

# UNV Newsletter

Vol - 4

Issue 7

April-June 2011

Let's Volunteer and Be the Changemakers

## In This Issue

- 1 [Home Headlines](#)
- 2 [IYV+10 News](#)
- 3 [Bonn Bulletin](#)
- 4 [Meet your UNV Colleagues](#)
- 5 [UN Calendar](#)
- 6 [Upcoming Holidays](#)

## Home Headlines



## Regional IYV+10 Consultation Meeting in Manila

A **Regional IYV+10 Consultative Meeting** was held in Manila on 3-4 May, 2011 for marking the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers (IYV+10). Some 60 delegates from 21 countries from Asia, Pacific and the Caribbean region attended the meeting. The major themes for discussions at the meeting included: Advocacy and Campaigning; Effective Legal Frameworks; Voluntary Actions for Impact and Results; Volunteering for MDGs and beyond; and Volunteering Trends.

The participants had the opportunity to share their experiences and good practices on volunteerism in their countries and to deliberate options for collective advocacy of their contribution to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. India was represented by Mr. A.K. Upadhyay, Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Mr. Anoj Chhetri, UNV PO and Ms. Amita Dahiya, National Coordinator for IYV+10, to this Regional IYV+10 Consultative Meeting. Mr. Upadhyay was one of panelist on the Panel discussion on **Volunteerism, Human Development and MDGs**. His inputs and remarks added immense value to the meeting and helped in creating a momentum for IYV+10 campaign.

A **Share Fair** was also organized where participants got the opportunity to share their plans, events and strategies for 2011 and beyond making a lasting impact on the national, regional and global volunteerism agenda.

The year 2011 marks the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers declared in 2001.



Mr. A.K. Upadhyay, secretary, MoYA & S sharing his views during the panel discussion on **Volunteerism, Human Development and MDGs**



**IYV+10 Action Plan and Presentations** by participating countries



Mr. Anoj Chhetri, UNVPO presenting IYV+10 Action Plan during the **Share Fair**

## IYV+10 News

### The National Committee on IYV+10

Since its announcement in March 2011, The National Committee on IYV+10 has met twice to discuss and plan IYV+10 initiatives in India. The first meeting took place on 15 April, 2011. The main objective of the first meeting was to formulate the ToR for the committee, discuss IYV+10, its thematic areas and the proposed plan of action based on discussion points presented by the four taskforces chairs. Further discussion on IYV+10 was carried out during the second meeting on 24 June 2011. The plan of action was discussed in more detail identifying budget, risk factors and mitigation strategy to plan specific and achievable targets for 2011 with resources mobilized and channelized.

#### Glimpses from the National Committee Meetings



### Marking IYV+10 on Global Youth Service Day

The **Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) 2011** in India was a unique case of “Working Together” and to celebrate IYV+10. The People’s Institute for Development and Training (PIDT) being the Asia Regional Coordinator for GYSD and Chair of the Facilitation Task Force for IYV+10 worked to develop a number of youth-led initiatives and celebrations in various parts of India with an interesting mix of adult and youth participation.



On 10-11 March 2011, a seminar was organized in Jharkhand for Rural Institutes from Eastern Region of India. About 60 NGOs participated from Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa and West Bengal.



On 15 April 2011, 50 youth from villages in Deoghar district in Jharkhand, Eastern India, came together to build a waterway that would not allow scarce rainwater to runoff but collect in the village pond.



On 15 April, 2011 four hundred children from Anandalaya Public School and some of the neighboring government schools in Deoghar expressed a vision for their future through drawing, drama and discussion.

On 16 April, a workshop was organized in New Delhi called “**VOLUNTEER VOICES**”. It was attended by more than a hundred volunteers and about fifty organizations. There was a unique synergy seen in the coming together of various youth volunteering oriented organizations and UNV at the India International Center auditorium to highlight and share experiences of Youth Volunteers. Young Volunteers Voices from across the country were also encapsulated in short videos to express their experiences and aspirations in “Changing the World”.



### Chitrakaar and UNV Webinar Series: Conversation with The Change Makers on the Spirit of Volunteerism

In continuation to our endeavors in celebrating IYV+10 and the spirit of volunteerism, UNV and Chitrakaar have come together to present **The Change Makers**. The webinar series will feature some of India's prominent leaders from the corporate world as they share their experiences on being a volunteer.

To mark the launch of The Change Makers, the first webinar in the Chitrakaar-UNV India Webinar series was organized on 30 June 2011 on the theme **Spirit of Volunteerism**. Mr. Daya Prakash, CIO of LG Electronics spoke about his volunteer experiences, volunteer activities undertaken by LG Electronics, and shared his views on how volunteerism represents the cause of being socially responsible.

The webinar received a positive response from the community with around 80 people registering to participate in the virtual and interactive platform. The webinar acted as a bridge and connected people from over 5 locations in India.

### Message from Ms Alexandra Solovieva, Deputy Country Director (Programme) United Nations Development Programme, India

UNDP welcomes the initiative by UNV in association with Chitrakaar to organize Chitrakaar-UNV India Webinar series. It is expected that the series will provide an experiential learning platform for volunteers and act as an inspiration for all in contributing to social development and enhancing volunteerism as an important input in shaping India's future.

We hope that the Webinar series will encourage private sector to undertake corporate volunteering initiatives and to motivate their employees to share time, skills, expertise, and knowledge to support community development.



For further queries, email: [Gul.Berry@undp.org](mailto:Gul.Berry@undp.org)

Please visit our website: [www.undp.org.in/unv](http://www.undp.org.in/unv)

## Peace Gong Painting/Poster/Short Story/Poetry competitions

### Theme: Linking Environment to a Culture of Peace

Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore Foundation and Shantiniketan Fine Arts Academy, New Delhi, UNV and the Facilitation Taskforce have come together to organize the Peace Gong Painting/ Poster/short Story/Poetry competitions at the National level for children and youth based on Gurudev's enormous volume of work and volunteerism to celebrate the **150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore and the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of International Year of Volunteers**. These competitions are an effort to capture and bring out the value added by volunteers to national development priorities. The competitions would be organized from June to August in various parts of India in four languages namely Hindi, English, Bengali and Assamese. An exhibition of the best paintings would also be organized. Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore Foundation and Shantiniketan Fine Arts Academy will also organize various programs to highlight the work of children in these competitions.



### Volunteering for a Better World: Role of Shishu Panchayats

The first competition in the series was organized by **The Belgaum Integrated Rural Development in Gokak, Belgaum, Karnataka** on June 23, 2011.

About 100 children representing different schools of the area and Shishu Panchayats took part in the painting competition on the theme **Volunteering for a Better World: Role of Shishu Panchayats**. Members of the Shishu Panchayats of Gokak, Belgaum spoke about the work they have initiated on soil conservation, school kitchen gardens and plantation followed by a discussion on children's role in protecting the environment. The students felt that by protecting the environment, a culture of peace can be furthered.



### More stakeholders join the Global Call for Action

The following organizations from different parts of India have joined to mark IYV+10:

Arushi, Bhopal, **Madhya Pradesh**

Be Artsy, **New Delhi**

Belgaum Integrated Rural Development Society, Belgaum, **Karnataka**

Bramhaputra Institute of Research and Development, **Assam**

Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore Foundation, **New Delhi**

Kasturba Gandhi Institute for Development, **Manipur**

M S Panwar Institute for Communications and Management, **Himachal Pradesh**

Rabi Thakur Shishu Panchayat, **Tripura**

Rasuli Kanwar Khan Trust, Mewat, **Haryana**

Surovi Shishu Panchayat, Guwahati, **Assam**

Yuvsatta, **Chandigarh**

For further queries, email: [Gul.Berry@undp.org](mailto:Gul.Berry@undp.org)

## Bonn Bulletin

### IN BRIEF

The tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers has drawn attention at the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which at their recently concluded meeting noted “the important initiatives undertaken in this regard” during 2011 so far.

### Unprecedented global gatherings deliver big results

From March to June 2011, stakeholders from more than 95 countries and four continents participated in series of five consultation meetings held in Quito, Ecuador, for Latin America; Ankara, Turkey, for Europe, the CIS and Arab States; Manila, the Philippines for Asia, the Pacific and the Caribbean; Dakar, Senegal, for Francophone Africa; and Dakar, Senegal, for Anglophone Africa.

The discussions included identifying strategies to inspire positive advances in volunteering related areas, promoting legislative frameworks, supporting the drafting and amendment of relevant laws, advocacy for volunteerism, raising the visibility and documenting the contributions of volunteering, volunteering for impact and engineering better recognition and more enabling environments for volunteers make a difference. Valuable recommendations on volunteerism were made and fruitful discussions held in informal and invigorating formats like a ‘World Café’.

### Sustainable Societies; Responsive Citizens

**Bonn, Germany**, is the host city for the 64th Annual United Nations Conference for Non-Governmental Organizations, 3-5 September 2011, associated with the Department of Public Information, on the theme “**Sustainable Societies; Responsive Citizens**”. The dual conference themes allows the host country, Germany, and NGOs world-wide to showcase the **impact volunteers make on sustainable livelihoods**. It will also give NGOs the opportunity to contribute to the two-day special session of the General Assembly on the **10th Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers**.



### Youth volunteering, social integration and decent work: Inspiring leadership

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme has released a discussion paper which was commissioned for the 48th session of the Commission for Social Development in February 2010 on “**Youth Volunteering, Social Integration, and Decent Work: Inspiring Leadership**” to mark International Year of International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding (August 2010 to August 2011) as well as the **10th Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers** (2011).

The discussion paper can be found at the following link:

[www.unv.org/fileadmin/docdb/pdf/2011/Youth%20Volunteering%20social%20integration%20and%20decent%20work.pdf](http://www.unv.org/fileadmin/docdb/pdf/2011/Youth%20Volunteering%20social%20integration%20and%20decent%20work.pdf)



### Conference on Youth Volunteerism

A conference on **Youth Volunteerism for Transformational change through Non-Formal Education to achieve Life Skills, Heritage Education and Literacy** was organized from 30 June- 1 July 2011, in UNSECO HQ Paris, France. This initiative aims to contribute to more recognition of the role of youth volunteers in non-formal education. UNV and many organizations came together to organize the conference, in cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC), within the framework of the World Heritage Education Programme.

Young guest speakers from different parts of the world presented best practices and lessons learned of non-formal education and its added value to achieve life skills, heritage education, literacy and community-centred MDGs and sustainable development. Ms. Eyingbeni Nguillie from India was selected by UNV HQ to participate in the program.

## Meet Your UNV Colleagues

### New UNV Colleagues

Mr. Abhishek Gupta	Technical Support Officer	Uttar Pradesh
Mr. Achyut Kumar Yadav	Project Support Associate	Uttar Pradesh
Ms. Kritika Shrivastava	Refugee Status determination Specialist	New Delhi
Mr. Mahesh Vishwakarma	District Project Assistant (Coordination)	Himachal Pradesh
Ms. Meenakshi Raghuvanshi	District Project Assistant (Coordination)	Himachal Pradesh
Mr. Navneet Yadav	Capacity Building and Training Associate	Himachal Pradesh
Mr. Neeraj Singh	District Project Assistant	Uttar Pradesh
Mr. Pankaj Kumar	Project Associate	Uttar Pradesh
Ms. Priyadarshini Hariharan	Refugee Status determination Specialist	New Delhi
Ms. Rubina Tabassum	Technical Support Officer	Rajasthan
Mr. Satya Ranjan Mahakul	District Project Assistant(Documentation)	Himachal Pradesh
Mr. Sikander Zulkarnain	District Project Assistant (Training and Documentation)	Uttar Pradesh
Mr. Smriti Shukla	District Project Assistant	Uttar Pradesh
Mr. Surajit Bordoloi	Project Support Associate	Meghalaya

### Ashwani Sharma and Rajeev Mishra: Dedicated and Committed National UN Volunteers

**Ashwani Sharma** is working as Assistant Project Coordinator under the GEF-funded project on Environmentally Sound Management and Final Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) in India. He was earlier involved in the development of National Implementation Plan (NIP) for India under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

Ashwani holds a Doctorate (Ph.D.) in Environmental Sciences from the prestigious Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi and Masters (M.Sc.) in Environment Management, Indraprastha University. Ashwani was nominated to represent Government of India in the International Professional Development Event (IPDE-2010) for professionals during October 2010 at UNIDO Headquarters in Vienna.



**Ashwani Sharma**



**Rajeev Mishra**

**Rajeev Mishra** is working as Assistant Project Coordinator in the “Development of a National Implementation Plan (NIP) for India as a first step to implement the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)” implemented by United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and executed through the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), GoI, for the past one and half years. Rajeev is a post graduate in life sciences from Barkatullah University, Bhopal. At present he is pursuing MBA in Marketing from IGNOU, New Delhi.

Rajeev has more than 4.5 years experience in the field of capacity building and project management. He has worked on a project for devising strategies for the sustainable livelihood of the economically weaker sections of the society and also has project management experience in the National River Conservation Directorate projects executed in Madhya Pradesh.

‘Volunteerism for me is the strength to pursue a cause which aims to bring a positive change in the society’ says Rajeev.

He was part of the team in MoEF which submitted the National Implementation Plan (NIP) document to the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention in April 2011. The NIP highlights the inventory and the strategy for environmentally sound disposal methods of the POPs chemicals found in India. He also attended the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Expanded Constituency Workshop from 4-7 April 2011 in Vietnam.

For further queries, email: [Gul.Berry@undp.org](mailto:Gul.Berry@undp.org)

## Good-bye

It's also time to say good-bye to our PO Mr. Anoj Chhetri. UNV India would like to wish Anoj all the very best for his future endeavors. We will miss him for his guidance and support to the UNV Office.

**“If you want to change the world, be that change.” -**

**Mahatma Gandhi**

### Message from Anoj:



“I joined UNV India on 17 November 2008 as a UNV PO and completed almost 32 months assignment in India and am now repatriating back to my home country for personal reasons.

I am proudly grateful for being a part of UNV/ UNDP India. We shared common views and platform for the cause of peace and development. I trust that the chapters that we have written together shall continue in future with additional inputs.”

### JULY 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### AUGUST 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### SEPTEMBER 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## UN Calendar

World Population Day	13 July
International Youth Day	12 August
International Day of Peace	21 September

## Upcoming Official Holidays

Independence Day	15 August
Janmashtami	22 August
Idul'Fitr	31 August

**Advisors:** Alexandra Solovieva & Ibrahim Hussein  
**Managing Editor:** Gul Berry  
**Coordinator:** Amita Dahiya  
**Special Supports:** Krishna Raj