

## VOLUNTEER VOICES



► **Tangina Mehnaz**

**Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) International**

Ms Tangina Mehnaz graduated from Bangladesh, where she worked as volunteer of Global Xchange (GX) and then took an internship with Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO), working on their Livelihoods and Good Governance Programme. When her placement was finished, she started working as Project Support Coordinator of the International Citizen Service (ICS) programme. Ms Mehnaz supported, implemented and managed the project activities, helping to provide solutions to the day to day obstacles on the field and at an administrative level. She also helped partner organizations and staff to seek support from government and other institutions. Ms Mehnaz is from Bangladesh and is enrolled in a Master's degree programme on Comparative Local Development, organized by the consortium of Corvinus University of Budapest (Hungary), University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), University of Regensburg (Germany) and University of Trento (Italy). She holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Anthropology from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh



► **Gregory Okonofua**

**Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) International**

Mr Gregory Okonofua supports International Citizen Service in a voluntary capacity in Kwali, northern Nigeria. With Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO), he served as a team leader for two cycles in Kwali, Abuja FCT in 2015. His first placement was during the South-South North (Nigeria-Kenya-UK) cycle from June-September 2015 and then from October-December 2015. The project he was working on was Improving the Quality of Science and Mathematics Education through Inclusive Neighbourhood Spaces. Mr Okonofua is a youth champion and active citizen from Edo State, Niger-Delta, Nigeria. He has been actively engaged in rural community development having volunteered with the Justice Development and Peace Caritas (JDPC) a development organization run by the Catholic Church for more than 5 years, before joining Community Policing Partners, a human rights non-governmental organization as Programme Officer. Mr Okonofua holds a Master's degree in Mass Communication (Public Relation and Advertising) and has several research publications in this field. He is passionate about working with young people in community development around creating safe inclusive neighbourhood learning spaces for children and adults.

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► **Ibrahim Turay**

**United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS)**

Mr Ibrahim Turay Jr. has been involved in civil society activities and served as a project coordinator and later chairman of Banana Water Youth Development Organization. He was the Secretary General for the local community policing partnership board of the Sierra Leone Police Congo Cross Division, Director of Programmes and Planning of the National Youth Coalition and Personal Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer and President of AccessPoint Africa Int. Group Ltd-SL. In January 2011, Mr Turay was recognized by H.E. President Dr Ernest Bai Koroma of Sierra Leone, who mentioned his community work during a New Year's Day message to the nation. He also received an international award as Youth Ambassador. Mr Turay joined the UN in 2012 as a UN Volunteer Welfare Officer with the UN Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT). He is currently a UN Volunteer Welfare Assistant with the UN Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS). From Sierra Leone, Mr Turay is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration.

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► **Simona Achitei**

**Scope Global Pty Ltd**

Ms Simona Achitei is an experienced international development practitioner and a trained social scientist with a Doctorate of Philosophy from Macquarie University, Sydney. For the past four years, Ms Achitei has been managing and implementing the Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) programme, Australia's flagship international volunteer programme.



► **Stacey Adams**

**Raleigh International**

Ms Stacey Adams joined Raleigh International in 2007 as the chief executive. She has worked at senior level in health and education across the government, health, academic and not-for-profit sectors, among others. Ms Adams has led and managed strategic and organizational change; fundraising, communications and stakeholder engagement; and commissioned research to evidence impact. Organizations she has worked for include BBC, Unicef and the Healthcare Commission.



► **Ted Adams**

**Peace Corps**

Mr Ted Adams is a Programme Specialist, National Service and Volunteering, with the Peace Corps Office of Strategic Partnerships and Intergovernmental Affairs. He manages Peace Corps' national service and volunteer-sending partnership portfolio, supporting ongoing Peace Corps efforts to collaborate with organizations and institutions that share a common goal of leveraging the potential of volunteer service, both domestically and around the world. The professional background of Mr Adams includes promoting partnerships at the Corporation for National and Community Service, building corporate-community partnerships at the volunteer-fueled national playground nonprofit KaBOOM!, and implementing engagement programmes with innovative international and domestic community-based nonprofits such as Rare Conservation and Potomac Riverkeeper. His brand-building work includes globally recognized names such as Kimberly-Clark, OshKosh B'Gosh and Habitat for Humanity and General Mills. Mr Adams also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ecuador from 1998 to 2000. He holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

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► **Rania Al-Khatib**

**Deutsche Post DHL Group**

Ms Rania Al-Khatib is Senior Expert at Deutsche Post DHL Group and has been responsible for the development and implementation of the group's disaster risk reduction measures, in particular the Get Airports Ready for Disaster (GARD) programme, which was developed together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Furthermore, she has been in charge of Deutsche Post DHL Group's global volunteering programme, where over 110,000 employees were involved in providing support to non-profit projects in their local communities. Ms Al-Khatib studied economics in Mannheim and London and holds a Master of Business Administration. She has been with Deutsche Post DHL Group for 15 years in various positions, inter alia, in strategic sales and product management. Ms Al-Khatib has also been with the Corporate Responsibility Department for more than six years.



► **Cliff Allum**

**International Forum for Volunteering in Development**

Mr Cliff Allum has worked in international volunteering for more than twenty years. He was the Chief Executive Officer of Skillshare International until March 2016, and has focused since then on research and writing on international volunteering. Mr Allum's background was originally in academia and he holds a PhD from the University of Warwick, UK. He also worked in adult education, community development and economic and social regeneration in the UK's voluntary, trade union and statutory sector, prior to joining Skillshare International, a UK and Ireland based international volunteering and development agency. Mr Allum is a past Chair of BOND, the UK international non-governmental organization network and former President of Forum. He is currently Chair of the Forum Research Working Group and was a member of the expert advisory panel on the UNV State of the World's Volunteering Report on Volunteering and Governance, 2015. As a volunteer, Mr Allum is currently National Treasurer of the Workers' Educational Association (WEA), the largest voluntary sector provider of Adult Education in the UK, and a British Lawn Tennis Association registered tennis referee, competition organizer and tennis coach.

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► **Attilio Ascani**

**Federazione degli Organismi Cristiani Servizio Internazionale Volontario (FOCSIV)**

With degrees in Development Studies, Mr Attilio Ascani himself volunteered in Ethiopia for several years, and was responsible, among other things, for managing a water supply project. From 1997 to 2005, he was Manager of the Italian non-governmental organization *Comunità volontari per il mondo* (CVM). Mr Ascani is a Professor in Management of International Cooperation and Development at the G. d'Annunzio University of Chieti-Pescara. Since 2005, he has been leading the Federazione degli Organismi Cristiani Servizio Internazionale Volontario (FOCSIV) as its General Manager.



► **Jean-Daniel Balme**

**France Volontaires**

Mr Jean-Daniel Balme developed a strong interest for international volunteering whilst on a volunteer assignment in Chad with the French Association of Volunteers for Progress (AFVP) in 1996. Since then, he has been actively promoting international citizen engagement in his various roles – as Deputy Director of Scouts of France, Director of the Service of Cooperation for Development (SCD), one of the leading French non-governmental organizations for long term volunteerism for development, and then as Vice President of France Volontaires. Mr Balme was appointed Director General of France Volontaires in September 2014. Going forward, he aims to promote and develop different forms of volunteerism and enhance the recognition of volunteering for development.



► **Rawan Barghouth**

**Palestine Vision**

Ms Rawan Barghouth is a Palestinian youth activist living in Jerusalem. Ms Barghouth has been working at Palestine Vision as a Programme Manager for the past four years, after having served as a volunteer with the organization. She has a degree in Accounting and Business Administration from Al-Quds University.

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► **Behi Barzegar**

[The Open University](#)

Ms Behi Barzegar is a consultant development practitioner specializing in institutional, community and enterprise development in rural communities in South America, West Africa and the Far East, using participatory approaches to facilitate sustainable programme designs, develop proposals to raise funds, and implement community led projects. She has experience working as, and with, international volunteers, development workers, as well as numerous public and private sector donors and development agencies including the European Union, Conservation International, the Department for International Development, Canada Fund for Development, CUSO and Voluntary Service Overseas International.

Ms Barzegar holds a Master of Science degree in Development Management from the Open University (2007), and is studying for a PhD on the topic of International Volunteering, and has just completed her field work in Malawi. She has extensive experience in corporate and project management, from local initiatives to cross-national programmes, management of a multitude of staff in several departmental categories and of budgets, and a broad network of public and private sector partners.



► **Kylee Bates**

[International Association for Volunteer Effort \(IAVE\)](#)

Ms Kylee Bates was elected World President of the International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE) in 2014 and was a member of the Board of Directors since 2008. She has worked in the non-profit sector, government and commercial sectors. Ms Bates serves as honorary member of the Australian Red Cross' Members and Volunteers Board Sub-Committee. In 2016, she was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Ardoch Youth Foundation, which delivers educational support programmes in disadvantaged schools in Australia. Prior to this, Ms Bates worked for the Brotherhood of St Laurence, Advanced Personnel Management, was State Director for Mission Australia and Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Volunteering Australia between 2003 and 2007. She has held a variety of policy, programme and service delivery roles in the Commonwealth Departments of Prime Minister and Cabinet and Families, Communities and Indigenous Affairs, and served in the offices of two federal ministers. In 2012, Ms Bates was awarded a prestigious Churchill Fellowship to examine and report on employer-led initiatives to increase the workforce participation of people with disabilities in six countries. In 2016, she was the joint recipient of the Greg Vickery Scholarship awarded by the Australian Red Cross. Ms Bates holds a

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Bachelor's degree in Economics and post-graduate qualifications in law and non-profit studies.



► **Paul Bird**  
**AVI**

Prior to joining Australian Volunteers International as Chief Executive Officer in 2015, Mr Paul Bird was Chief Executive Officer of Youth Support and Advocacy Service (YSAS), an organization that works with young people experiencing alcohol and substance abuse. He has also held leadership roles with the Brotherhood of St Laurence, Australian Red Cross Blood Service, Very Special Kids, The Body Shop, Mission Australia and World Vision. Mr Bird's passion for international development was sparked when he managed KPMG's West African practice and had the privilege to be involved in aid projects across the region, working with international non-governmental organizations and government agencies.



► **Sagun Bista**  
**Uniterra**

Ms Sagun Bista has more than 16 years of work experience in the field of community based resource management, gender and development, volunteer cooperation and programme management. She has worked in Nepal, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. Ms Bista joined Uniterra in 2010 and has managed/worked with more than 180 Canadian and Nepali volunteers under the programme. Ms Bista has a Master's degree in Botany and a Master's degree in Natural Resource Management. She also has a diploma in Project Planning and Management and International Development and Humanitarian Assistance, USA.



► **Galina Bodrenkova**  
**Russian National Volunteer Center**

With over 25 years of experience in promoting volunteering, Ms Galina Bodrenkova is the President of the Russian National Volunteer Centre. For many years, she served as a national representative to the International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE) and presented at several IAVE World Volunteer Conferences. From 2008 to 2012, Ms Bodrenkova was a member of the Board of Directors of IAVE. She contributed to the Russian Human Development Report 2005 and is the author of over 50 articles and several books on volunteering.

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► **Elise Bouvet**

**United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**

Ms Elise Bouvet is the Manager of the Online Volunteering service at the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme. She has more than 20 years of experience leading development programmes in the field of citizen engagement for peace and development. Ms Bouvet joined UNV in 2005 after having served with UNDP in Lebanon and in its Regional Centre for the Arab States. Before joining the UN, she worked for the French Cooperation, where she was responsible for support to civil society in the fields of youth and volunteerism. Ms Bouvet holds Master's degrees in Law and Political Sciences, as well as a postgraduate diploma in Development and Cooperation from the Sorbonne.



► **Michel Chaurette**

**International Forum for Volunteering in Development (Forum) / World University Service of Canada (WUSC)**

Mr Michel Chaurette has been volunteering for the Forum since 2010, also serving as member of the Board until 2014. He is now a member of the IVCO Working Group, and has drafted the current Forum Strategic Plan and a proposal to update the Forum Charter. Mr Chaurette holds a Master of Business Administration in Strategic Management and 40 years of international development experience, including 10 years as Chief Executive Officer of CEI and five years as Director of Uniterra (World University Service of Canada, WUSC-CEI), a leading Canadian international volunteering programme. Since his retirement in 2015, he has been working as a consultant in management of non-governmental organizations and is a member of WUSC and CEI.



► **Mark Cumming**

**Comhlámh**

Mr Mark Cumming has been Head of Comhlámh, the Irish Association of Volunteers and Development Workers, since 2013. His earlier career was in human resource management in industry, before he became a volunteer development worker. Since then, he has worked in international development for a range of state, non-governmental and church development organizations. Mr Cumming has lived in Kenya and Rwanda, where he worked on community development and human rights programmes. He is a long-standing active supporter of Comhlámh since becoming a member 22 years ago.

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► **Gert Danielsen**

**United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**

Mr Gert Danielsen is the Portfolio Manager for Latin America and the Caribbean at the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme and has been with the UN for almost ten years. Prior to joining UNV, he served as a Programme Specialist with UNDP's Governance Centre in Norway. Mr Danielsen's first post at the UN was as a Programme Specialist in Aid Effectiveness and South-South Cooperation in South Africa and Panamá and then as Team Leader for Democratic Governance with UNDP Yemen. He has a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and Spanish from the University of St Andrews, Scotland, and completed his Master of Arts degree in International Relations, Peace and Conflict Resolution as a Rotary World Peace Fellow at the Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Before joining the UN, Mr Danielsen was a volunteer on human rights in Guatemala and Conflict Transformation Coordinator with a non-governmental organization in Colombia. He was also a junior lecturer in Peace Studies and International Relations at the University of the North West in South Africa, and the coordinator of the Norwegian Millennium Development Goals Campaign. Mr Danielsen has trained in and held workshops on conflict resolution, mediation and nonviolent communication.



► **Birgit Dederichs-Bain**

**Women's Council, Heinrich-Böll-Foundation**

Ms Birgit Dederichs Bain has over 25 years of professional experience in development cooperation and policy issues, as well as facilitation of workshops and conferences. From 1984-1994, she worked for Deutsche Welthungerhilfe/German Agro Action focusing on international poverty and gender policies, among others. National and global implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and consultations for the new set of Sustainable Development Goals have been the focus of Ms Bain's work in recent years. In her consultancy capacity, she has been working for European non-governmental organizations and networks, as well as for the German government as researcher, moderator and author. Ms Bain also worked as Gender Policy Advisor, and has regularly been part of the German Government delegation to the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York and related conferences. Ms Bain served as a Chairwoman of the non-governmental organization Women's Forum Bonn, as a board member of the European non-governmental networks WIDE and EUROSTEP in Brussels and as a Chair of the European health and development nongovernmental organization network "Action for Global Health". Since 2008, she has been serving on the Women's Council of the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Berlin.

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► **Jürgen Deile**

**Bread for the World**

Following studies of agricultural and political sciences, with practice in Columbia, Philippines and Malaysia, Mr Jürgen Deile completed two years of voluntary service with the German organization "Action Reconciliation – Service for Peace" in Norway. Since 1987, he has been involved in the secondment of skilled volunteers under the German Development Workers Act, first with the Protestant personnel service "Dienste in Übersee" (Service Overseas), since 2000 with the Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED, Church Development Service) in Bonn and since 2012 with Bread for the World, the Protestant Development Service. Currently, Mr Deile is coordinating Bread for the World's personnel secondment programmes and is one of the two spokesmen of the Civil Peace Service Consortium. He is also serving as a member of the board of Arbeitskreis Lernen und Helfen in Übersee (AKLHÜ, Association "Learning and Helping Overseas").



► **Peter Devereux**

**Curtin University**

Mr Peter Devereux works part time as a Research Fellow at Curtin University's Sustainability Policy Institute, teaching a Master's degree unit on the Sustainable Development Goals and coordinating the West Australian Sustainable Development Goals Network. He volunteers locally with Oxfam, the One World Centre and as volunteer researcher for Volunteering Western Australia and internationally on the Research Working Group of the International Forum for Volunteering in Development. Mr Devereux has focused on volunteering for development and sustainability policy, research and practice for over twenty five years. Previously he worked with the United Nations Volunteers programme at headquarters, the School of Sustainability at Murdoch University and as lecturer and non-governmental organization environmental adviser in Nicaragua. Mr Devereux also served as UN Volunteer in Fiji, and as Manager of Australian Volunteer International's Perth office.

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► **Richard Dictus**

**United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**

Mr Richard Dictus was appointed Executive Coordinator of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme in January 2013. Prior to joining UNV, he served as the UN Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in Malawi (2009-2012). Over the past 25 years, Mr Dictus has held a number of increasingly responsible positions in the United Nations system. He joined the UN Industrial Development Organization as a Junior Professional Officer in South Yemen in 1987. He subsequently served as Assistant Resident Representative (Programme) in Sudan (1990-1992), Lesotho (1992-1994) and Bangladesh (1994-1998) in environmental management, rural development, micro finance, human rights and disaster management practice areas. As UNDP Deputy Resident Representative for Pakistan (1998-2000), Mr Dictus coordinated humanitarian assistance during floods and cyclones and the safety and security of UN staff. From 2000 to 2001, he was Management Advisor (Deputy Chief), Administrative Services Division, with UNDP's Bureau of Management in New York. As Deputy Director of Human Resources (2001-2005), Mr Dictus contributed to change management and transformation processes across the organization. Returning to the field, Mr Dictus was UN Resident Coordinator/ UNDP Resident Representative in Fiji (2005-2009), where he honed a strong track record for effecting change management across 16 Pacific Island countries and with 15 UN agencies.



► **Carol Dolbel**

**World University Service of Canada (WUSC)**

Ms Carol Dolbel has worked on diverse international volunteer programmes and has volunteered in Mexico and Peru. She has a background in community economic development and adult education and training. Ms Dolbel coordinates the IVCO Working Group of Forum as well as Forum's Canadian secretariat.

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► **Chris Eaton**

[World University Service of Canada \(WUSC\)](#)

Mr Chris Eaton has been the Executive Director of World University Service of Canada (WUSC) since 2009. WUSC is a leading Canadian non-profit organization in international development that works to provide education, employment and empowerment opportunities that improve the lives of millions of disadvantaged youth around the world. One of WUSC's most important strategic partners is the Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI). Jointly, WUSC and CECI implement the Uniterra programme, one of Canada's most important international volunteer cooperation programmes that mobilizes over 450 volunteers annually. Besides having volunteered himself in Lesotho, Mr Eaton has a strong and varied background in international development. He has worked extensively in Canada, Eastern and Southern Africa and South and Central Asia. Prior to WUSC, Mr Eaton was Chief Executive Officer for Aga Khan Foundation Afghanistan for four years. He has held senior roles at Aga Khan Foundation Canada since 1999. He spent most of the 1990s based in Uganda, where he focused on capacity building of local governments and communities. Mr Eaton holds a Bachelor's degree in International Development and a Master's degree in Political Science, both from the University of Toronto.



► **Ulla Eberhard**

[Kölner Freiwilligen Agentur / Cologne Volunteer Agency](#)

With a degree in special education, Ms Ulla Eberhard has been working for several years with a grassroots organization of the German peace movement in Cologne. She then joined International Youth Services (IJGD) in Bonn focusing on organizing international voluntary service for young people from East and Western Europe and representing IJGD at the Association of Voluntary Service Organizations (AVSO). Since 2002, Ms Eberhard has been leading the Cologne Volunteer Agency/ Kölner Freiwilligen Agentur, where her main fields of work include volunteer management, CSR strategy and brokerage of companies who want to volunteer in the community with non-governmental organizations, as well as organizing international voluntary service for young people from Cologne and its partner cities.

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► **Sol Eggers-Mancera**

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)**

Ms Sol Eggers-Mancera leads the Healthy Lifestyle Community online platform and ecosystem for health promotion which is part of the Community Health and Care Unit at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Geneva. She has a degree in Psychology from the Ibero-American University in Mexico City and a Master of Science degree in Social and Applied Psychology from the University of Geneva in 2014. In the same year, Ms Eggers-Mancera took the International Public Health and Prospects Course of New York University. Prior to her experience promoting innovative approaches to behaviour change and supporting IFRC volunteers and staff globally in strengthening community resilience by preventing non-communicable diseases, Ms Eggers-Mancera served as Marketing Officer for Discovery and Televisa, two of the major paid Television Networks in Latin America, where she coordinated campaigns and attained a key role in building synergies and strategic collaboration across multiple stakeholder groups, internally and externally, both at a local and at an international level. Ms Eggers-Mancera is committed to bringing people together and passionate about exploring the immense potential, talent, innovation, human spirit, motivation and skills to inspire and influence others around the world for a common global cause.



► **Dr Bernhard Felmberg**

**German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**

Dr Bernhard Felmberg heads the Directorate "Civil society; Churches and the Private sector in Development Cooperation" at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). With a degree in theology, he is an ordained Protestant minister. From 2009 to 2013, he served as Plenipotentiary Representative of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD) to the Federal Republic of Germany and the EU. He is also the moderator of the Steering Committee of the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles, comprising more than 170 members. Dr Felmberg is the sports spokesperson for the Evangelical Church Berlin-Brandenburg – Silesian Oberlausitz. This role also involves providing pastoral care for the Berlin soccer team Hertha BSC.

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► **Christine Foster**

**Realized Worth**

Ms Christine Foster is the Director of Project Management and Global Initiatives at Realized Worth. In this role, she oversees all project management of client files implementing and managing global corporate volunteering programmes. Ms Foster is also in charge of directing company involvement in global initiatives, which includes Realized Worth's role as a Founding Partner in IMPACT 2030, the only private sector led initiative aiming to align corporate volunteering efforts with the post-2015 UN Sustainable Development Goals. Prior to her time at Realized Worth, Ms Foster accrued seven years of experience in the field of international affairs & development experience, including NGO work in Canada, Rwanda, Ghana and Israel. This also included time with the Canadian government in Ottawa and at the Canadian Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. Ms Foster holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Development and a Master's degree in Public and International Affairs. She lives and works in Toronto, Ontario.



► **Raj Kumar Gandharba**

**Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) International**

Mr Raj Kumar Gandharba is a Regional Policy and Advocacy Advisor for Asia Pacific with Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO). He has experience in developing and implementing policies and programmes for improving the lives of disadvantaged groups in Nepal over 20 years. Mr Gandharba has been the Head of Programmes and Programme Manager for VSO Nepal since 2008. Before joining VSO, he was the Executive Director of Jana Utthan Pratisthan, a policy and programming organization with UN Economic Social Council (ECOSOC) status. Mr Gandharba's development and policy knowledge is grounded in his experience as teacher and principal in primary and secondary schools, Education Department Chief, college lecturer and President of the National Campaign for Education in Nepal. His drive to empower marginalized communities was globally recognized when he was awarded the Anthony Thompson Award (2008) in the UK. Mr Gandharba was a finalist of the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) Award 2012, when the project "Promoting quality and inclusive Education for out of reach children in Nepal", implemented by VSO under his leadership, was shortlisted by the Qatar Foundation in 2012. He holds Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Education.

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► **Suzanne Gentges**

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**

Ms Suzanne Gentges has more than 30 years of practical experience in development cooperation in South America, West Africa and Europe. As an expert in educational science, politics and systems of adult education and development management, she worked for many years as a development worker, prior to working on national and international development policy-making. Ms Gentges has held several positions and levels of responsibility, including with the German Development Service (formerly DED, now Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ), the Belgian Government and Belgian non-governmental organizations, as well as international agencies. She now heads the development workers group within the Human Resources Department, the focus of which is to work on key questions concerning the GIZ Development Service.



► **Agnès Golfier**

**France Volontaires**

Ms Agnès Golfier is a Programme Manager at France Volontaires, the national platform of volunteer-sending organizations. After five years of volunteer assignment on project evaluation for host organizations in India, she focused back home on quality processes for volunteering organizations along with French ministries. Ms Golfier has coordinated the collective design of certification systems for non-governmental and volunteer-sending agencies, and worked especially on the design of standards for the European Union Aid Volunteers initiative, as a consultant to the European Commission. She now coordinates the VolinHA project, which aims at supporting national volunteer dynamics in five countries to improve the resilience of vulnerable communities. As a volunteer, Ms Golfier is also an active board member of two organizations working on local solidarity with migrant and deprived communities.

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► **Philip Goodwin**

**Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) International**

Dr Philip Goodwin has been Chief Executive of Voluntary Service Overseas International (VSO) since March 2015. VSO is one of the world's leading international development organizations that engages volunteers to fight poverty and reduce inequality. Between 2010 and 2015, Dr Goodwin was Chief Executive of TREE AID International, an international non-governmental organization that unlocks the potential of trees to tackle poverty and protect the environment in dryland Africa. As part of that role, he led the start-up of a social enterprise, TREE AID Enterprises Ltd. Dr Goodwin previously worked for the British Council, where he was in charge of Global Programmes, as well as sub-Saharan and East and West African operations based in Kenya, as well as holding leadership positions for the British Council in Belgium, Pakistan and Uganda. Before joining the British Council, Dr Goodwin was a researcher on poverty issues at the Overseas Development Institute, a community development worker in Timbuktu, Mali and before that, a professional musician. He holds a PhD and MSc in environmental policy and a degree in agricultural economics. Dr Goodwin is co-author with Tony Page of the leadership book "From Hippos to Gazelles: How Leaders Create Leaders".



► **Gill Greer**

**Volunteer Service Abroad (VSA)**

Dr Gill Greer has been Chief Executive Officer of Volunteer Service Abroad since July 2012. From 2006-2011, she was Director General of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), an international non-governmental organization working in 172 countries, providing advocacy, education and health services, including for maternal health, HIV/AIDS, family planning and adolescent health. Prior to this, she was Executive Director of the Family Planning Association of New Zealand, and Family Planning International, and a frequent speaker at the UN. In 2011, Dr Greer was named one of 100 Most Inspiring People Who Have Delivered for Women and Girls. In 2012, she was made a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) for services to international health and women's rights. Dr Greer has written several books on Katherine Mansfield and journalist and artist Robin Hyde, numerous articles and papers and has been a freelance broadcaster, television panellist and consultant. In 2015, she was a Fairfax "Women of Influence" finalist.

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► **Evelyne Guindon**

**Cuso International**

Ms Evelyne Guindon is Chief Executive Officer of Cuso International, a Canadian-based international development organization working to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality around the world. Since its inception in 1961, Cuso International has mobilized more than 16,000 highly skilled volunteers to build the capacity of local partners – governments, civil society organizations and the private sector – in more than 80 countries. The organization is currently working in 19 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and most recently, Evelyne has led its expansion within Canada, in partnership with Indigenous communities. Evelyne is a seasoned development professional with 25 years of experience managing programmes and organizations, mobilizing resources and developing strategic communications initiatives. She has initiated and led a broad range of initiatives in the global health, education and environmental sectors, in humanitarian and development settings. She continues to lead and promote collaborative cross-sectoral approaches to achieve sustainable solutions to development challenges. Evelyne spent six years living and working in sub-Saharan Africa, initially as a volunteer in Lesotho, igniting a passion for working on behalf of the world's most vulnerable. As CEO of Cuso International, Evelyne is championing international volunteering as an effective tool to eradicate poverty, inequality and exclusion. Evelyne sees volunteering as a primary and integral cultural value that must be recognised as central to the fabric of a healthy and democratic civil society. She views volunteering as an essential instrument of expressing local, national and global citizenship. Evelyne is steadfast in her belief that volunteerism and volunteers can contribute to the transformational delivery of the SDGs across all thematic areas. Prior to joining Cuso International in February 2015, Evelyne was a member of the senior leadership teams at Right to Play International, CARE Canada, and the Micronutrient Initiative (MI). Over the last decade she has led global advocacy efforts that have helped position evidence-based solutions with policy makers and led to increased global investment to address some of the world's most complex challenges. Evelyne is a native of Montreal and a graduate of Carleton University in Sociology and Anthropology. She is a proud board member of Forum and the Canadian Network for Newborn Maternal and Child Health.

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► **Gerald Guskowski**

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**

Mr Gerald Guskowski is the Head of the Global Sport for Development Programme of the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). He is a social worker by profession and holds a Master's degree in business administration. Mr Guskowski looks back on 12 years of work experience in development cooperation and additional 11 years of major management responsibilities in the social and youth sector of German municipalities.



► **Benjamin Haas**

**University of Cologne**

Mr Benjamin Haas is a Research Associate and PhD candidate at the Professorship for Social Policy and Qualitative Social Research Methods at the Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology of the University of Cologne. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology from the University of Leiden and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Regional Studies of Latin America from the University of Cologne. From 2011 to 2013, Mr Haas was responsible for evaluation, quality assurance and programme development in the coordination office of the development volunteer service "weltwärts" in cooperation with Engagement Global gGmbH – Germany's central contact agency for development policy initiatives. He has been on volunteer missions himself in Argentina and Nicaragua. Mr Haas is currently an editor of "Voluntaris – Journal of Volunteer Services" and the book series "Interdisciplinary Studies on Volunteering Services / Interdisziplinäre Studien zu Freiwilligendiensten". He is also a freelance facilitator, consultant and project manager in international cooperation and volunteering for development.

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► **Silke Hattendorff**

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**

Ms Silke Hattendorff is an advisor with the cross-sectoral programme “Realizing human rights in development cooperation” at the headquarters of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit in Eschborn, Germany. She specializes in support to civil society and land and housing rights, among others, and regularly gives training sessions on human rights in development cooperation. Previously, Ms Hattendorff worked as an advisor (development worker) on land and housing rights with local non-governmental organizations in Cambodia. She is a lawyer by training with a focus on public international law.



► **Barb Hogan**

**World University Service of Canada (WUSC)**

A keen advocate of volunteering, Ms Barb Hogan has over 20 years of experience working in the volunteer cooperation sector in Canada and overseas. She is currently working with the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) as the Senior Advisor for Recruitment and Partnerships on the Uniterra programme. Ms Hogan has extensive experience in volunteer management and programme development and has held different senior management roles in Canada and overseas. She has been involved with Forum for the past six years and is a member of the Post-2015 working group. Ms Hogan is also co-founder of a community-based Musical Theatre group, and involved with refugee resettlement efforts in her home community.



► **Malte Kaßner**

With a PhD from the Center for Development Research (ZEF) in Bonn, Mr Malte Kaßner worked as facilitator of workshops, trainer and coach in development cooperation, as well as for business companies for many years. After his additional studies in organizational development, Mr Kaßner worked with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, as development worker for the Media Monitoring Project Zimbabwe, a media NGO in Harare, Zimbabwe. Media Monitors Zim (new name) has the important mission to give all Zimbabweans access to information and to foster responsible journalism in the country. As development worker, Mr Kaßner coordinated and supported a fundamental change process of the organization, including a leadership change, revising the strategy, business development and re-branding of the organization. Since March this year, he

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is back in Bonn and works as freelancer in the field of organizational development and runs workshops, trainings and coachings worldwide.



### ► **Tanja Kasten**

#### Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

From 2014 to 2016, Ms Tanja Kasten was as a development worker in Guatemala. As a consultant with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, she supported a local peacebuilding network in the Guatemalan Highlands as part of a programme for the promotion of integral civil security and transformation of social conflicts (FOSIT). Since her return to Germany, she has been part of a GIZ consultancy unit on development effectiveness which serves as an advisory body for the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).



### ► **Geri Lau**

#### International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

Ms Geri Lau is the Acting Head for Inclusion, Protection and Engagement at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). She joined the IFRC Secretariat in Geneva in May 2008 and has been involved in various management roles. Before that, Ms Lau was the Secretary General of the Singapore Red Cross for 12 years. Prior to that, she was the Senior Manager of the Volunteer Action and Development Centre at the National Council of Social Service in Singapore. Ms Lau values the importance of volunteers in community building and the strong partnership with UNV in enabling greater volunteerism and support to volunteers serving in diverse contexts. She is looking forward to a very powerful conference and learning more about how our organizations can achieve more for all volunteers, together.

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► **Achaleke Christian Leke**

**United Network of Young Peacebuilders**

Mr Archaleke Christian Leke was born and raised in Cameroon in a community renowned for youth involvement in violent extremist tendencies, including jungle justice, kidnapping, gang and socio-cultural conflicts. Although he was a victim of radicalization and violence, he succeeded in transforming from an agent of violence to an ambassador of peace and change. Mr Leke currently serves as the National Coordinator of Local Youth Corner Cameroon, a youth-led civil society organization and was recently appointed Africa Regional Coordinator of the Commonwealth Peace Ambassadors Network. Through his organization, Mr Leke is currently championing youth action for peace and preventing/countering violent extremism in Cameroon. He has empowered over 100,000 young people both in Cameroon and abroad through his peace building actions, face to face training, use of mass media and online advocacy. Mr Leke has been named "Commonwealth Young Person of the Year" and is a winner of the Commonwealth Youth Award of Excellence in Development Work 2016. He actively advocated for the adoption and implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security.



► **Kai Leonhardt**

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**

Mr Kai Leonhardt holds a degree in psychology and sociology with specializations in emergency psychology, peace and conflict studies, crisis management and systemic therapy. Since 1999, he has been working with German Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)/Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in various functions. His assignments abroad included humanitarian aid and reconstruction projects in Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo (as per UN Security Council Resolution 1244) and Serbia. Mr Leonhardt was the team leader of a youth empowerment project in war-affected countries in South East Europe. Since 2006, he has been serving as a psychologist and team leader of COPE (the psycho-social support unit of GIZ). Mr Leonhardt has also been volunteering with the German Disaster Relief Agency Technisches Hilfswerk (THW) since 1986.

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► **Simon Lewis**

**Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) International**

Mr Simon Lewis is an Evaluation and Research Specialist at Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) with cross-thematic responsibility for research design and methodology. He holds a PhD in Sociology and Social Policy and has worked in a range of research, policy and strategy roles in both international and UK settings. From 2012 to 2014, Mr Lewis volunteered with VSO as the Kenya lead researcher and project manager for the Valuing Volunteering project, a joint project between the Institute of Development Studies and VSO. During this time, he led and managed the global Valuing Volunteering research project, using a Systemic Action Research approach which has produced influential findings on the unique contribution of volunteerism.



► **Benjamin J. Lough**

**University of Illinois, School of Social Work**

Mr Benjamin J. Lough is an Associate Professor at the School of Social Work, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Faculty Director of International Service at the Center for Social Development, Washington University in St. Louis. He also works as Senior Research Associate for the Centre for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg. Dr Lough has extensive experience researching national and international volunteering for development. He has written more than 45 book chapters, journal articles, reports or monographs on the topic of volunteering for development. Dr Lough is currently working on a Forum-partnered project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to understand effective practices of international volunteering. He is Associate Editor of *Voluntaristics Review* and has served on steering committees for multiple global conferences on international volunteering in different world regions. Dr Lough currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Building Bridges Coalition – a US-based coalition of international volunteer-cooperation organizations. He is also a member of the Research Working Board, International Forum for Volunteering in Development.

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► **Arsalan Malik**

**UN Volunteer at the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**

Mr Arsalan Malik joined the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Pakistan as an international UN Volunteer Programme Support Officer in 2015. Prior to his assignment, Mr Malik worked at the UNODC country offices in Iran and Pakistan as an international consultant, delivering technical assistance to law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in overcoming the challenges posed by transnational organized crime. Additionally, he contributed to various UN knowledge tools and research studies on human trafficking and migrants smuggling. Besides degrees and certificates in Security Studies, Criminology, Global Diplomacy and Police Foundations, Mr Malik also holds a certificate in Conflict Analysis for Prevention and Peacebuilding from the United Nations System Staff College in Italy. He has also had profound volunteering experiences in Canada and the United Kingdom.



► **Ammar Meshow**

**Student**

Mr Ammar Meshow is a Syrian national who fled the war in Syria in August 2015. Before this he finished high school in the city of Aleppo. Mr Meshow volunteered in a hospital in Aleppo for over one year under the most dangerous war conditions. He is enrolled in a German language and integration course in Bonn, Germany. After completion he intends to study at the University of Bonn. .



► **Christine Messier**

**Cuso International**

Ms Christine Messier is the Deputy Head of Programmes in Africa for Cuso International. Her portfolio covers Cameroon, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Benin. She has more than 20 years of experience leading international development programmes in the volunteering sector working with international non-governmental organizations and UN entities. Ms Messier has worked with vulnerable communities in conflict areas of the Middle East for many years and is now involved in West and Central Africa, where economic and environmental challenges are growing and threatening rural populations. She holds a Master's degree in International Communication and Development and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Law .

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► **MaryEllen Miller**

**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia**

Ms MaryEllen Miller is currently the Assistant Secretary managing the Non-governmental organization and Volunteers Branch in the Humanitarian, NGOs and Partnerships Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia. In this role, she manages the department's relationships with non-government organizations working in the Australian Aid programme, as well as managing two large programmes, the Australian NGO Cooperation Programme and the Australian Volunteers for International Development programme. Prior to moving into DFAT in November 2013, Ms Miller held a number of senior roles across AusAID including HR, procurement and contracting and the strategy and portfolio planning. She has worked in a number of other Australian government departments, including the Department of House of the Representatives, Department of the Senate, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and in Indigenous Policy in the Department of Families, Communities and Indigenous Affairs.



► **Christine Molitor**

**Scope Global Pty Ltd**

Ms Christine Molitor is the Chief Executive Officer of Scope Global Pty Ltd, a company which has been delivering international development, education programmes, technical training assistance and mobility programmes around the world for the past twenty-five years. Prior to being appointed Chief Executive Officer in January 2016, Ms Molitor was Executive Manager, Global Operations, where she had leadership of the Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) programme, Scope's international network and the People, Culture and Services portfolio. Ms Molitor has built a successful career as a senior executive leader and board member, with a skill for improving business performance and long term organizational capability. Prior to her time at Scope Global, she was the joint founding partner of a successful international consultancy business which specialized in strategy development and execution, leadership and culture development, and board and chief executive officer development. Ms Molitor holds a degree in Psychology and an MBA from the University of Adelaide. She is the immediate past Chair of CanDo4Kids, one of South Australia's oldest not for profit organizations that provides services to hearing and sight impaired children and their families.

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► **Felicity Morgan**

**Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)**

Ms Felicity Morgan is the Director of International Citizen Service at Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO). She joined VSO and its leadership team in July 2016. Prior to that, Ms Morgan spent eight years at the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in various roles, but most recently as Contract Manager of Link Up, a US \$43 million Dutch government-funded, consortium-led, multi-country project promoting the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people. She also has experience and in-depth knowledge in risk management and was responsible at the HIV/AIDS alliance for the design and delivery of the Alliance's risk management strategy. Having served as an international volunteer herself with Challenges Worldwide, and worked with many young volunteers and youth advocates, Ms Morgan is passionate about the deep change volunteering can bring to people's lives, especially those of young people from disadvantaged and marginalized communities.



► **Amanda Mukwashi**

**United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**

Ms Amanda Khozi Mukwashi is the Chief of the Volunteer Knowledge and Innovation Section at the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme, responsible for policy, research, innovation and advocacy. With an educational background in Law, she has worked for over 20 years in development on issues of gender justice, civic engagement, economic empowerment and volunteerism. Among some of the organizations she has worked with and roles she has held are: Director of Policy at Voluntary Service Overseas, Head of Women in Business, Gender Population and Development Programmes with the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and as Head of Programmes and National Coordinator at Skillshare International.



► **Stéphanie Nann**

**University of Paris 10, Nanterre**

Born in Cambodia, Ms Stéphanie Nann grew up in France. She is a Clinical Psychologist and Psychotherapist with a PhD in intercultural and social psychology. Ms Nann has developed research on topics including acculturation, identity, Asian communities in France and the United States, as well as migration and its psychological consequences. She uses qualitative and quantitative approaches in the implementation of these studies; in parallel, Ms Nann teaches at the University of Paris 10, Nanterre.

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► **Susanne Nonnen**

**Senior Experten Service (SES)**

With her scientific background in agricultural studies and agricultural chemistry, Ms Susanne Nonnen has been involved in a variety of projects in the framework of development cooperation in Brazil, Kenya and Guinea-Bissau. She has been working for the Senior Experten Service (SES) since 1990, and has been leading the organization as Chief Executive Officer since 1996. Moreover, Dr Nonnen has been active in the Executive Board of Directors of Arbeitskreis Lernen und Helfen in Übersee (the Association for Learning and Helping Overseas) in Bonn.



► **Yasunobu Okabe**

**Tohoku University / Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**

Mr Yasunobu Okabe is a Professor at the Graduate School of Law and Political Science, Tohoku University, Japan, and a visiting Research Fellow at the Japan International Cooperation Agency Research Institute. Prior to joining the faculty in 2015, he was a senior Research Fellow at the JICA Research Institute. From 2008 to 2010, Mr Okabe was a Research Associate at the Institute of Social Science at the University of Tokyo. Currently, he is undertaking research on international volunteering and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers. Mr Okabe also studies comparative political economy with a focus on East Asia and Latin America.



► **Mayuko Onuki**

**Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**

Dr Mayuko Onuki is a Research Fellow at the Japan International Cooperation Agency Research Institute and a visiting researcher at the University of Tokyo. Prior to her current position, Dr Onuki worked as a Research Assistant at Aviva Family and Children's Services in Los Angeles, California. She holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Social Psychology from the University of Southern California.

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► **Birendra Poudel**

**Nepal Friendship Society**

Mr Birendra Poudel is the Founder and Chairperson of the Nepal Friendship Society, Chitwan. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Rural Development, and works to increase the quality of education in poorly funded schools in Nepal. Mr Poudel is a public advocate for the protection of the environment. He is also the project leader of „Let’s do it! World Foundation” and a Peace Ambassador of the Global Youth Peace Fest, India.



► **Bhanu Pratap**

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)**

Dr Bhanu Pratap, is the Senior Officer – Care in the community in Health and Care Department of International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Besides being a volunteer and life member for Indian Red Cross Societies himself, he possesses more than 14 years of experience at various levels with Ministry of Health, non-governmental organizations, Red Cross & research-based organizations in public health, integrated programming, resilience, emergency and post conflict recovery, and long term programmes. Mr Pratap is a Medical Doctor, MPH (Israel), and holds an International Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance from Fordham University (USA) and a postgraduate diploma in Disaster Preparedness & Rehabilitation (India). He has worked with IFRC in different capacities at national and international levels for over nine years in complex and challenging environments, including in the Philippines, developing the strategic development and recovery plan in response to Typhoon Haiyan. Before that, Mr Pratap worked in Sri Lanka, managing a post-conflict recovery programme. He has extensively worked in South Asia in different disasters, supporting the Red Cross in developing strategies, policies and evidence-based programming.



► **Hans-Joachim Preuß**

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**

Dr Hans-Joachim Preuß started his professional career in development cooperation at the German Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) in 1986, after completing business-oriented vocational training, a degree in Agricultural Science at the University of Giessen, followed by postgraduate studies at the German Devel-

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opment Institute. Up to 1990, he held various positions in Africa and at the GTZ head office in Eschborn. From 1991 to 1994, Dr Preuß was employed as a Research Associate at the Centre for Regional Development Research at Justus Liebig University in Giessen, where he wrote his doctoral thesis on target group-oriented agricultural research in developing countries. After returning to GTZ in 1994, he was a member of the Corporate Development Unit until 1996. In 1996, Dr Preuß transferred to Welthungerhilfe in Bonn, where he was initially in charge of the Programmes and Projects Department. From 2003 to 2009, Dr Preuß was both Secretary General and Managing Director of Welthungerhilfe. On 1 July 2009, he was appointed Managing Director of GTZ. He has been Managing Director of the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) since January 2011. In an honorary capacity, Dr Preuß acts as a lecturer at the Institute for Political Science and Sociology at the University of Bonn, is on the Advisory Board of the German foreign and security policy quarterly "Zeitschrift für Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik", and is Deputy Chair of the Peter Hesse Foundation.



### ► **Geoffrey Prewitt**

#### **United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**

Mr Geoffrey Prewitt was appointed Chief of the Development Programming Section, United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme, in October 2014. Prior to joining UNV, he was the Deputy Head and Practice Coordinator of the UNDP Regional Centre in Cairo, Egypt, from 2011 to 2014. In his current role with UNV, Mr Prewitt provides leadership in the area of development and global oversight for UN volunteering in nearly 100 countries, ensuring integrated client services, quality programming and volunteer management, advocacy and advisory services for volunteerism. He joined UN family in the mid-1990s, initially serving as a researcher and advisor for UNDP and served in multiple postings. During the course of the past 18 years, Mr Prewitt has gained experience serving the UN and civil society organizations, including in complex crisis and political settings. He has written and spoken extensively on issues of civic engagement, governance and political economy of the Arab world; his most recent work focused on governance transitions in the Arab States, involving men to promote gender equality, and income-diversification of the not-for-profit sector. Mr Prewitt holds a Bachelor of Arts degree (History) from the University of Wisconsin and a Master's degree in Professional Studies (International Development) from Cornell University.

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► **Kessy A. Reyes**

**Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**

Mr Kessy A. Reyes has been working as a Senior Programme Officer for the Philippines Office of the Japan International Cooperation Agency since 2008. He is involved in projects related to water and sanitation, forestry, disaster risk reduction management and climate change adaptation. Prior to working with JICA, Mr Reyes worked extensively in community mobilization for various organizations in different sectors such as women and youth, people's organizations, fisher folks, and local government units, in the areas of education, coastal resource management, capacity building and project development. He graduated from the University of the Philippines with a Bachelor of Science degree in Community Development.



► **Amina Abdel Rahman Mohamed Said**

**United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**

Ms Amina Abdel Rahman Mohamed Said has been the Communications and Partnerships Specialist at the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme since 2007. She manages results-based reporting on UN Volunteers and volunteerism for peace and development. Ms Said is an experienced facilitator and trainer of trainers in Visualization in Participatory Programmes (VIPPP) and in gender mainstreaming, trainer on the human rights-based approach to programming and appreciative inquiry, and a trained partnership broker. During her 25 years of professional experience, she has served with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Lesotho and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Bonn. Prior to joining the UN system, she was a radio and television journalist/foreign correspondent in the Sudan and Germany in her native languages English, German and Arabic. Ms Said holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in English, as well as a post-graduate diploma in Audio-Visual Journalism. She hails from Gedaref, Sudan, and is a passionate advocate for giving communities a voice through volunteerism.

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► **Daniel Schöning**

**President of the German organization 'Schutzwaldverein'**

Mr. Daniel Schöning serves as president of the German organization 'Schutzwaldverein'. After working as a volunteer in Ecuador he has been participating in personal guidance of volunteers and development of a volunteer program for Ecuadorian communities. He has studied Forest Ecology and Management and is currently pursuing a PhD in Canada.



► **Michael Steeb**

**Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Entwicklungshilfe e.V. / Association for Development Cooperation**

With his academic background as a historian, Mr Michael Steeb has been involved in youth and social work for many years. From 1985-1998, he served as a development worker in Tanzania, Rwanda and Benin. Since 1999, he has been the Managing Director of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Entwicklungshilfe (AGEH, Association for Development Cooperation) and Board member of the Arbeitskreis Lernen und Helfen in Übersee (AKLHÜ, the Association "Learning and Helping Overseas").



► **Jean Tan**

**Singapore International Foundation (SIF)**

Ms Jean Tan is the Executive Director of the Singapore International Foundation (SIF), a non-profit dedicated to bridging diverse communities by enabling collaborations for positive change. Prior to joining the SIF, she was Press Secretary to the Minister for Manpower and the agency's Director of Communications. Ms Tan's earlier posts included stints at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Information and the Arts, Singapore Film Commission, and as a diplomat in Washington DC. She is a graduate of the National University of Singapore and was awarded the Singapore Government Merit Scholarship to pursue postgraduate studies in the United States. Ms Tan volunteers on the boards of the Global Public Diplomacy Network and SG Enable, an organization dedicated to serving people with disabilities. She is also active in various work groups of the International Forum on Development Service, a global network of volunteer-driven development agencies.

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► **Susann Tischendorf**

**United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**

Ms Susann Tischendorf works in the Volunteer Knowledge and Innovation Section of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme and is responsible for coordinating IVCO 2016. She has a wide range of experience in advocacy for topics of global relevance, including climate change and disaster risk management. Working for the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for six years prior to joining UNV, she was assigned to projects in South America, Africa, South Asia, and Eastern Europe. Among others, she supported the implementation of reforms in fragile and conflict-affected states and was responsible for strengthening the impact measurement framework of the Communications Department of the IMF. Ms. Tischendorf holds Master's degrees in International Relations/Economics from Johns Hopkins University (SAIS) and in Audiovisual Communications from the University of Arts in Berlin. She also pursued studies in Cultural Mediation at Sorbonne University. She gained journalism experience working for the broadcasting station Deutsche Welle TV. She is a passionate photographer and has been a member of the Executive Council of the World Bank-IMF Photographic Society. For more than 15 years she has been volunteering with handicapped children and was recently awarded with the Silver Honorary Needle of the Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband Germany.



► **Richard Veenstra**

**Solidarité Union Coopération (SUCO)**

Mr Richard Veenstra has been the Executive Director of Solidarité Union Coopération (SUCO) since 2011. An anthropologist by training, he is an international development professional with over 20 years of experience in project and organizational management, as well as adult education. Mr Veenstra holds a Master of Science degree from the Université de Montréal and a D.E.A. from the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and has been instructor and advisor to Université de Montréal's programme in International Cooperation since its beginnings. He has been involved in international volunteering over the past 30 years, as a volunteer in West Africa for several Canadian agencies including Oxfam-Québec, Canada World Youth, Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI) and Crossroads International between 1985 and 1996, as Programme Coordinator for Canada World Youth, and then as the Director of Crossroads International's Quebec/West Africa programme.

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► **Natchawi Wadman**

**Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) International**

Ms Natchawi Wadman works at Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO), supporting VSO country offices in Asia and the Pacific in the design, development, implementation and review of youth programmes, including International Citizen Service. She promotes and contributes to VSO's knowledge sharing, learning and innovation in youth programming and actively supports country offices in effectively involving national and international youth volunteers. Ms Wadman previously worked for Right To Play Thailand as Programme Manager of the Life Skills Development Programme for four years. She took the lead in partnership development and advocacy work with ministries and international and local non-governmental organizations to promote life skills development for children and youth, promote the concept of play and activity-based learning, and support the implementation of a sport for development programme in youth detention centres, as a means of rehabilitation for youth in conflict with the law in Thailand. Ms Wadman also had an additional role as Child Protection Focal Person and as member of the Child Rights Coalition steering committee in Thailand. Before that, she spent almost 10 years working as a Pre-School teacher and Education Supervisor for a community development agency in Boston, USA.



► **Charles Mwangi Waituru**

**Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) International**

Mr Charles Mwangi Waituru has been the Regional Post-2015 Advisor for Africa at Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) since November 2014. He is an established figure in the post-2015 process as co-chair to the global Beyond 2015 coalition since 2011 and as an IDS Participate focal point. In this role, Mr Waituru has helped carry out participatory research with children living with disability and gained insight into the factors that hinder some population sectors from participating in development.

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► **Andrew Webb**

**Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) International**

Mr Andrew Webb joined Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) in 2016, bringing over 20 years of experience working in international development, most recently as Chief Executive Officer at SolarAid. During the course of his career, he has worked on public health and community development projects in a range of countries, including Ethiopia and Tanzania. Mr Webb was the start-up Chief Executive Officer of Street Child United, a global campaign for the rights of street children and was Director of Development at International Alert. He is a Sloan graduate from London Business School and has both undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from Imperial College. Fittingly, Mr Webb started his international development career as a volunteer.



► **Veronique Zidi-Aporeigah**

**United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**

With a Master's degree in development management, Ms Veronique Zidi-Aporeigah served for several years as a UN Volunteer in coordination support functions to peacekeeping operations in Cambodia, Mozambique, South Africa and Rwanda. Since 1996, she has taken on a wide range of functions related to volunteer management and programme development within the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme, with a focus on post-conflict countries and programmes. Ms Zidi-Aporeigah is currently the Programme Coordinator of the Peace Programming Section of UNV, besides being the Portfolio Manager in charge of UNV operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo, State of Palestine, Afghanistan and Somalia.

# Special Thanks to the Organisational Support Team



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