

2010 Annual Report

MDGs club in Pampaída



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United Nations Volunteers

Programme Officer

Nigeria, 2010

Acknowledgements: The elaboration of this report has been made possible with the support of Stephen Echu, Oyekunle Oyewole, Kelechi Eleany (UNV volunteers) and Barr. Nkiruka Nnaemego – CEO/Founder, Fresh & Young Brains Development Initiative



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Background

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Programme is the UN organization that promotes volunteerism to support peace and development worldwide. Volunteerism can transform the pace and nature of development and it benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer. UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for volunteerism globally, encouraging partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing volunteers. It mobilizes about 8,000 experienced professionals each year worldwide as UNV volunteers.

In Nigeria, UNV became manifested in 1991 with the fielding of UNV volunteers in the health sector i.e. the placement of 30 Cuban doctors in nine states in the northern region of the. In 2010, the UNV Programme in Nigeria processed the recruitment and deployment of 25 Nigerians as IUNVs to foreign countries, namely Sudan, Congo, Liberia, Nepal, Afghanistan, Haiti, Trinidad Tobago, Namibia, Ethiopia and Malawi. Currently, the UNV Programme in Nigeria consists of 2 *international* and 22 *national UNV volunteers*.

I. Survey on volunteerism in Nigeria, January

UNV's mandate is to promote volunteerism for development, with special attention to youth participation seen as agents for constructive change. Young people make up almost a fifth of the world's population while 15 percent of this number lives in Africa. Young people in Nigeria face a lot of challenges because of limited opportunities for education and training as well as employment. There is also an unprecedented rate of rural/urban migration by young people outside the country. In this regard, volunteering during the gap years can really contribute to the participation of young people in decision making processes as well as facilitate the development of their country.

However, the Nigerian Government recognizes that youth volunteering, its energies and imagination can immensely contribute to national development, although volunteering rates among young people in Nigeria are lower than they are in developed countries. In addition, there are very few programmes on mentoring, volunteerism and social responsibility for young people in Nigeria. In this regard, the study focused on a) review of existing information materials/documents on volunteerism in Nigeria: history and current status of volunteerism in Nigeria; b) analysis of the factors responsible for the current situation of volunteerism; c) assessment of the potential for volunteering initiatives/UNVs to contribute to national development and achievement of MDGs; d) design of the survey tool and instruments in gathering required data on volunteering initiatives/UNVs impact.

In this sense, the research targeted youths, individuals and non-governmental organizations who have been involved in volunteer activities but were hitherto not recognized in order that they become the target of both the UNV, the Nigerian National Volunteer Service (NNVS) and other stakeholders to be recognized and empowered in developmental processes. At the time of the research there was neither legislation nor policy backing the establishment of the Nigeria National Volunteer Service (NNVS) to adequately address the issue of volunteers in the country. Though there is a draft policy in existence but is yet to be in the public domain. Most of the Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs) have never heard of NNVS but are very much aware of the UNV activities worldwide. The public general perception and notion is that, volunteers are without a reward, so

most of the people especially the young person's interviewed stated their willingness and involvement in volunteer activities, if only they will be rewarded no matter how small so as to have a sense of belonging and to take care of immediate needs.

II. UNV retreat, 31 December March, Zaria/Kaduna State



The UNVP in Abuja organized a one-day retreat which provided an opportunity to bring together all the UNVs serving for different projects in Nigeria in order to raise their awareness on the national volunteerism and UNV as well as to create awareness on Climate Change and global warming effects on the environment.

Part of the UNV retreat was a planned visit to the Children's Orphanage Home in Zaria. The UNV team met with the management and children at the orphanage. UNVs donated items such as black board, writing materials, football and other items to the children; cleaning of the surroundings was also completed by the UNV team as part of practical volunteer efforts.



III. UNV conference, 18-19 August, Abuja

The United Nations Volunteers organised a two - day conference on the role of volunteerism in development on 18-19, 2010 August in Abuja. The conference held at the United Nations House in Abuja in the presence of Janthomas Hiemstra, UNDP Country Director a.i, Robert Toe, Portfolio Manager/UNV Headquarters and Martina



Nwordu, Nigerian National Volunteer Service Acting Director. Thirty two participants comprising, State Government Agencies, Federal Government Institutions, Civil societies and Non Government Organizations attended the two - day conference.

The conference provided an opportunity to:

- Facilitate dialogue between Government and CSOs on the potential and opportunities of volunteerism in Nigeria;
- Identify the role of different actors in sustaining a national volunteer scheme;
- Draft an action plan for 2010-2011: (International Volunteer Day) IVD, (International Youth Year) IYY and (International Year for Volunteers) IYV.

IV. International Volunteer Day, December

The International Volunteer Day (IVD), adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1985, is celebrated globally every year on December 5. This day provides an opportunity to promote volunteerism and create/raise public awareness on the values of volunteerism. It is globally accepted the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) cannot be achieved without community support; therefore the theme of the 2010 IVD was very pertinent “Volunteering for the MDGs”. The 2010 IVD was planned in Pampaida Millennium Village in Kaduna and the organization of the vent commenced in early September by the establishment of the MDGs club for schoolchildren and translation of the MDGs into Hausa, national language widely spoken in Kaduna State.

1. Pampaida

On arrival of the UNV delegation from Abuja and UNV volunteers from other parts of the country around 3:00 pm on Sunday at the Zaria Office, we proceeded to the orphanage home in Zaria around 4:30, which is known to be housing 14 orphans and 7 care givers to the orphans. The visit to the orphanage home was meant to mark the international volunteer’s day for love, joy, and volunteer and also to have fun with the needy and the less privileged ones. During this period with the orphans we had some Dance, Play and refreshment with the orphans in order for them to have some sense of feeling and care.





The next day was set for the proper activity at the Pampaida community. This year theme of International Volunteers Day was 'Volunteer for MDGs' and this was presented by the Galina Chus, uNV Programme Officer and Barr. Nkiruka Nnaemego, FBI. One of the remarkable events that took place was the essay presentation by the three selected essay

writers in the MDGs club in the community with them writing on MDGs and Volunteerism, with each presenting on three MDGs. They were all presented with gift and prize by the UNV country Rep Galina Chus.



After the essay presentation by the MDGs students, an educational advocates was made to the participants and community members on the importance of sending their children to school and this was done by Bala Yunusa (Project Team Leader) and additional contribution came in from the community chief (Sarki Kwari). The translated version of Millennium Development Goals into the local language (Hausa)

leaflet was lunched and distributed by the visiting Dr Bans from Mali the Education Coordinator and the Bala Yunusa (Project Team Leader). This translation was done in order to past on the knowledge of Millennium Development Goals and a clear understanding of what the millennium village project is all about.



The environmental sanitation began around 11:30 am with the sweeping of the Pampaida Community and cleaning of the school environment by the community members and UNV volunteers.

We then proceeded to one of the community water point that as not be protected nor treated from the first day it was dug, and this well is known to never run dry. With all the community members i.e. both

men and women including their children were present at this water collecting point. A sensitization/ training were conducted on the infectious of unclean water to human body and how it can avoided. A clear demonstration was made on how to treat unclean water before drinking this include protecting the water point first, washing what you use in getting the water, boiling the water or add chlorine to the water before drinking. At the end the presentation and sensitization which took almost an1 hour at the water point, the member of community including the UNV came up with a solution on how to get well protected first before treating.



Ify Ogo, intern at the United Nations Information Centre Lagos, and the Project Officer of the Development Information Centre, Lagos (DIC Lagos).

Richard James Hsu manages multimedia and technology and is responsible for designing the DIC Lagos website and other publications and Gbenga Ogunjimi is responsible for managing of the social media communication strategies of DIC Lagos. The Development Information Centre (DIC Lagos) maintains a participatory approach in executing developmental projects, and expressed its eagerness to partner with United Nations Volunteers (UNV) in making a short documentary



on the MDGs and volunteerism in the Millennium Village in Pampaida/Kaduna State. The documentary will be sent to the UNV Headquarters, will be placed on the DIC Lagos website, and social networking websites. Additionally, television stations within and outside Nigeria will also be provided with the documentary.

1. Ikaram

The 2010 International Volunteers Day Event was organized at the Millennium Villages Project in Ikaram as part of efforts to join the global community celebrate this invaluable concept of volunteerism on an annual basis. Participants were drawn from seven project communities (male and female youths and elders) following weeks of deliberation and planning.



To further support volunteerism for the MDGs, the UNV Volunteers in Ikaram in collaboration with community youths initiated the “MDG Volunteers Club”.

The group of youths was formally inaugurated by the Chairman of the Central Planning Committee, Prince R.A. Bakare. He congratulated the youths for the noble idea and prayed for a strong vision to attain excellence.

Finally, to demonstrate commitment of Volunteering to step up development, a joint voluntary community work was carried out by the UNV team and the Community youths. This was focused on clearing overgrown roads to reduce risks of accidents on the cluster roads.



Clearing at one of the sites in the Cluster

2. GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL, ASO PADA, NASARAWA STATE ON DECEMBER 8, 2010

In commemoration of the 2010 IVD on the theme 'Volunteer for the MDGs', Fresh & Young Brains Development Initiative and Global Awareness for Development Initiative collaborated with the United Nations Volunteers, Nigerian National Volunteers Service and Government Secondary School to host the event at the Government Secondary School, Aso Pada, Karu LGA, Nasarawa State on December 8th, 2010. The event drew over 200 participants, 23 Project Team Members and other guests across the country.



After the opening ceremony, several sessions featured Core Theatre Presentations, Drawings, Quiz, Debates and Essay Competitions on the MDGs. Each session lasted for 20 minutes and adopted a participatory approach where participants were encouraged to share experiences and think of innovative ways to localize the MDGs in their immediate communities. Winners of the working group sessions were honoured with Award Certificates while Certificates of Participation and Recognition were presented to all participants and Project Team members respectively.



Conclusion

- Public Promotion:

Study on the volunteerism status in Nigeria in December 2009 – February 2010

DIC launching of the discussion on the MDGs on 10 November 2010

UNV conference with the participation of different stakeholders held on 19-20 August

Translation into Hausa, production and launching of MDGs leaflets on 6 December 2010

Production of a UNV poster in August

Production of a documentary “Volunteering for the MDGs” in December 2010 - January 2011

Production of T-shirts for the 2010 IVD in December

Regular update of the UNV Nigeria webpage

- Statistics:

Year	2009	2010
UNV volunteers deployed in Nigeria	9	24
Nationals of Nigeria serving as international UNV volunteers	25	25

Annex I

1. Link to a short version of the documentary “Volunteering for the MDGs” <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erpaRG9zZN4>
2. Link to the leaflet in Hausa “MDGs” <http://www.ng.undp.org/unv/>

Annex II

Youth Volunteering For Road Maintenance

Millennium Village in Pampaida/Nigeria 2010

Pampaida is one of the millennium villages in the sub- Sahara (SSA) of Africa. The village is estimated to be made of about 6000 population size from the midterm demographic update. The Pampaida village is made of 28 settlement with one health facility located at the Pampaida Makaranta village, this health facility was built by the state government and stock with drugs by the UNDP in the year 2007 to help the community gets free and adequate health care for mostly children and women of reproductive age, and for some health cases that are critical and needs surgery are made referrals to the general hospital in Ikara or the teaching hospital at Ahmadu Bello University Zaria.

The clinic as only one road that leads to it and this road as being bad shape since 2009 and vehicle have being having challenges accessing this road to the health facility as a result of being eroded by erosion ever since then the road has being in bad shape.



Before Construction

As a United Nation Volunteers with the Millennium Village Project, Pampaida, we created an initiative to put the road in good shape as part of our contribution in the development of the community, so as to help people accessing this health facility with their cars, motorcycle, bicycle and pedestrian is comfortable without barriers.

On the 28th September, 2010 a sensitizing and mobilization campaign was made in the community for youth to come out to volunteer for the construction and maintenance of the road. And on the 29th September, 2010 the youth in the community came out in mass for volunteering for the repair and maintenance of the road which is meant for the development of the community. The Sarki Pampaida (Chief) came out and addressed the

youth on the need to volunteer for any activities that will be meant for development of the community, and why the need volunteerism for sustainability.



Drummers

for Motivation

Youth mobilizing themselves



Youth at work

UNV volunteers with the Project infrastructure Facilitator



After all is being said and done, the road is back to good shape and ready for usage. The volunteers gave the youth some encouragement on the need of volunteerism participation for development. And for MDGs to be attainable and achieved there is need for all hands to be on deck.



After Construction

This is part of the contribution for the development for the attainment of the MDGs from the United Nation Volunteers from Millennium Village Project.



Initiators and Contributor: Echu Stephen Sule (UNV), Sabi Aliyu (UNV), Sophie Akut (UNV) and Abdulrahman Abdul (UNV).

Presented

By Echu Stephen Sule (UNV volunteer)

Essays on the MDGs

I. VOLUNTEERISM ROLE IN GENDER

Volunteerism is about mutual growth, through providing assistance and help to other people. It is the performance of service to benefit others or one's community without receiving external rewards.

Everyone should have a social role of helping others less fortunate than themselves, and in every situation, a student can find that there are those that are less fortunate, be it in academics, skills or simple ability or opportunities to carry out daily works which are taken for granted by most students. Whether this help is through appropriate donation or volunteering of time and help, every student should have a social responsibility to do something for others.

ADVANTAGES OF VOLUNTEERISM

- ✚ Volunteerism offers opportunities in personal life aspect by teaching new skills that one wouldn't normally learn. These skills may even help out a student in a career choice and advancement.
- ✚ Volunteerism introduces students to others with common interests and motivations, this opens up opportunities for forming valuable friendships.
- ✚ Volunteerism can provide a form of recreation, and these volunteer activities can become a hobby that a student finds enjoyable.

- ✚ Volunteerism also provides spiritual fulfilment by giving a student an opportunity of helping others and thinking about what is important in life.

VOLUNTEERISM IN GENDER

There are many opportunities for volunteer work in gender affairs. Gender affairs here refers to issues concerning females, and their empowerment in all sectors of life, including education and school attendance, health and disease prevention, hygiene, agric activities like farming and poultry, business and income earning activities and also participation in decision making and politics.

Students can contribute effectively to the advancement of gender affairs through active participation in:

- ✚ **Learning** about women empowerment and reducing gender inequality along with its benefits to the community and the society as a whole, is the first step.
- ✚ **Sensitizing** others in his immediate environment on harmful practices, such as, not enrolling the girl-child in school, or child marriages.
- ✚ **Teaching** the female hygiene and good personal sanitary habits
- ✚ **Undertaking** community projects that will reduce women's work and time burden, such as sanitation exercises, digging wells etc
- ✚ **Forming** girl clubs that engender sound topics and healthy competition between girls and boys.
- ✚ **Giving** lessons to primary school children
- ✚ Volunteering at clinics

Students find out what the gender issues are within their community, decide where their interests lie, and find ways which they can volunteer and make an impact in the progress of their community.

MDG – AWARENESS

VOLUNTEERISM – DEVELOPMENT

Safiratu Iliya

SS2

Saulawa Secondary School.

II. MDG AND VOLUNTEERISM

I will be presenting on Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger and Achieve Universal Primary Education.

Poverty can be define as a condition of having insufficient resources and income, the most extreme form of poverty is the lack of basic human needs, such as adequate nutritional food ,clothing ,shelter, clean water and healthcare services. Extreme poverty can cause terrible sickness and death and can also prevent people from realizing many of their basic needs. This can lead to malnutrition, epidemic, and disease out break, mental illness, drug abuse, crime and violence and prostitution. Moreover, poverty and hunger goes hand in hand. Where there is poverty definitely there is hunger and vice versa.

Volunteerism as an act of committing oneself, time and energy in activities that involves spending time without financial or monetary gain. The volunteering in the eradication of poverty and hunger in our present community level is by coming together both the poor and the well to do ones at the community and local level, wealthy individuals and organizations should cultivate the habit of helping the less privilege ones in their community suffering from this menace of poverty, by volunteer to fight against poverty and hunger through setting aside something out of their wealth and time through assisting the less privilege ones. And they can do that by creating an avenue for skill acquisition scheme, Educating, Training and workshops on Education, wealth creation and sensitization/awareness on modern technology on Agriculture and empowering their women.

Education which is said to be the bed rock of Knowledge needs to be achieved at the primary level, which now take us to the MDGs goal number two which is Achieving Universal Primary education. Education is an art of impacting knowledge to someone, there are saying that said “Educated nation is a wise nation” and education brings peace in the mind. So, when poverty and hunger are eradicated

and people are not educated, they same people have high tendencies of going back to the poverty level. All hand must be on deck in order to achieve the universal primary education and for this to be realistic; volunteerism must play an active role.

There is a serious need to have internal and external educated volunteers to sustain the system through organizing extra moral classes to pupils and adult at the community. And at the other hand, wealthy individuals in the community and outside can volunteer to employ or empower educated persons to teach pupils and also they can go head to build at least a block of classroom, so that pupils will least have a roofs on their head. So let try to develop the habit of volunteerism in order to achieve the millennium development goals.

MDG – AWARENESS

VOLUNTEERISM – DEVELOPMENT.

Abdulmalik Jafaru

SS 2

Saulawa Secondary School

III. VOLUNTEERISM AND THE MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS **(MDGs)**

The Millennium Development goals are the world's targets for addressing extreme poverty in different dimensions which include income poverty, diseases, hunger, basic human rights and lack of adequate shelter while promoting gender equality, education and environmental sustainability. The aim of the MDGs is to encourage development by improving social and economic conditions in the world's poorest countries.

Volunteerism on the other hand is the act of committing time and energy to carry out an activity without expecting any financial reward. This activity is usually aimed at benefitting an individual's community.

When we volunteer, we render service to humanity willingly which usually translates into development. When we volunteer; we develop our self esteem and skills, we create new relationships with other people and acquire a positive position in our community just to mention a few.

Volunteering for Health

As students and members of pampaida community we can volunteer in order to help achieve goals 4, 5 and 6 namely; child mortality, improve maternal health and combat HIV/AIDS and other diseases respectively.

We can volunteer in our own little way through the following ways;

- Help to take care of our younger brothers and sisters by helping to bath them regularly. Keeping them clean will help to reduce the incidence of infections and any other illness.
- We can sensitize our community about the importance of personal hygiene, the importance of washing of hands before and after eating, washing of hands after going to the toilet and taking our bath regularly in order to be free from germs.
- We can also sensitize our community on the need to use toilet facilities and stop open air defecation in our surroundings, as this could lead to so many illnesses.
- We can help to keep our environment clean by sweeping, cutting the grasses and getting rid of stagnant water.
- We can help our household or parents to fetch clean drinking water from boreholes instead of drinking from open wells. This will go a long way to prevent the incidence of cholera.
- We can sensitize our community on the importance of sleeping under insecticide treated mosquito nets in order to prevent mosquito bites and consequently preventing or reducing the outbreak of malaria.
- We can acquire knowledge through reading of various materials and accurately spread the word that HIV/AIDS is real and therefore it is needful to guard against reckless living and also to take preventive measures.
- Lastly, we cannot provide medical services ourselves but we can volunteer to work at a primary health care centre close to us by helping to keep the centre and its environment clean at all times. We can also encourage our pregnant mothers and sisters to visit the health care centers for proper medical care and attention.

MDG – AWARENESS

VOLUNTEERISM – DEVELOPMENT.

Ibrahim Markus

JSS 2

Pampaida Junior Secondary School