

Annual Project Progress Report

January – December 2015 Date Submitted: 2/19/2016

Volunteer Support to Strengthening Local Capacity and Promoting Community Participation in Selected Areas of UN One Plan 3

Project ID (Award): 00071814 Vietnam

1. Project InformationFocal point at UNV HQs:Rafael Martinez Gil, Portfolio Manager
Officer Viet NamProject Start Date: 1/9/2012Original End Date: 12/31/2016Extended to: mm/yyyyManagement Arrangement¹: Joint ProjectMunagement Arrangement¹: Joint ProjectFunding Modality: Pooled(applicable to joint projects only)Implementing Partner: directly implemented by UNVCountry-level Outcomes/Outputs (UNDAF/CPAP/Gov't Strategy): One Plan OP III Focus Area 1 (1.3.2, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.3); Focus

Strategic Framework 2014-2017 Outcome: Outcome 1: UN entities are more effective in delivery their results by integrating high quality and well-supported UN Volunteers and volunteerism in their programmes

Global Programme: (Basic Social Services)

3. Progress

Project aimed to achieve		
Project Output	Global Programme Outcome: UNV_Outcome 2 BSS _ Increased effectiveness of	
DPO Output 1: Capacity	UN entities to build national capacity in basic social services, especially in primary	
developed among	health care, personal safety, water and sanitation, and social inclusion	ed
selected	Project Outcome:	
stakeholders/groups in		
relevant technical areas	This Project was designed without Outcomes.	Achieved
empowering them to be	Further information can be found at p. 7 of the Detailed Project Outline (project	□Not
involved more actively	document). The "natural" outcome of this project, that its Outputs contribute to,	Achieved
and effectively in the	is the UN in Vietnam is better able to implement the One Plan 2012-2016 with	
development of their	stronger community participation, and volunteerism is promoted as development	Percenta
respective communities	strategy	ge %
Output Number:	0,	insert If
DPO Output 1 Baseline:	Achieved Results (UNV Specific)	applicabl
		е
N/A or 0	1. 6 technical training sessions organized/facilitated by UN Volunteers:	_
Targets (average annual	- 1 employability skills session for university students facilitated by 3 UN	Beneficiarie
targets from 5 year	Volunteers (2 female, 1 male) under this Project and more UN Volunteers	S I I
general targets):	not strictly under this project (62 participants) (see more details below);	Reached:
1. 4 technical training	- 1 Gender training for government staff under Partners for Prevention	252 direct beneficiarie
programmes	(P4P) programme facilitated by 2 UN Volunteers (1 female, 1 male) under	s ,i.e.
organized/facilitate	this Project (50 participants);	participants
d by UN volunteers	- 1 volunteer management training for volunteer leaders in Da Nang	under 1.; 10
for target	organized and facilitated by 1 UN Volunteer (female) under this project	indirect
groups/stakeholders	 (45 participants); 1 Disaster Risks training for volunteer leaders organized in Hue and 	beneficiarie
	facilitated by 1 UN Volunteer (female) under this Project (45	s –local
, 2. 4 training modules	participants);	volunteers
	- 1 training for Youth organized (2, female) and facilitated by 4 UN	under 1.;
developed for	Volunteers (3 female, 1 male) under this project (30 participants) (see	estimated
replication by those	more details below);	500 direct
trained by UN	··	beneficiarie
Volunteers;		s under 4.

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unteers

 Network created among UN Volunteers and relevant project partners and at least

> 1 discussion/consultat ion facilitated every quarter;

 50% of those provided with formal training could facilitate relevant training activitites and/or are actively involved in the implementation of project activities.

Indicators:

N of training conducted by UN Volunteers N of training conducted by those trained by UN Volunteers Network in place Percentage of training participants who provided training in turn/are involved in implementation 1 training and field trip for UN Volunteers organized with support of 1 UN
Volunteer (female) under this project (20 participants) (see more details
below).a), 10 direct
beneficiarie
s under 4.c)
and 500

- 2. Although training modules were developed for the above trainings, they were not designed with replication (ToT) as objective. More information will be collected in the last year of the Project, 2016. Please note that this was not a specific target for 2015.
- Network established and maintained among serving UN Volunteers, including through new Facebook Closed Group (UNV FU); 1 Learning Event (2 days) and 2 interactive Learning Sessions organized (UNV FU), with participation of Civil Society; several mingling gatherings held throughout the year.
- Please note that this was not a specific target for 2015. a) 30 participants 4. of the Youth Workshop on "Volunteering for SDGs" were trained and instructed to implement volunteer activities in their respective areas in 2016, with, as target, at least 5 participants completing their planned projects in 2016 (see below for more details); b) the UN Volunteers participating in the Learning Event were trained on Policy and Advocacy techniques with the encouragement to take initiative under SDGs in 2016. One immediate result was the establishment of a purchase group to buy organic vegetables produced by a nonprofit eco-farm that the volunteers visited during the field trip, highlighting enhanced capacity to engage with and support local community. c) 1 UN Volunteer who participated in a second Gender-related training under P4P was further involved in working with communities in Da Nang, in coordination with the P4P-dedicated NUNV, to engage men and boys in gender-based violence prevention. More information will be collected in the last year of the Project, 2016.

UN Volunteers endeavor to contribute to this output through their assignments as far as allowed by the projects and activities they are assigned. In view of better achieving this project output, the UNV FU also carried out ad-hoc activities to equip the UN Volunteers with necessary knowledge and skills and create opportunities to engage with different stakeholders, as described below. Further information on Results under this Output (i.e. how some UN Volunteers contributed) will be elicited in the last year of the Project, 2016.

Activity: UN Volunteers reaching out to university students to improve their employability - UNV Youth Employment Skills Development Project (YESP) Target (under POEM planning): at least 40 university students trained in 1 YESP session conducted by UN Volunteers

Result: 62 university students trained in employability skills by a team of about 10 UN Volunteers with support from local volunteers

In April 2015 (21st and 24th April), the UNV Field Unit (FU) organized a session of the UNV YESP at the Hanoi School of Public Health (HSPH). UNV staff and UN Volunteers from different UN Agencies (UNDP, One UN Communications Team, UNESCO, WHO, UNV FU and UNODC), most of whose assignments were funded through the Project in subject, staff and lecturers from HSPH and UNV's partner volunteer-involving organization - Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) gathered in the third YESP workshop to provide "employability skills" training to 62 students mostly from HSPH. Together with traditional modules related to employment skills (CV, cover letter writing, communications and negotiation), the training also included mock interviews and tailor-made feeback to CV and cover letters written by the participants. The session, as in the two previous sessions carried out in 2014, was composed of 2 half days at the university, homework for the participants and feedback provision by the volunteers, both remotely and with in person explanation to each participant. With the help of local volunteers, a promotional video was produced about YESP, available on You Tube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZESVNMsLB1w). Evaluation feedback from students and lecturers at the university was very positive. An article about the indirect

beneficiarie

s under 4.c)



workshop is available on the UNV in Vietnam website: http://www.un.org.vn/unv/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=275& Itemid=1.	
Although this activity was funded by POEM funds (250 USD), it caters to Output 1 of the Project in subject, as it offered an opportunity for involved UN Volunteers, mainly funded through the Project, to engage in the development of their respective communities, in particular the Youth segment of these. As well, it encouraged them to first improve their own knowledge in the subjects of the workshop.	
Activity: Promoting Volunteering for the SDGs - UNV Youth Workshop "Volunteering for the SDGs - leave no one behind" Target (under POEM and Post-2015 planning): 30 youth (below 24) trained on "Volunteering for the SDGs" with coordination and facilitation by UN Volunteers Result: 30 youth coming from different areas of the country and various ethnic groups trained on "Volunteering for the SDGs" with coordination of 4 UN Volunteers under this Project (3 female, 1 male) and facilitation by 2 UN Volunteers (1 female, 1 male) under this Project	
On 23 rd November, 1 day Youth Consultation Workshop on "Volunteering for the SDGs - leave no one behind" was conducted for 30 participants between 18 and 24 yrs old (18 of them travelled from the 3 regions of the country and 12 came from Hanoi). The Youth workshop was directly run by the UNV FU, with support of the IUNV and 2 NUNVs placed at Vietnam Volunteer Center in Hanoi, Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City, who worked closely to organize this activity at the Green One UN House in Hanoi. The contents on SDGs and volunteer project management were facilitated by a national trainer from MDF (Training Institute), together with the NUNVs and two staff from a partner organization, the Center for Sustainable Development Studies (CSDS). The final outcome of the workshop was a Youth Statement which was finalized as follow up to the training and recited by selected representatives of the participants during a public event on International Volunteer Day on 5 th December. The participants also became part of a network (Facebook closed group) where they can get peer support as well as advise from the NUNVs and other co-facilitators as they develop their own volunteer initiatives in different areas of the country. A full Report, Training materials (Vietnamese) and Youth Statement are available here: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/q6x5phea84d4lmk/AABHeQWe4PR9EUs4jLGGGiceaa?dl=0 .	
Although this activity was carried out with Post-2015 funds (about 4,000 USD), 3 NUNVs (the 2 above mentioned and the Communications Officer for the FU) funded by the Project in subject and 1 IUNV (fully funded) mobilized in relation to this Project, developed their capacity and empowered a group of diverse young people to take action in the areas of the new Sustainable Development Agenda 2030.	
Activity: Promoting Volunteering for the SDGs - UN Volunteers Learning Event 2015 Target (under POEM planning): majority of serving UN Volunteers participate in 1 Learning Event of at least 1 day Result: 20 UN Volunteers participated in either day of a 2 day Learning Event	
On 26 and 27 November, a 2-day Learning Event was organized by the UNV FU for the group of serving UN Volunteers, most of whose assignments are funded through the Project in subject. The first day was an interactive training on "Communications and Advocacy for the SDGs" delivered in collaboration with MDF (Training Institute), while the second day was an outing day with two field visits provided by CSDS. Both types of learning provided the UN Volunteers with the opportunity to equip themselves with knowledge about the new Sustainable Development Agenda, brainstorm about action and campaigning in the areas of its goals, and not less importantly, bond with each other and develop a team spirit. One side outcome of this activity was the creation of a purchase group for organic vegetables in support of the eco-farm visited during the field trip, which is coordinated by a NUNV whose assignment is funded through the Project in subject.	



Project Output DPO Output 1:	Materialsforthisactivitycanbefoundhere:https://www.dropbox.com/sh/idn5omn4vyhesyy/AADGlelNzjlCTe2oOo8CR- Lva?dl=0.Although the Learning Event was carried out with POEM funds (about 2,200 USD), it matched Output 1 of the Project, as capacity of the volunteers was strengthened for them to better engage with communities in implementing development 	Status: ⊠Achiev
Volunteerism integrated into the initiatives of UN partner agencies (FAO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women) under One Plan 3 Output Number: DPO Output 2	health care, personal safety, water and sanitation, and social inclusion Project Outcome: Further information can be found at p. 7 of the Detailed Project Outline (project document). The "natural" outcome of this project, that its Outputs contribute to, is the UN in Vietnam is better able to implement the One Plan 2012-2016 with stronger community participation, and volunteerism is promoted as development strategy	ed Partiall y Achieved Not Achieved Percenta
 Baseline: N/A or 0 Targets: 1. 5 UN Volunteers are placed in UN partners' projects under One Plan 3; 2. Element of volunteerism reflected in UN agencies/assisted projects' annual report through recognition of contribution of UN Volunteers. Indicators: N of UN Volunteers placed Element of volunteerism reflected in reports/contribution of volunteers 	 Achieved Results (UNV Specific) a) 3 fully-funded (FF) international UN Volunteers newly mobilized: 1 with UNDP (FF by Finland), 1 UN Youth Volunteer with UNICEF (FF by Ireland) and 1 International UN Volunteer (IUNV) at the Vietnam Volunteer Center (FF by Korea), who dedicated a portion of her time to support the UNV Field Unit. 11 additional FF assignments managed for a number of months of duration. Total: 14 FF IUNV assignments (11 female, 3 male) (9 different agencies). b) 8 National UN Volunteers newly mobilized and 3 additional NUNV assignments (1 served for just 2 months) managed, total: 12 NUNV assignments (9 female, 3 male) (7 different agencies), also thanks to two successful OPF application rounds in October 2014 and October 2015 and an RC/RCO – promoted initiative to strengthen Results Based Management of Joint Programming Groups through UN Volunteers' support. c) In October 2015, UNV successfully applied for 15,317 USD from One Plan Fund, for national UN Volunteer assignments in 2016 – the maximum amount that could be allocated to UNV for this round. It also secured additional funding, channeled through other agencies (UNDP, UNODC), to cover a number of months of national UN Volunteer assignments on projects related to those agencies in 2016. 2. 3 joint proposals for OPF allocation in October 2015, 2 with budget request for UNV component (1 with budget for UN Volunteer assignment included under UNDP budget request), demonstrating recognition of 3 different agencies for the contribution of previous or serving (for extension) UN Volunteers. Note that this is not a 2015 specific target and more information will be available at the end of the Project. 1. a) and b) These volunteers contributed to OP III through their assignments with the UNV, Field Unit (1 NUNV), UNICEF (1 international UN Youth), UN Women (1 NUNV), UNOCC (2 NUNVs), and Vietnam Volunteer Centre under the Central Youth Union (1 UNV), under the Da Nang Youth Union (1	Percenta ge % insert If applicabl e Beneficiarie s Reached: 25 UN Volunteers; about 10 different agencies, as direct beneficiarie s; 14 additional UN Volunteers as indirect beneficiarie s (not funded under this Project)



	 The Project maintained a strong element of national capacity building as it promoted the involvement of many Vietnamese nationals as volunteers with various UN agencies, thus also contributing to Output 1 above. In addition to supporting the last 2 months of assignment of 6 International UN Youth Volunteers (February 2014 – February 2015, fully funded by different donor countries), of 1 UN University Volunteer (fully funded by Japan, for IOM), of 2 IUNVs (1 FF by Korea with UN-Habitat, 1 FF by Finland with UNFPA) in the framework of this Project, and several months of assignment of 3 NUNVs under this Project, as mentioned above, in 2015 UNV also supported: a number of months of assignment of 5 NUNVs (3 funded through the cooperation project with the Youth Union; 2 funded by Host agency UN Women); 2 IUNVs funded by host agencies WHO and UNDP; supported successful extension of 3 IUNVs (2 funded by host agency UN Women, 1 funded by host agency UNDP and 1 by RCO) and 1 NUNV (funded by host agency UN Women); successfully recruited 1 new IUNV for UN Women (funded by the agency) and 1 new NUNV for UN Women (P4P Programme, funded through the programme). Host agencies have repeatedly expressed their appreciation of the work of these volunteers and actively sought out new placements as a result. 	
Project Output DPO Output 3: Impact of volunteerism in selected initiatives documented Output Number: DPO Output 3 <i>Baseline:</i>	Global Programme Outcome: UNV_Outcome_11 VI Outcome 1: Member States increasingly integrate volunteerism into national development strategies, plans, and policies, to engage citizens in peace and development processes Project Outcome Further information can be found at p. 7 of the Detailed Project Outline (project document). The "natural" outcome of this project, that its Outputs contribute to, is the UN in Vietnam is better able to implement the One Plan 2012-2016 with stronger community participation, and volunteerism is promoted as development strategy	Status: ⊠Achiev ed □Partiall y Achieved □Not Achieved
N/A or 0 Targets: Cases of best practices in stakeholders/ community participation through volunteerism	Achieved Results (UNV Specific) Cases of best practices in stakeholders/ community participation through volunteerism have been documented (see examples below)	Percenta ge % insert If applicabl e
documented Indicators: Cases of best practices in stakeholders/ community participation through volunteerism documented	In 2015, the impact of volunteerism was documented not only in relation to the contribution of UN Volunteers to the One Plan III, but with a broader view of promoting volunteerism for development in the country . Activity: <u>Communicating about Volunteerism and Causes with the Vietnamese public – Boosting the UNV in Vietnam Facebook Page and Upgrading the Website</u> Target: at least 6,000 followers of UNV Vietnam Facebook (FB) page; website upgrading work completed Result : UNV in Vietnam Facebook page maintained, with now over 8,000 followers; UNV in Vietnam website was also maintained in both English and Vietnamese and its upgrading completed to 90% (new website is available as a dome at http://unv.up.org.up/up/	Beneficiarie s Reached: Direct: 8,000 followers on UNV in Vietnam FB; UN agencies whose
	 demo at http://unv.un.org.vn/ in replacement of http://www.un.org.vn/unv/). Most of this work was coordinated by the Communications Officer funded through this Project and with the help of several UN Online volunteers (1 IT, 1 editor for English articles, 1 Vietnamese traslator). Activity: <u>Strengthening Communications and RBM – NUNV for UNV FU</u> Target: NUNV operational and contributing Result: (1 year) NUNV under the title of "Communications and Results Based Management Officer" placed at the UNV FU and enabled to contribute to Communications and RBM. The volunteer, who served Jan 2015 – December 2015, mainly supported the FU and occasionally contributed to the work of other Agencies/offices as well as to that of the Vietnam Volunteer Center. Examples of	campagns were supported through UNV channels (UN, UN Women, UNDP); indirect: estimated



documentation produced can be found here: http://goo.gl/g57D42 (story of UN Youth Volunteer at UNICEF, Nutrition); http://goo.gl/4EX7PA (UNV Online Volunteer Tran Do Diem Phuong, who supported promotion of volunteerism by providing translation services). Further contributions, also with credits to UN Online Volunteers (1 English editor, 1 Vietnamese translator) are listed here:	6,000- 10,000 visitors of VVC website
 UNV Intro video (by HQ) produced with Vietnamese subtitles: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZcBpsmEuSM YESP promotional video produced: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZESVNMsLB1w Brief observation of volunteerism in Da Nang: <u>http://goo.gl/kEjYwF</u> Brief observation of volunteerism in Ho Chi Minh City: <u>http://goo.gl/f0QNmi</u> Support to online campaign to promote International Youth Day (August 12) and online campaign to promote UN@70 Collaboration to a number of other media features, including a fully- fledged TV interview on Youth, which we are in the process of editing for further use. 	
 Activity: Supporting Vietnam Volunteer Center (VVC) Communications on Volunteerism for Development – 2 NUNVs supporting VVC in Da Nang and HCMC, and central VVC in Hanoi on Communications Target: 2 NUNVs recruited and enabled to contribute Result: 2 NUNVs serving as Communications and Volunteer Network Coordinators (Vietnam Volunteer Center) in Da Nang (since March 2015) and Ho Chi Minh City (since April 2015) contributed to documenting the impact of volunteerism in a broader sense, for example by supporting the website of the Vietnam Volunteer Center, both in Vietnamese and in English: http://vvc.vn/index.php/en/ Gender featured prominently both in terms of female volunteer contribution and representation of volunteerism through sharing of female volunteers (see two 	
examples above). The UNV FU also supported camapigns on gender by disseminating information, such as the He for She (UN Women) and How Abnormal (UNDP).	

4. Challenges/Risks and Mitigation

- Most UN agencies face significant challenges in covering the desk and common service costs (about 4,700 USD/year) for new personnel, hence they are reluctant to recruit UN Volunteers. This challenge for the Project will persist in 2016. It can be mitigated by proposing desk cost-sharing among agencies for UN Volunteers who can support the work of more than one agency.
- The move of most UN Agencies to the new Green One UN House in May/June 2015 as well as other One UN commitments (e.g. mid-term evaluation of the One Plan, Delivering as One audit, start of the planning process for the new One Plan) took up much of the agencies' energy and caused extra workload leading to delays in considering and initiating UN Volunteers' recruitments. The risk of other big priorities causing scarser attention to UN Volunteers' assignments from agencies should decrease in 2016.
- The project recorded a decrease of new fully funded international UN Volunteers (including UN Youth volunteers), supposedly due to donor countries' shifting priorities in favor of less developed countries. However Vietnam is still a relatively safe and convenient option for UN Volunteer assignments, in particular UN Youth (incl. University) assignments. The fact that fully funded IUNVs were mostly UN Youth Volunteers in 2014-2015 may have also led to a scarcer interest of the agencies in putting energies in recruiting UN Volunteers who have too little work experience. Nonetheless, a stronger focus of the agencies on Youth in 2016, due to the "population bonus" period Vietnam is at, may reflect in more interest in fully funded and UN Youth UN Volunteer assignments in this area.
- Documenting impact by collecting UN Volunteers' stories and strengthening RBM was only partially delivered through the NUNV assignment with the FU, mainly due to the preference for other work areas and priority being given to promotion of volunteerism for development among the general public and Vietnamese Youth in particular.
- In connection with the point above, there is a need for more clarity early on regarding the way of attributing UNV's contribution to this Project, both financially and in terms of management of assignments, so as to strengthen RBM



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(for example, which FF IUNV assignments are to be included under this Project results, financially and narratively, and in relation to which One Plan Outcomes/Outputs).

5. Partnership and Resource Mobilization

Main partners: UN Agencies in Vietnam; One Plan Fund; Fully Funded Donors.

6. Volunteer Mobilization		
National UN Volunteers	International UN Volunteers	Other Volunteers (if mobilization was attributed to UNV Support)
12	14	13
7. Knowledge		

Please see references in the paragraphs above. More materials can be shared as needed.

8. Lessons Learned

- The UNV FU needs to have the time to be more closely involved in joint programming with other UN agencies and thus be able to identify more pressing needs of partners, including for designing a potential similar project to cover the next One Plan 2017-2021. Executive tasks of administrative and financial nature should be dealt with at high quality standard by the PA so that the PO can further dedicate to more strategic areas, also including Communications. Efficiency of some processes (e.g. e-recruit; leave recording) can be increased to free up time for all FU members.
- The extra support to the FU represented by a NUNV or IUNV shoul be made operational and effective in some key
 areas as soon as possible after the start on duty. Leaving freedom to develop own schedule and project based on
 interest should be balanced with an enhanced contribution to improving Results Based Management and documenting
 impact. For example, the new UN Youth Volunteer, under PO's supervision, can systematize collecting information
 from serving UN Volunteers and attach priority to strengthening RBM so as to better capture the value of UN
 Volunteers' contribution.
- A lack of explicit budget allocation to Output 1 and 3 of this Project can be compensated by synergies with other funds, such as POEM.
- UN agencies prefer assignments of longer duration because the valuable contribution of UN Volunteers is interrupted between assignments and during the early stages when the new UN Volunteer is still learning. The FU can increase partners' awareness of the duration of the assignments and prospects for extension early on.
- Reference to Project Outputs and One Plan Outcomes could be made in the DoAs. Financial calculations for the purpose
 of Project reporting must be consistent throughout project duration over 5 years (for example, it seems that in previous
 years, calculations of UNV contribution to the Project included also IUNV assignments covered by host agencies,
 resulting in inaccurate delivery rate calculations for such component).

9. Financial Delivery		
Output	Year Budget USD	Delivery (%)
Project ID(s): 00085076 OPF	83,607	96%
Contribution through FF	194,400	103% vis a vis UNV's commitment towards the OPF

 Annexes: Detailed Project Outline (DPO) document; PBB Summary document; List of All UN Volunteer assignments in Vietnam in 2015; APRR document submitted on 8th February 2016 and its Excel attachment.