UN Volunteers
inspiration in action

NEPAL

International Volunteer Day 2012 "Celebrate Volunteering"

The International Volunteer Day (IVD), December 5th, was designated by the United Nations in 1985 as an international observance day to celebrate the power and potential of volunteerism. It is an opportunity for nteer orgnanizations, to raise awareness of, and gain recognition for, the contribution they make to their communities. The act of volunteering is found in all cultures, languages, and religions. Every year, hundreds of millions of people volunteer their time and skills to help make the world a better place. When they volunteer, they help to improve the lives of others. And when they volunteer, they also gain a greater sense of belonging to their communities.

On December 5th, people around the world celebrated IVD with rallies, parades, volunteer fairs, group clean ups, blood donations, conferences, exhibitions, fundraising, workshops and volunteer recognition events. This year's theme was to Celebrate Volunteering.

Former UN Volunteer, Mr. Michael Brown, Head of Peace Building & Recovery Unit, United Nations Development Programme in Nepal, giving a speech on the IVD 2012 celebration

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme has been supporting IVD since its inception in 1985 and we believe that IVD is an ideal opportunity to recognize the significant impact that volunteerism makes worldwide. IVD enables grassroots voluntary movements to connect with local communities, United Nations (UN) efforts and government authorities.

IVD 2012 celebration in Nepal was held with main agents of promoting volunteerism, former and current UN Volunteers in Nepal and UN Online Volunteers from Nepal to give them thanks for their contribution and enthusiasm to bring their support for the communities.

Thank you for all your voices and applauses to celebrate together and thank our volunteers to share their valuable experiences.
HAPPY IVD 2012!

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International Volunteer Day Friendly Football Match at Refugee Camp
6th December 2012, Morang

To celebrate International Volunteer Day, Friendly Football Match was organized by UNV Nepal in collaboration with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Nepal, Sub Office Damak and Camp Management Committee, on 6th of December at Sanisshare Refugee Camp, Morang, Nepal.

IUNV, UNHCR, Association of Medical Doctors of Asia (AMDA), Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Nepal (TPO), Lutheran World federation (LWF), Refugees took part in the game aiming to promote volunteerism and world peace. Mr. Mads Madsen, Officer in charge of UNHCR Sub Office Damak, Mr. Christian Simmelkiaer, Programme Officer at UNV Kathmandu Office, Mr. Champa Singh Rai, Camp Secretary made speech on this event.

Participants of the football match are shaking hands before the start

Celebrate volunteering

VolunteerActionCounts

UN Day celebration, 2nd November 2012

UNV stand during the UN Day celebration, UN House, Kathmandu

Every year we celebrate the UN Day in Nepal. In 2012 as for the celebration there was a main event in the Rose Garden inside of the UN House and all the UN agencies had one stall to promote their agency and projects. A lot of guests visited the UNV stall and we promoted them about Online Volunteering and the International Volunteer Day celebration on the 5th December.

UN DPI launches the UN Calendar of Observances iPhone app developed by online volunteers

Working with the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI), a team of three UN Online Volunteers turned the print version of the United Nations 2013 calendar into an iPhone application. The UN Calendar of Observances app is also the product of collaboration within DPI itself, including staff and interns. This personal task management tool aims to foster interest in and support for the work of the United Nations, and can be downloaded for free from the iTunes Store.

With their strong background in software development (Christopher Bell, New Zealand), information technology management (Aveline Sodji, Canada) and software engineering (Andrew Thornton, U.K.), "the volunteers brought professional expertise and experience that we did not have", says Finn Summerell, Chief of the Yearbook Unit of the DPI Publications and Editorial Cluster.

The app, which can be fully integrated into the native iPhone calendar, features United Nations observances, which promote awareness of and action on important political, social, cultural, humanitarian or human rights issues, as well as ways to get involved in related events and links to further information. It provides interactive components about UN achievements, links to related videos and photos and options for sharing information via social media.

UNV announces the public's favorite winner of the UNV Online Volunteering Award 2012

After announcing the ten winners of the Online Volunteering Award 2012, UNV invited citizens worldwide to vote for their favorite team. The online volunteers that helped UNDP Brazil spread the word about the Rio+20 Dialogues got the most votes. This initiative of the Brazilian government supported by the UN created a direct channel for global civil society participation in Rio+20.

Journalist Camila Pessoa learned through a discussion group on the Internet about the opportunity of volunteering online to contribute to the Dialogues: "I can say that being a volunteer changed my life. From the moment I decided to dedicate part of my time to people who need it and to causes which I believe in, I began to feel more citizen-like, active in the society in which I live. Today, I feel like I am, in some way, playing my own part in trying to improve the life of my surroundings and to reach a world in which I wish to live."

Raphaella Pinheiro | Camila Pessoa | Carmen Lucia Midaglia | Rafael Martins Dias

Fernanda Luísa Pereira | Isadora Barison | Marcella Rossi Motta | Gustavo Mattos Trindade

Get inspired by the winners' stories here:
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