Full Funding programme
Reporting for 2021

Uzoamaka Anita Asiegbu, a National UN Specialist Volunteer funded by Sweden, is an Inclusion Analyst with UN Women in Nigeria. She reviews and recommends ways in which the United Nations in Nigeria can be inclusive for youth and for persons with disabilities. (UNV, 2021)

The Full Funding programme of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme enables funding partners to support the United Nations (UN) system by sponsoring the full cost of UN Volunteer assignments. Through the Full Funding programme, UNV collaborates with a wide array of funding partners including national governments, private sector entities, foundations and universities. UN Volunteers funded by these partners are deployed globally to serve in United Nations entities and contribute to their work. They apply their talents to assist in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and are engaged across the three pillars of the United Nations system — development, peace and security, and human rights.

Like all UN Volunteers, fully funded UN Volunteers enjoy access to unique opportunities for personal and professional growth. The experience they gain working within the United Nations system allows fully funded UN Volunteers to build professional skills in support of global peace and sustainable development. Upon completing their assignments, many volunteers continue to work in development and humanitarian fields.

### Partner overview in 2021

UNV deployed 655 fully funded UN Volunteers in 2021. They were funded in partnership with 16 countries comprising the governments of Australia, China, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. UNV also partnered with the private sector, academia and foundations including the Agency for Volunteer Service (Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China), Cisco Systems, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (Thailand), and the PeaceNexus Foundation (Switzerland).

The partnership with Ireland and Switzerland includes their embassies on the ground in Mozambique (Irish Embassy) and in Uzbekistan and Colombia (Swiss Embassies), directly supporting national and international assignments. Spain resumed active partnership with UNV in 2021.

In 2021, the first UN Volunteers funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) were deployed with the World Bank. The PeaceNexus Foundation, meanwhile, sponsored national assignments in support of the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021 UNV Full Funding programme at a glance¹</th>
<th>655</th>
<th>75</th>
<th>303</th>
<th>271</th>
<th>90</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>472</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fully funded UN Volunteers served with 34 United Nations partners in 117 countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>National UN Volunteer assignments:</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<td>UN Specialist Volunteer assignments:</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<td>UN Youth Volunteer assignments:</td>
<td>41%</td>
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<td>UN University Volunteer assignments:</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<td>UN Expert Volunteer assignments:</td>
<td>1%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

¹ One UN Volunteer may serve in multiple assignments.
Serving the IOM in Montenegro has been not only a fulfilling personal experience but also an opportunity to play an active role in, and positively impact, local communities while learning from them. This is what volunteering for the United Nations family has taught me... it offers the keys that will guide you through all your future endeavors.

François Lhoumeau, UN Youth Volunteer funded by France, Project Assistant/Developer, IOM, Montenegro

While facilitating the International Day of the Midwives, I could see that what I have been doing so far with UNFPA is not only about supporting individuals, but also encouraging them to be brave — the enthusiasm in their eyes generates hope for a brighter future in Rwanda.

Frida Temple, UN Expert Volunteer funded by Sweden, Midwife, UNFPA, Rwanda

Working across different countries on health, education and social protection allows us to explore how programmes like cooking oil subsidies... can build up the human capital, which is necessary for countries to move toward sustainable development.

Nicholas Hans Buhne, UN Youth Volunteer funded by Switzerland, Human Development Analyst, World Bank, Egypt
This whole UN Volunteer experience is a great opportunity since I have met so many great people with different backgrounds from all around the world and have learned a lot from them. I am proud to be contributing to promote healthier lives among the Timorese society through my assignment.

Jieun Min. UN University Volunteer funded by the Republic of Korea (KOICA), Junior Social Behaviour Change Communication Officer, WFP, Timor-Leste

Being a UN Volunteer is rewarding, not only because it allows me to engage in the everyday work of a large development organization like UNDP, but also because it makes clear what the bottom line of development work in Namibia is about.

Andrea Aakre. UN Youth Volunteer funded by Norway, Ocean Governance Assistant, UNDP, Namibia

My contribution to support these efforts as a UN Volunteer is just a small brick in the wall of a house, but together the bricks make the house strong. The cement that binds the bricks together, in my opinion, is good interpersonal relationships with colleagues and good leadership. I am fortunate to have both in my current position as a UN Volunteer.

Roxane Sardi. UN Specialist Volunteer funded by Luxembourg, Gender Officer, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, Cabo Verde
**Promoting inclusiveness**

With support from funding partners and United Nations host entities, UNV continued to provide volunteer opportunities for persons with disabilities.

In 2021, Germany and Sweden provided additional contributions to fully fund national UN Volunteer assignments earmarked for persons with disabilities. This resulted in 38 new deployments of national UN Volunteers with disabilities. In addition, six fully funded international UN Volunteers with disabilities served in 2021 funded by Finland, France, Sweden and Switzerland. These UN Volunteers served with 13 United Nations partners, increasing the scale of inclusive volunteering in the United Nations system. This initiative began with the UNV Talent and Capacity Development Programme for an Inclusive United Nations System for Persons with Disabilities; Germany has funded this initiative since 2017, and Sweden has funded opportunities for persons with disabilities since 2019.

**Diversification of Full Funding programme assignments**

In 2021, Finland, the Russian Federation and Sweden sponsored or co-sponsored assignments for UN Expert Volunteers. This category of assignment requires candidates to have considerable work experience and special skills.

National UN Volunteer assignments allow volunteers from the Global South to serve in their home countries, contributing to development, promoting peace and security and fostering human rights. Eight partners, split between governments and other entities, funded national UN Volunteer assignments including China (for China-based assignments), Germany, Ireland, Sweden and Switzerland. Other partners that fully funded national UN Volunteer assignments included Cisco Systems, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi and the PeaceNexus Foundation.

### Contributions to the UNV Full Funding programme, 2018–2021 (thousands of US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding partners</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>4,137,367</td>
<td>4,001,751</td>
<td>4,012,649</td>
<td>4,507,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>3,900,020</td>
<td>2,251,361</td>
<td>3,212,137</td>
<td>5,676,054</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>951,585</td>
<td>1,330,594</td>
<td>2,537,997</td>
<td>1,847,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1,107,166</td>
<td>1,288,672</td>
<td>1,949,336</td>
<td>2,075,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>991,851</td>
<td>994,761</td>
<td>1,748,334</td>
<td>1,900,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>859,335</td>
<td>1,407,681</td>
<td>1,234,950</td>
<td>1,555,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>517,523</td>
<td>935,094</td>
<td>1,254,480</td>
<td>1,401,047</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
<td>1,004,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,511,497</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>866,920</td>
<td>249,960</td>
<td>1,149,970</td>
<td>349,985</td>
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<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>346,675</td>
<td>462,478</td>
<td>405,586</td>
<td>443,267</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1,039,016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese Young Volunteers Association</td>
<td></td>
<td>103,686</td>
<td>84,653</td>
<td>643,249</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>740,970</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agency for Volunteer Service, China</td>
<td>370,037</td>
<td>370,037</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>490,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>180,236</td>
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<tr>
<td>King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi</td>
<td>46,710</td>
<td>40,305</td>
<td>29,118</td>
<td>46,284</td>
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<tr>
<td>PeaceNexus Foundation</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>21,726</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mount Kenya University</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>36,690</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alphabet Inc.</td>
<td>16,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Save the Children</td>
<td>4,193</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,610,722</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,475,396</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,418,596</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,162,898</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funding partners ordered by total contributions amount.

The reported contributions are rounded up or down to the nearest whole dollar.
The many hours of volunteering that have been given during the COVID-19 response are incalculable. In even the smallest ways, offering some time or expertise has made a great difference.

Rachel Donovan, UN Specialist Volunteer funded by Australia. Communications Specialist – UN Reform, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, Papua New Guinea

It is [a] very exciting experience also in terms of international volunteerism. People of different ages, located in different parts of the world, come together online and create a meaningful initiative.

Martin Zelinka, UN Youth Volunteer funded by the Czech Republic. Social Inclusion Associate, worked remotely with UNDP, Ukraine

Volunteering has been an excellent way to learn about the UN system, to reflect my strengths and weaknesses and to grow professionally. It has allowed me to contribute to meaningful and powerful public health agendas on a larger scale than ever before.

Hanna Leppäniemi, UN Specialist Volunteer funded by Finland. Technical Officer in Nutrition, WHO, Egypt

I had the opportunity to become more familiar with … projects to increase social cohesion in the region, particularly benefitting the younger generations that often feel demotivated by the environment they live in.

Andrea Marinkovic, National UN Youth Volunteer funded by the PeaceNexus Foundation. UN Peacebuilding Support Office, Bosnia and Herzegovina

As a young person starting a career, taking part in the significant work of WHO in mitigating the impact of the pandemic is a rewarding experience. I hope to make a substantial contribution in improving women and youth well-being through my assignment and develop my technical skills.

Tessa Mitchell, UN Youth Volunteer funded by Ireland. Gender and Youth Associate Officer, WHO, Guinea-Bissau

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Tessa Mitchell, UN Youth Volunteer funded by Ireland. Gender and Youth Associate Officer, WHO, Guinea-Bissau

UN Volunteer assignments by donor partner, 2021
Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals

At the end of their assignments, UN Volunteers are asked about their contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2021, 76 per cent of fully funded UN Volunteers provided self-assessed information showing the following overall distribution per goal.

- **Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions** (16): 28.3%
- **Gender Equality** (5): 25.9%
- **Partnership for the Goals** (7): 21.1%
- **Reduced Inequalities** (10): 15%
- **Climate Action** (13): 14.3%
- **Good Health and Well-being** (3): 14.1%
- **Quality Education** (4): 9.3%
- **No Poverty** (1): 8.7%
- **Clean Water and Sanitation** (6): 7%
- **Zero Hunger** (2): 6.8%
- **Life on Land** (3): 5.7%
- **Life below Water** (5): 4.5%
- **Peaceful and Inclusive Societies** (8): 4.3%
- **Sustainable Cities and Communities** (9): 3.5%
- **Sustainable Consumption and Production** (12): 2.2%
- **Responsible Consumption and Production** (11): 1.5%
- **Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions** (16): 1.5%
- **Climate Action** (13): 1.3%
- **Clean Water and Sanitation** (6): 1%
- **Life on Land** (3): 0.9%
- **Peaceful and Inclusive Societies** (8): 0.8%
- **No Poverty** (1): 0.5%

COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued in 2021, UNV deployed 34 fully funded UN Volunteers to support the United Nations system in addressing countries’ pandemic-related needs. The UN Volunteers supported COVID-19 response and vaccination efforts, assisting with attempts to prevent and mitigate the disease as well as with the delivery of basic social services.

Learning

Throughout the reporting year, UNV focused on the well-being, professional development and motivation of UN Volunteers. UN Youth Volunteers continued to participate in virtual Assignment Preparation Trainings (APTs). UNV provided to all UN Volunteers a fully-fledged onboarding programme, covering topics such as the new Unified Conditions of Service for UN Volunteers, Guidelines for Reporting Misconduct, and Volunteering for the SDGs. During their assignments, UN Volunteers accessed courses and certifications for professional soft skills development and language acquisition, as well as targeted training on skill development and prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment. Additional training opportunities included well-being and stress counselling sessions, career coaching, 360 degree feedback and career management workshops.

Volunteering is an amazing opportunity that allows you to work in a completely different culture. It is an opportunity to stay closer to the beneficiaries and note the direct impact of your organization’s work.

- **Daria Kosheleva**, UN Youth Volunteer funded by the Russian Federation, Monitoring/Evaluation, Reporting and Project Development Assistant, IOM, Madagascar

Volunteering to support communities far from home is an opportunity to put your empathy in action and expand it exponentially. I know I will be taking these transformative lessons in empathy far in my career as well as back home.

- **Dilshat Zhussupova**, UN Youth Volunteer funded by Kazakhstan, Communication Associate, UNICEF, Thailand

Acting together is what can change the future.

- **Miho Mitobe**, UN Specialist Volunteer funded by Japan, External Relations Officer, WFP, Mauritania
I always make sure that the protagonists of my stories are not depicted as victims but as inspiring heroes. I grew to admire the resilience of the Haitian people.

**Borja Lopetegui Gonzalez**
(pictured above right) funded by **Spain**, Communications Specialist, UNDP, Haiti

The COVID-19 outbreak added more uncertainties to the international landscape. When it comes to ordinary people, the pandemic can bring real hardship and challenge. Volunteering opens a window and brings people closer to those in need.

**Xu Yalan**, UN University Volunteer funded by **China**, Programme Support Officer, United Nations Office for Project Services, **Bangkok**