming the concept of volunteerism in the United Nations system. However, there remains room for improvement. The overall ratio of expenditure to budget is still not fully satisfactory. Moreover, it is becoming apparent that the role of UN Volunteers does not and should not always end when a project comes to a close. Rather, in many cases implementing partners request continued volunteer involvement following the conclusion of a given project, which is often vital to sustaining the achievements.

Overall, the projects presented here offer proof of concept and demonstrate the relevance of volunteerism and volunteers to the international development agenda. I am confident that, notwithstanding the challenges touched upon above which UNV is working to address, and, given an appropriate financial basis, the SVF will continue to make an indispensable contribution to promoting volunteerism as a decisive instrument for sustainable human development and to implementing the UNV Strategic Framework 2014-2017.

Richard Dictus

Executive Coordinator United Nations Volunteers

Introduction

It is hard to imagine a world without volunteerism. Though there may not be a single universally-accepted definition of the term, the principle is intrinsic to human nature and the concept is universal. The same holds true for the values that underpin it: free will, commitment, engagement, solidarity and the determination to make a contribution to society without any expectation of material gain.

Volunteers around the globe contribute substantially to addressing the challenges facing humankind in the 21st century. According to the Comparative Nonprofit Sector Project of the John Hopkins University Center for Civil Society Studies, the economic contribution of volunteers in 36 participating countries amounted to US \$400 billion annually, representing, on average, 1.1 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product of those countries.

The vital contribution of volunteerism to peace and development is increasingly being acknowledged. In its resolution marking the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers (United Nations General Assembly Resolution 66/67 of 5 December 2011), the United Nations General Assembly recognized that “volunteerism is an important component of any strategy aimed at, inter alia, such areas as poverty reduction, sustainable development, health, youth empowerment, climate change, disaster prevention and management, social integration, humanitarian action, peace building and, in particular, overcoming social exclusion and discrimination.”

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the United Nations organization that promotes volunteerism and contributes to marshalling this tremendous potential for positive change. Partnering with other United Nations entities, civil society organizations, governments and the private sector, UNV works to advocate for volunteerism, integrate volunteer action into development planning and mobilize volunteers.

Since its founding in 1970, UNV has enabled thousands of volunteers around the globe to contribute to advancing human development and fostering progress towards a better world. In 2013 alone, the cumulative number of UN Volunteers was 6,351; the cumulative number of assignments 6,459. To these figures add 11,328 UN Online Volunteers. UNV is also an important vehicle for South-South cooperation, as more than 80 per cent of UN Volunteers come from developing countries, and 67 per cent work in countries other than their own.

UN Volunteers taking part in a training session, together with other development practitioners in Lesotho. This photo reflects the rich diversity of UN Volunteers. (Sonam Wangyal/UNV, 2013)



Today, as the deadline for achieving the Millennium Development Goals draws near, it is becoming apparent that, while substantial progress has been made, not all of the goals will be fully realized by 2015. The challenges posed by the emerging post-2015 agenda will require intensified efforts on the part of national governments and the international community.

As impressively documented in UNV's ground-breaking 2011 *State of the World's Volunteerism Report*, which was funded through the Special Voluntary Fund (SVF), volunteers can and should play a major role in this process. Harnessing the people power they provide will be essential to augmenting capacity and delivering services. No other United Nations organization is better placed to leverage this potential and inspire citizens to bring about change by volunteering than UNV. Moreover, the organization, which supports the effective delivery of the programmes and mandates of 35 United Nations partners, offers an exemplary model of the United Nations delivering as one.

One of the important sources of funding enabling UNV to fulfil this unique role is the SVF. The fund is replenished by voluntary contributions of donor countries and, to a limited extent, organizations. Created in the same year as UNV, the SVF has evolved along with the organization. It was initially intended to primarily cover the external costs of volunteers (assignment, home visit and repatriation travel), with 15 per cent of the income free for supporting pilot projects and innovative activities. The SVF should be seen in the context of a total resource and financial picture of UNV that comprises: 1) funding by donors; 2) the administrative budget; 3) total volunteer mobilization from UN partners. The respective average value of these three resources over the reporting period amounts to: 1) US \$21,200,000; 2) US \$224,200,000; 3) US \$179,800,000.

Over time, the SVF mandate was modified and expanded. The current mandate, formulated in 1992 and contained in UNDP Governing Council decision 92/35, states that the SVF can be used to support the following types of activities:

- Pilot and experimental projects covering grass-roots development initiatives, support to community, women and youth groups, emergency relief preparedness and thematic areas such as HIV/AIDS, the environment and the urban informal sector;
- The briefing of UNV specialists and the training of Domestic Development Services [a UNV programme in the 1980s designed to proactively engage South-South regional exchange among young people who served as country specialists and field workers], other country specialists and field workers, government officials and representatives from non-governmental organizations; and
- Special recruitment campaigns aimed at enhancing the universality and quality of candidates.

The SVF, therefore, is the primary source of funding for UNV pilot initiatives that test and demonstrate the relevance and added value of volunteerism and of volunteer contributions to development. It has been instrumental in enabling some of the most creative and innovative work carried out by the organization and its volunteers over the past 40 years. In the future, the growing demand by project partners for continued volunteer involvement beyond the end of the initial project duration, will, moreover, increasingly necessitate the use of SVF funds to contribute to scaling up and ensuring the sustainability of projects. The current mandate of the SVF does not encompass this.

During the period covered by this report, **2009-2013, 94 global, regional and country-level projects** received SVF funds amounting to a total of **US \$27.1 million**. From promoting the inclusion of marginalized people in Albania to harnessing the momentum generated by youth solidarity and social capital in the Arab states, combating gender-based violence in the Asia-Pacific region or disaster risk management and food security in El Salvador – these projects spanned the range of programmatic focus areas defined by the 2009-2011 UNV Corporate Plan and the 2011-2013 UNV Programme Strategy in all geographic regions.

Based on sources such as mid-term and end-of-project reviews and evaluations, this report presents an overview of SVF-funded activities, related achievements and success stories during the reporting period.

I applaud all people who volunteer each year for the benefit of their communities. I am especially grateful to the United Nations Volunteers who support efforts to prevent conflicts, help societies recover from fighting, promote sustainable development, assist in crisis situations and carry out numerous other projects for the greater good. Their work has advanced the Millennium Development Goals, and I am confident they will also contribute to the progress on the post-2015 development agenda.

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

Donors, Project Selection and Governance Mechanisms

Donors

Sixty-four UN Member States, the European Commission (representing the European Union) and a small number of other donors have made contributions to the SVF since its inception. During the reporting period, 20 UN Member States, the European Commission, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme replenished the SVF with an average of US \$4.4 million in total per year. SVF funding accounted for up to 32 per cent of UNV's annual programme expenditure.

The top donors during the reporting period were Germany, Sweden and Switzerland, which continuously took the lead, as well as Belgium, which made notable contributions from 2009-2011, the United States, Austria, Ireland and China. Twelve other countries contributed either repeatedly (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Israel, Panama, Syria, Thailand and Turkey) or once during this quadrennium (Colombia, India and Italy). It is worth noting that this list includes two of the world's least developed countries, as well as a number of other countries of the global South. In a remarkable demonstration of solidarity, all of these countries granted much-needed funding to the SVF.

Project Selection and Governance

To ensure that the money contributed to the SVF generates maximum impact on the ground, a strategic approach is used to select projects for funding. UNV makes every possible effort to guarantee that the projects funded comply with the SVF mandate and UNV corporate strategy and that they contribute to achieving the organization's priority objectives. The SVF Guidelines Note, which UNV refers to when considering projects for SVF funding, stipulates that all projects must have a clear, conceptually well-developed justification for the use of SVF funds in line with the SVF mandate and UNV corporate strategy. This justification should show if and how the project meets a combination of the required closely inter-linked criteria, namely to:

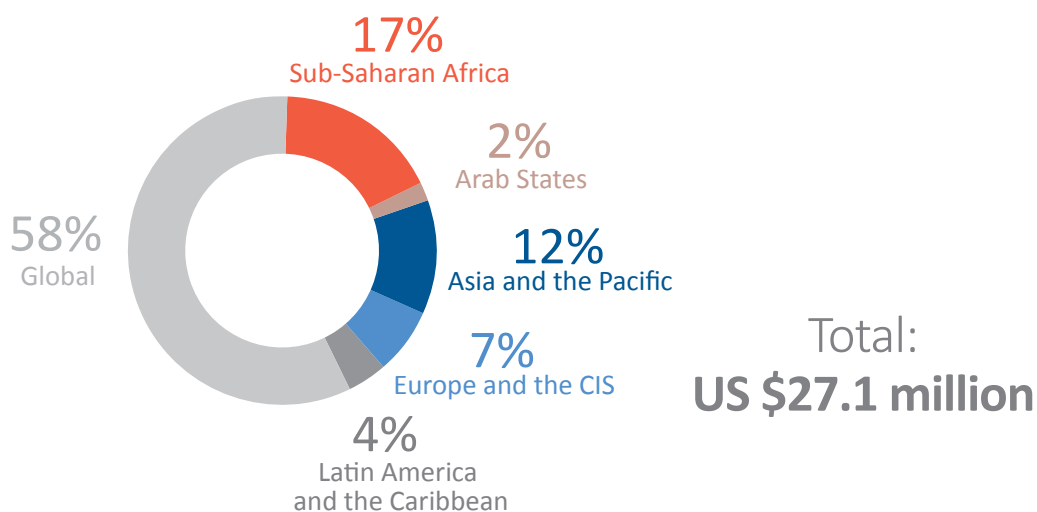
- Demonstrate volunteer roles
- Focus on UNV strategic priorities
- Support community-targeting development
- Forge partnerships
- Work towards sustainability and impact
- Aim at scaling up and replicating best practices.

Moreover, in the interest of coherence of United Nations interventions on the ground, projects are also selected on the basis of the added value they can offer to the efforts of partner entities within the United Nations system and to the achievement of the partner countries' national development priorities, as reflected in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF).

Since UNV is administered by UNDP, it applies UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures throughout the project life cycle. Accordingly, UNV projects are governed by results-based management principles and methodologies. During project formulation, clear results, indicators and resource frameworks are elaborated and used for monitoring and evaluation during the implementation stage. In the field, UNV strives to integrate results and indicators related to volunteerism into UNDAFs, United Nations Delivering as One plans and partner entity country programmes.

All projects funded by the SVF are approved by UNV's Project Appraisal Committee, which is composed of senior and specialized staff members of the organization. Each appraisal is preceded by extensive internal consultation between UNV headquarters and UNV Field Unit personnel, as well as UNDP and/or other United Nations partners, government and civil society partners, as applicable.

SVF Breakdown of Expenditure by Region 2009–2013:



The main purpose of all UNV interventions is the achievement of development results through UNV's work with United Nations partners. Results-based management is applied at various levels. At the corporate level, UNV activities during the reporting period were governed by the UNV 2009-2011 Corporate Plan and the 2011-2013 Programme Strategy. This strategy identifies the overarching results that UNV aimed to achieve during the stated period and outlines the specific products and services that need to be in place to achieve them, as well as indicators of success, activities and responsibilities. As of 2014, it has been superseded by the 2014-2017 Strategic Framework. Developed with the external demands and needs of stakeholders and partners in mind, this framework will greatly enhance UNV's ability to deliver against its mandate, provided sufficient financial resources are made available to the organization.

Like all UNV projects, those funded through SVF comply with the UNDP POPP monitoring and evaluation systems. Monitoring and evaluation is carried out by project implementing partners as per established guidelines and agreed management arrangements. A variety of monitoring tools and mechanisms are used, including risk logs, field visits and annual reports and reviews. Evaluation and monitoring plans are updated during project reviews, through board meetings, as deemed necessary and depending on project size and context. Like UNDP, which has been a member of the International Aid Transparency Initiative since its founding in 2008, UNV adheres to the initiative's principles on transparency and accountability. All finalized evaluation reports are available on the UNV space of the Evaluation Resource Centre of UNDP (<http://erc.undp.org>).

The result of these efforts is a range of partially or fully SVF-funded successful projects chiefly addressing three of the five UNV focus areas (namely Delivery of Basic Social Services, Sustainable Environment and Climate Change and Crisis Prevention and Recovery), as well as the social inclusion pillars and cross-cutting interventions. Limited SVF funds have been provided to projects in the two other focus areas, Humanitarian Assistance and Support to United Nations missions.



Successful Development Interventions Funded through the SVF from 2009–2013

During the reporting period, a total of 94 projects received SVF funding. These projects fall under the Programme Strategy 2009-2013 focus areas (Delivery of Basic Services, Sustainable Environment and Climate Change, Crisis Prevention and Recovery, Humanitarian Assistance and Support to United Nations Missions, and the social inclusion pillars of youth, gender and marginalized people), as well as cross-cutting interventions that advocate for volunteerism and enhance delivery at national, global and organizational level.

The projects presented in this report were selected based on the criteria of regional and thematic balance in order to provide an overview of the range, scope and impact of SVF-funded projects. Many of these projects fall within the reporting period but commenced prior to 2009 or extend beyond 2013. The projected budgets, and the SVF portion of funding are indicated, citing the project documents that governed the establishment of the project. Actual SVF expenditure for all projects funded during the reporting period is reflected in Annex I.

Delivery of Basic Services

Strengthening the delivery of basic services is essential to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Volunteer efforts increase the efficiency and outreach, as well as the ownership and sustainability, of government and civil society programmes. Conducted in cooperation with local, regional and national authorities and institutions, SVF-funded UNV projects concentrated on health care (such as primary health care and HIV/AIDS) and education (non-formal education, such as literacy and vocational training) which have proven to be powerful tools in poverty alleviation. Projects also enhanced local governance to promote inclusive community participation and engagement in planning, implementing and monitoring of local development initiatives.

India's 11th Five-Year Plan (2007-2011) emphasized decentralization and outcome-based planning. As part of this process, the government partnered with UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNV in a project called **Capacity Development for District Planning in India**. The project was launched in 2009 and, due to its successes – including the successful involvement of young people – was extended beyond the duration of the 11th Five-Year plan to 2013. It spanned 35 districts across seven states.

UN Volunteers were assigned as District Support Officers to bolster planning processes at district and sub-district levels. They helped create models for community mobilization and monitoring and promoted the role of volunteering in decentralized planning processes. The UN Volunteers contributed to community mobilization, and strengthening of inclusive district planning and monitoring.

Through the project, UNDP and UNV helped improve the technical skills (for example, planning, data analysis and monitoring skills) of District Planning Committees so that they could better address issues such as Millennium Development Goal attainment, disaster risk management and climate change. Project activities emphasized implementation of these skills in a participatory and decentralized manner.



UN Volunteers were instrumental in varied activities, including:

- Several state governments undertook comprehensive capacity assessment exercises;
- 14 District Human Development Reports were elaborated;
- Gender sub-plans were formulated;
- Knowledge products and training materials were produced;
- Learning visits were organized; and
- Stakeholders were mobilized to devise a mechanism to localize and track Millennium Development Goal outcomes.

20 young national UN Volunteers and 30 district facilitators were mobilized to carry out the work. 15 per cent of these national UN Volunteers were women. The District Facilitators were not UN Volunteers.

In one village, a volunteer designed Community Monitoring Charts to record local development indicators. The district administration adopted the method and introduced the use of these charts in 93 villages.

Information and communication technology centres were set up in villages. UN Volunteers encouraged young people to use the centres to hone their knowledge and skills in their chosen vocations. The youth in turn took this knowledge back to their communities and shared it, contributing to community development.

One of the major achievements of the project was its success in drawing the attention of state governments to the need for integrated district plans. Approaches to volunteer-based participatory planning and monitoring were replicated and progressively integrated into district planning. The use of volunteers improved the outreach of the government-United Nations partnership. Furthermore, the project introduced the concept of 'gender in development' in states and districts.

*National UN Volunteer
Rajeev Narayan
(centre right) discusses
gender equality and
male stereotypes
in Uttar Pradesh,
India, together with
community member
Sashita Mishra (in
red) and Ram Prakash
Pandey (in light
blue), from partner
organization Tarun
Chetna.
(Anil Tharayath
Varghese/UNV/UNDP,
2009)*

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2008-2012	US \$7,733,968	US \$524,174	UNDP, Government of India

The project **Support to the Implementation of the Kosovo Youth Action Plan** was designed to address multiple challenges faced by young people in this young, post-crisis, south-eastern European nation. An estimated 70 per cent of the country's population is under 30 years of age and 50 per cent are younger than 21. An underdeveloped education system, lack of professional skills, a very high rate

The volunteers served as a very vital link between the local government and the communities. They were the backbone of the Capacity Development for District Planning programme.

Sumeeta Banerji,
former Head of Governance, UNDP

of youth unemployment, lack of health services and the security situation have compounded problems for young Kosovars.

Initiated in 2007 and extended into 2009, the project was carried out jointly by UNDP, UNV, the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of the Republic of Kosovo and Regional Youth Departments to address the multiple challenges faced by young people in this country. It involved 7 national UN Volunteers and promoted the Kosovo Youth Action Plan at the municipal level in five regions.

Project activities included stocktaking of youth-involving organizations, the organization of six regional workshops, community meetings and debates, awareness raising and training, and the promotion of Millennium Development Goal-based volunteer activities among young people.

The project contributed substantially to the elaboration and approval of a National Youth Action Strategy and a law on the empowerment and participation of youth, as well as the creation of an office for volunteerism in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

A 2010 evaluation found that the project successfully achieved most of its objectives and that its interventions proved instrumental in raising awareness regarding youth affairs, especially the promotion of volunteerism at central and regional levels.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2005-2009	US \$334,390	US \$238,561	UNDP, Kosovo

In Nepal, the **Local Governance and Community Development Programme** was carried out from 2009-2012 to address issues of inequality and social exclusion, traditional sources of conflict and instability in the country. This programme was conducted jointly with the Ministry of Local Development, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, the United Nations Capital Development Fund and UN Women. It involved five national UN Volunteers and strengthened the institutional capacity of the National Development Volunteer Service. The programme promoted volunteerism as a way of fostering the participation of community members in local planning, implementation and oversight processes.

The National Development Volunteer Service and UNV mobilized over 100 volunteers countrywide – in 48 districts and 52 municipalities – to empower communities to be more proactive and engaged in their own development. Volunteers brought local governance closer to the people, which helped strengthen citizens' confidence in the government.

UNV partners with local organizations like Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo to help youth overcome challenges, such as limited education and employment opportunities. Here, a community volunteer (in yellow) gives English lessons.
(Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo, 2008)



In 2012, UN Volunteers assisted in recruiting around 600 new volunteers for the National Development Volunteer Service. UNV also supported the planning of a Volunteer Resource and Information Centre and a Volunteer Management Information System.

Volunteers in Nepal were instrumental in mobilizing the District Social Mobilization Committees and in setting up and facilitating the formation of Ward Citizen Forums. These continue to function as a link between local service providers, social mobilizers and local bodies. Volunteers brought a level of empowerment to marginalized groups including women and ethnic minorities. The National Development Volunteer Service continues to operate as the national volunteer scheme in Nepal and deploys hundreds of volunteers to the districts each year. Due to its success, a follow-up programme has been launched for 2013-2017.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2008-2012	US \$53,752,604	US \$810,000	UNCDF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women

Swaziland has been severely hit by HIV/AIDS. With 19 per cent of the general population and 26 per cent of youth affected, the disease has reached pandemic proportions. Responding to the urgency of this situation, SVF resources were used to enable UNV to partner with UNDP on a joint project **Strengthening the Capacity of National Volunteer Infrastructure for HIV and AIDS Response in Swaziland**. The project became operational in 2012 and is scheduled to run until the end of December 2014. Conducted in cooperation with the National Emergency Response Council for HIV/AIDS, the project is building capacity and providing technical support, training and mentoring to enhance the coordination, management and operations of civil society organizations and other multi-sectoral responses to the disease. UN Volunteers engaged in the project are advocating for the creation of an enabling policy environment for volunteerism in the fight against HIV/AIDS and are promoting and enhancing interagency partnerships.

In 2012, the Institute for Development Management, a project partner, launched a national volunteer programme and created an online database to facilitate volunteer recruitment nationwide. Twenty national volunteers have contributed to the work of 10 civil society organizations. Two non-governmental organizations were supported in organizational development and training of volunteers. In addition, 100 individuals - 70 women and 30 men - from civil society organizations and government agencies received training in a variety of related areas. Over 80 per cent of the participants were youth.

Building on prior progress in HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, the project has seen positive changes. Interviews of constituents have shown that awareness of the risk of contracting HIV has increased further in the country and sex-related behavioural patterns are gradually transforming. The HIV infection rate is slowly but steadily dropping. Civil society has also taken ownership of the project. Resultant localized efforts, such as equipping and running feeding centres for AIDS orphans, have saved many lives in communities. Meanwhile, the government's commitment is simultaneously strengthened, as can be seen by increasing resources allocated to the national AIDS programme. The innovative project approach is pulling the government, civil society organizations, the United Nations and communities even closer together in the effort to halt the spread of HIV in Swaziland.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributor:
2011-2013	US \$989,835	US \$250,000	UNDP

Another disabling and potentially deadly disease was tackled through a project launched in Uzbekistan in 2009, entitled **Empowering Communities through Local Volunteerism to Address Poverty and Tuberculosis**. This community-based project was carried out jointly by UNV, UNDP, the World Health Organization, the Ministry of Health, the Council of Ministers and a number of national organizations.

Uzbek Community Volunteer Trainer Rametova Zulfia (right) and her peers are mobilizing 3,000 community volunteers to combat tuberculosis. Here, she works with a dentist and two nurses (from left to right) to document prevention and treatment processes.



Its objectives were tackling the high incidence of tuberculosis in five districts of the Autonomous Republic of Karakalpakstan. It aimed to raise awareness on tuberculosis, foster non-discriminatory attitudes in the community toward those affected by the disease and improve health service delivery by strengthening basic government infrastructure.

A forum of relevant agencies and organizations was put together to ensure cooperation and efficiency. From 2009 to 2011, one international UN Volunteer Coordinator, six national UN Volunteers and two temporary volunteer interns were involved in the project.

The structure of the project allowed for rapid expansion of knowledge: one international and four national UN Volunteers trained 29 Community Volunteer Trainers, 20 youth trainers and primary health care nurses in all five districts; these trainees in turn trained local volunteers. The nurses conducted 105 training sessions and deployed and empowered 3,500 local community-based volunteers. Community volunteers disseminated over 25,000 information leaflets to communities.

A mid-term project assessment found positive changes in the extent and depth of knowledge on tuberculosis in the target population and positive feedback on the publications. Community initiatives – such as constructing a water pipeline and reopening a tuberculosis dispensary – benefited thousands of residents in the five districts.

To build on the success of the tuberculosis programme, a new project was launched to improve economic, food, health and environmental security for the population of a community seriously affected by the Aral Sea environmental disaster. The project is funded through the UN Human Security Trust Fund and two fully-funded volunteers funded by Finland have been deployed, however it is not receiving SVF funding.

FUNDING				
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	UNV (Japan Trust Fund):	Other major contributors:
2009-2011	US \$618,364	US \$38,160	US \$373,204	UNDP, WHO, Mahalla Committees, Norway

With one of the lowest Gross Domestic Products per capita in the world and a long history of political instability, Guinea-Bissau is struggling to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. One way to foster attainment of these goals is to strengthen partnerships between government and civil society organizations and promote appropriate methods for the mobilization and management of

volunteers. To this end, UNDP and UNV partnered for the project **Reinforcement of the Capacity and Coordination Mechanisms of Civil Society Organizations to attain the Millennium Development Goals**, which ran from 2010 to 2013.

This was the first project of its kind to cover all regions of Guinea-Bissau. UN Volunteers established and institutionalized coordination mechanisms between the government, non-governmental organizations and volunteer-involving organizations. They helped draft a proposal to establish an appropriate legal framework for civil society organizations and for volunteerism and to set up an official forum for exchanges between civil society organizations and the government. This legal framework is entirely novel for Guinea-Bissau. A draft law regulating non-governmental organizations and youth associations, and containing a chapter on volunteerism, has been elaborated but not yet discussed or adopted by Parliament. The project team plans to create an advocacy committee to work in coordination with other national civil society actors to have this framework approved by parliament.

UN Volunteers also organized national events on volunteerism, produced a study on the legal context for volunteerism in the country and wrote a proposal for procedures and systems for volunteer mobilization and management. They also supported activities to mobilize volunteers in the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. More than 200 community volunteers, especially youth and women, took part in the project.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2010-2013	US \$2,089,754	US \$289,750	UNDP

Training a network of community volunteers, local leaders and youth was on the agenda for the three national UN Volunteers involved in the **National Human Development Report and Millennium Development Goals Programme 2009-2011 in Guatemala**.

The UN Volunteers developed training programmes, held workshops, produced and disseminated a video promoting volunteer networks and monitored the progress of over 150 local 'human development volunteers'. Political dialogues were conducted as part of the effort. These dialogues – in which community members discussed local government proposals for human development – received nationwide media attention.

Local youth human development volunteers made use of community radio stations to present and discuss human development and the MDGs in Indigenous communities. The project created considerable impact by taking human development approaches to communities and integrating the concept into the work of the organizations involved. Many continue to use this approach in their work. Due to a lack of funding, the National Human Development Report team was reduced and was therefore unable to implement new strategies and scale up the initiative, which is considered a good practice and has the potential for replication in other countries and regions.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2009-2011	US \$575,822	US \$118,000	UNDP, Japan, Norway, USAID

Environment and Climate Change

Social stability, a vigorous economy and a healthy environment are inextricably interlinked, and all are building blocks of sustainable development. Tackling the environmental challenges of the 21st century is an enormous task. The environmental movement has historically been driven by individual volunteers and volunteer-involving organizations. The SVF has enabled UN Volunteers to continue with this long tradition. With SVF funding, UN Volunteers have energetically supported local climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. UN Volunteers also helped address other pressing environmental issues, such as desertification and loss of biodiversity.

By participating in the documentary workshops, I learned a lot about my region from the elders and from discussions with the villagers. This project also helped me understand the value of solidarity and collective work.

Saadia Ihihi,
Community Volunteer
from Iguiwaz, Morocco

Climate change is being felt around the globe. Small communities are frequently hit hardest and these are the very communities that are often least able to cope with its impacts. It is essential for climate change mitigation and adaptation measures to be put in place in small, vulnerable communities so that they can manage and cope.

To this end, from 2009 to 2013, UNV partnered with the Global Environment Facility/Small Grants Programme on a **Community-Based Adaptation Programme spanning ten countries around the world:** Bangladesh, Bolivia, Guatemala, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Samoa and Viet Nam. UN Volunteers worked in highly vulnerable communities in seven of these countries (Bolivia, Guatemala, Jamaica, Morocco, Namibia, Niger and Samoa) assisting residents to increase their capacity to adapt to both climate variability and long-term climate change.

In the course of the programme, 49 non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations developed and implemented sustainable, community-driven adaptation projects. Two international and six national UN Volunteers supported the mobilization of over 5,800

community volunteers for the various projects.

Volunteers under the Community-Based Adaptation Programme helped an agricultural community in Morocco to adapt to reduced water resources and soil degradation. One community volunteer was nineteen-year-old Saadia Ihihi from Iguiwaz. Saadia participated in the production of a community video on climate change and adaptation titled *Tiwizi* (meaning “solidarity”) and promoted the inclusion of women and youth in programme activities that strengthened the resilience of the community’s ecosystem in the face of changing climatic conditions.

The final project evaluation by an external consultant notes: “The Community-Based Adaptation programme has been a very successful project, not only in regard to the pioneering of community-based approaches to climate change adaptation by vulnerable communities in developing countries, but also in terms of results and possible replication and scaling up.”

FUNDING				
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	UNV (Japan Trust Fund):	Other major contributors:
2009-2013	US \$6,078,049	US \$552,909	US \$1,000,000	AusAID, European Commission, GEF, Japan, Sweden

Desertification and land degradation are increasingly distressing many areas of the world. UNV joined forces with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to implement three projects that mobilized **youth volunteerism toward integrated environment and natural resource management**. These projects took place in Ethiopia (2006-2010), Zambia (2006-2010) and Zimbabwe (2007-2012).

In Ethiopia and Zambia, youth volunteers carried out awareness campaigns on the effects of land degradation and desertification. All volunteers deployed in Zambia were national UN Volunteers, whereas in Ethiopia one fully funded international UN volunteer and five national UN volunteers were involved. They produced training material on forestry, agriculture and manual and technical industrial skills. After receiving training on the benefits of environmental protection, young volunteers in Rushinga, a pilot district in Zimbabwe, designed innovative, replicable, environmentally-friendly and sustainable income-generating projects and also participated in awareness-raising activities. Because youth in neighbouring communities could see the benefits derived from these activities, they replicated them in their own communities of their own accord, without the intervention of project staff. Sustainability of the projects has been high, as they have continued with local ownership even after the end of project funding.

FUNDING			
ETHIOPIA			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNCCD:	UNV (SVF) contribution:
2006-2010	US \$230,750	US \$99,750	US \$131,000
ZAMBIA			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNCCD:	UNV (SVF) contribution:
2006-2010	US \$175,000	US \$105,000	US \$70,000
ZIMBABWE			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNCCD:	UNV (SVF) contribution:
2006-2012	US \$215,700	US \$105,000	US \$110,700

UN Volunteer Rita de Cassia Dutra (second from left) and teachers of the Salvador Hidalgo Cornejo School in Guadalupe, San Vicente, draw up the concept of an ideal school. This was part of the activities of a Disaster Risk Reduction workshop held twice monthly in the school with teachers and community members. (Etel Matiello, 2011)

Crisis Prevention and Recovery

From armed conflict to social unrest and natural disaster, individuals and communities affected by crises need support to restore normalcy and rebuild livelihoods and institutions. UN Volunteers help with the prevention of crises, facilitate peace and are often essential to recovery.

Over the reporting period, UN Volunteers worked to build the social capital required to prevent, mitigate and manage conflict, including encouragement of reconciliation and consolidation of peace. They bolstered the capacity of communities to prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters, as explicitly acknowledged by the Hyogo Framework for Action. Many UNV crisis prevention and recovery projects over the past years could not have been realized without SVF funding.



I admire the hard work of the volunteers, who left their homes to share all their knowledge with our people. It is truly priceless.

Bernardo López,
Secretaría de Inclusión, El Salvador

In El Salvador, UNV partnered with the **Escuelas Vivas, or Living Schools project**, a South-South initiative between the governments of Brazil and El Salvador. Escuelas Vivas supported community exchanges of knowledge and experience on disaster and risk management and improved the food security of families. The most innovative aspect of this project was the continuous involvement of a broad spectrum of actors in hands-on South-South cooperation.

Six UN Volunteers (five Brazilian international volunteers and one El Salvadoran national) with training and experience in small-scale farming and natural disaster prevention and mitigation shared and transferred their skills, knowledge and best practices with their Salvadorian partners.

The project mobilized 560 local volunteers who worked with teachers, students and their families in three municipalities. The local volunteers gave nutrition training and helped with school gardening and community-based volunteer projects. Other activities concentrated on risk prevention, including workshops that simulated evacuations to train students and their families and helped them draft disaster preparedness plans for their schools.

One result of the project was the creation of school committees composed of students, teachers and community members specialized in disaster and risk management. Committee members were sworn in by the Civil Defence Authority, empowering them to respond in emergencies and to engage in various activities to mitigate the risks related to emergencies. This was the first time such an initiative had been undertaken in El Salvador. Based on the success of the project in the target municipalities, Civil Defence started working with other schools, using the Escuelas Vivas project as a pilot, and with a long-term commitment to follow suit in other areas of the country.

The project also attracted attention beyond the borders of El Salvador and the idea of replicating it in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua was explored. Brazil is now engaged and committed to take this project to its second phase, extending it to more locations in Central America.

The final project report written in 2012 noted that the project achieved, and even overachieved, all its objectives. This is attributed to a considerable extent to the project methodology, which involved federal and local governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations. Escuelas Vivas has been recognized as one of the best examples of South-South cooperation in which UNV has ever been involved.

ECOWAS Volunteer Emmanuel Aniesedo (Nigeria), a Laboratory Technician, reads a malaria parasite slide at the John F. Kennedy hospital in Monrovia, Liberia. (Mohamed Kanja Sesay, 2012)



FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributor:
2011-2012	US \$322,493	US \$45,000	Government of Brazil

Community mobilization can go a long way to successfully addressing complex issues. This was impressively demonstrated by the **Neighbourhood Volunteer Scheme in Kenya**, an innovative UNV project implemented from 2008-2010. To address societal unrest, the Neighbourhood Volunteer Scheme deployed 21 national UN Volunteers to support capacity building and engagement of large numbers of local volunteers that could foster peacebuilding and reconciliation and offer counselling services in neighbourhoods affected by violence. In total, around 1,000 neighbourhood volunteers across 11 districts were recruited. Volunteers also participated in food distribution and other humanitarian activities, ensuring that resources reached those most in need.

Through the project, many community members gained the confidence to actively participate in decision-making processes. A participatory project review commissioned by UNDP testifies to the success of the project. The review concluded that “the Scheme succeeded in its set objective of instilling a sense of responsibility in neighbourhood volunteers, empowering them with skills and tools to initiate counselling, peacebuilding, reconciliation and recovery in the 11 districts in which the Scheme has operated since February 2008. The Scheme succeeded in the objective of supplementing human resource capacity for distributing emergency relief food and non-food items through support to relief agencies. The successful experience of the Scheme and its tested approach of volunteerism and the neighbourhood as the entry point for delivery of services will indeed inform other efforts for conflict resolution, peacebuilding, early recovery and service delivery.”

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2008-2010	US \$1,175,110	US \$800,000	UNDP, United Nations Peace Building Support Office

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) launched a peace and development programme in 2010. Within this programme, and in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Community, UNV supported the establishment of an **ECOWAS Volunteers Programme**, scheduled to run through December 2014. UNV is providing technical expertise and managing funds for the programme implementation. Through this, a youth ‘cadre’ is being formed that is helping promote peacebuilding and reconciliation as a means of advancing development in four pilot countries: Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

National Coordinating Councils have been established in the four countries, a regional office opened in Burkina Faso and national offices set up in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Three UN Volunteers assumed the role of ECOWAS Volunteer Programme country advisors to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. One international UN Volunteer served as Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, another as Communication and Knowledge Management Specialist, and a national UN Volunteer worked as Database Specialist. All three were based in the Regional Office. 81 ECOWAS volunteers have been mobilized to provide support to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone in the areas of health, education and youth. A roster of candidates is under development to place further ECOWAS volunteers with government institutions in thematic areas identified by the countries.

Humanitarian Assistance and Support to United Nations Missions

Due to the fact that up to now UNV support to UN Missions mainly focused on the provision of manpower rather than project development, only a limited number of SVF-funded programmes or projects have been dedicated to the humanitarian assistance focus area or to supporting activities of the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the United Nations Department of

Peacebuilding is relationship building. A Sudanese colleague said to me that my presence as a volunteer gives a morale boost, encouragement and hope for people in Southern Sudan. It has been a great personal and professional journey. Every experience, even the difficult ones, has been enriching.

Tomohiro Yamanaka,
Humanitarian Affairs Officer
with UNDP in Southern Sudan

Political Affairs and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

One ongoing programme that contributes to humanitarian assistance, peacebuilding and peacekeeping is the **Programme for Human Resource Development in Asia for Peacebuilding**. Initiated in 2007 and funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, the programme is jointly implemented by the Hiroshima Peacebuilders Center, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNV. The programme promotes the role of volunteering in peacebuilding and peacekeeping by fielding skilled, trained and committed citizens from Japan and other Asian countries to support humanitarian coordination within emergencies and protracted displacement situations, as well as in crisis prevention and post-conflict recovery efforts.

This project is almost entirely funded by Japan, however, UNV invests US \$8,000 on an annual basis from the SVF for advocacy and reporting on the project due to its exceptional potential for replication. This is the only UNV collaboration with a specialized training centre that offers professionals an intensive learning experience, including volunteering in the field. Participants receive six weeks of training in Japan at the Hiroshima Peacebuilders Centre, in collaboration with Canadian, Swedish and other international institutes, and then are deployed to the field as UN Volunteers. UNV coordinates and monitors the assignments of the

UN Volunteers and offers continuous support and guidance. These professionals bring with them new skills that expand the reach of peacebuilding efforts.

From 2007 until the end of 2012, 115 UN Volunteers from 15 Asian countries completed UNV assignments in 32 countries. They supported more than 18 United Nations partner organizations to bring humanitarian assistance and improve basic services for vulnerable people. In some of the world's most troubled places, these UN Volunteers assisted in crisis prevention and recovery efforts and served with United Nations missions – in Kosovo, Liberia, Sudan and Timor-Leste – to boost their operational capacity and build skills of national counterparts.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributor:
2011-2014	US \$5,843,080	US \$18,000	Government of Japan

The Social Inclusion Pillars: Youth, Gender and Marginalized Groups

Three social inclusion pillars underpin the work of UNV: youth, gender and marginalized groups. To better leverage the potential of young people to contribute to development progress and change, UNV engages in global advocacy for youth volunteerism and strengthens the capacity of national and regional youth volunteer schemes. UNV's significant youth-related interventions, including those funded through SVF, have paved the way for the development of UNV's new Youth Volunteer Strategy and a global UN Youth Volunteer Programme (to be launched in 2014).

UNV also contributes to research on gender and volunteerism and has made gender mainstreaming a priority for all aspects of its programming. The inclusion of marginalized groups is another important facet of UNV's work, as no society can afford to let any potential for contributing to sustainable development lie fallow.

Recent transformational changes in parts of the Arab world owe much to the enthusiasm, creativity and courage of youth. Yet many young people in the region are disenfranchised, disadvantaged and faced with massive unemployment and lack of prospects.



Participants in the national consultation on youth volunteering in Morocco.
(Laboratoire Brahim/ UNV, 2012)

SVF funding enabled the piloting of a regional programme called **Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better Future** in 2011. The project harnessed the immense power of volunteerism, self-help, solidarity and social capital among young people in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen, where youth make up about 60 per cent of the total population. The programme focuses on triggering participatory dialogue to facilitate youth-led engagement in development, helped foster policy and institutional mechanisms that engage youth in volunteering for peace and development, and promoted volunteerism by creating regional youth platforms for the exchange of knowledge, best practices and experiences.

Following the recruitment of a national UN Volunteer in each of the five countries in 2012, a mapping exercise was conducted to collect and review data on youth and volunteerism in each country. Prior to this, in 2012, national consultations were organized that facilitated participatory dialogue between youth and a broad range of stakeholders to identify concrete programmatic action points at country and regional levels.

The national consultation process served as the basis for workshops which then led to follow-up initiatives and the launch of youth networks by participants. As with the national consultations, the workshops created a non-hierarchical environment, enabling a relaxed interaction between youth and other stakeholders in the identification of barriers to youth volunteerism and possible solutions.

Building on the successful methodology of the national consultations, UNV organized a regional workshop in Cairo in October 2012 bringing together government representatives, youth, civil society actors, United Nations partners, donors and international and national development partners. The national consultations and the regional workshop yielded a wide variety of tangible solutions and possible steps to address the challenges identified, including by offering youth opportunities to engage through volunteerism. As a result, a full project was launched in 2013, endorsed by all five governments. This initiative highlighted UNV's lead role in identification of the main challenges facing youth and generated interest in further regional cooperation and synergies.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributor:
2011-2015	US \$5,545,073	US \$900,000	Germany

Stopping gender-based violence before it starts is the objective of the **Partners for Prevention project in 12 countries of the Asia-Pacific region**. Conducted from 2008-2012 by UNV in partnership with UNDP, UNFPA and UN Women, as well as governments, civil society organizations and volunteer-involving organizations, the programme aimed to reduce gender-based violence by addressing its root causes.

Linking masculinity, patriarchy and gender-based violence is a new approach in the Pakistani context. And volunteers from within this culture are key to sensitizing men and boys on gender equality and issues of violence against children and women.

Rizwan Latif,
national UN Volunteer Outreach and Capacity
Development Officer, Islamabad, Pakistan

In this project, one international UN Volunteer in Thailand, one national UN Volunteer in India and two national UN Volunteers in Pakistan worked with local partners to reach out to communities and mobilize volunteers to foster attitudinal and behavioural change among boys and men. The national UN Volunteers also consolidated research, documented volunteering contributions and commissioned new studies to strengthen evidence-based policy advocacy.

One such research product was a multi-country study of men's perception of rape and abuse, one of the few in-depth studies undertaken on how men themselves experience gender-based violence. Involving 10,000 men in six countries, the analysis has yielded the largest cross-country comparable dataset on men's attitude to, and use and experience of, violence against women in the region. Such research and analysis present a clearer picture of the issue that can inform policies and furnish a basis for more refined and targeted interventions. The 2012 project evaluation found "overwhelming evidence" that the Partners for Prevention project had been very relevant to all the gender-based violence initiatives of United Nations partners and other stakeholders.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2008-2011	US \$5,544,720	US \$450,000	UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women, AusAID, DFID, Norway, SIDA

In Viet Nam, as in many other countries, persons affected by HIV/AIDS suffer the additional disadvantage of social stigma and discrimination. To address these problems and raise awareness, the UNV project **Greater Involvement of People living with HIV/AIDS in Viet Nam** engaged people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) as national UN Volunteers and promoted volunteerism as a means of involving PLWHA in the planning, advocacy and implementation of HIV/AIDS-related activities. UNV joined efforts with the Viet Nam Women's Union nationwide and in the cities of Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, Haiphong and Quang Ninh, mobilizing 11 national UN Volunteers and over 500 community volunteers.

The project gave rise to empathy clubs and self-help groups that provided information and counselling and facilitated better access to government health care services. Concrete guidelines were drawn up for 12 provinces to support the creation and expansion of PLWHA networks. An exchange visit to China was organized so that participants, including UN Volunteers, could learn from the Chinese national network of PLWHA and gain insights into the role of non-governmental organizations in linking national AIDS programmes with communities.

This project has contributed to reducing social stigma and increasing the involvement of PLWHA in relevant decision-making processes. In addition, the programme led to a marked increase in both the number of treatments administered and the quality of the treatments. Originally scheduled to run from 2005-2008, the programme was later extended to 2011.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2006-2010	US \$655,164	US \$200,000	AusAID, Government of Germany, US Global AIDS Program

In Sudan, UNV addressed a culturally sensitive issue in its pilot programme **Volunteerism and Community Mobilization for Combating Female Genital Mutilation** from 2006 to 2009. Involving one international and four national UN Volunteers working with national partners, the project espoused a



community-based approach to awareness-raising and peer education, which proved to be a key to its success. In its target area, the pilot project achieved a significant change in the misconceptions of the link between female genital mutilation and religion and a resultant notable decrease in its practice.

To ensure sustainability of the project's success, UNV helped set up a local non-governmental organization called MENATH through which community members are now coordinating their activities. The Report of the Secretary-General to the 54th session of the Economic and Social Council, entitled "Ending Female Genital Mutilation" (2009) noted that the model, originating with UNV, has since been adopted by UNFPA and UNICEF, which are replicating the community-based approach to eradicating this practice.

*National UN Volunteer
Nguyen Thi Dieu Hang
(with microphone)
fields questions from
youth during an
assembly on HIV/AIDS
prevention at a school
in Hanoi.
(UNV, 2008)*

FUNDING		
Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributor:
US \$402,780	US \$282,780	UNFPA

The project **Empowering Vulnerable Communities** ran from 2008 to 2010 under the United Nation's Delivering as One initiative in Albania. It contributed to social integration of marginalized Roma and Egyptian communities. Project volunteers were recruited from among members of the marginalized community the project was designed to support. Two national UN volunteers extensively supported the One UN Joint Programme on Roma and highlighted its volunteerism components in several communication products.

UNV cooperated with UNDP, international non-governmental organizations and the Albanian government to organize awareness campaigns and deliver numerous training sessions. Training included community planning, volunteerism and self-help; vocational and livelihood skills; and sessions for court officials and lawyers on how to better respond to the registration needs of vulnerable communities. The government was also supported to devise a National Action Plan for the Decade of Roma Inclusion.

This project was considered so successful that it was broadened and supported for a second phase, titled **Empowering Vulnerable Local Communities**, funded through the UN Trust Fund for Human Security.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2007-2009	US \$846,438	US \$526,500	UNDP, UNFPA, United Nations Resident Coordinator's Fund, Regional Environment Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, Terre des Hommes, Tirana Legal Aid Services

In Rwanda, UNV supported the government in its efforts to enable young people to live free of poverty, discrimination and violence through the programme **Delivering as One to Meet the Development Needs and Rights of Rwandan Adolescents**. Conducted jointly with UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UN-HABITAT and the International Labour Organization from 2009-2011, UNV worked with youth between the ages of 10 and 24 to empower them to think critically, understand their rights, negotiate risky situations and express themselves freely. The programme also provided sexual and reproductive health information, education, commodities and services.

Through the programme, young people were connected to livelihood and employment programmes and trained on volunteerism, civic education and human rights. The programme supported the Government of Rwanda in adopting a National Policy on Volunteerism to help integrate volunteerism into government efforts to strengthen youth participation in the country's development.

The programme's one international and nine national UN Volunteers worked through youth centres, mobilizing over 1,000 local youth volunteers and facilitating the establishment of some 40 Youth Volunteer Clubs. They also worked with youth in communities to identify livelihood and employment opportunities.

These young men in Rwanda are presidents of local youth cooperatives. The joint Youth Programme organized a youth camp that included entrepreneurship training in which each cooperative received a goat as a gift. (Annoncee Manirarora, 2011)



FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2009-2014	US \$12,622,777	US \$479,000	ILO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, Rwanda

In Ukraine, a decline in social welfare services, increased unemployment, impoverishment and consumerism have particularly distressed youth. To support youth involvement in societal development and foster democratic reform, UNV partnered with UNDP and the Ukrainian Ministry for Family, Youth and Sports for the project **Youth Social Inclusion for Civic Engagement in Ukraine**. It is notable that a private sector partner, Intel Ukraine Microelectronics Ltd., made a sizeable financial contribution of US \$300,000 between 2009 and 2011. From 2008-2011, the project increased organizational management and gender capacity of youth centres and volunteer-involving organizations, built social competencies and skills of youth, and strengthened solidarity among generations.

Volunteerism was used as a cross-cutting mechanism, instrumental and integral to each component of the project. Twelve national UN Volunteers worked with youth centres in 12 regions of the country and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. The volunteers coordinated activities in each region and delivered seminars and training in project management, critical thinking, leadership and conflict resolution, among other subjects. In addition, one national UN Volunteer supported the office in Kyiv as an Assistant and one international UN Volunteer served as Project Manager. The project proved to be a vehicle for getting youth involved in their community, with youth centres and volunteer-involving organizations helping young people to find suitable volunteer opportunities.

The final evaluation conducted by an independent consultant in 2011 came to the conclusion that the project addressed critical problems and was highly effective. It was found to have contributed to improving social, intellectual and computer skills of youth.

An experimental survey of youth who participated was conducted. About 90 per cent of respondents attested that the project helped them in choosing a future profession. Ninety-three per cent of parents of children with physical disabilities noticed positive changes in their children after participating in the project.

The project was also found to be sustainable, in that the skills gained by the youth and the support they received in choosing future professions are applicable to their adult lives. Moreover, 23 out of 44 youth centres are expected to be sustainable (mostly due to the support of local authorities); although all youth centres surveyed confirmed that they would continue their activities after the end of the project. A further legacy of the project is a national youth internet portal (www.molodistua.org) that was set up and launched in the course of this project.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2008-2011	US \$1,119,300	US \$500,000	UNDP, INTEL

Cross-cutting Interventions

Cross-cutting Interventions enable UNV to deliver on its mandate in a variety of areas. These range from the promotion of volunteering, mobilization of volunteers and enhancement of volunteer infrastructure, to global advocacy for volunteerism and improvement of UNV's capacity to better meet the evolving challenges of supporting sustainable development.

Promotion of volunteerism and enhancing volunteer infrastructure

Recognizing the potential of youth and volunteering for development, Burkina Faso adopted a national youth policy and, with the support of UNDP and UNV, set up a national volunteering

Volunteering is a way for me to help my country advance and education is the basis for development. There is a great shortage of teachers in Burkina Faso. Without this opportunity to work, I would have been unemployed.

Christine Ouedraogo,
national volunteer teacher

programme called the **Programme National de Volontariat au Burkina Faso**. Joint technical and financial support from UNV and UNDP has been critical for capacity building, promotion and expansion of many forms of voluntary engagement in combating poverty and fostering good governance in the country.

Beginning with a pilot project launched in 2006, UNV backed the development of a national framework for volunteering, which eventually led to the nationwide volunteer programme in Burkina Faso. UN Volunteers initially acted as regional coordinators, but were gradually replaced by graduates of the national volunteering programme. A law on volunteerism was passed by the national assembly, and beginning in 2008, UNV and UNDP helped establish a management structure, enabling the national volunteering programme to operate effectively and entirely under the auspices of the Government of Burkina Faso as of 2011.

The programme employed one international and seven national UN Volunteers. It led to the opening of volunteer centres in 12 of the country's thirteen regions and the mobilization of over 4,000 community volunteers across the country. The majority of these young Burkinabè were active in primary education, combating illiteracy in a country with a literacy rate of around 28 per cent. Others worked in areas as diverse as agriculture, decentralization, environment, health and economic development.

The project has been acknowledged as a best practice in the African sub-region and hosted study missions from several neighbouring countries. The *Programme National de Volontariat au Burkina Faso* was also central to a government youth job creation policy, with nearly 700 young people deployed as volunteers in host organizations where they ultimately found gainful employment.

The *Programme National de Volontariat au Burkina Faso* is now at the helm of the national committee of volunteer organizations comprised of about 30 national and international organizations. This committee supports the promotion and advocacy of volunteerism, such as the International Year of Volunteers and many other activities. The national volunteering programme in Burkina Faso is one of several established in countries across Africa, including Cape Verde, Mozambique and Niger, with the support of UNV.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2006-2011	US \$1,228,747	US \$556,809	UNDP, Burkina Faso

The Government of Senegal wanted to involve the country's population in programmes supporting sustainable development and to promote volunteerism as a tool for Millennium Development Goal attainment. However, Senegal lacked a legal framework and the capacity to generate, manage and coordinate wide-scale voluntary action. Deploying one international and seven national UN Volunteers, UNV promoted volunteerism as a tool for economic and social development in general and the achievement of Millennium Development Goals in particular through the **Support for the Coordination and Promotion of Volunteerism in Senegal** project, which ran from 2009-2012.

Through this project, UN Volunteers helped draft a legal and regulatory framework on volunteering and for a national volunteer programme and set up a highly successful support centre for volunteers called 'Volunteer House'. The project's target regions experienced significant improvements, including: an empowerment of volunteer associations and organizations; an increase in income-generating activities and promotion of volunteerism; and an increase in volunteer projects, such as building schools and helping with education in schools.



In Senegal, Fatou Diallo (left) is a member of the Unité de transformation et de production des céréales locales Seddo Ndam (Seddo Ndam Local Cereal Processing and Production Unit). Here, she shows cereal products to national UN Volunteer Aminata Diagne Barre. UN Volunteers managed the daily operations of the project. (Harald Franzen, 2010)

FUNDING				
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	UNV (Japan Trust Fund):	Other major contributors:
2008-2010	US \$5,000,000	US \$500,000	US \$414,108	UNDP, France, Senegal

In Mali from 2009-2012, UNV cooperated with UNDP and *France Volontaires* to implement a project titled **Setting up a National Centre for the Promotion of Volunteerism in Mali**. Six national UN Volunteers supported the government to mobilize qualified Malian volunteers for activities related to the country's socio-economic development, while simultaneously imparting professional skills and experience.

More than 100 national volunteers were deployed across the country to make progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals in areas such as education, health, agriculture and decentralization of governance and to stimulate community support for basic social services. In the process, the volunteers helped create jobs and facilitate access to food for the most vulnerable groups, particularly women. Media campaigns and mobilization activities raised awareness of the importance of volunteerism for local development. Two national laws, one on the promotion of volunteerism at the national level and another on a national infrastructure for the promotion of volunteerism, were adopted with the support of this project.

A final evaluation is currently being prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and UNDP, but it seems realistic to state that the project achieved the majority of its planned outcomes. A National Centre for Volunteering has been successfully established, with a head office in Bamako and three regional offices. It is run by the Ministry of Youth and has been invited to be the implementing partner for a joint UNDP, UNFPA, ILO and FAO project with a five million US dollar budget entitled 'Youth and Resilience in Mali'.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2009-2012	US \$1,691,604	US \$564,704	UNDP, Mali



One of the local volunteers participating in the Diversity campaign in Khartoum, Sudan. This campaign was part of the tenth Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers. (Germán Robles Osuna, 2011)

Global advocacy for volunteerism for development

In November 1997, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 2001 the International Year of Volunteers. The underlying premise was that while voluntary service made an essential contribution to addressing problems in social, economic, cultural, humanitarian and peacebuilding arenas, there was still a need for greater recognition and facilitation of volunteer work and more vigorous promotion of voluntary service and networks to facilitate drawing upon volunteer action.

Ten years later, in 2011, United Nations General Assembly Resolution 63/153 called for marking the **tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers**, also known as IYV+10. The resolution invited governments, media, civil society, the private sector, development partners and the United Nations to mark IYV+10 at global, regional and national levels.

During the tenth anniversary year, with SVF support, UNV organized six regional consultations, a Global Volunteer Conference in cooperation with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and co-organized the 64th United Nations Department of Public Information NGO Conference held in Bonn, Germany. Events also took place in numerous countries with the support of UNV. Over 35 national and several international UN Volunteers were recruited to upscale and facilitate national activities and strengthen stakeholder engagement.

An IYV+10 legacy website was set up to ensure accessibility of relevant outcome documents and audio-visual material (www.volunteeractioncounts.org/iyv). The 2013 final evaluation report on IYV+10 states, "Overall, UNV was able to accomplish a tremendous amount. This was an enormous undertaking, particularly for such a small organization, and UNV was able to produce high quality work with limited resources and time. The work was relevant and coherent for UNV and its stakeholders."

Developed under a separate project, but entirely integrated into UNV's events marking the tenth anniversary, the first ever **State of the World's Volunteerism Report** was launched in the General Assembly and 77 countries on 5 December 2011. This flagship publication, which consolidates and highlights evidence on the fundamental role of volunteerism in peace and development around the globe, was also financed through SVF.

IYV+10 and the *State of the World's Volunteerism Report* contributed to awareness of the potential and impact of volunteerism as the global community seeks to increase opportunities for new and innovative forms of citizen engagement and citizen-state feedback and interaction. The focus on youth volunteerism in the United Nations Secretary General's Five-Year Action Plan adopted in early 2012 is considered one example of this. The UNV Strategic Framework 2014-2017 also draws on this legacy.

Carrying forward the momentum of the tenth anniversary year, UNV continues to engage with and expand its stakeholder base nationally and internationally. Activities are focusing in particular on the post-2015 development agenda and the drafting of an action plan for the next decade (2015-2024) that UNV has been requested to present to the United Nations General Assembly (Resolution 67/138). UNV has also developed a successor project (Rio+20/MDG-post-2015) to secure continued corporate advocacy and stakeholder engagement beyond 2015. In 2013, SVF funds to the tune of US \$1,300,000 were approved for the next State of the World's Volunteerism Report, underway in 2014 and due to be published in 2015.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget of IYV + 10	UNV (SVF) contribution to IYV + 10	Other major contributors:
2009-2012	US \$4,742,096	US \$3,117,345	European Commission, Government of Germany, Government of Japan, White Helmets
Project period:	Total projected budget of SWVR:	UNV (SVF) contribution to SWVR:	Other major contributor:
2010-2011	US \$2,424,850	US \$ 2,364,365	European Commission

Increasingly, decision-makers and stakeholders acknowledge that new approaches to development are required and understand the need to include indicators of well-being, volunteering and civic participation. There is also growing awareness that community voluntary action is a key component of a sustainable development that embodies inclusiveness, poverty eradication and people-centred approaches. UNV and partners advocate with governments, civil society, the private sector and intergovernmental partners to recognize, protect and support the contribution of volunteers to sustainable peace and development through policy, laws, budgets, infrastructure and their active engagement with the United Nations for the Millennium Development Goals and wider post-2015 development agenda.

Building on UNV's engagement during IYV+10, and particularly in the 64th United Nations Department of Public Information NGO Conference, a campaign was developed to support **UNV involvement in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)**, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012.

Considerable attention was given to the role of volunteerism and UNV made an impact during the Rio+20 Conference, thanks to SVF funds that enabled UNV's active participation. A multi-media campaign showcased voluntary action around the world, demonstrating to Rio+20 stakeholders that volunteer action is essential to realizing sustainable development and to solidifying its social, economic and environmental foundations.

A key success was the inclusion of 'volunteer groups' in the Rio+20 Outcome Document (GA/Res./66/288), opening a crucial space for further involvement of volunteering and volunteers in institutional and inter-governmental dialogue on the post-2015 development framework. The conference laid the groundwork for a deeper understanding of the role of volunteer organizations beyond the direct delivery of services. It highlighted the role of volunteering as a means of engaging people in development and rendering development outcomes truly sustainable by promoting a long-term change in attitudes and mind sets. It noted that volunteering increases the space for citizen engagement and policies with a people-centred approach to sustainable development. The Rio+20 work was consequently expanded for the period 2012-2015 through the **Rio+20/MDG/post-2015 project**, in order to ensure continued co-ordination of UNV's global and national post-2015 advocacy efforts.

FUNDING		
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:
2012-2015	US \$3,765,469	\$2,566,021

The United Nations **Delivering as One** pilot initiative took place in eight countries – Albania, Cabo Verde, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uruguay and Viet Nam. The **One UN Project**, UNV’s contribution to Delivering as One, ran from 2008-2011. It aimed to integrate the concept of volunteerism for development into the broader programming framework in the eight pilot countries.

According to the evaluation, UNV’s One UN Project made a contribution to both Delivering as One initiatives and to the promotion of volunteerism. The project expanded UNV’s size and strategic position in several of the eight pilot countries. However, while some of the eight pilot countries achieved substantial success, progress was uneven and an overall delivery rate of 26 per cent implied that the project fell short of its planned scope.

The delivery rate in 2008 ranged from 0 per cent in three countries to 34.9 per cent in Albania. 2009 saw delivery rates between 0 per cent in two countries and 71.8 per cent in Cabo Verde, 74.9 per cent in Uruguay and 86.7 per cent in Viet Nam. To a considerable extent, the low delivery rate was due to slow implementation during the project’s first year and to the wide geographic variation during the entire programme period.

SVF funding was also allocated to the so-called Delivering as One “self-starter” countries (Bhutan, Botswana, Comoros, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali and Montenegro). These are countries that have voluntarily embraced the Delivering as One approach and principles — one programme, one budget, one leader, one office.

FUNDING		
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:
2008-2011	US \$2,609,898	US \$2,035,792

Olympic Games are mega-events posing tremendous organizational and logistical challenges. As a rule, these challenges cannot be met without the help of volunteers. The 2008 Beijing Olympics were no exception. In 2007, UNV partnered with UNDP and various Chinese organizations for the project **Strengthening Volunteerism for Development through the Beijing Olympics**. The project, supported by 10 UN Volunteers, not only enhanced the capacity of national partners to support the Olympics, but also demonstrated the role of volunteerism as a development resource and its ability to contribute toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals. An estimated 1.7 million volunteers were mobilized for the XXIX Olympiad.

To benefit from the momentum gained during the Beijing games, the project continued after the Olympic flame had been extinguished. In the second phase, which falls within the reporting period, emphasis was on applying experiences gained during the games to improve capacity and infrastructure for volunteering and to share the experience with the national and international community.

Project results included a raised profile of volunteering, increased community awareness of and participation in volunteering, improved and strengthened volunteer management in Beijing, the designing of an effective IT platform to identify, match and manage volunteers and projects available through volunteer-involving organizations, the implementation of four model projects and the engagement of volunteers to deliver activities that raised community awareness of environmental issues.

An evaluation of the project in 2011 by an external consultant concluded that, “The project has been well executed and has achieved the planned outputs within the project timeframe. The project has been very successful, both in terms of the completion and delivery of its project activities (outputs) and the results that these activities have achieved.”

The knowledge and skills accumulated during the Beijing Olympics was shared with organizers of the 2011 Asian Winter Games in Kazakhstan and the 2012 London Olympic Games. An international forum on voluntary service brought together over 300 researchers, scholars, practitioners, volunteers from China and abroad, as well as youth from several Beijing universities, to exchange ideas and discuss volunteering contributions to disaster risk reduction, humanitarian and emergency relief, large-scale events like the Shanghai Expo and the Guangzhou Asian Games, as well as in advancing



Local community members in Mali volunteer online (Jean-Baptiste Avril, 2005)

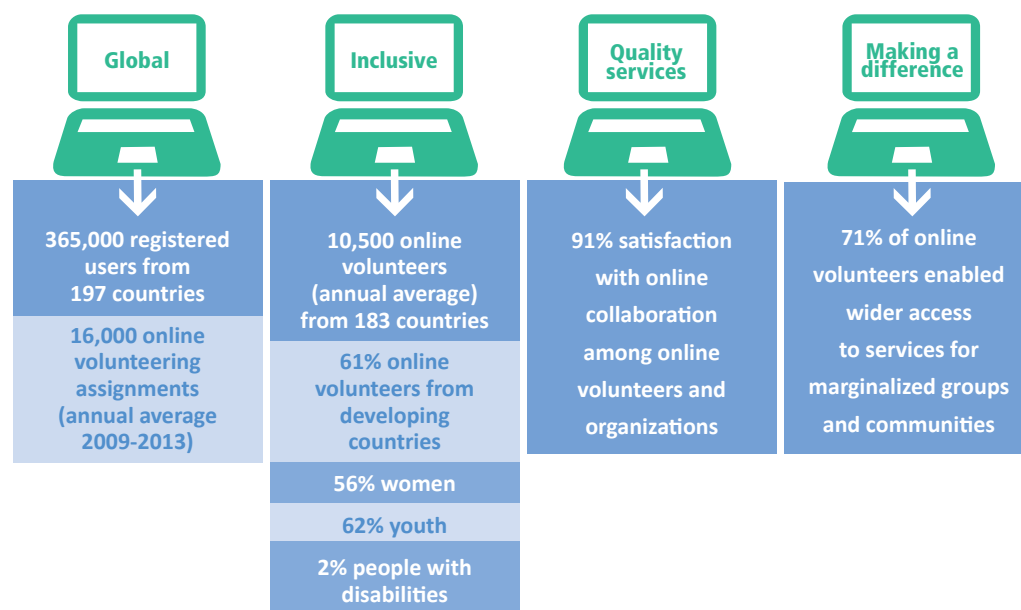
environmental and community development. Information was exchanged in meetings with the London 2012 Olympic Games Organizing Committee Volunteer Department and other volunteer-involving and development organizations.

For the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil, UNV, other United Nations partners and the Beijing Volunteer Federation are planning a project that will further build on the experiences gained. A United Nations Thematic Group, founded in 2012 with the help of UNV, anticipates strengthening joint projects related to sports for development and peace in Brazil. A follow-up project (**Olympia4Humanity - Building Coexistence and Active Citizenship**) to be carried out jointly by UNV, UNDP, UNHABITAT and UNICEF has been conceptualized and SVF funding has been approved for its implementation.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2010-2011	US \$701,773	US \$307,100	UNDP, China

UNV's **Online Volunteering Service** is intended to maximize the organization's contribution to development by ensuring wide recognition of online volunteering as an innovative volunteer modality for peace and development, further integrating it into development programming, increasing the mobilization of UN Online Volunteers and enhancing and upgrading systems used.

The statistics on the growth in online volunteering during the reporting period are impressive: in 2007, 2,742 individuals volunteered online and 3,775 assignments were filled. By 2013, that number had grown to 11,328 online volunteers, who undertook more than 17,370 assignments. Initially planned for two years (2007-2008), the project has been extended twice.



FUNDING		
Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
US \$2,305,217	US \$653,925	AusAID, Irish Aid, Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency

UNV partnered with the Volunteer and Service Enquiry Southern Africa (VOSESA) to convene the first **Southern Africa Conference on Volunteer Action for Development** in October 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The conference raised the profile of volunteerism as a tool for development and regional integration in Southern Africa and contributed to marking the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers. It presented a unique opportunity for like-minded individuals from the region to engage on issues related to volunteer action.

Throughout the conference, and in the evaluation process, participants emphasized their interest in future opportunities to learn and exchange with others in the field. Many participants stressed that there was a need for an organization to take leadership in fostering mutual exchange and networking in the region. The conference adopted a declaration affirming the value of volunteerism for development in Southern Africa, recognizing the importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration in strengthening volunteering, and outlining recommendations to foster an enabling environment for volunteer action for regional integration. Thanks to UNV advocacy efforts, the Conference Declaration was referenced at the United Nations General Assembly convened on 5 December 2011 to celebrate International Volunteer Day and IYV+10.

Following the conference, participants took steps to build on the conference discussions and are seeking to strengthen volunteer action, policy and practice in their countries. Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda and Zimbabwe have progressed with setting up national volunteer schemes. In Malawi, a parliamentary select committee was established as an advocacy group to promote volunteerism in the country.

FUNDING			
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:	Other major contributors:
2010-2011	US \$149,603	US \$80,000	European Commission, VOESa

Enhancing UNV Organizational Capacity

The **Research and Development Unit of UNV** was established using SVF funding. To assess the extent to which the unit contributed to achieving the organization's objectives, UNV commissioned a desk study review in 2009. The scope of the review included research and development activities from 2000-2009.

The report concluded that while the exact influence of research and development is difficult to measure, the unit's outputs had positively contributed to the work of the organization during the reporting period. At the same time, operational weaknesses, often reflecting wider institutional weaknesses, limited the effectiveness of the unit. The review contained a number of recommendations on how research and development could better support UNV over the coming period.

In 2010, the Research and Development Unit was integrated into a new **Volunteer Knowledge and Innovation Section (VKIS)**. Since its inception, VKIS has driven innovative approaches to both promoting volunteerism as an end in itself and integrating volunteerism into peace and development programming as a means to improved outcomes.

VKIS has been aligning organizational functions and human resources behind key priorities that are critical for innovation and advancement of volunteerism for peace and development. Specifically, the section: contributes to realizing UNV's comparative advantage – the knowledge and ability to bring about transformational change through volunteerism; ensures that the organization fulfils its expanded mandates; and promotes UNV core expertise and know-how on volunteerism. Moreover, VKIS supports UNV's capacity in the vital area of knowledge management and innovation, including the Online Volunteering service.

The State of the World's Volunteerism Report on display at the United Nations Headquarters in New York during the launch event on 5 December 2011. (Joel Sheakoski, 2011)





Kevin Kiffer (France),
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.
(S raphin Ngoma/
UNDP, 2013)

The VKIS investment has proven its worth, and the success of this section has led to the mainstreaming of the above functions into UNV’s 2014-2017 Strategic Framework.

FUNDING	
Total approved budget 2009-2012:	UNV (SVF) contribution:
US \$3,257,844	US \$3,257,844

The national UNV Modality is one of the means by which UNV achieves its objectives and supports partner countries and other United Nations partners in achieving theirs. Each year, national UN Volunteers take on around 2,000 assignments. Like their international counterparts, national UN Volunteers contribute to projects, but they add special value with their knowledge of local languages and cultures and their deep understanding of local social and economic conditions. National UN Volunteers are particularly well-placed to build capacity at community level and foster ownership and sustainability, thereby contributing to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

A recent review of the national UN Volunteer modality undertaken by UNV from 2007-2009 using SVF funds examined how the modality could more effectively be used to achieve UNV’s broader goals and mission of volunteerism. The review found that while national UN Volunteers were much appreciated by the majority of host partners, “the implementation of the national UN Volunteer modality is not currently aligned with its goals.” Recommendations for amelioration included more deliberate inclusion of women and marginalized groups in recruitment, creating networks to foster knowledge-sharing and team building and supporting former national UN Volunteers wishing to continue volunteering for development beyond UNV.

The review concluded that “the modality does have a tremendous amount of potential for continued implementation. International organizations are looking to provide assistance and services through national and local actors when possible and appropriate. The global economic crisis is requiring

organizations to look for more cost-effective ways of conducting their work. The national UNV volunteer modality is a solution which responds to both trends.”

However, it was also noted that modifications to the modality, in particular the inclusion of a strong volunteerism component, were required. The underlying rationale of this recommendation was that in a number of cases national UN Volunteer assignments were covering functions normally attributed to staff and not primarily relating to volunteerism. The outcome of the review process is reflected in the 2012 Policy Note on national UN Volunteers and the related Conditions of Service.

FUNDING		
Project period:	Total projected budget:	UNV (SVF) contribution:
2008-2010	US \$304,000	US \$304,000

Under the global **Programme Officer Empowerment Mechanism**, UNV Programme Officers and UNV Programme Managers are allocated up to US \$8,000 per country annually. The funds are authorized *ex ante* to enable disbursement according to an approved work plan through the respective UNDP Country Offices. UNV Programme Officers and Project Managers are encouraged to use these special allocations to complement country-level activities in accordance with UNV Focus Areas. Primarily, the funds are used for advocacy purposes, with the annual International Volunteer Day on 5 December accounting for a major part of expenditures under the programme.

Below are two examples of such activities undertaken in recent years using the mechanism.

- In December 2011, United Nations agencies, civil society organizations, universities, governments and volunteers in Darfur, Sudan, joined efforts to fight gender-based violence during the *16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence* campaign. Under the theme “No violence - Speak out - Protect”, the 2011 campaign created a solidarity movement to raise awareness around gender-based violence and highlight the connections between women, violence, and human rights.

The UNV Programme Officer in Sudan provided technical assistance for the campaign design and mobilized more than 80 men and women from Nyala University in South Darfur to participate. After attending preparatory workshops, the Nyala University volunteers went to local schools, markets and camps for internally displaced persons around the city. They performed dramas and songs, held workshops and visited institutions to advocate for the protection of victims and the prosecution of perpetrators. More than 1,000 women and men from several organizations held a parade through the main streets of Nyala to speak out against gender-based violence. UN Volunteers documented the campaign through photo-stories and a video. At the end of the campaign, the UN Volunteer received expressions of thanks from local community leaders.

- In Burundi, UNV teamed up with UNDP, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the government and civil society to celebrate International Volunteer Day jointly with International Anti-Corruption Day on 9 December 2012. Under the motto “Acting against corruption for the future we want,” the event brought together more than 2,500 young people and sensitized them to the dangers and pitfalls of corruption and promoted individual responsibility in combating it, emphasizing that corruption always ‘takes two.’ Young participants reported that they are exposed to corruption in many facets of their daily lives, such as schools and job hunting, and they took great interest in the opportunity to fight this scourge.

FUNDING	
Total approved budget 2009-2013:	UNV (SVF) contribution:
\$3,120,000	US \$2,570,000

Conclusion: The way forward

The Special Voluntary Fund is a major and indispensable component of UNV funding, not least because the organization lacks a stable basis of core funding. During the reporting period, a total of US \$27,161,000 was disbursed through the Special Voluntary Fund. This was used to fund or co-fund 94 projects, including 62 at country-level, 10 regional and 22 global interventions.

These SVF-funded projects illustrated the effectiveness of enabling community-based interventions in key development areas, such as basic social services, environment and climate change and crisis prevention and recovery. SVF funding permitted UNV to maintain its strong focus on social inclusion, including addressing challenges faced by women, youth and marginalized communities, and in a variety of cross-cutting areas. With SVF backing, UNV has also been able to undertake effective advocacy on the role of volunteerism in peace and development and to engage in capacity building from the grassroots up to the global level.

Moreover, true to the mandate of the SVF, many of the projects are highly innovative and frequently pilot projects, which are replicable and are, in fact, often replicated. They offer proof of concept, demonstrating the relevance of volunteerism in achieving sustainable human development. This is confirmed by the extension or scaling up and replication of projects upon specific request of implementing partners for continued volunteer involvement after the project period has ended. The latter also indicates that volunteers are often seen as the fundamental catalyst required to sustain project momentum. The current SVF mandate, which dates back more than 20 years, does not cover activities in the post-project phase, thus the time appears ripe to review and adapt this mandate. UNV therefore recommends that the SVF mandate be amended accordingly and the constraints on the use of SVF funds be lifted. This would enable UNV to leverage the full potential of the SVF and enhance the Fund's contribution to realizing the promise and innovative power of the new programmes being developed under the five priority areas of the UNV Strategic Framework 2014-2017.

As with most UNV projects, those funded through SVF are implemented in partnership with one or more United Nations partners, thus supporting partners in fulfilling their mandates. This applies not only to those projects specifically carried out in the framework of Delivering as One, but also to the majority of activities. UNV operates in a complex, and often mutually-reinforcing, environment of United Nations organizations to which it contributes the unique added value of volunteerism. In this context, it is extremely important to ensure coherence between various United Nations players on the ground and to adhere to the respective United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks.

Notwithstanding the success of many SVF-funded projects, there is room for improvement. In the past, UNV has not always been able to fully assess and quantify the impact of SVF-funded projects. The organization is aware of this shortcoming. Through a strong results-based management focus in its Strategic Framework 2014-2017, developed in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Development Group, UNV is poised to better address this challenge in the future.

UNV has committed through the new Strategic Framework to increase organizational efficiency via robust systems and business practices and well-managed resources. This will translate into even more strategic planning, as well as more efficient and effective use of SVF funds.

The organization is also working to address the ratio of expenditure to allocated budget for the SVF, which was clearly too low prior to 2009 and is still not fully satisfactory. The undesirably high amount of residual funds is, however, gradually diminishing due to improved absorption of funds by the organization in peace and development interventions.

Moreover, the creation of the new global programmes will facilitate the effective use of SVF resources for further innovation and consolidation of knowledge in five priority areas: securing access to basic social services, community resilience for environment and disaster risk reduction, peacebuilding, youth and national capacity development through volunteer infrastructure.



In the reporting period, few SVF resources were dedicated to projects in the area of humanitarian assistance and support to United Nations missions. The redefinition of priority areas within UNV and the United Nations system has led to an increased emphasis on peacebuilding and national capacity building, which is also reflected in the design of the latest UNV Strategic Framework.

A number of the cross-cutting interventions funded through the SVF were related to the institutional development of UNV and UN Volunteers. In light of the budgetary constraints the organization is faced with, this is inevitable. These SVF funds have been used to enhance UNV's organizational positioning as a think tank on volunteerism and to build the capacity of UNV Programme Officers to manage UN Volunteers through the volunteer management cycle from deployment to repatriation.

Overall, it is clear that the quality assurance process for selecting projects that receive SVF funding and the quality of execution of these projects reflect the relevance of the SVF to achieving the UNV mandate. UNV has a deep appreciation for the commitment and willingness of United Nations Member States – including some of the less affluent – to support this work with vital voluntary contributions.

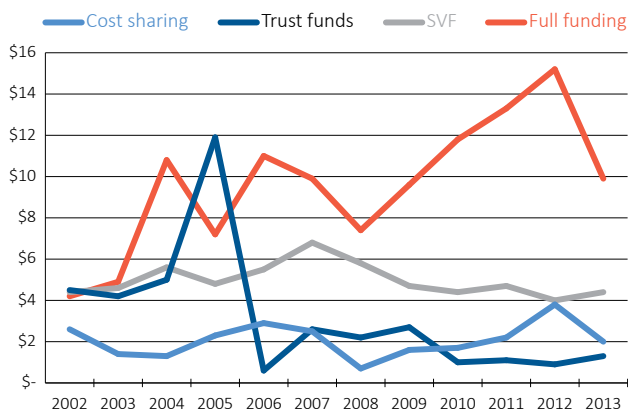
Christine Ouedraogo, a volunteer primary school teacher with the Burkina Faso National Volunteer Programme, is one of an increasing number of young Burkinabé becoming involved in their country's development. Christine has more than 50 students in her class in the village of Worokuy in the Boucle de Mouhoun region. (Giacomo Pirozzi, 2010)

Annexes

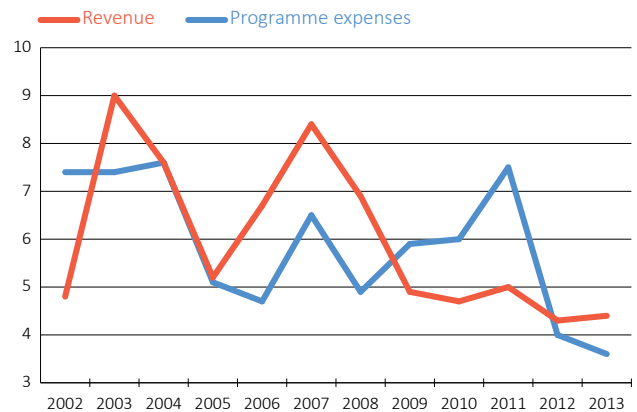
SVF Revenue and Programme Expenditure from 2009 to 2013

Donors make general or specific-purpose contributions to UNV. General contributions to regular resources are channelled through the Special Voluntary Fund. Donors may make specific contributions by co-financing UNV projects. Co-financing includes partially or fully financing projects through Third Party cost-sharing (CS), or contributing to trust funds (TF), like the Japan Trust Fund (JTF) and the UNDP/UNV Youth Volunteer Trust Fund established in 2012 to support the UN Youth Volunteer Programme.

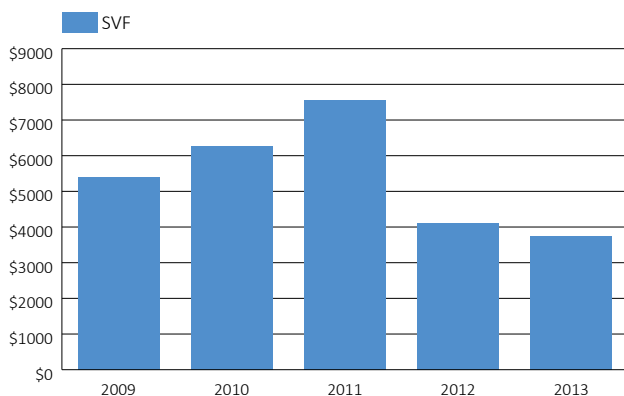
Contributions (all funds)
(Interest and miscellaneous income not included)



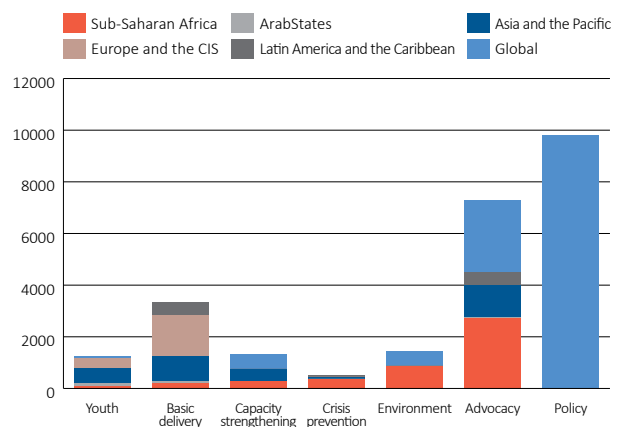
SVF revenue and programme expenses - 2002-2013



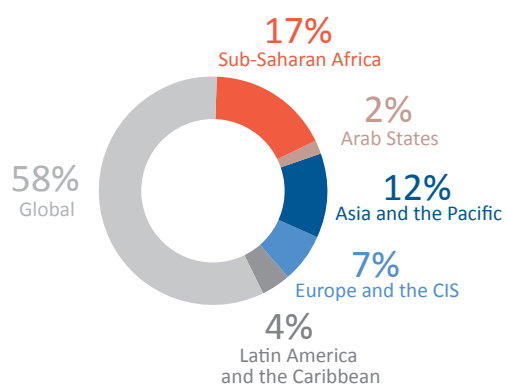
SVF expenses - 2009-2013: US \$27.1 m



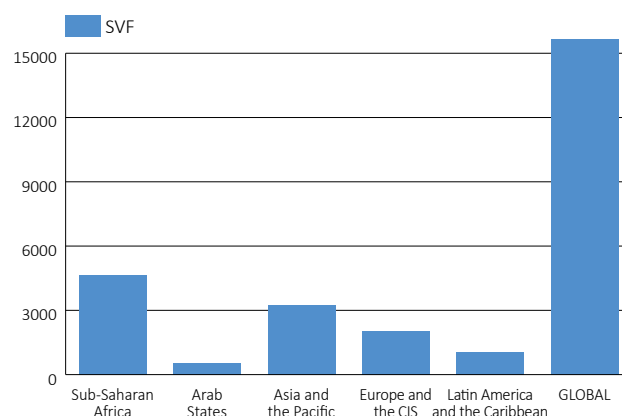
SVF expenses - all programme priority areas 2009-2013



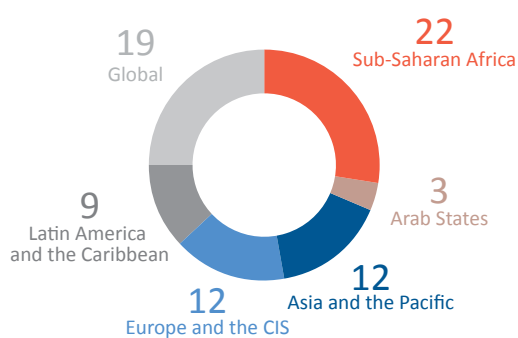
SVF breakdown of expenses by region - 2009-2013



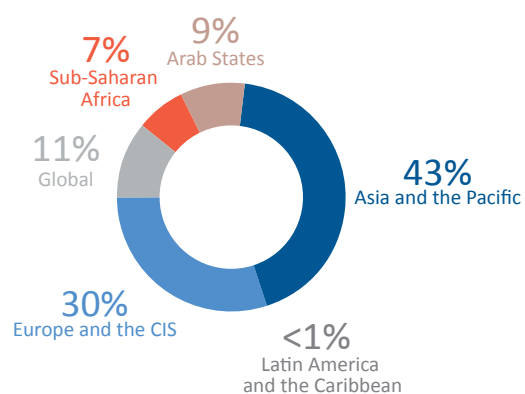
SVF programme expenses by region - 2009-2013: US \$27.1 m



Number of active SVF projects by region - 2009-2013



SVF expenses: US \$1,371 - programme priority area: youth - 2009-2013



Status of SVF-funded projects active during the period from 2009 to 2013

Country	PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)	Priority Programme Areas	2009-2013 Expenditures	Total Project (All year Expenditures + Budgets)
Sub-Saharan Africa				
Burundi	<u>BDI10</u> : National Youth Volunteers for the Achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	-	500
Comoros	Capacity Building community-based organizations - 55839	Capacity Strengthening of Field-Based Partners	66	241
Ethiopia	UNV/UNCCD Framework - 53039	Environment and Climate Change	81	121
Kenya	<u>KEN10 - B0342 / KEN08601</u> : Emergency Neighbourhood Volunteer Scheme - 60363	Crisis Prevention and Recovery	377	377
Kenya	<u>KEN10 - B0342</u> : Get Informed, Get Involved: Enhancing the Role of Youth in Political Process - 61019	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	50	50
Mauritius	<u>MUS10 - B0356</u> : Support to the Implementation of a National Plan on Volunteerism - 62921	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	259	259
Rwanda	<u>RWA10 B0366</u> : Delivery as One to meet Development Needs and Rights of Rwandan Adolescents and Youth 2009-2011 - 71981	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	40	73
South Africa	South African Development Community Regional Conference - 76753	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	79	79
Lesotho	<u>LSO10 - B0344</u> : Support to the Implementation of a National Volunteer Corps of Young Graduates - 71140	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	252	252
Mozambique	<u>MOZ10 - B0358</u> : Establishment of a National Volunteer Agency - 74799	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	33	150
Mauritania	<u>MRT10</u> : National Volunteer Scheme	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure		264
Swaziland	<u>SWZ10 - B0376</u> : Swaziland HIV/AIDS - 78848	Delivery of Basic Services	153	248
Zambia	UNV/UNCCD Framework - 53037	Environment and Climate Change	41	41
Zimbabwe	UNV/UNCCD Framework (donor: UNCCD) - 59270	Environment and Climate Change	86	112
RAF	Southern African Capacity Initiative - Sustaining Capacity - 15364	Capacity Strengthening of Field-Based Partners	5	1,529
Benin	<u>BEN10 - B0302</u> : Promotion of Voluntary Service for Decentralised Environmental Management - 70561	Environment and Climate Change	678	678
Burkina Faso	BKF - National Volunteer Programme - 52832	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	323	566
Cabo Verde	<u>CPV10 - B0312</u> : Appui à la mise en place d'un Programme National de Volontariat au Cabo Verde - 71937	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	330	347
Mali	<u>MLI10 - B0352</u> : Appui à la mise en place d'un Centre National de Promotion de Volontariat - 71330	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	578	578
Niger	Volunteer Scheme in Niger - 55837	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	267	424
Niger	<u>NER10 - B0362</u> : National Crisis and Disaster Prevention and Management Programme - 69815	Crisis Prevention and Recovery	95	175
Regional - Africa	<u>ECOWAS</u> : Youth Ambassadors for Peace - 50999	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	75	300
Senegal	<u>SEN10 - B0370</u> : Support for the Coordination and Promotion of Volunteerism - 56615	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	530	530
Guinea Bissau	Gestion des déchets, Gabu - 46525	Delivery of Basic Services	38	341
Guinea Bissau	<u>GNB10 - B0340</u> : Reinforcement of the capacity of Civil Society Organizations to attain the MDGs - 76890	Capacity Strengthening of Field-Based Partners	207	290
Sub-total			4,643	8,525

Country	PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)	Priority Programme Areas	2009-2013 Expenditures	Total Project (All year Expenditures + Budgets)
Arab States				
Regional - Arab States	Arab States regional programme - Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better Future: Project Initiation Document - 79593	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	119	119
Regional - Arab States	Arab States regional programme - Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better - 85602	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	54	224
Regional - Arab States	Arab States regional programme - Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better - 85603	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	57	192
Regional - Arab States	Arab States regional programme - Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better - 85604	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	196	418
Egypt	<u>B0448</u> : Integration - Sailing the Nile for the MDGs - 63516	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	19	45
Sudan	Sudan - Support to Combat Female Genital Mutilation/ Cutting - 47790	Delivery of Basic Services	115	419
Sub-total			560	1,417
Asia and the Pacific				
China	Strengthening Volunteerism for Development in China through the Beijing Olympics - 57175	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	(7)	83
China	<u>CHN10 - B0398</u> : Follow-up to Beijing Olympics - 58121	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	280	280
Indonesia	<u>IDN10 - B0408</u> : University Volunteer Scheme for Youth Empowerment and Development of Papua - 71288	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	105	105
Indonesia	<u>IDN10 - B0408</u> : People Centered Development Project - Phase II 76143	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	202	218
Lao	<u>LAO10 - B0412</u> : Governance and Public Administration Reform in Lao Sekong Province - 53782	Delivery of Basic Services	421	546
Viet Nam	Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS - 47016	Delivery of Basic Services	20	198
Viet Nam	<u>UNV10 B0438</u> : Establishment of Viet Nam Volunteer Information Resource Centre Office - 63463	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	278	278
Viet Nam	<u>UNV10 B0438</u> : Available info on Volunteering for Development - 63465	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	135	135
Viet Nam	<u>UNV10 B0438</u> : Policy Recommendations on volunteerism for development - 63467	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	20	20
Viet Nam	<u>UNV10 B0438</u> : Enhanced Volunteer Management- 63468	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	99	99
Viet Nam	<u>UNV10 B0438</u> : Viet Nam Volunteer Information Resource Centre Phase II - 88183	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	-	92
India	<u>IND10 - B0406</u> : Capacity Development for District Planning - 61109	Capacity Strengthening of Field-Based Partners	456	506
Nepal	<u>UNV10 with ASL to B0422</u> : Local Governance and Development - 72375	Delivery of Basic Services	492	507
Nepal	<u>UNV10 with ASL to B0422</u> : Nepal Phase II	Delivery of Basic Services		300
Sri Lanka	Support to Volunteerism - Volunteer Orientation and Information Centre - 51172	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	235	614
Regional - Asia	<u>UNDP1 - B0441</u> : Regional Joint Programme to address Gender-based Violence - 62541	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	444	458
Samoa	<u>WSM10 B0432</u> : Tsunami Early Recovery - 73223	Crisis Prevention and Recovery	74	74
Sub-total			3,254	4,513

Country	PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)	Priority Programme Areas	2009-2013 Expenditures	Total Project (All year Expenditures + Budgets)
Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States				
Albania	UNV10 B0532: Empowering Local Communities - 56090	Delivery of Basic Services	521	521
Bosnia	BIH10 - B0542: Youth Employability and Retention Programme - 62851	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	299	311
Kazakhstan	KAZ10 - B0552: Empowering Vulnerable Communities - Oralman - 70212	Delivery of Basic Services	300	300
Kosovo	Support to Implementation of the Kosovo Youth Action Project - 55507	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	67	232
Kyrgyzstan	Youth Programme - 57141	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	24	286
Regional - Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States	Preparatory Assistance for Volunteerism for Development in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States - 58101	Delivery of Basic Services	120	154
Regional - Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States	Strengthening the Capacity of Civil Society Organizations - 15374	Capacity Strengthening of Field-Based Partners	23	422
Ukraine	UKR10 - B0582: Inclusion of Civic Engagement - 63107	Delivery of Basic Services	467	492
Ukraine	UKR10 - B0582: Inclusion of Civic Engagement - 63108	Delivery of Basic Services	2	2
Ukraine	UKR10 - B0582: Inclusion of Civic Engagement - 63109	Delivery of Basic Services	2	7
Ukraine	UKR10 - B0582: Youth Football Volunteers - Sports and Volunteering for the Millennium Development Goals - 81158	Delivery of Basic Services	74	86
Uzbekistan	UZB10 - B0584: Social Innovation and Volunteerism in Uzbekistan - 83372	Delivery of Basic Services	72	131
Uzbekistan	UZB10 - B0584: Empowering Communities through Local Volunteerism to address Poverty and Tuberculosis - 69502	Delivery of Basic Services	39	39
Sub-total			2,010	2,983
Latin America and the Caribbean				
Advocacy	Advocacy - Coordination of Volunteer-involving Organizations in Nicaragua - 59663	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	37	38
Advocacy	Advocacy - National Human Development reports, Nicaragua and Jordan; Volunteerism Analysis, Guyana - 59660	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	101	114
Advocacy	Advocacy - Volunteer Legislation Support, Dominican Republic and Ecuador - 59662	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	25	35
El Salvador	Living Schools - 76993	Crisis Prevention and Recovery	43	50
Guatemala	GTM10 - B0504: UNV Support to NHDR in Guatemala - 71884	Delivery of Basic Services	110	110
Honduras	Advocacy - 63282	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	94	96
Honduras	HND10 - B0510: CPR y Seguridad Ciudadana - 69443	Delivery of Basic Services	100	100
Integration	Integration - Engendering budgets in Latin America - 62558	Delivery of Basic Services	68	81
Integration	Integration - Network Promoter - 70855	Delivery of Basic Services	5	5
Integration	Integration - Advocacy, Integration and Mobilization Review - 72833	Delivery of Basic Services	19	38
Bolivia	Integration - Oruro, Bolivia - 78084	Delivery of Basic Services	12	12
Mobilization	Mobilization Facility - Enhanced capacity of local partners to mobilize and manage volunteers, Mexico, Ecuador, Guatemala, Brazil - 62545	Delivery of Basic Services	115	118
Mobilization	Mobilization Facility - Guyana - 72427	Delivery of Basic Services	67	67
Mobilization	Mobilization Facility - Enhanced capacity of local partners to mobilize and manage volunteers - 62698	Delivery of Basic Services	4	25
Peru	PER10 - B0522: Youth and University Volunteerism - 74209	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	131	131
Regional - Latin America	Regional project - Engendering budgets - 47075	Delivery of Basic Services	3	312
Uruguay	Advocacy - Uruguay - 63280	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	120	120
Sub-total			1,054	1,452

Country	PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)	Priority Programme Areas	2009-2013 Expenditures	Total Project (All year Expenditures + Budgets)
GLOBAL				
GLO	UNV - Facility for Evaluation - 15131	Policy and Partnerships	458	778
GLO	UN Youth Volunteer Programme - 82945	Youth, Women and Marginalized Groups	144	1,462
GLO	State of the World's Volunteerism Report (SWVR) Monitoring and Technical Support - 71685	Policy and Partnerships	1,140	1,140
GLO	SWVR Draft Report - 76579	Policy and Partnerships	503	503
GLO	SWVR Production and Launch - 76582	Policy and Partnerships	347	347
GLO	SWVR Dissemination and Marketing - 76583	Policy and Partnerships	81	81
GLO	SWVR Phase II	Policy and Partnerships	-	1,300
GLO	UNV - Online Volunteering Service	Policy and Partnerships	141	404
GLO	UNV10 - B0172: Initiation Plan - Engaging a Former UN Volunteer constituency - 62234	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	418	444
GLO	UNV10 B0172: Programme Officer Empowerment Mechanism III - 15365	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	2,325	5,134
GLO	Regional Workshops - Workshops/Training - 55887	Policy and Partnerships	660	1,049
GLO	Field Unit Personnel Capacity - 84092	Policy and Partnerships	32	115
GLO	UN Delivering as One - country office capacity to apply volunteerism for development - 59446	Capacity Strengthening of Field-Based Partners	276	339
GLO	UN Delivering as One - UNV Support to UN Resident Coordinator's Office - 61036	Capacity Strengthening of Field-Based Partners	228	260
GLO	UN Delivering as One - UNV Support to monitoring and evaluation - 61037	Capacity Strengthening of Field-Based Partners	9	9
GLO	UN Delivering as One - Stakeholder Consultations - 61038	Capacity Strengthening of Field-Based Partners	31	31
GLO	Programme Development Facility - UNV - 63823	Policy and Partnerships	23	23
GLO	Programme Development Facility - Peace Division - 63869	Policy and Partnerships	86	101
GLO	Programme Development Facility - Development Division - 63870	Policy and Partnerships	40	64
GLO	Programme Development Facility - Development Division- 63871	Policy and Partnerships	9	9
GLO	Programme Development Facility - 63872	Policy and Partnerships	-	135
GLO	Web manager - 72283	Policy and Partnerships	21	21
GLO	UNV Support to the UNDP-GEF project "Community-based Adaptation in Pilot Countries - 71364	Environment and Climate Change	553	553
GLO	National UN Volunteer Modality Review and Revision - 61241	Policy and Partnerships	199	305
GLO	UNV - Volunteering in Social Development - 15150	Advocacy and National Volunteer Infrastructure	60	264
GLO	UNV programme research and development - 15165	Policy and Partnerships	2,706	7,330
GLO	Volunteer management - 84491	Policy and Partnerships	20	1,223
GLO	Online Volunteering Service - 84492	Policy and Partnerships	-	30
GLO	Advisory Services - 84493	Policy and Partnerships	754	3,475
GLO	Knowledge Management - 84648	Policy and Partnerships	197	1,234
GLO	Volunteer Learning - 84713	Policy and Partnerships	241	590

Country	PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)	Priority Programme Areas	2009-2013 Expenditures	Total Project (All year Expenditures + Budgets)
GLO	Johns Hopkins University - Including Volunteerism in Labour Surveys - 71597	Policy and Partnerships	313	313
GLO	Tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers (IYV+10) Oversight and Monitoring - 72476	Policy and Partnerships	1,583	1,583
GLO	IYV+10 Global UNV Events - 77044	Policy and Partnerships	226	226
GLO	IYV+10 Regional and National Events - 77045	Policy and Partnerships	541	541
GLO	UNV - Developing a National Accounts System – John Hopkins University - 71537	Policy and Partnerships	175	504
GLO	Full Funding - Peacekeeping through Volunteering - 80263	Crisis Prevention and Recovery	8	8
GLO	FF JTF - Peacekeeping through Volunteering - 85970	Crisis Prevention and Recovery	8	10
GLO	United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) - 85851	Policy and Partnerships	22	326
GLO	Rio+20 - 85858	Policy and Partnerships	161	468
GLO	Rio+20 - 85859	Policy and Partnerships	49	110
GLO	Rio+20 - 85860	Policy and Partnerships	58	178
GLO	Rio+20 - 85861	Policy and Partnerships	217	886
GLO	Rio+20 (Programme Initiation Document) - 81683	Policy and Partnerships	577	597
Sub-total			15,640	34,503
GRAND TOTAL			27,161	53,393

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For more information about the UNV Online Volunteering service, visit: **www.onlinevolunteering.org**.

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Volunteers

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