



UN Volunteers

inspiration in action



YOUTH VOLUNTEERISM TAKES CENTRE STAGE AT THE AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON INNOVATIVE ECONOMIES—Kenya

APRIL—MAY 2014
NEWSLETTER



Photo @ Participants raise their hands as they look up in solidarity to volunteerism as UNV Kenya P O made his presentations

"You have a huge role to play in ensuring better programs or interventions to be considered in the Post 2015 programs."

Take a Vote in the MY-World survey now...."

UNV Kenya Post 2015 Focal Point.

Anne Dalitz

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Youth unemployment continues to be a huge challenge in Africa . A team of young leaders led by Change Mind Change Future leadership came together along with their networks from Uganda and Burundi to host the first ever Symposium on innovative economies in Africa in Nairobi on the twenty first of May 2014.

The event which took place at Strathmore University bringing together a total of 736 participants drawn from different Universities in Kenya and representations from youth groups . The event was graced with luminaries as well as philanthropists and young entrepreneurs who took time to engage with students on a one to one basis to encourage youth to start up businesses ,find internships, volunteer opportunities and networks for their future careers or engagement.

Volunteerism was emphasized as a tool to ensure proper skill development and base for economic development. While speaking at the Forum UNV Kenya Programme Officer Mr. Dmitry Frischin encouraged the students to explore a wider range of *continued on page 2...*



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opportunities for volunteering with the UN System as well as in the existing volunteer umbrella body ie VIO Network in Kenya.

Same sentiments were shared by the former Nairobi Mayor Mr. Joe Akech who reminded the participants of how



Above top right , photo @ a participant asks a question on how to access UNV Vacancies,,, Above left , photo @ Ann Dalitz pose for a photo with Dmitry , Kenne from extreme left and Stephen Machua

during his tenure he encouraged the transformation and rehabilitation of street children by channeling them to the National Youth Service to be trained and later volunteers their skills, time as well as services to the country.

The highlight of the day was marked when Dr. Manu Chandaria the chief speaker addressed the students, motivating them to start doing businesses at their age. He later launched the **FEEL** campaign a student oriented volunteer financial training and awareness by University Students Community Organization (UNISCOO Kenya) that should be rolled out in the country . Other speakers included Mr. Heshan De Silver , John Matogo from Strathmore and KTN news anchor Mr. Boney Tunya.

My experience in Dadaab—UNV Mary Ondiek



Mary Ondiek , left corner above –UNV Humanitarian Programme Assistant attached at UN WOMEN participated in the baseline assessment to assess whether gender is mainstreamed in refugee programme development.

She narrates her experience in Dadaab below ...

“During the assessment it was good to note that there are women police officers in the police base near the camp who offer assistance to Gender Based Violence victims as well as referrals.

The refugee women are in need for business capital to engage in and do their business to improve their living standards in the camp. I think, the refugee men have to be involved in the livelihood Programme within the set ups so as to ensure that the success of the women’s’ livelihood project.”

All Rounded Volunteer...- Camila Nkwenti

The female volleyball team was amongst the teams that participated during the 41st United Nations Inter-agency games in New York, **Camila**, was part of that team playing the position of an attacker!

The United Nations inter agency games is a yearly

event to enable the staff members of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations System to get to know each other through sports meetings and thereby to improve mutual understanding and working relations.



Above photo @ third from left no 3 Camila Nkwenti –UNV Associate Legal Officer UNEP pose for a photo with team mates in New York.

More than more 100 United Nations staff from 36 United Nations agencies were hosted at different hotels at Long Island New York to participate in the event from 23-26 April 2014 at the Hofstra University. The athletes participated in several disciplines including volleyball, badminton, chess, football, basketball, cricket, swimming, golfing, Tennis, Chess Blitz, darts amongst others.

The athletics arrived from the airports to their various hotels on 23 April 2013 where they checked in and moved to the Hofstra basketball pitch for the opening ceremony. The opening ceremony which featured a several dance groups and acapella from the Hofstra University students ended with the athletes collecting their sport pack which included the UNIAG T-shirt, their badges, a map, towels and water bottles.

The female volleyball competition took place at the Hofstra indoor volleyball pitch where 5 teams competed against each other. Amongst the 5 teams was a separate team which was formed by the UNIAG authorities. This team consisted of a combination of staff from different United Nations agencies who were capable of playing volleyball but did not have a permanent team. With two days of competition the UNON female team played three matches and came in third position claiming a bronze medal.

Other UNON teams competed during the games and also won medals. The UNON men and women teams came 2nd place overall and took silver medals. There was no goal medal for UNON hopefully that will come during the 42nd UNIAG. The games came to an end on 26 April with medals and trophies given out to the winners.



UNV Kenya Extends its Network and Partnerships Regionally and locally



As part of resource mobilization and partnerships UNV Kenya engages in rigorous networking and partnership opportunities and initiatives.

In the months of April and May UNV Kenya continued to support and lead the VIO Network activities in the country. Up to April this year the UNV Kenya had taken over VIO Coordination to strengthen the network and to increase the visibility plus membership of the network. In the last meeting in May the leadership and coordination of the network was successfully handed over to Progressive Volunteers and Hope worldwide Kenya.

In the same month UNV Kenya extended its partnership with the **Directorate of East Africa Integration** with a focus on networking Regional Universities in programs relating to student Volunteerism in East Africa.

Other partners reached and with whom partnership MOUs have been signed are ,University Students Community Organization (UNISCOO), e Mentoring Africa, Kenya Youth Empowerment Programme and Kenyatta Trust .



From top photo@ Dmitry receives a certificate from Poppin Misoi–KEYEP who was the lead facilitator at the Kenyatta Trust empowerment training in Nanyuki.

Second photo @ Dmitry and Anne Dalitz pose for a photo with UNISCOO team after a consultative meeting at the UNV office.

Third photo @ Dmitry and Kelvin pose for a photo with VIO-Network members after a meeting at Progressive Volunteers Office.

Lastly photo @ Mr. Ronald Inyangala from the Directorate of East Africa integration takes a photo with Dmitry at the UNV Kenya Office.

Reaching out on Youth to Volunteer..



"I have identified my potential and passion through volunteering and being a Scout. I encourage you to join the many volunteer programs available for you at this age.

You can be lucky to unlock your potential just as I have"

Poppin Misoi.



"It is not we have learned from school that can make the joy in our lives ,It is not where we have come from but where we are going and can go.

Through volunteering we are allowed to make mistakes that will lead us to learn skills, art and knowledge that will definitely change our lives"

Arthur Odhiambo

Photo @ Arbe Gindole top right giving her presentation, above left a snap shot of the projected message during the training. Below photo @ Mary a beneficiary of Kenyatta Trust asks a question about her involvement in UNV Programme

Our Finance and Administration Associate ,Ms. Arbe Gindole continued our agenda to promote volunteerism in Nanyuki during the Kenyatta Trust training in Nanyuki.

The activity took place on 16th -17th April 2014,organize by Kenyatta trust. It was a retreat for the Kenyatta trust beneficiary but with a training that incorporated volunteerism .

The Kenya scout association had

received funding for youth Programme dubbed **"messenger of peace"** which will be roll out soon in upper Northern Kenya and with high expectations to partner with UNV where possible.

Kenyatta trust is an organization which provides scholarship to vulnerable children from high school level up to university level with volunteerism and community service being part of their rules .The beneficiary of Kenyatta trust are expected to give 200 man hours free service annually .

Daddy Owen ,one of Kenya's local artist also mentioned that he has several Community service Programmes that he funds from his own pocket or mobilizes resources from other potential partner to support.

Recently he mobilized resources worth Ksh 17 million from Safaricom to launch a website for youths for their publicity, create employment and support their community interventions. He expressed interest to work with UNV Kenya Programme.



Volunteer Voices—*Millicent Oluteyo*



Its all smiles when we talk about female volunteers. This is evidenced in the above photo of committed female National UN Volunteer Programme officers: Anne-Rose Kogi-UNDP (Left), **Millicent Dorcas Oluteyo UNDP** based at the National AIDS Control Council Headquarters in Nairobi (Centre), and Beth Mbugua-UNODC (right). *Another top female inspiration into female volunteering is the UNDP Country Director Ms. Maria Threase-Keating who before rising to this current position served as a UNV for a long time in different parts of the World, including Kenya where she is currently working.*

My journey as a volunteer for the past three years has been quite amazing and I choose not to talk about it without thanking our almighty God of surprises who

renews our strength daily and fulfills our hearts desires without asking for anything in return. It has been a journey of immense growth, successes and even crossing local boundaries to Ethiopia, Tanzania and New York as an appreciation to my hard work. HIV and AIDS is a reality and we are either infected or affected. The main mandate of the National AIDS Control Council (NACC) has therefore been coordination of a multi-sectorial national response to HIV and AIDS. Since 2011 to date I have continued serving as the focal person for youth affairs in addition to my Community HIV Based Programme, and performed excellently to my agencies' satisfaction.

I have also provided technical and secretariat support for Gender, Public sector, Private Sector, and Key Population activities' and taken up these additional responsibilities gladly. Some of my main achievements have been participation in policy formulation and dissemination; establishment, and strengthening of County Youth HIV and AIDS Networks in Kisumu, Kakamega, Busia, Kericho, Kajiado, Nakuru, Mombasa, Kilifi, Migori, Nyamira, Embu, Machakos, Nyeri, Murang'a, Lamu, Tanariver, Taita Taveta, Kwale, and Kisii. All these, through the support of the National AIDS Control Council and other partners.



Above left Millicent at a workshop in Mombasa and left Millicent in red planting a tree at the Reach out Trust Rehabilitation Centre for drug addicts in Likoni Mombasa

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BY VOLUNTEERING OVER THE INTERNET

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For more information on this Newsletter, the UNV programme or to submit your volunteering, stories contact the UNV Communications Officer in Kenya **Kelvin Keya** on kelvin.keya@undp.org or unv.ke@undp.org.

For our vacancies : www.recruit.unvke.org . Call us on +254 20 762 5540