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Edouard Palogo,  
national UN  
Volunteer Refugee  
Registration Officer,  
with the family of  
Adama Ag Boubacar,  
his wife Fadimata  
Wallet Agah, and  
children Khadija (2  
years old) and Hamed  
(5 years old), in Sag  
Nioniogo refugee  
camp, Burkina Faso.  
(Eric St. Pierre, 2015)

## WHAT WE DO

UNV supports peace and sustainable human development around the globe through the promotion of volunteerism and mobilization of volunteers. It is active in 126 countries, with over 90 field units and a number of regional offices.

In 2016, UNV directly mobilized almost 6,600 UN Volunteers to serve either in their own countries or abroad. These UN Volunteers contributed to the peace and development projects and initiatives of 30 United Nations system partners. About 83 per cent of UN Volunteers came from countries of the global South. Almost 40 per cent of UN Volunteers were assigned within their own countries.

UNV's Online Volunteering service connects United Nations entities, civil society organizations and public institutions directly with capable and motivated individuals. In 2016, some 12,500 UN Online Volunteers engaged in development over the internet, completing over 22,600 assignments.

UNV outlined a Strategic Framework for 2014-2017 that has focused on harnessing the power of volunteers and volunteerism to support the achievement of internationally-agreed goals. The Framework guides UNV's work over four years and calls for working more systematically with United Nations partners to jointly deliver projects and programmes that can make significant impacts on peace and development worldwide. It also aims to help countries more effectively integrate volunteerism within national frameworks, enabling better engagement of people in development processes.

## OUR PLAN

The UNV Strategic Framework 2014-2017 directs UNV efforts and programme resources into five priority areas: securing access to basic social services; community resilience for environment and disaster risk reduction; peace building; youth; and national capacity development through volunteer schemes.

UNV also focuses on building a credible body of knowledge informed by research, innovation and evidence in order to advocate and enhance the integration of volunteerism into peace and development programming. Throughout, innovation is a cross-cutting pillar of our work.

UNV is currently in the process of evaluating its results and performance against the current framework and working with partners to develop a strategic framework to cover 2018-2021.



↙  
UN Volunteer  
Teacher Sanaa  
Hussein interacting  
with Grade 3  
students at the  
Jefnah School in  
Ta'alabaya camp,  
Lebanon. Sanaa is  
one of 103 national  
UN Volunteer  
Palestinians providing  
basic education  
services to children  
at UNRWA refugee  
camps throughout the  
country. (Nadim Bou  
Habib, 2016)

## OUR VOLUNTEERS

UN Volunteers are global citizens motivated to contribute to peace and sustainable development. Working with United Nations partners, governments, civil society, regional organizations and the private sector, UN Volunteers use their experience and talent to bring people to the forefront of development and give them a voice.

UN Volunteers make important contributions and are willing and able to work in all development and peace situations, including some of the most difficult and remote contexts.

Volunteers are catalysts of change and also constitute a flexible, cost-effective resource in ensuring scale, impact and sustainability in United Nations peace and development interventions.

*"We are proud to cooperate closely with UNV as it seeks to channel volunteers and volunteerism to help tackle climate change and environmental degradation and to promote sustainable development."*

*Helen Clark, Administrator,  
United Nations Development  
Programme*

*"I am especially grateful to 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 progress on the post-2015 development agenda."*

*Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary-General*

## WORKING TOGETHER

UNV works with a wide variety of partners to achieve collective goals. It collaborates with United Nations partners, governments, civil society and regional and private sector organizations. UNV is in a unique position to advance the mandates of UN entities and Member States and support them in delivering results by:

- tapping into the commitment, solidarity and civic engagement that are the pillars of volunteerism;
- broadening participation of people, including youth, and increasing capacity and development impact on the ground;
- advancing progress towards the sustainable development goals and engaging stakeholders in implementation; and
- meeting surge capacity requirements in times of crisis through flexible and contingent UN Volunteer assignments.

Over  
**25,000**  
readily available  
candidates on  
the UNV roster

Almost **40%** of these women

Incl. **4,500** Arabic speakers

## MOBILIZING TALENT



National UN Volunteer Civil Engineers Ganesh Paudel (second from right) and Sadhana Tiwari (right) speak with a local man and assess the damage of his collapsed house in the village of Kunchowk VDC, Sindhupalchowk District, one of the regions hardest hit by the devastating earthquake of April 2015 in Nepal. (Ayush Karki/UNV, 2015)

## ENGAGING PEOPLE

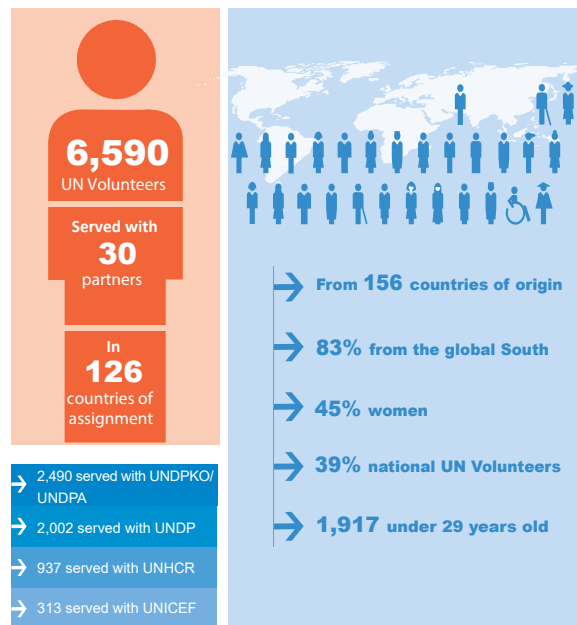
In Astana, Kazakhstan, UN Youth Volunteer for Community Development Han Na Kim (left, Republic of Korea) and Aizada Arystanbek (middle), a national student volunteer, support the MY World offline rollout on International Youth Day by helping members of the public fill in the MY World survey. (Ji Hyun Yang/UNV Kazakhstan, 2013)

We are  
inspiration  
in action



The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme envisions a world in which volunteerism is recognized and valued within societies as a way for all people and countries to achieve peace and development; a world in which societies fully embrace volunteerism in their efforts to eradicate poverty and reduce inequalities and exclusion.

## OUR VISION



UNV engages people at all levels in peace and sustainable development. We recognize the role of women as a driving force for progress and as promoters of societal transformation. UNV boosts global advocacy and partners to promote youth volunteerism, and launched a Youth Volunteering Strategy and a UNDP/UNV Youth Trust Fund in 2013.

[www.unv.org](http://www.unv.org)  
[www.facebook.com/unvolunteers](https://www.facebook.com/unvolunteers)  
[www.twitter.com/unvolunteers](https://www.twitter.com/unvolunteers)  
[www.youtube.com/unv](https://www.youtube.com/unv)

*"We are linking volunteerism with the problems facing youth, like unemployment, exclusion and education. We are showing how youth, through volunteerism, can regain confidence, skills and work to make a positive change in their homelands, their societies, themselves and their families."*

*Noha Tarek, national UNV Youth Coordinator in Egypt*

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

UNV (April 2017)



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

 **UN  
VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteerism is an opportunity for everybody, including marginalized groups, women and youth, to have their voice heard and their actions recognized. Volunteerism strengthens social cohesion and trust by promoting individual and collective action, leading to sustainable development for people by people.

*"As UN Volunteers, we are the spokespersons of the United Nations and we implement the ethics of the United Nations through our actions and our work."*  
*Adèle Libam (Cameroon), UNV Poverty Programme Coordinator in the Democratic Republic of the Congo*