

UNV Kosovo Newsletter 2012

CONTENTS

Who is UNV

UNV Community Partnerships

- ↳ Green Pages
- ↳ World Environment Day
- ↳ Embroidery Exhibition
- ↳ Support to children living with disability

UNV Support to Volunteering

- ↳ Kosovo CAP Project
- ↳ Spring School Programme
- ↳ OSCE Youth Conference
- ↳ Environment Protection
- ↳ Let's Do It Kosovo
- ↳ DOKUFEST Film Festival

International Volunteer Day 2012

- ↳ SKENA UP Film Festival
- ↳ Round table: STOP Violence against Women
- ↳ Winter clothes drive for Roma school children

Contact Us

- ↳ How to become a UN volunteer
- ↳ Online volunteering
- ↳ Volunteer Actions Count campaign

Photo: Veiton from Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje



**Celebrate
volunteering**



UN

Volunteers

inspiration in action



Photo (left) Martina Vavrova, Clare McCrum, Dana Landau

Who is UNV?

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that contributes to peace and development worldwide by advocating for recognition of volunteers.

UNV Kosovo was established in 1999 and works with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming and mobilizes skill based volunteers to work in and outside of Kosovo. UNV Kosovo works to enhance civil society participation including youth and vulnerable groups; raise awareness on issues that matter to local community including Poverty Reduction, Social Inclusion, Gender and Environment.

UNV PARTNERSHIPS

*'UNV comparative advantage is their ability and knowledge to bring about **transformational change** through volunteerism, community voluntary action and civic engagement in active partnership with civil society, volunteer organisations, UN agencies and Governments.'* www.unv.org

FAST FACTS

- 👉 **7,300 UN Volunteers worldwide**
- 👉 **162 nationalities in 132 countries**
- 👉 **59 international UN Volunteers in Kosovo in 2012**
- 👉 **11 national UN Volunteers in Kosovo in 2012**
- 👉 **1 UN Volunteer deployed from Kosovo in 2012**
- 👉 **1 Corporate Private Sector Volunteer in Kosovo**
- 👉 **Hosting agencies: UNMIK, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNOPS UNWOMEN, IOM,**
- 👉 **3 Online Volunteers from Kosovo in 2012**

UNV – COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (UNV led scheme)

UNV led scheme was created for UN volunteers to take part in volunteering activities to support local initiatives in partnership with local NGOs and local communities. The scheme gives UN volunteers the opportunity to plan, develop and implement their projects supported by UNV Kosovo. Total 6 projects were successfully implemented in 2012.



Photo (left): Volunteers Jeta Lepaja, Anemona Zeneli, Sarah Enright, Aurelie Viard, Elizabeth Gowing (co-founder of TIP)



GREEN PAGES – A Guide to Green Living in Kosovo

Green Pages was a joint project led by Sarah Enright (UNV Legal Officer/UNMIK) and NGO, The Ideas Partnership (TIP). The guide was launched on 13 September and offers services which can help people to live sustainably in Kosovo with phone numbers and web addresses to help people to recycle, buy local produces, eco-tourism, public transport and green volunteering. The guide was put together by local and international volunteers, from data collection, design, translation and printing (design drawings by one of the girls from the Roma community). The guide is available in 3 languages (English/ Albanian/ Serbian) and accessible on the blog where users can comment and add new services. Go to Blog: www.KosovoGreenPages.wordpress.com / Youtube Video [UNV Kosovo promotes Kulla Mazrekaj and Green Pages](#)

Marking World Environment Day "Together for Health"

Sanja Jovanovska (UNV Local Community and Reporting Officer, United Nations Mission in Kosovo-UNMIK) marked and promoted UN World Environment Day and Volunteerism, with 2 events on Educational and Field Cleaning. The art competition took place on 4 and 6 June in two primary schools with (K-Serb pupils) and (K-Albanian pupils) on the theme "Protect the Environment – I am part of nature too". An Ecology expert gave a lecture on Volunteerism, Health and Environment to the participants. Six winners of the art competition were awarded with prizes. Around 30 participants: students and teachers from respective schools were engaged in informal discussions on the importance of World Environment Day and how volunteerism can help address environmental issues. The cleaning activity on 12 June took place in a mixed community of Kosovo Albanians and Kosovo Serbs, in cooperation with the local community leaders.





Embroidery Exhibition by women in Istog/Istok

Andjelka Rudic (UNV Associate Field Officer, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees - UNHCR) and two National UNV Field Protection Assistants, Burim Kelmendi and Rubina Hajradinovic organised a one-day exhibition of embroidery work produced by women from the Women's NGO 'Aba-k' from Istog/Istok on 12 June.

The exhibition took place at the Cultural Centre of Istog/Istok. ABA-k gathers vulnerable women of all communities in Istog/Istok for a project which provides them with temporary employment and an opportunity to gain qualifications and experience for future income generating activities. As a local multi-ethnic organisation, it aimed to give an opportunity to visitors to support the activities of the women of Aba-k and connecting with other similar women's organizations from the region.

Go to web story: www.unv.org/en/perspectives/doc/unv-and-local-womens.html



Photo (left): Tima Maksutaj

Photo (top): Fatlinda, Fatlum, Blerta

Photo (bottom): Zurafeta Shala, Andjelka Rudic, Burim Kelmendi

Support to Children with disability - Social Inclusion and Volunteering

Sachiko Kareki (UNV Programme Analyst, United Nations Development Programme-UNDP) and Martina Vavrova (UNV intern Project Associate, United Nations Populations Fund-UNFPA) in partnership with a local NGO 'HandiKOS' promoted Social Inclusion and Volunteering under the "All Together" motto on 15 June. Some 45 children, of who are children with disabilities learnt to interact in aim to promote the importance of social inclusion through respect, acceptance and tolerance.

Children learnt about ecology, social inclusion and volunteering through educative games and team building. Activities included physical ball games, origami and a check point game that provided specific educational activities to promote Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), volunteerism and environment. At the Social Inclusion check point, the children made colorful handprints on white fabric to represent unity of all people. The Volunteering check point provided a quiz to show that everyone can volunteer and help others, regardless their age and ability. At the Environment check point, children collected trash in the park and described the importance of environmentally friendly behaviour. After completing all 3 check points, they received a certificate of completion. Go to web story:

<http://www.unv.org/en/news-resources/news/doc/all-together-to-promote.html>



Photo (top): Aulon Mehmeti and his mother

Photo (bottom): (left) Mirushe Krasniqi, Sachiko Kareki, Martina Vavrova

UNV SUPPORT TO VOLUNTEERING

UNV Kosovo promoted volunteerism for peace and development through advocacy campaigns with the Academia, Youth Networks, Kosovo institutions, NGOs and International organization. Joint alliances and partnerships with various stakeholders can strengthen to advocate for transformational change and civic engagement through the voices and volunteer actions of local communities.

Kosovo CAP project for people living with disabilities

UNV Kosovo contributes to the CAP Project. The Kosova Cap Project aims to collect and recycle plastic caps as a source to provide wheelchairs for people with disabilities around Kosovo. Kosova Cap Project is implemented by American University of Kosovo (AUK) Charity Club by mobilizing all communities of Kosovo to collect plastic caps in exchange for one wheelchair for every 250KG caps. The caps are transported to Turkey for recycling and the wheelchairs are sent to Kosovo through the support of the Turkish Embassy. Until date, 50 wheelchairs have arrived to Kosovo and are being distributed to the identified members with special needs.



Youth Conference – ‘Youth participation through Volunteerism’

UNV Kosovo promoted volunteerism to advance development goals for Kosovo at the Youth Conference organized by the OSCE mission in Kosovo on 22 March. Volunteering and decision-making for young people were discussed and how volunteering can help Youth to be prepared for employment in the future. Around 60 percent of the population in Kosovo consists of young people under 30 and volunteer work is considered a good opportunity to engage with Youth. The Administrative Order under the Youth legislation recognizes volunteer work as work experience.

UNV Reach out to students - Spring School Programme for Sustainable Human Development

UNV Kosovo presented the benefits of volunteering to students of the Universum University College as part of the Spring School for Sustainable Human Development organised by UNDP and Universum University on 27 April. UNV Kosovo continues to be actively engaged with the academia as an important target group in spreading the key message to volunteer by passing on their learning, knowledge and skills to help those less privileged in their communities.

The Role of Youth in Environment Protection for Sustainable Development

UNV held a presentation in a Conference on the role of Youth in Environmental Protection for Sustainable Development on 19 October. The conference was organized by Youth Caucus (youth Members of the Parliament) within the Assembly of Kosovo and UNDP under the Poverty Eradication Week (17-24 October). A proposal was made to MPs and relevant stakeholders to think on inclusion of volunteerism as a topic to be included into the education curricula.

**VOLUNTEERING IS YOUR FREEDOM,
YOUR CHOICE, YOUR INITIATIVE, YOUR TIME**



**UN
Volunteers**

inspiration in action



Photo (left): Bajram and Karma Loday (UNV Programme Officer) work together to clean up neighbourhood 29 in Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje

Photo (right): Ahmet volunteers in the Let's Do It Kosovo clean up day (photo credit: Alexia Skok)

Let's Do it Kosovo - Clean Up Campaign

UNV Kosovo, jointly with United Nations Kosovo Team (UNKT) took part in the Let's Do it Kosovo clean-up campaign on 24 May. UNV offered technical support to the organization on volunteer management and coordination. The campaign involved a mapping of illegal dumpsites and a large scale cleanup under the support of municipalities, mobilizing volunteers from schools, local businesses, public institutions to international organizations Kosovo wide.

Read more: www.unmikonline.org/Pages/25052012unv.aspx



DOKUFEST: International Documentary and Short Film Festival

DOKUFEST is the largest Film Festival in Kosovo. This year, it that took place from 7-15 July, attracting visitors from all over Kosovo and overseas, including international movie directors. Approximately 30,000 visitors attended the festival with over 8,500 people attending the screenings during nine days in six cinemas. UNV and UNDP supported 120 volunteers with daily allowances for 10 days and offered technical support to the organizers on volunteer management. Inclusive efforts were extended to the disabled community, with six volunteers with disability taking part in the event.

YouTube Video
[UNV/UNDP support to Dokufest 2012](#)



Photo (left): Dokufest Volunteers Zani Vula, Nora Maloku, Mentor Kryeziu



INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY (IVD) 5 December 2012

International
Volunteer Day



Photo (left): Veton in his new winter outfit donated by the UNV clothes drive (photo credit: Shpend Berbatovci)

Photo (right): Roundtable organisers (left) Sanja Jovanovska, Olivera Milosevic, Elizabeta Bajrmi, Hasime Tahiri

Each year, IVD is celebrated on 5 December to mark the achievements and recognition of volunteers' contributions worldwide. In Kosovo, IVD was marked by 3 events.

Opening of the SKENA UP Film Festival – 3 December

UNKT, UNDP and UNV jointly supported 50 SKENA UP student volunteers in recognition of their direct contribution to the film festival and in further promoting volunteer action among youth and the academia. UNV actively supports volunteer involving organizations to improve their volunteer management schemes to better manage their volunteers and promote volunteerism through their activities. SKENA UP is the largest festival of its kind in Kosovo, showcasing over 100 films, more than 15 plays, workshops, lectures, special screening. SKENA UP has become known in the Balkans and world-wide for the extraordinary community of filmmakers and theatre directors it attracts, and for the quality of its programming.

Marking IVD with a clothes drive for Roma school children – 5 December

74 children with no transport to school desperately need warm clothes and shoes to be able to walk 2.5km to school. UNV responded with a winter clothes drive, led by UN Volunteers working in UNMIK Andrea Young (Public Information Officer) and Boram Kim (Political Affairs Officer), collecting close to a hundred winter clothes from various international organisations. Some of the items were distributed on 5 December with a small ceremony at The Ideas Partnership learning centre in Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje. The children performed 2 dances, trained by 2 UN Volunteers, Martina Vavrova and Dana Landau. Mothers exhibited their handmade products for sale; scented soaps, gift bags, greeting cards hand painted candle jars, supported by The Ideas Partnership.

Roundtable: STOP Violence against Women in Mitrovicë/a – 6 December

Roundtable discussion on: 'Stop Violence against Women', led by Sanja Jovanovska (UNV Local Community and Reporting Officer, Mitrovicë/a) took place on 6 December in partnership with 3 NGOs from Mitrovica (K-Serb, K-Albanian and Roma). The panelists included: Kosovo Police, Centers for social welfares, local NGOs and other international organisations. The primary objectives were to raise awareness over violence against women in context of post conflict society as Mitrovicë/a, promotion of tolerance, reconciliation and collaboration among the ethnically different communities. The roundtable was followed by a food fair exhibition by five different communities from north Mitrovica, K-Serb, K-Albanian, Roma Ashkali & Egyptian, Turkish and Bosniak.



UN
Volunteers

inspiration in action



How to become a UN Volunteer

Are you over 25 years old?

Do you have at least 3-5 years work experience?

UNV recruits a great diversity of talents and offers a variety of volunteer opportunities in Development Assistance and Humanitarian and Peacekeeping Operations worldwide.

Register on the UNV Roster: www.unv.org

National UN Volunteer opportunities:

www.kosovo.undp.org

onlinevolunteering.org

The [UNV Online Volunteering](http://onlinevolunteering.org) service connects volunteers with organizations working for sustainable human development. Volunteers contribute their skills online to help organizations address development challenges. Organizations collaborate with online volunteers over the Internet to strengthen the impact of their development work.



CHANGE THE WORLD

BY VOLUNTEERING OVER THE INTERNET

websites

www.unv.org

www.kosovo.undp.org/en/UNV

www.youtube.com/unv

Volunteering Matters in Kosovo:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Z-91xit2nw

UNV Kosovo web stories

www.unv.org/en/what-we-do/countries-and-territories/kosovo.html



Volunteer Action Counts Campaign

www.volunteeractions.org

Volunteer Action Counts is a global online campaign, where you can submit your volunteer actions as they happen. In Rio+20, over 64 million actions were counted worldwide. To join the campaign, post your stories, press releases and photos

UNV Kosovo Contacts

June Kashio

UNV Programme Officer

UNV Field Unit / UNDP

Tel: +381 38 249 066 ext. 120

june.kashio@undp.org

Blerim Azizi

UNV Programme Assistant

UNV Field Unit / UNDP

Tel: +381 38 249 066 ext.120

blerim.azizi@undp.org

Karma Loday

UNV Programme Officer

UNV Field Unit / UNMIK

Tel: +381 38 504 604 Ext: 6530

loday@un.org

Lulzim Rexhepi

Administrative Assistant

UNV Field Unit / UNMIK

Tel: +381 38 504 604 Ext: 5469

rexhepi15@un.org