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United Nations Volunteers

United Nations Volunteers programme

Annual report of the Administrator

Summary

The United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) provides global citizens with an opportunity to volunteer across the three pillars of the United Nations system: development; peace and security; and human rights. This annual report discusses the performance of UNV in 2022, the first year of its new Strategic Framework, 2022-2025, and the contribution of UNV to the emergency response efforts of United Nations system around the world.

Information on annual performance indicators, the United Nations system entities hosting United Nations Volunteers and the statistical and financial overviews may be found in annexes I–IV on the Executive Board website.

Elements of a decision

The Executive Board may wish to: (a) commend UNV for results achieved in 2022, as reflected in the report of the Administrator (DP/2023/23); (b) reaffirm the continued crucial role of the Special Voluntary Fund in promoting volunteerism as powerful means of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and call upon all development partners in a position to do so to contribute to the fund; (c) express appreciation to all United Nations Volunteers for their outstanding contributions to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals; and (d) express appreciation to UNV for its rapid and dedicated response to emergencies, as part of United Nations system-wide efforts.



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- II. List of United Nations entities hosting United Nations Volunteers, 2022
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I. Introduction

1. In accordance with Executive Board decision 2018/8, this report covers the organizational performance of the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) in 2022. Chapter II presents the annual results achieved against the results matrix of the Strategic Framework, 2022-2025. Chapter III reflects on the achievements of UNV in emergency response, and chapter IV addresses the way forward.

2. UNV started 2022 fully committed to supporting the United Nations system in its efforts to regain momentum towards the Sustainable Development Goals, in the context of post-coronavirus disease (COVID-19) recovery. However, the year brought unprecedented challenges. While maintaining focus on the Goals and pandemic recovery, UNV had to adapt to multiple, interconnected crises and disruptive global trends, as well as funding constraints faced by United Nations partners. This was the backdrop for organizational results achieved by UNV, in its global-scale efforts to mobilize talented and diverse volunteers for the front-line peace, development and humanitarian interventions of the United Nations.

II. Highlights of results achieved in 2022

3. The UNV engages the United Nations system, Member States, civil society and the private sector in promoting an environment conducive to volunteerism and volunteers, thus enhancing the sustainability of development results. Against this background, this chapter presents the key results achieved by UNV in the first year of the Strategic Framework, 2022-2025. The framework seeks to promote volunteerism as a powerful and cross-cutting contributions towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The framework's results are organized in three outcomes and six associated outputs. A detailed overview of organizational performance by outcome, output and indicator can be found in annex I.

A. Contributing to a people-centred United Nations: The functioning of the United Nations system is supported through the engagement of empowered United Nations Volunteers.

4. In 2022, UNV supported the efforts of the United Nations system in development, peace and humanitarian affairs and human rights by expanding opportunities for diverse, empowered and motivated global citizens to volunteer with United Nations partners. A particular focus was on meeting the context-specific needs of United Nations partners, in terms of priority functional profiles, demographic diversity and regional and country representation. Attention was also accorded to ensuring that the volunteering experience benefits the personal and professional development aspirations of United Nations Volunteers and that they are fully integrated in the United Nations system.

5. As a system-wide service to the United Nations, UNV deployed 12,408 United Nations Volunteers, an increase of 14 per cent over 2021 and exceeding the annual target. These Volunteers enriched the workforce of United Nations entities and advanced progress towards all Sustainable Development Goals in urban and rural communities at the last mile of development efforts. Based on data from 9,738 volunteer reports¹, more than one third of United Nations Volunteers (38 per cent) contributed to Goal 16, peace, justice and strong institutions, a reflection of the high number of Volunteers serving with United Nations peacekeeping and political missions. This was followed closely by Goals 3 and 5, good health and well-being and gender equality, both at 20 per cent. Another 15 per cent contributed to Goal 10, reduced inequalities, testimony to UNV efforts towards inclusion, equal representation and empowerment of the vulnerable.

¹ In 2022, 9,738 volunteer reports (79 per cent of all United Nations Volunteers who served) were provided through the UNV volunteer reporting application.

6. Some 3,730 United Nations Volunteers were integrated in United Nations Secretariat entities and missions as civilian personnel, an increase of 8 per cent over 2021. Of these, the largest number (1,706) served in United Nations peacekeeping operations, where they have become the backbone of the work on human rights, community liaison, health, public information and mission support. The top three missions hosting United Nations Volunteers were the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA). In addition, 344 United Nations Volunteers served in United Nations special political missions, such as the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI).

7. Among United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, the largest number of United Nations Volunteers (3,399) served with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), a 7 per cent increase over 2021, in 125 countries around the world. The United Nations Volunteers played a critical role in UNDP development activities, which ranged from supporting livelihoods in disadvantaged urban communities in Bangladesh to post-pandemic socioeconomic recovery of women in Sudan; and from youth empowerment in remote regions of India to upholding human rights in Guatemala.

8. In 2022, 1,576 United Nations Volunteers, a 32 per cent increase over 2021, served in 118 countries with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). In Kazakhstan, the national volunteering programme, coordinated by United Nations Volunteers themselves, mobilized 10,000 local volunteers, who reached 150,000 children and parents on mental health, online safety, education and early childhood development. In Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nations Volunteers underpinned the Social Champions fundraising initiative in Ecuador, Mexico and Panama and humanitarian response in Venezuela.

9. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) hosted 1,154 United Nations Volunteers, an 18 per cent increase over 2021, delivering on refugee protection, status determination and other critical functions in 69 countries. In Colombia, United Nations Volunteers responded to increasing numbers of people in need of protection, while in Ecuador, United Nations Volunteers helped UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) with the registration of Venezuelan migrants. In Mauritania, United Nations Volunteers provided refugee registration, technical and legal support.

10. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) engaged 495 United Nations Volunteers in 82 countries. United Nations Volunteers were essential to reproductive health programming and monitoring and evaluation in Sudan, and to the establishment of health clinics in hard-to-reach areas of Afghanistan. In China, United Nations Volunteers trained 1,600 local service providers, health workers, teachers and students on sexual and reproductive health services and rights.

11. The number of United Nations Volunteers with the World Health Organization (WHO) increased by 26 per cent, to 463, in 54 countries. In Egypt and Uganda, United Nations Volunteers enabled the rapid scale-up of health programme delivery in response to COVID-19 and Ebola virus disease, data collection and monitoring of health-care emergencies, capacity development on health and nutrition topics, and community engagement and outreach. In addition, 111 United Nations Volunteers served in 34 countries across the African continent as part of the UNV-WHO Africa Women Health Champions initiative.

12. In 2022, 402 United Nations Volunteers, a 16 per cent increase, served with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in 54 countries. Their contributions ranged from advancing the economic empowerment of women in farming through climate-smart agriculture in Kenya to enhancing visibility and leadership in peacebuilding efforts in Bolivia.

13. In addition to these United Nations entities, hundreds of United Nations Volunteers served in 48 other United Nations agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions. Furthermore, under the strategic guidance of the General Assembly, through the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,² UNV contributed to joint United Nations action in the following areas:

(a) Peacebuilding: United Nations Volunteers helped to implement activities of the Peacebuilding Fund. For example, in Asia and the Pacific, United Nations Volunteers advanced cross-border community engagement, prevention of violent extremism and inclusion of women and youth in peace and stabilization projects, while strengthening community resilience and social cohesion. In West and Central Africa, United Nations Volunteers contributed to the grass-roots-level implementation of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel in 10 countries, in support of 27 United Nations entities;

(b) System-wide electoral support: 134 United Nations Volunteers and 456 online volunteers were an integral part of electoral support. They served with United Nations partners such as MINUSCA, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UNAMI, UNDP, UN-Women, the Peacebuilding Fund and resident coordinators' offices. Overall, United Nations Volunteers underpinned elections and post-election work across 28 countries, including Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Nepal and the Solomon Islands.

(c) Support to United Nations conventions: 568 United Nations Volunteers provided technical and volunteer management expertise in support of United Nations conventions. In Egypt, United Nations Volunteers coordinated 500 local volunteers, who were the backbone of the twenty-seventh Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and in Côte d'Ivoire, United Nations Volunteers helped ensure the smooth conduct of the fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

Expand opportunities with United Nations entities for more and diverse people to support United Nations development, peace and humanitarian efforts.

14. In 2022, United Nations Volunteers supported 55 United Nations entities in 166 countries and territories. The number of nationalities represented increased to 179, exceeding the annual target.

15. The largest number of United Nations Volunteers served in sub-Saharan Africa (5,278, a 2 per cent increase over 2021), followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (2,514, up 37 per cent), Asia and the Pacific (1,843, up 11 per cent), the Arab States region (1,760, up 9 per cent) and Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (966, up 44 per cent). The growth in the numbers of United Nations Volunteers in Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States was due to the expanded response to the ongoing refugee and migration crises in Latin America and Ukraine by IOM, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF and other partners.

16. Some 84 per cent of United Nations Volunteers, or 10,370, were from the global South. Of these, 7,329 (70 per cent) served as national United Nations Volunteers, contributing to the peace and development of their own countries. Another 3,079 brought their experience to bear in other countries of the global South as international United Nations Volunteers. The ratio of national to international United Nations Volunteers was 62:38 per cent, testifying to the commitment of United Nations partners and UNV to engaging national volunteer talent in the work of the United Nations.

17. More United Nations Volunteers were recruited from Member States, countries and territories that were previously not represented or underrepresented. Special talent outreach to candidates in small island developing States resulted in the deployment of United Nations Volunteers from

² [A/Res/75/233](#)

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Grenada, Maldives and Saint Lucia and first-ever deployments from the Federated States of Micronesia, Qatar and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

18. The proportion of female United Nations Volunteers increased to 55 per cent. Whereas, until 2022, Africa remained the only region with significant underrepresentation of women among United Nations Volunteers, during the year, 48 per cent of United Nations Volunteers on the continent were women – a marked increase from 40 per cent in 2018. This owes to a concerted effort by UNV and United Nations partners to move towards gender parity, enabled by strategic, high-impact partnerships, i.e.:

(a) UNV partnered with United Nations peacekeeping missions to increase the numbers of female United Nations Volunteers among civilian personnel, resulting in an increase in representation to 42 per cent, compared to 39 per cent in 2021 (and 32 per cent in 2017);

(b) The partnership with WHO to nurture the next generation of African Women Health Champions enabled the assignments of 111 United Nations Volunteers, who contributed to strengthening national health systems, emergency preparedness and response, and community engagement in 34 countries across Africa;

(c) UNV partnered with UNFPA, UN-Women and UNICEF to empower more women as United Nations Volunteers, including through the Young Innovators Fellowship and Young Women Leaders programmes.

19. The average age of United Nations Volunteers was 34, with 33 per cent under the age of 30 and 1 per cent over 60 years of age. UNV deployed 1,618 United Nations Youth Volunteers, including 220 United Nations University Volunteers. The number of United Nations Volunteers aged 60 years and above reached 167. Additionally, the number of United Nations Expert Volunteers increased by 38 per cent to 609, highlighting significant demand for high-calibre volunteer experts and the growing recognition of volunteerism as a life-cycle phenomenon.

20. UNV facilitated outreach, recruitment, inclusion and training of 205 United Nations Volunteers with disabilities in 23 United Nations entities. These United Nations Volunteers contributed to peace, development and humanitarian action in the areas of community development, communications and programme management, affirming that disabilities are not a limiting factor to meaningful engagement within the United Nations. The Governments of Germany and Sweden, UNV funding partners, continued to fund volunteer assignments for persons with disabilities from programme countries. This resulted in 42 new deployments of United Nations Volunteers, and as evidenced in the results reported, has had a catalytic effect across the United Nations system.

21. United Nations entities, Member States and civil society partners requested support of 8,474 online volunteers. The number of online volunteers fell by 10 per cent, from 9,575 in 2021, and falls short of the target for the year (10,500). This decline can be attributed to the reduced availability of online volunteering candidates compared to the exceptional situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in previous years. Nonetheless, online volunteers have proven an effective and complimentary means of supporting United Nations system partners. For example:

(a) UNDP engaged 456 online volunteers in support of electoral projects in Fiji, Kenya, Nepal and the State of Palestine. These volunteers raised awareness, collected and analysed data, monitored media and developed messages to counter hate speech and misinformation.

(b) UNDP also engaged 370 online volunteers in a volunteer data scientist initiative of the Istanbul International Centre for Private Sector Development, which developed new digital technologies for machine learning and natural language processing, online courses, web applications and social listening tools;

(c) In Bolivia, rates of domestic violence and violence against women increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. To counter this, UNICEF and partners implemented the Familia Segura (“Safe Family”) programme, a free call centre to aid survivors. Some 75 online volunteers provided emotional support, psychoeducational counselling and therapeutic care.

Motivated, well-equipped volunteers mobilized to contribute to United Nations peace, humanitarian and development efforts.

22. UNV supported the individual and professional development of United Nations Volunteers by widening the range of learning programmes and opening opportunities for peer-to-peer sharing of knowledge. As a result, 5,650 United Nations Volunteers gained skills in preventing sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, racism and discrimination and in other priority learning areas through 135 workshops. This represents a 70 per cent increase in participants compared to 2021. Additionally, 4,458 United Nations Volunteers acquired assignment-specific skills and knowledge through self-paced learning and online certification opportunities.

23. The percentage of United Nations Volunteers reporting that their assignments enhanced their personal and professional development increased from 93 per cent in 2021 to 94 per cent, meeting the ambitious annual target. The percentage of United Nations Volunteers reporting satisfaction with their volunteering experience reached 88 per cent.

B. Serving the United Nations System: UNV is a fit-for-purpose organization contributing to the efficiency gains of the United Nations system.

24. With the new Strategic Framework, UNV intensified efforts to contribute to system-wide efficiency gains by optimizing volunteer talent acquisition and accelerating deployment times, while containing management costs and maintaining high-quality services. Efforts were also made to diversify the funding base for the UNV Special Voluntary Fund and full funding programme. UNV continued to work towards gender parity at all staff levels and a geographically representative workforce, further investing in and empowering a decentralized and country focused global presence.

25. The deployment time for national United Nations Volunteers decreased from 51 to 23 calendar days, and for international United Nations Volunteers from 100 to 78 calendar days, overachieving on the annual target. The launch of the Unified Conditions of Service for United Nations Volunteers and associated streamlining of recruitment processes, stabilization of the unified volunteering platform and further refinement of operations contributed to these results. Regarding partner satisfaction, since it is measured biennially, UNV will survey United Nations partners in 2023.

26. Through exceptional efforts, the speed of deployment of national United Nations Volunteers in emergencies was minimized to 16 days in the case of Pakistan and 21 days in Ukraine. In Latin America, the average recruitment time for national United Nations Volunteers was 20 days, demonstrating agility at regional scale. In Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, UNV achieved the fastest deployment time for international United Nations Volunteers, 30 days on median.

United Nations partners are provided with more efficient services.

27. In 2022, the financial value of UNV activities totalled \$286.2 million, an increase of \$16.2 million, or 6 per cent, from \$270 million in 2021, mainly reflecting an increase in volunteer mobilization by United Nations agencies, funds and programmes.³ Thanks to its focus on operational efficiencies, and despite additional workload challenges incurred for emergency response and as a result of customizing UNV services to specific partner and country contexts, UNV managed to maintain the recurring cost-recovery rate at 13 per cent. In line with the Strategic Framework target for achieving improved operational results, UNV will continue to focus on streamlining its services and procedures, with a view to improving the experiences of volunteers and partner entities, while achieving further efficiency gains by the end of 2025.

³ All 2022 financial figures are as of 17 March 2023 and are subject to change pending the closing of books of accounts.

The institutional effectiveness of UNV is enhanced.

28. Contributions to the UNV full funding programme amounted to \$18.3 million, a decrease of 27 per cent over 2021. This was mainly due to multi-year contributions from several partners received in 2021, changes in priorities of some funding partners and exchange rate losses between the euro and the United States dollar.

29. UNV deployed 736 United Nations Volunteers fully funded by the Governments of Australia, China, Czechia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. Of these, 72 per cent were women, 52 per cent were United Nations Youth and University Volunteers and 12 per cent were persons with disabilities.

30. In addition to Member States, UNV collaborated with the private sector, academia and foundations to fully fund six volunteer assignments with partners such as Cisco corporate philanthropy, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi in Thailand, and Mount Kenya University in Kenya.

31. UNV continues to rely on the Special Voluntary Fund for research on and promotion of volunteerism, emergency and crisis response and innovative solutions. In 2022, contributions to the fund totalled \$4.9 million and came from 10 donors – China, Czechia, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Sweden, Switzerland and Thailand – as well as from individual donations through the digital giving platform. Examples of the strategic use of the Special Voluntary Fund include:

- (a) Deploying United Nations Volunteers in support of United Nations system emergency response efforts, as detailed in chapter III;
- (b) Increasing the number of United Nations Volunteers from non- and underrepresented small island developing States in the Caribbean and North Pacific;
- (c) Recognizing the contributions of volunteers to the Sustainable Development Goals, by marking International Volunteer Day and organizing country volunteer awards.

32. UNV continued its strong performance under the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. For the second time in a row, UNV met or exceeded requirements for all indicators, with excellent results in leadership and communications for gender equality and the empowerment of women, as well as the equal representation of men and women among staff. UNV achieved gender balance across levels of staff, except at the P-5 and General Service levels, where men remained underrepresented.

33. UNV exceeded the target on staff coming from the global South (64 per cent).

C. Promote volunteerism: The efforts of Member States to deliver on the 2030 Agenda are supported through volunteerism as an effective means of implementation and engaging people.

34. Under the new Strategic Framework, UNV focuses on brokering research and knowledge on volunteerism and on supporting integration of data and evidence on volunteerism for the Sustainable Development Goals. The link between knowledge generation and integration is a sequential process, where the production of evidence feeds development policy and planning. Similarly, focusing on the integration of volunteerism in United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks would, in time, enable better uptake of volunteerism in national plans and policies and vice versa.

35. Member States continued reflecting the role of volunteers in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in their voluntary national reviews: of the 44 reviews presented, 24 (or 55 per cent) recognized the positive contributions of volunteers and volunteering to the Goals. Most references to volunteerism in these reviews describe stand-alone volunteer initiatives, often led by civil society. Four reviews (9 per cent) presented how Member States had integrated volunteering into development plans, policies and strategies to (a) advance environment

protection and climate resilience (Dominica, Greece); (b) bolster emergency response (Jamaica); and (c) ensure no one is left behind (Senegal).

36. UNV also provided technical support to United Nations country teams to integrate volunteerism into United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks. Of the 21 published frameworks, five (24 per cent) integrated volunteerism into the results and reporting frameworks: (a) Bolivia and Kyrgyzstan for enhancing participation to leave no one behind (Sustainable Development Goal 10); (b) Mongolia and Zambia for skills development (Goal 8); and (c) Ukraine (Transitional Framework for Ukraine) for humanitarian response and disaster preparedness (Goals 13 and 16).

Brokering of data, research, evidence and knowledge on volunteerism for the Sustainable Development Goals is enhanced.

37. UNV continued to focus on research on the added value of volunteerism for the Sustainable Development Goals and updated the data and publications of the knowledge portal on volunteerism.⁴ Three joint knowledge products were published with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Peacebuilding Support Office, PeaceNexus Foundation and UNDP. These examine how volunteer programmes facilitate the entry and re-entry of young people into work, the contributions of volunteers to local peacebuilding, as well as how the contribution of volunteers and volunteering models can accelerate development.

38. Member States, United Nations entities and civil society organizations contributed 10 knowledge products on volunteerism for the Sustainable Development Goals. UNV published these on the knowledge portal on volunteerism, to build capacity and enable South-South exchanges on integrating volunteer mechanisms and modalities into development frameworks. UNV also added to the portal new statistics on the measurement of volunteer work from nine countries and updated data sets on integration of volunteering in voluntary national reviews and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.

39. In 2022, UNV started preliminary research and planning for the next edition of the State of the World's Volunteerism report. The 2024/2025 report will focus on different facets of measuring volunteering, including the contribution thereof to economic and social development. As part of this effort, UNV will strive to develop a framework for the first Volunteer Index, benefiting from its already close collaboration with the Human Development Report Office and ILO. To this end, UNV will invest in new and expanded data sets on volunteerism, continue nurturing existing partnerships, and identify new research partners from the global South, including academia and volunteer-involving organizations.

Integration of data and evidence on volunteerism for the Sustainable Development Goals is strengthened among Member States and United Nations entities.

40. UNV provided technical support for integrating volunteerism into common country analyses and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks to 16 country teams in Bolivia, Burundi, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, the Pacific Island countries, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Ukraine and Zambia. This entailed provision of data and evidence-based analyses on volunteerism, and exchange of good practices and lessons learned in the global South.

41. Of the nine⁵ United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks published to date where technical support was provided by UNV, all have integrated volunteerism. In Ecuador, the framework recognizes the role of volunteerism for environmental conservation (Sustainable Development Goal 13). In Pakistan, the framework focuses on volunteerism to enhance the engagement of local communities for disaster risk reduction and climate resilience (Goal 13), gender equality (Goal 5) and inclusion of excluded groups (Goal 16). In Sri Lanka,

⁴ <https://knowledge.unv.org/>

⁵ Status as of 25 January 2023: nine published UNSDCFs: Bolivia, Ecuador, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Ukraine⁵ and Zambia.

the framework emphasizes volunteerism as a means for building employability skills (Goal 8), and in the State of Palestine, to engage youth for peacebuilding (Goal 16).

42. In addition, UNV provides technical support to Member States to integrate volunteering into their national development plans and policies. In Zambia, UNV and UNDP collaborated on the preparation of the eighth National Development Plan, advocating for the creation of volunteering opportunities for youth to develop their employability skills. In India, UNV helped access the voices of 1,200 young people that were incorporated into the new draft National Youth Policy which advocates for a youth development platform to strengthen the volunteering ecosystem for youth leadership and for engaging youth volunteers into government initiatives on education and access to justice.

III. UNV support to the emergency response efforts of the United Nations system

43. In 2022, major global disruptions and crises prompted UNV to redouble its focus on emergency action, centred around the rapid deployment of United Nations Volunteers to support the response efforts of United Nations partner entities.

44. The UNV emergency response followed two tracks:

(a) Development of context-specific offers to United Nations entities involved, or likely to be involved, in the response, including detailed engagement steps and the availability of various candidate profiles in the UNV talent pool; and

(b) Strategic investments from the Special Voluntary Fund to trigger immediate deployment of United Nations Volunteers in high-priority areas such as coordination, data/information management and post-disaster needs assessments.

45. In response to the war in Ukraine, UNV deployed 281 United Nations Volunteers to 15 United Nations entities in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. From the very first weeks of the crisis, United Nations Volunteers delivered crisis response and coordination, field community engagement, protection and mental health services, serving with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, IOM, OHCHR, the Resident Coordinator's office, UNDP, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UN-Women, World Food Programme (WFP), World Bank and WHO. Additionally, 182 online volunteers provided services to United Nations entities and civil society organizations for geographic location-neutral tasks in information technology, communications, graphic design, translation and interpretation.

46. In Pakistan, UNV and WFP deployed 38 United Nations community volunteers in 21 districts of Sindh and Baluchistan provinces soon after the devastating floods in September. These United Nations Volunteers, equipped with local and provincial languages, played a key role in the fight against hunger by monitoring food distribution in communities to marginalized groups, the elderly and persons with disabilities. Additionally, two national United Nations Volunteers helped the UNDP early recovery and operations support team.

47. In Uganda, 14 United Nations Volunteers were deployed to WHO and UNICEF, following the declaration of the Ebola outbreak by the Government. These were part of the United Nations country team's Ebola response, bolstering infection prevention and control, communications and psychosocial support.

48. In addition to these emergency responses, hundreds of other United Nations Volunteers provided critical support to people in need, in the context of protracted humanitarian crises. In Haiti, UNDP engaged 58 United Nations community volunteers in response to the major earthquake in 2021 and ongoing political and social instability. This was the first time that such a significant cohort of national United Nations Volunteers was mobilized in the country which usually receives international United Nations Volunteers and reflects the deliberate focus of UNDP and UNV on

building local capacity. More United Nations Volunteers joined IOM, UNOCHA, UN-Women and the Resident Coordinator's office.

49. In Bangladesh, 42 United Nations Volunteers supported eight United Nations partners in the Rohingya refugee response in Cox's Bazar. With UNICEF, 19 United Nations Volunteers supported monsoon preparedness in camps and analysed hazard risks to determine potential flood, landslide and storm surge areas. They also monitored water and sanitation facilities and learning centres in camps and host communities, thus facilitating uninterrupted learning and equal participation of children, including children with disabilities.

50. In 10 countries, UNHCR deployed 48 refugee United Nations Volunteers (a 78 per cent increase over 2021), including 17 from Ukraine in Hungary, Romania and Slovakia and 12 from Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen in Jordan. While the number of refugee United Nations Volunteers remains relatively small, due to legal and other constraints, each of them stands as a powerful symbol that refugees are not just passive beneficiaries of aid but can also be active agents of positive change in their own and host communities.

51. In addition to these instances of deploying volunteers at the front line of emergency response, UNV mobilized 148 United Nations Volunteers (an increase of 12 per cent) to assist OCHA with humanitarian coordination in 40 countries. Most of these United Nations Volunteers served as humanitarian affairs, public information, communications and information management officers.

52. The breadth and the depth of emergency response action in 2022 offers important lessons to UNV: that continuous nurturing of local networks will remain crucial for successful outreach to volunteer talent and sourcing of relevant support to the United Nations system both in times of crisis and in the transition from crisis to development action. This, coupled with the organizational agility and fast-track deployments, makes UNV an increasingly relevant partner for United Nations country and humanitarian teams. Engaging United Nations Volunteers enriches United Nations system-wide efforts with strong talent, dedication and devotion and delivers a significant positive impact for people in need.

IV. Looking ahead: UNV in 2023

53. Guided by the results and targets laid out in the Strategic Framework, 2022-2025, it is the assessment of UNV that the development and operational trends of 2022 are likely to continue in 2023. This points to further needs to mobilize and integrate diverse and talented volunteers in the United Nations system. At the same time, it suggests more volatile contexts and an increasing diversity of demand among United Nations partners.

54. UNV will continue to invest in volunteer talent outreach at country level and redouble efforts to achieve gender parity among United Nations Volunteers beyond the global average: across all regions and countries, volunteer categories and United Nations partners. UNV will also continue to advocate increasing volunteer assignments for persons with disabilities in order to advance inclusivity and benefit from the availability of qualified and dedicated candidates with disabilities in its talent pool.

55. UNV will continue to deepen partnerships with United Nations country teams and individual entities to advance the integration of volunteerism in common country analyses, United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks and the country programmes of individual United Nations partners.

56. In response to demand from several United Nations partners, UNV will engage in special programme initiatives with MONUSCO, UNDP, UNICEF, WHO and WFP to adapt to specific country and partner needs, to innovate and to be able to scale volunteer action in the United Nations

57. Finally, with the firm commitment to achieve efficiency gains, both internally and for its United Nations partners, UNV will continue to pursue the integration of its unified volunteering platform with the new enterprise resource planning system of UNDP, Quantum. On this basis, UNV will update and streamline its business processes with the view to identifying efficiency gains and assessing cost-recovery arrangements in 2023-2024.

Annex I. Annual performance indicators, 2022







In line with harmonized standards for strategic plan reporting by UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women, the level of achievement of performance indicators for 2022 is determined as follows:

(a) Met or exceeded expectations, green (performance at 90 per cent, or above, of the milestone):






16 indicators.

(b) Achieved below expectations, amber (performance between 60 per cent and 89 per cent of the milestone): two indicators.

(c) Did not meet expectations, red (performance below 60 per cent of the milestone): one indicator.

Outcome 1: Contributing to a people-centred United Nations						
The functioning of the United Nations system is supported through the engagement of empowered UN Volunteers						
Outcome indicator: (assess progress against specified outcomes; they help verify that the intended positive change in the development situation has actually taken place)		Baseline (2021, unless noted)	2022 Targets	2022 Results	% Achievements	Performance
1.1 Number of United Nations entities engaging United Nations Volunteers		56	57	55	96%	
1.2 Percentage of United Nations partners satisfied with United Nations Volunteers		96%	-	-	-	Biennial
Output (UNV provides specific support for the following results)	Output indicator (output indicators measure only those results from schemes, services, plans, actions, etc., which are specifically supported by UNV)	Baseline (2021, unless noted)	2022 Targets	2022 Results	% Achievements	Performance
Output 1.1 Expand the opportunities with United Nations entities for more and diverse people to support United Nations peace, humanitarian and development efforts	1.1.1 Number of nationalities represented among United Nations Volunteers	173	175	179	102%	
	1.1.2 Number of people volunteered per year through UNV	10,921	12,000	12,408	103%	
	1.1.3 Number of online volunteers requested per year through UNV	9,575	10,500	8,482	81%	
Output 1.2 Motivated, well-equipped volunteers mobilized to contribute to United Nations peace, humanitarian and	1.2.1 Percentage of United Nations Volunteers satisfied with their volunteering experience	88%	89%	88%	99%	
	1.2.2 Percentage of United Nations Volunteers reporting that their assignment enhanced their personal	93%	93%	94%	101%	

development efforts.	and professional development					
Outcome 2: Serving the United Nations system						
UNV is a fit-for-purpose organization contributing to the efficiency gains of the United Nations system						
Outcome Indicator: (assess progress against specified outcomes; they help verify that the intended positive change in the development situation has actually taken place)	Baseline (2021, unless noted)	2022 Targets	2022 Results	% Achievements	Performance	
2.1 Number of calendar days (median) for national United Nations Volunteer deployment lead time	51	46	23	200%	●	
2.2 Number of calendar days (median) for international United Nations Volunteer deployment lead time	100	88	78	113%	●	
2.3 Percentage of United Nations partners reporting that UNV recruitment processes were conducted in an efficient and timely manner	93%	-	-	-	Biennial	
Output (UNV provides specific support for the following results)	Output indicator (output indicators measure only those results from schemes, services, plans, actions, etc., which are specifically supported by UNV)	Baseline (2021, unless noted)	2022 Targets	2022 Results	% Achievements	Performance
Output 2.1 United Nations partners are provided with more efficient services	2.1.1 Recurrent cost recovery	13%	13%	13%	100%	●
Output 2.2 UNV institutional effectiveness is enhanced	2.2.1 Cumulative Special Voluntary Fund, full funding revenue (in millions of United States dollars)	95.6 (2018-2021)	25.3	23.3	92%	●
	2.2.2 Cumulative number of donors to Special Voluntary Fund	12 (2018-2021)	13	10	77%	●
	2.2.3 UNV workforce diversity as percentage of women in UNV staff	59%	57%	61%	93%	●
	2.2.4 Percentage of staff from the global South	62%	63%	64%	102%	●
Outcome 3: Promote volunteerism. Member States and United Nations system efforts to integrate volunteerism as cross-cutting means of implementation into the 2030 Agenda are supported.						
Outcome indicator: (assess progress against specified outcomes; they help verify that the intended positive change in the development situation has actually taken place)	Baseline (2021, unless noted)	2022 Targets	2022 Results	% Achievements	Performance	

3.1 Percentage of countries reporting the integration of volunteering into development plans, policies and strategies in voluntary national reviews on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals		14%	20%	9%	45%	
3.2 Percentage of United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) with results frameworks that reference volunteers and/or volunteerism as a means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development		15%	20%	24%	120%	
Output (UNV provides specific support for the following results)	Output indicator (output indicators measure only those results from schemes, services, plans, actions, etc., which are specifically supported by UNV)	Baseline (2021, unless noted)	2022 Targets	2022 Results	% Achievements	Performance
Output 3.1 Brokering of data, research, evidence, and knowledge on volunteerism for the Sustainable Development Goals enhanced	3.1.1 Cumulative number of new knowledge products on volunteerism for the 2030 Agenda published by UNV	9	3	3	100%	
	3.1.2 Cumulative number of Member States, United Nations entities, civil society organizations, and private sector partners contributing knowledge products to the UNV Knowledge Portal	5	10	10	100%	
Output 3.2 Integration of data and evidence on volunteerism for the Goals is strengthened among Member States and United Nations entities	3.2.1 Cumulative number of United Nations Country Teams and United Nations entities provided with technical support to integrate volunteerism evidence in Common Country Analysis and UNSDCF processes	40 (2018-2021)	16	16	100%	
	3.2.2 Cumulative number of Member States provided with technical support to integrate volunteerism evidence in national policies and plans	12	2	2	100%	