

Volunteering and the SDGs – Leaving No one Behind

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Title of the Event	<i>Volunteering and the SDGs – Leaving No one Behind.</i>
Thematic background	Volunteering, Youth, Migration, Social Inclusion, SDGs
Date and Location	17 April 2019, 13:00.–14:30 p
Brief description	<p>Pursuant to the adoption of UN General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/67/138), in 2012 and the UNSG’s call on the Plan of Action, UNV is leading efforts towards the effective integration of volunteering in development frameworks, plans and strategies in the implementation of agenda 2030.</p> <p>The resolution recognizes the integral role of volunteerism in development in general and for the achievement of the SDGs in particular. UNV is organizing a Forum side-event to show case the value addition of Volunteer Action to the SDGs and share a report based on the analysis it has carried out on the national situational analysis of volunteerism.</p> <p>The event is designed to galvanize efforts and commit members states to prioritize volunteerism as a viable mechanism in the implementation of the SDGs. Further, it will provide a platform to discuss how volunteering could ensure inclusiveness and equality in the SDGs and thus live to its intonation on leaving no-one behind.</p> <p>Specifically, the side event will aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showcase the state of volunteerism (approach, results) on the continent; • Provide members states to share their experiences in the integration of volunteerism in development frameworks; • Identify ways to scale up volunteerism as a legitimate way to excellerate the achievement of the SDGs (i.e. use of technology). • Present a forum to members states as an opportunity to progress and agree on support needed from development partners to enhance volunteer actions for peace and development; • Bring urgency to the implementation of the Plan of Action and UNGA/67/138 among members states <p>The side event will bring together about 100 participants from around 20 countries from all parts of Africa. It is expected to mobilize high level government officials, CSOs, volunteer involving organizations, academic and private sectors to ensure a multi-stakeholder discussion on Volunteerism and the SDGs.</p>
Format	<p>The side event with two main activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A moderated panel discussion will interrogate key areas where volunteering makes difference in achieving the SDGs in Africa and will discuss key recommendations to create more space and make a better use of volunteering for the 2030 and the 2063 agendas. <p>Key speakers are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minister for Youth and Community Development of Togo; • The Minister of Labour and Social Development of Uganda • Njoya Tikum, Regional Manager, United Nation volunteers • CSOs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Concomitantly, a booth will showcase the work of various governments and volunteer’s organizations from the region as an opportunity for south-south practical knowledge exchange. This exhibition stand will highlight in physical format, success stories from across the region and provide some material and tools for member states looking at enhancing their use of volunteers.
Target groups (participants)	Governments/National Institutions Volunteers Involved Organizations; Private sector including Organization heads; Universities; CSO/NGOs UN agencies
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