

UNV PARTNERING WITH IOM

Since 1991, the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme has partnered with IOM, the UN Migration Agency. 106 UN Volunteers, 67 per cent of them women, served with IOM in 36 countries during the period 2007-2017.

Why recruit UN Volunteers?

UN Volunteers make important contributions to UN action in the pursuit of sustainable development, with a particular focus on people in transition or crisis. UN Volunteers embody the fundamental values of volunteerism: commitment, inclusiveness, engagement and solidarity.

UN Volunteers are one of the human resource solutions available to the UN system. UNV manages a talent pool of volunteers who can be deployed to volunteer in synergy with the personnel of United Nations entities to bolster the effective delivery of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

UN Volunteers can effectively support IOM in enhancing the humane and orderly management of migration and the effective respect for the human rights of migrants in accordance with international law. UN Volunteers help understand people's needs and analyse evidence, and communicate this in order to mobilize international, regional and national partners, including civil society actors. UN Volunteers have completed successful volunteering assignments with IOM as



Andrea Cuisana (right), national UN Volunteer Specialist, Project and Camp Management Assistant, and David Barreno, national UN Volunteer Specialist, Procurement and Logistics Assistant, served with IOM in Manta, Ecuador, to help rebuild affected communities after the earthquake. (Juan Diego Pérez Arias/UNV, 2016)

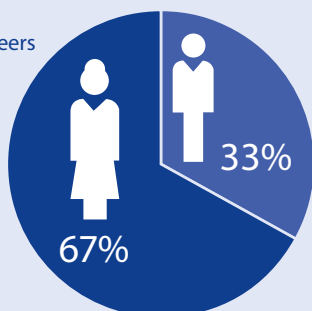
Project Coordination Officers, Protection Officers, and Monitoring and Evaluation Officers among others. UN Volunteers are ready to address migration challenges hands on to meet the needs of the most vulnerable and build national capacities to respond to humanitarian emergencies with well-coordinated response.

What is the added value of UN Volunteers?

Eighty-three per cent of UN Volunteers come from the South. Thus, UN Volunteers tend to be familiar with local development challenges and community dynamics. UN Volunteers apply culturally-sensitive approaches that foster

2007-2017

106 UN Volunteers helped IOM carry out its mission in 36 countries



Top countries of assignment

2007-2017		
10	8	7
Honduras	Sri Lanka/ Nepal	Senegal/ Morocco

Top 3 professional titles in 2007

UNV Training Officer
UNV Human Rights Advisor
UNV Reproductive Health Officer

Top countries of origin

2007-2017		
15	10	6
Japan	Honduras	Ecuador/Korea Morocco/Spain

Top 3 professional titles in 2017

UNV Project Coordination Officer
UNV Protection Officer
UNV Monitoring And Evaluation Officer

"Volunteers are highly motivated people, who bring added value to the projects IOM implements, not only because of their professional and technical experience, but also for their commitment and the human values they promote as part of the UNV vision. Engaging volunteers in our projects represents an additional asset, since each of them promotes values such as inclusion, solidarity, empowerment of the communities in which they work, respect and service to others. I recognize that each volunteer who has joined our team has put their experience and talent at the service of people in vulnerable situations, in order to give them their very own voice so they can actively engage in his and her own development."

- Jorge Peraza Breedy, IOM Chief of Mission in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras

participation and generate a sense of ownership. Through engaging community volunteers and strengthening local volunteering structures, UN Volunteers help make development more effective and sustainable.

What categories of UN Volunteers are available to IOM?

There are different categories of UN Volunteers, each with its own characteristics, which offer flexible solutions to the needs of our United Nations partners. UN Volunteers serve on contracts lasting three to 12 months on a renewable basis for assignments of up to four years, depending on the category of volunteer.

International UN Volunteers are typically professionals with specialized knowledge. They come from all walks of life and over 100 professions, bringing five to 10 years of experience to their assignments. The average age of international UN Volunteers is 36.

National UN Volunteers are nationals of the host country (or a refugee or stateless person with legal status in the country), normally recruited locally. National UN Volunteers serve in areas ranging from local community outreach to highly skilled professionals areas.

UN Youth Volunteers are between the ages of 18-29 and may be engaged for national and international assignments of up to two years. UN Youth Volunteer candidates will have demonstrated their commitment to global peace and sustainable development through academic, extra-curricular and volunteer activities they have undertaken and/or up to two years of formal work experience. UNV supports these young volunteers by providing additional learning and guidance so that they are well supported throughout their assignments in areas such as primary health, education, climate change adaptation and human rights.

UNV also offers an innovative **short-term UN Volunteer** modality through which volunteers can be contracted for assignments of less than three months. This option may be useful for rapid deployment in many areas, such as shoring up emergency responses, census activities, and in general for projects that require a quick scaling up or rapid adaptation to changing circumstances. The short-term modality often suits diaspora nationals, the

corporate sector and retirees. It allows partners to have an agile, flexible and adaptable talent solution when specific skill sets are required for a defined period.

Another modality that can provide strategic support to partners is **Online Volunteering**, a rapidly growing service of UNV. Over 12,000 UN Online Volunteers conduct 18,000 assignments over the Internet annually to bolster peace and development activities of United Nations entities, governments and civil society organizations.

In all the above categories, the very nature of volunteering for the United Nations inspires and attracts exceptionally motivated specialists and youth – people dedicated to advancing global peace and sustainable human development. Irrespective of the modality through which they serve, UN Volunteers come from all geographic regions and socio-economic backgrounds.

How can IOM offices recruit UN Volunteers?

To partner with UNV and recruit UN Volunteers who will help you implement your development initiatives, contact us through your focal point at UNV, either in New York, at our regional offices, or at headquarters in Bonn, Germany.

For further information contact us <https://www.unv.org/about-unv/contact-us>

UNV-IOM success stories

Empowering women after the earthquake in Ecuador with IOM

During the emergency response to the earthquake of April 2016 in Ecuador, Michelle Pazmiño served as national UN Volunteer Protection Officer with IOM. Her work involved promoting the participation of women and adolescent girls in decision-making processes within the camps.

Many of the activities developed were conducted with families affected by the earthquake, particularly women and their daughters and sons, in training opportunities for the prevention of gender-based violence, helping women and their families identify common patterns of violence, as well the protection routes that they could resort to.

Through informal recreational activities, where, through focus groups, recording of short films, and training workshops on hygiene and perfumery, Michelle and her team succeeded in

promoting the participation of women within the governance structures of the camps.

Michelle also organized training workshops to promote new ways of income generation that would help women and their families improve their living condition. "Living for six months with people affected by the earthquake completely changed my life. It made me greatly appreciate the place where I come from and the human wealth and solidarity of the Ecuadorian people," Michelle adds, "I learned a lot from the people I worked with, including IOM colleagues and the women and authorities within the camps, and I gained new insights into the running of projects in humanitarian contexts."

Improving the basic lifesaving services with WASH operations in IOM Uganda

With more than 1.4 million refugees, Uganda now has the largest refugee populations in Africa. They include more than 1 million from South Sudan and 270,000 from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) among other countries such as Burundi and Somalia. In response to the recent refugee influx and humanitarian situations such as inadequate access to basic lifesaving services, IOM has been launching Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) operations in four refugee settlements and refugee hosting districts in Uganda.

Yuji Kawai, an international UN Volunteer WASH specialist, has recently joined IOM Uganda as Programme Officer to assist IOM's humanitarian operations for refugees and host communities. Previously, Yuji worked with an international NGO to assist refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Africa and Asia. Yuji says "Working with IOM has been a great experience, not only because I can utilize my previous experiences, but I can also contribute to the refugees and host communities in Uganda. I work with the

Programme Manager to support our ongoing projects, and to expand our activities in the country through working on new project proposals. WASH is a critical component for refugee operations; we provide safe water and toilets, as well as promote good practice of hygiene at household level. Without such facilities and practices, the refugees cannot stay healthy in the settlements. Through my assignment, I hope to gain deepened experience in IOM's humanitarian operations, but at the same time I'd like to further contribute to the organization".

Peter Nzabanita, who leads IOM Uganda's WASH projects, comments "Our unit needed a specialist who can assist and strengthen our refugee response operations, considering the geographical location of Uganda where influxes of refugees from neighboring countries can occur unexpectedly. It was our first time to recruit through UNV and thanks to them, we have Yuji who is greatly helping us". Nzabanita adds "We hope to have more UN Volunteers soon in the future. We hope this will strengthen our projects capacity in Uganda".



Michelle Pazmiño (second from right) is a national UN Volunteer Protection Officer with IOM in Ecuador who promoted the participation of women through trainings and workshops after the earthquake in Ecuador. Michelle conducts a session on soap making as part of an entrepreneurship workshop for women.
(Juan Diego Pérez Arias/UNV, 2016)

UN Youth Volunteer contributing to peacebuilding with IOM in Ethiopia

Over the recent few years, migration has become spotlighted as a complicated phenomenon that goes beyond economic, demographic, and spatial dimensions of human mobility. In line with the UN's global initiatives to better manage evolving issues related to migration, IOM Ethiopia hosts UN Volunteers. In the Special Liaison Office (SLO) Addis Ababa, the UN Youth Volunteers are assisting IOM to expand programmatic areas that can more adequately address both new and existing causes of migration and forced displacement in Ethiopia such as climate change and conflicts.

Funded by the Government of the Republic of Korea, Yunjin Kweon serves as an international UN Youth Volunteer in Peacebuilding with IOM Ethiopia, furthering its efforts to tackle causes of internal displacement induced by inter-ethnic and resource-based conflicts in pastoral regions of Ethiopia. She supports the Transition Recovery and Durable Solutions (TRD) programming through peacebuilding policy research, internal displacement trend analysis, and partnership with the Government of Ethiopia. Yunjin

says, "Through desk and field research and interaction with policymakers, I compile peacebuilding policies and identify gaps regarding protection of and assistance to conflict-induced IDPs in Ethiopia. With research outcome, I assist TRD to plan peacebuilding interventions for communities hosting conflict-induced IDPs in collaboration with the government and other stakeholders. We also raise policymakers' awareness of internal displacement issue through capacity development such as training we conducted for 73 regional government officials in late 2017."

Behigu Habte, Emergency and Post-Crisis Programme Officer with IOM Ethiopia, also confirms the effectiveness of the UN Youth Volunteers in IOM. He emphasized the usefulness of UN Youth Volunteers' research capabilities that support the organization in pursuing evidence-based project management. "Making use of the UN Youth Volunteers' academic and research experiences, IOM frames narratives around peacebuilding and forges partnerships with stakeholders, which seems applied to other programmatic areas too. By actively engaging them in IOM, we hope to help them grow their potential as professionals in different fields within the UN system."

UN Volunteers enhance the work of IOM by supporting migration health projects, carrying out monitoring and evaluation activities, contributing to the provision of basic lifesaving services, providing assistance in implementing protection activities, and much more.

Is your office investing in UN Volunteers?

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).

