

Overview

➤ UNV and China: 35 years of collaboration

Since 1981, UNV has nurtured an active and fruitful partnership with the Government of the People's Republic of China and other partners. Together, they support social and economic development and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) throughout the country.

Over the years, China has been one of UNV's most consistent supporters, contributing to the UNV Special Voluntary Fund, which enables the organization to pilot and deploy volunteer solutions to the world's pressing development and peace challenges.

From 2007-2016, some 143 Chinese national UN Volunteers and 63 international UN Volunteers completed UNV assignments. Some 25 China-based organizations are registered with UNV's Online Volunteering Service, and almost 300 Chinese nationals volunteered online with UNV in 2016 alone.

UNV works closely with Chinese volunteer-involving organizations to develop their capacity, and to share their expertise globally. In 2015, UNV and the Beijing Volunteer Service Federation co-hosted the first International Volunteer Service Exchange Conference to promote South-South Cooperation and the sharing of best practices with governments and volunteering globalization from over 18 countries.

UNV also established a new partnership in 2013 with the Agency for Volunteer Service, supported by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, to deploy UN Youth University Volunteers in Asia and the Pacific. In 2015, 10 volunteers were deployed, followed by the deployment of 19 in 2016 and 20 in 2017.

One of the world's leading economies and an emerging international aid donor, China is focusing internally on strengthening social safety nets and ensuring that marginalized communities are also able to enjoy prosperous lives.

UNV looks forward to expanding its longstanding cooperation with China in emerging areas that best match new national and global priorities:

- *Support social innovations, e.g. social media technology, youth-led "green social enterprise" and public-private partnerships, to improve volunteering infrastructure and civic participation*
- *Strengthen volunteer-based public service linkages between affluent eastern regions and poorer regions in central and western China*
- *Share China's volunteerism expertise with other developing and middle-income countries through South-South cooperation*
- *Increase the number of Chinese serving as international UN Volunteers abroad and China's participation within the multilateral community*



Volunteer Guan Liwei (right) participates in 'Volunteer Mentoring for Migrant Youth', a branch of the MDG Achievement Fund Joint Programme on Protecting and Promoting the Rights of China's Vulnerable Young Migrants. (Li Miao, 2010)

In 2016:

- 30 national UN Volunteers served in China to support the SDGs and inclusive development.
- 19 Chinese nationals served as UN Volunteers overseas to promote peace and development.
- 293 Chinese nationals volunteered online through UNV's Online Volunteering service.

The partnership between UNV and China has evolved over the past 35 years. Key milestones in this collaboration include:

1981 -1991: UNV ASSISTANCE PROJECT PHASES I & II

National Policy Focus: Economic Reform and Modernization

UNV Focus: Transfer, adopt and localize technology from more economically-advanced countries into Chinese contexts, at the request of the Chinese Government.

- 89 international UN Volunteers worked in 10 provinces of China to teach English language skills, train Chinese language educators and share advanced technical knowledge with professional counterparts in information, tourism, industry, energy, transport, agriculture and rural development.
- 28 Chinese UN Volunteers served in Gabon, Morocco and Guinea as specialists in architecture, hydrogeology and agricultural irrigation.

1991-1997: UNV SUPPORT TO THE UNDP THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME

National Policy Focus: Socialism with Chinese Characteristics

UNV Focus: Implement UNDP's Third Country Programme through long-term, hands-on technical assistance to Chinese institutions and work units.

- 30 international UN Volunteer specialists contributed to improved national capacity in: (1) international business and management; (2) tourism training; (3) education and language training; and (4) expanded assistance in under-resourced provinces, such as Xinjiang.

1997-2001: UNV SUPPORT TO FIRST CHINA COOPERATION FRAMEWORK IN POVERTY ALLEVIATION

National Policy Focus: A Socialist Market Economy

UNV Focus: Directly implement projects in poverty alleviation, women's affairs, education, health, human development and legal reform, especially in under-resourced provinces.

- National UN Volunteer programme began; 47 national UN Volunteers served in China to promote rural microfinance, sustainable agriculture, legal protection and poverty alleviation.

2001-2005: UNV/UNDP SUPPORT TO PROMOTE VOLUNTEERISM AND VOLUNTEER SERVICES IN CHINA

National Policy Focus: Scientific Development for a Harmonious Socialist Society

UNV Focus: Assist Chinese institutions to strengthen voluntary organizations and increase public awareness of volunteerism as a driver of national social and economic development.

➤ *Beijing International Volunteers Association established.*

➤ *Four international and 15 national UN Volunteers served in China.*

➤ *Former UNV Executive Coordinator Mr Ad de Raad participated in the International Forum on Voluntary Services and People's Olympics in Beijing.*

2007-2011: UNV SUPPORT TO THE BEIJING 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES AND 2008 WENCHUAN EARTHQUAKE

National Policy Focus: Building a Harmonious Socialist Society (Social Inclusion)

UNV Focus: (1) Sport for Development (2) Disaster Relief and Recovery

➤ *UNV, UNDP and Chinese Voluntary Organizations partnered to train 8,200 Olympics volunteers in large-scale volunteer and event management, Green Olympics promotion, and Volunteerism for Development Models at the Leiling Senior Citizen Cooperative, Beijing Home for Migrant Workers, Happy Football Care for Migrant Children and Hong Dan Dan Education and Cultural Exchange Center (for the Blind).*

➤ *Volunteer management experience from the 2008 Beijing Olympics were shared with the Shanghai 2010 Expo, Guangzhou 2010 Asian Games, 2011 Kazakhstan Winter Games, Rio + 20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and 2012 London Olympics.*

➤ *After the 2008 Wenchuan earthquake, UN Volunteers supported the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Hong Kong Red Cross and other NGOs in organizing immediate relief services to earthquake survivors in rural Sichuan.*

2009-2011: UNV AND THE UN-SPAIN MDG FUND JOINT PROGRAMME TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF CHINA'S VULNERABLE YOUNG MIGRANTS

National Policy Focus: Building a Harmonious Socialist Society (Social Inclusion)

UNV Focus: Strengthen national social governance for marginalized young migrants.

➤ *UNV, the China Young Volunteers Association (CYVA) and the Tianjin Young Volunteers Association piloted a mentoring programme for vulnerable migrant youth in Tianjin to help them improve academic skills and social integration.*

➤ *This pilot inspired the CYVA to initiate an on-going national migrant care programme in 21 provinces.*

2011-2015: UMBRELLA PROGRAMME ON STRENGTHENING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL INNOVATIONS THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM FOR DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA

National Policy Focus: The Quanmian Xiaokang Society (name means 'All-Around Well-Off')

UNV Focus: Improve national and local volunteer infrastructure. Promote public participation in social management. Scale up volunteer engagement and diffuse to communities. Share China's experience in volunteerism nationally and internationally. UNV/UNDP China supported the:

➤ *Beijing Volunteer Federation/Beijing Youth League to improve volunteer management capacity and ecologically-balanced, low-carbon lifestyles, as well as to organize volunteer-led development assistance projects in Hetian, Xinjiang.*

➤ *Shanghai Youth League to promote and train youth-led urban social enterprises, as well as to organize volunteer medical services between Shanghai and Yunnan Provinces.*

➤ *Beijing Volunteer Service Federation in hosting the first ever International Volunteer Service Exchange Conference in 2015 to promote South-South Cooperation with participants from over 27 countries.*

UN National Volunteer Mr. Gao Wei distributes food and medicine to local residents after Wenchuan Earthquake (UNV, 2008)



2016-2019: STRENGTHENING CHINA'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE THROUGH SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION AND THE BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE

National and international focus: South-South cooperation and the Belt and Road Initiative

UNV focus: Promote South-South Cooperation for volunteering and share China's experience internationally. Promote people-to-people links to tackle sustainable development challenges through innovative volunteering partnerships. UNV/UNDP and the Beijing Volunteer Service Federation have:

- Deployed 10 UN Volunteers in Nepal and Myanmar to build volunteering partnerships.

- Supported a UN Volunteer Researcher to contribute to the 2018 State of the World's Volunteerism Report, using China as a case study for the report.

- Hosted the 2017 Training Camp for Chinese International Volunteers and International Volunteering Talents.

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

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

For more information about UNV, please visit www.unv.org