

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



UNDP

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/1983/31
22 April 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GOVERNING COUNCIL
Thirtieth session
June 1983
Agenda Item 6(c)

POLICY

OTHER FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS

Annual report of the Administrator for 1982

Summary

In giving an account of important developments and progress during 1982, this report brings into focus the increased needs for middle-level operational expertise of the type which the United Nations Volunteers programme provides. It also summarizes some of the new special activities in which the programme was involved during the past year, in particular those related to emergency assistance and aid to refugees, and others in the context of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. The report also discusses new developments in the field of youth and domestic development services and preparations for the International Youth Year. The increasingly precarious position of the Special Voluntary Fund is re-emphasized and the Council is asked to take a decision on the question of support cost reimbursement.

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	1-2
II. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION	
A. General	3
B. Programming concepts and developments	4-11
C. Other new and special programme activities	12-18
D. Youth and domestic development services.....	19-23
III. FINANCIAL MATTERS	
A. Support costs.....	24-33
B. Status of the Special Voluntary Fund	34-35
IV. CONCLUDING REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATION	36-37

ANNEXES

- I. Programme trends in 1982
- II. Countries of placement and origin of serving volunteers
- III. Volunteers in the field: Breakdown by sectoral category
- IV. Contributions and pledges to the Special Voluntary Fund.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its twenty-ninth session in June 1982, the Governing Council of UNDP reviewed the activities of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme in 1981, as summarized in documents DP/1982/34 and 37. It was reconfirmed that the UNV programme offers, in addition to its major role as a multilateral volunteer organization, a source of cost-effective and appropriate operational expertise which can be made available to developing countries through integration in technical co-operation programmes of the United Nations system as well as to governments directly. In its decision 82/21, the Council noted, inter alia, the substantial contribution of the UNV programme to technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) by providing opportunities for service to qualified professional men and women of these countries. It also expressed its satisfaction with the outcome of the first High-level Symposium on International Volunteer Service and Development, organized in Sana'a, Yemen, in March 1982, as embodied in the Sana'a Declaration.

2. At its thirty-seventh session, in resolution 37/229 of 20 December 1982, the General Assembly of the United Nations noted "with satisfaction the continued contribution of the United Nations Volunteers programme as a relevant and cost-effective instrument for international development co-operation, as well as the programme's operational activities in support of youth and domestic development services" and the "successful outcome of the first High-level Symposium on International Volunteer Service and Development organized in Sana'a." In the same resolution, the General Assembly expressed "the hope that the United Nations system and other international organizations involved in development activities will fully utilize the potential of the United Nations Volunteers programme in the execution of operational development activities" and "renewed its appeal to Governments, organizations and individuals to contribute or to increase their contributions to the Special Voluntary Fund."

II. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

A. General

3. During 1982, States Members of the United Nations and agencies and organizations of the United Nations system continued to show growing interest in the UNV programme. The programme continued to respond to the need for operational middle-level expertise in an effective and timely manner. A summary of trends discerned in the performance of the UNV programme is given in annex I. It will be noted that the programme has continued its orientation towards assistance to the least developed countries (LDCs) and implementation of TCDC. Renewed efforts have also been made to increase the number of women volunteers, in accordance with the recommendations of the Sana'a Declaration.

B. Programming concepts and developments

4. During the past year, UNV has initiated various activities to further develop the concept of international volunteerism, to strengthen its involvement in the programming of technical assistance at the country level, to further its co-operation with specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, to intensify its contacts with co-operating organizations, to further develop its TCDC activities and to reach a wider group of people through the reorientation and updating of existing UNV publications and the creation of new ones. It will be noted that many of these activities, initiated or intensified during the year, also respond to the various recommendations contained in the Sana'a Declaration.

5. The programme continues to be based on several key conceptual elements. The first is its orientation to the needs of recipient countries in terms of skills, rather than one determined by the types of volunteers readily available. The second basic element is "relevance", i.e., the concept that certain types of activities within projects can be more satisfactorily handled by UNV expertise. The third, which was brought to light during the discussions in Sana'a, is the belief that much fuller use should be made of the rich technical assistance resource represented by committed and qualified people throughout the world who are willing to put their services at the disposal of developing countries under volunteer conditions.

6. The developing countries have demonstrated growing needs for the kind of expertise which the UNV programme is providing. Although over-all resource constraints undoubtedly contribute to the interest in using volunteers for development activities, it is believed that the majority of requests result from increased awareness of the relevance of this kind of expertise. It is increasingly evident that more resources will be required to enable the programme to respond to the higher magnitude of needs in the years to come. Thus the programme's growth during the coming years will be determined not only by the level of global needs for the type of development inputs being supplied by UNV but also by the willingness of the international community to finance these inputs.

7. As recommended in Sana'a, this past year has witnessed increased involvement of UNV in programming activities at various levels. The programme has been requested by Governments, specialized agencies and UNDP resident representatives to participate in country programme reviews, project design and review meetings, and donor conferences. Regional meetings such as meetings of UNDP resident representatives have provided an opportunity to keep abreast of recent developments within the programme and have provided an appropriate context for individual consultations. Missions were undertaken to a number of countries, including Bhutan, Central African Republic, Cook Islands, Ethiopia, Guyana, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Mali, Rwanda and Somalia. In addition to programming discussions with government officials and United Nations agency field personnel, these missions provided a most useful opportunity to visit and backstop volunteers. As a result of these missions, there are indications that approximately 300 new requests from these countries alone will be forthcoming during the present UNDP programming cycle.

8. UNV has also expanded its co-operation with agencies and organizations of the United Nations system. Routine consultations continued to take place in accordance to the needs of various projects in which UNV is involved on the occasion of visits to UNV headquarters by agency representatives, resident representatives, and project managers. In this respect, there have been ongoing consultations with participating and executing agencies of the United Nations system. It will be recalled that the Governing Council, in its decision 82/21, and referring to the Sana'a Declaration, requested the Executive Co-ordinator to continue his efforts to promote the concept of volunteer service in international development co-operation with a view to enhancing the utilization and integration of UNV within technical co-operation activities under the United Nations system. With this in mind, UNV has introduced a series of seminar-type consultations with individual specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system bringing together substantive and working-level officers to examine how the UNV programme could further contribute to development activities of the organizations concerned. The discussions also provide an opportunity to clarify misconceptions and to identify new areas and innovative approaches for co-operation.

9. Efforts have continued during the past year to strengthen relations with co-operating organizations to broaden the base for the recruitment of United Nations Volunteers. Consultations have taken place with Governments of several countries, industrialized as well as developing, to enlist or extend their participation in the programme through the identification of suitable and experienced candidates for UNV assignments. Contacts have thus been made or renewed with a number of countries, including Brazil, Cuba, France, the Netherlands, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, and these contacts have resulted in renewed interest in the programming and in the assignment of the first volunteers from some of these countries. Discussions have also continued with various Governments, such as those of Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, Sweden and Switzerland, to further promote complete funding for certain UNV assignments. These initiatives are bearing some fruit, e.g., the assignment of such volunteers in Benin (with full funding from Switzerland) and Lebanon (with full funding by Finland). Furthermore, in the context of efforts to improve relations with co-operating organizations and other organizations which send volunteers, UNV has participated in meetings organized by the Volunteer Service Overseas (VSO) and the Regional Conference for International Volunteer Services (RCIVS).

10. During the UNV High-level Symposium in Sana'a, the usefulness of such consultations was reaffirmed and accordingly was reflected in a recommendation in the Sana'a Declaration. Therefore, the UNV programme is organizing a consultative meeting on volunteer service and development, in Geneva, from 6 to 8 April 1983. Within the over-all theme "UNV and Co-operating Organizations: Partnership for Development", the discussions are structured to include three main components: (a) a general review of the usefulness of and over-all parameters for intensifying co-operation between the UNV programme and its co-operating organizations; (b) identification of new and innovative areas for collaboration; and (c) a thorough review of procedural matters. The results of the meeting, including any recommendations, will be reported upon by the Executive Co-ordinator in his statement to the Governing Council at its thirtieth session.

11. All of the activities and initiatives enumerated above have been maintained and intensified in line with the Governing Council's guidance and the suggestions from the Sana'a symposium with the over-all aim of strengthening the UNV concept and programme. To contribute to this process, efforts have been exerted to update and to increase the volume of information and publication materials on UNV. A new recruitment booklet has been produced during the year for the use of Governments, co-operating organizations, field offices, and potential candidates. A new publication, "In the Field: Country Profiles of UNV at Work," was also published. This publication provides a multifaceted profile of UNV activities in the over 90 developing countries where volunteers have served during the programme's first decade. An updated and expanded edition of the "World Statistical Directory - Volunteer and Development Service Organizations" has also been produced during the year. This publication, which grew from 400 to over 700 pages, now appears in a new format. The Sana'a Declaration, containing the major topics of discussion and the various recommendations, has been issued in the official languages of the United Nations. This enhanced information and publications programme will be maintained.

C. Other new and special programme activities

12. Various new and special programme activities have been initiated by the UNV programme during the year under review. The most important ones, which will be presented in the following paragraphs, are the development of a project for UNV assistance to regional and subregional intergovernmental institutions and programmes in Africa, participation in an interregional project in the context of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD), increased involvement in TCDC, more co-operation with LDCs in the context of the Substantial New Programme of Action, and increased participation in refugee assistance programmes and in emergency situations such as Lebanon.

13. In order to assist intergovernmental regional and subregional institutions and programmes in Africa, UNV proposed a new project, following consultations with other units of UNDP and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), with funding from the regional indicative planning figure (IPF) for Africa. Based on the Lagos Plan of Action, the project is intended to contribute to areas of activity where the grouping of efforts and resources among African countries on a regional basis will have the greatest impact, e.g., in the fields of transport and communication, food and agriculture, energy, science and technology, industrial development, human resources development, development planning and management. The project enables the provision to interested intergovernmental regional and subregional institutions and programmes of United Nations volunteers specialized in various technical and professional fields to be identified by these institutions and programmes, where the type of middle-level and upper-level expertise available from the UNV programme can be of particular benefit. Strengthening of such regional and subregional activities by providing skilled, experienced, operational expertise in a wide variety of fields is considered to be an especially useful technical assistance activity of an

interim nature. In order to proceed with implementation of the project, UNV held discussions with chiefs of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions during a meeting of the latter organized by ECA in Addis Ababa in December last year.

14. During the past year UNV has continued to be involved in projects for the provision of clean drinking water in several countries. It has increased its commitment in this field through participation in a World Bank-executed, UNDP-financed project to test and perfect low cost hand pumps. Even before the IDWSSD was launched, UNV had been involved for several years in projects related to water supply and sanitation and a number of these projects continued during 1982. Throughout 1982, United Nations volunteers were working in water supply projects in various capacities in Cape Verde, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Yemen. Additional water and sanitation projects with UNV components are being planned for Democratic Yemen, Guinea and the Sudan. The UNDP/World Bank interregional project, Field Testing and Technological Development of Rural Water Supply Handpumps cited above, which became operational in early 1982, foresees the use of 15 United Nations volunteers to serve as country officers to monitor field trials in 15 to 20 countries. The objectives of the project are to establish a standard methodology for the testing and evaluation of handpumps, to assist in their introduction and in the promotion of their manufacture in developing countries. Such simple handpumps are designed to be maintained and repaired by village-level operators, thus enabling developing countries to avoid high costs and to improve the management of rural water supply activities. By providing the varied and practical skills of United Nations volunteers as an integral part of its activities, the project highlights the valuable role of volunteer action in the IDWSSD.

15. The UNV programme also continued its contribution to TCDC and its assistance to the 36 LDCs. Eighty-one percent of all serving volunteers originate from approximately 53 developing countries, thus reinforcing the TCDC dimension of the UNV programme. Of a total of 125 African volunteers at the end of December 1982 of 25 different nationalities, 101 (almost 81 percent) were working in 30 African countries, different from their own country of origin. These African volunteers, like all other United Nations volunteers, possess advanced educational training and professional experience in a variety of fields. They include medical doctors, veterinarians, engineers, agriculturists/agronomists, instructors, technicians and skilled trades specialists. Still using the African continent as an example, it can be observed that besides the 81 percent of African volunteers serving in Africa, more than 10 percent serve in the Arab region and 8 percent in Asia and the Pacific. In addition, 299 United Nations volunteers working in Africa come from other regions, and 68 percent of these are from developing countries. In the context of strengthening TCDC, UNV participated in the Conference of African Governmental Experts on Technical Co-operation among African Countries on Human Resources Development and Utilization which took place in Gabon in August 1982. This Conference was one of the follow-up activities to the African TCDC Conference that took place in Kenya in 1980.

The conference recognized the inherent TCDC aspect of UNV activities and therefore recommended that UNDP use its UNV programme to intensify the recruitment and use of African volunteers in the region, and assist, in co-operation with African countries, in the implementation of subregional and regional programmes capable of promoting the exchange of practical experience between organizations working in favour of young people.

16. Another area of programme emphasis as recommended at Sana'a is the concentration of UNV assistance in the 36 LDCs. The Secretary-General's report (A/CONF. 104/22) of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris in 1981, estimated that the need for the kind of expertise provided by the UNV programme might double during the 1980s to some 20,000 volunteers a year. Since the beginning of the UNV programme, a total of close to 1200 volunteers have served in LDCs. At the end of 1982, 500 volunteers were assigned in these countries, with 180 additional volunteers under recruitment. As indicated in the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly last year on the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) for the LDCs "some 16 special UNV/Government-executed projects have so far been designed, in collaboration with the governments of the Least Developed Countries, to enable the use of UNV operational expertise in development programmes directly executed by the countries themselves".^{1/} As noted, the UNV programme has also been actively involved in various meetings concerned with increasing development assistance to LDCs. These included, in particular, the UNDP-sponsored round tables in Rwanda and Mali. It is noteworthy that some donors are particularly interested in using the UNV mechanism to earmark some of their assistance to LDCs in the context of the Substantial New Programme of Action.

17. Special refugee activities in Africa and Asia continued to benefit from UNV services. In Somalia alone, 23 volunteers are currently working in a project of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), now in its second phase, which provides assistance to refugees. Most volunteers are attached to various substantive departments of the Somali National Refugee Council. Others are attached to the local UNHCR office in order to strengthen its backstopping capacity. In Djibouti, a UNV accountant is also attached to UNHCR-funded project to support the national refugee council. At the end of the present phase, the project will probably be replaced by two projects, currently under formulation, which go beyond emergency assistance to address the long-term rehabilitation problem. Consideration is being given to projects involving agricultural schemes and handicrafts and small industries development in which several UNV community development workers would be involved. In south east Asia, UNV continues to provide 11 volunteers to a project, financed from regional UNDP funds, of assistance to refugees in the region. The tripartite review held in Bangkok in November 1981 confirmed UNHCR's satisfaction with the competence and dedication of the volunteers working in the project. UNV was credited for having filled a critical technical manpower gap. At the suggestion of UNHCR, UNV approached the Government of Finland for assistance in identifying and recommending Finnish volunteers to be fielded with full financing by the same Government. As a result, a UNV social welfare/resettlement/education

counsellor commenced her assignment in Singapore in October 1982. In addition, discussions have also taken place during the year both at the local level and in Geneva to ensure better co-ordination among the various agencies in UNV assignments in this field.

18. During the year, the programme also made a noteworthy contribution to some emergency situations. A medical team of United Nations volunteers was fielded in early November 1982 to serve in government hospitals in Lebanon, where they provide emergency medical care to civilian victims of recent warfare in the country. This assistance is provided in association with the World Health Organization (WHO) which, along with the Ministry of Health, is providing technical backstopping. The four volunteers are fully funded by the Government of Finland. It may be noted that in the context of these activities, UNV started implementing another recommendation of the Sana'a Declaration by introducing a certain flexibility in the assignment of volunteers. In the refugee projects, UNV assignments are of a duration of 12 months, while the assignment of the medical team in Lebanon varies between six and eight months.

D. Youth and domestic development services activities

19. Youth and domestic development services (DDS) activities continued to develop during the year under review and to grow in importance within the over-all programme of UNV activities in accordance with recommendations contained in the Sana'a Declaration. A three-year extension of the regional Asia and Pacific DDS project was approved, as was a new DDS project for Africa and preparatory activities for the International Youth Year (IYY).

20. The Asia and Pacific DDS project continued its normal activities during 1982 in the various fields as foreseen in the workplan and, by year's end, the number of DDS organizations participating in the project was close to 50. A review and programming workshop was organized by UNV in Kuala Lumpur in November 1981, in which all participating DDS organizations were represented. A new project phase was agreed upon, to start from 1983 for a period of three years. Besides continuing activities started under the first phase, several new activities especially oriented towards youth are included in the new phase. This phase of the regional project is divided into six subprojects. The first and the most important in magnitude remains the assignment of teams of multinational UNV/DDS volunteers. Two hundred forty UNV/DDS volunteers will be made available to DDS organizations in Asian and Pacific countries on one-year contracts. They will be recruited mainly from DDS organizations in the region. This subproject will also cover the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) subregion and the South Pacific. The subproject on appropriate technology will be maintained and consolidated. Volunteers assigned to this project will continue working with local counterpart workers, adapting and promoting village technology, organizing training programmes for local populations and assisting in training activities for workers in appropriate technology of DDS organizations coming from other countries. Among their responsibilities will be the preparation of handbook material for use by DDS organizations. An important part of the appropriate technology activities during the second phase of the project will be training. Fields of

training will include biogas technology as well as other renewable energy sources, including solar energy, household appliances such as water purifiers, food preservation equipment, low cost housing, etc. A major concern expressed by the 1981 review meeting of the regional project was the need to promote greater youth participation in development. The review meeting identified youth unemployment and the migration of young people from rural to urban areas as specific problems. Therefore, the main thrust of the subproject in appropriate technology will be assistance to groups of young people in starting income-generating activities in rural areas. In addition, the regional project will make available to the youth section of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) a UNV/DDS programme assistant who will assist the section in designing activities for youth development and youth participation in the Asia and Pacific region. On-the-job training will be continued by the attachment of DDS leaders and field workers to other DDS organizations. Fields of in-service training for the former will be organization and management, while for the latter the fields will be basic health care, rural development, youth and women's programmes, among others. To strengthen the self-development capacity of DDS organizations, workshops in organization and management practices as well as short-term consultants will be provided. After three years of the UNV/DDS programme, the experience gained in establishing and strengthening direct contacts and subregional networks, as well as in carrying out grassroots activities, will now be devoted to further diversification of DDS co-operation within the Asia and Pacific region and elsewhere, particularly Africa and the Caribbean.

21. A very modest new DDS activity was approved in November 1982 to extend these activities to Africa where there is a wide variety of youth organizations and DDS. The objectives of the UNV/DDS project for Africa are to increase the involvement of the population in national development plans, to promote non-governmental and government-supported organizations of the DDS type, to develop within DDS organizations structures and methods to increase the availability of basic services and to contribute to technical co-operation among African countries. To realize these objectives, and subject to the mobilization of sufficient resources, UNV/DDS volunteers will be assigned to several DDS organizations, on-the-job training opportunities in Africa DDS organizations will be organized, appropriate technology units will be established at the village level, workshops will be organized and consultancy services will be available to help DDS organizations assess their potential within the framework of national technical assistance.

22. UNV successfully concluded its regional Latin American youth project: Promotion of Youth Participation in Socio-Economic Development (RLA/79/077), which was financed jointly by UNV (through a contribution of US \$400,000 from the Special Voluntary Fund) and UNDP, in December 1982. Its activities were concentrated on: (a) promotion of the inclusion of youth in national development plans and strategies; (b) support to the formulation of multisectoral national youth policies; (c) provision of assistance in the technical training of experts in youth work; (d) assistance to Governments in developing youth strategies and theories for the field of socio-economic participation; (e) establishment of mutual assistance among youth-serving

bodies of Latin American governments. The project assisted in the establishment of youth policies, programmes and projects in Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Venezuela. In Bolivia, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Honduras, United Nations volunteers with the necessary professional background were attached to the respective government departments as part of this assistance. Consultants and the project management provided additional assistance. Two regional workshops on youth programming and planning for government officials were organized in 1978-1980, with follow-up through nine national courses on youth planning and programming. In Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador, moreover, the project assisted in establishing inter-institutional co-ordination for the youth sector. Several regional training courses for youth officials were organized to supplement on-the-job training for youth. In addition, the project assisted in organizing 31 national youth organizations and programmes in six signatory countries. Volunteer programmes were also planned and implemented in Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, the Dominican Republic and Venezuela. The field of youth co-operatives and youth enterprises received particular attention. A basic strategy document was provided in 1978; it served as a background document for a regional training course in El Salvador (1978); in Venezuela, a national workshop was held on the same theme, and its results produced in the form of a book. Programming advice was provided to the Governments of Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador and Venezuela. The project office provided a documentation and information service, which produced 31 publications ranging from analyses of the youth situation to youth policy and programming, including issues on youth health, juvenile delinquency, youth co-operatives, youth hostels, etc. The documentation and information service assisted in establishing information centres and networks in Costa Rica, Ecuador and Venezuela. The most visible result of the project is the decision by the ten participating Governments and three additional ones to establish a regional youth centre, which will be continuing the activities introduced by the regional youth project. The centre will be hosted by the Government of Venezuela and is expected to be fully operational in August 1983. UNV has confirmed its willingness to discuss modalities of possible new UNV technical assistance to the regional youth centre.

23. As a member of the core group of agencies preparing the IYY, and as recommended in the Sana'a Declaration, UNV has continued during 1982 to focus on the preparation of IYY. UNV has participated in several meetings including the second session of the IYY Advisory Committee, an interagency consultative meeting on IYY, the round table on "Youth in the 1980s" organized by the United Nations Educational Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO) in Costinesti (Italy) and the fifty-fourth general informal meeting of international youth non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Yugoslavia. Specific UNV activities under consideration for IYY include the development of a few regional or subregional operational projects for IYY, the introduction of an IYY component in certain ongoing projects, the involvement of UNV at the national level to contribute to IYY and its activities, co-operation with international youth of NGOs, fund raising to increase youth participation in development, and publicity and promotions for IYY. UNV will also produce, before the end of the year, a special UNV newsletter with IYY as a theme.

III. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. Support Costs

24. At its twenty-ninth session, in paragraph 25 of its decision 82/21, the Governing Council agreed to postpone its review of the support costs reimbursement for UNV until its thirtieth session. In order to facilitate such a review, the Governing Council would require an analysis of UNV activities in relation to the applicability of support cost assessment for them.

25. About 56 percent of the currently serving volunteers come under the UNV-executed sectoral or multisectoral projects. These activities fall within two major categories: the first is represented by the steadily increasing number of volunteers being assigned to work directly within government departments or institutions providing, with this input, the sole involvement from the United Nations system. In this respect, for purposes of recruitment and administrative and financial management, UNV obviously assumes responsibilities similar to those of an executing agency. But from a substantive point of view, the recipient Government shoulders the primary responsibility for project execution through the provision of technical backstopping and supervision by competent national staff. In effect, then, such projects are jointly executed by UNV and the respective recipient Governments. The second category also consists of UNV-executed projects which are requested by recipient countries and approved by UNDP; these projects provide pools of volunteers who are assigned according to needs to projects executed by specialized agencies, in response to particular needs which are identified or may emerge in the course of project implementation. Here again, UNV is responsible for recruitment and for administrative and financial management, whereas the respective specialized agencies have full responsibility for the UNV assignments as far as substantive and technical aspects are concerned.

26. In 1982, 85 per cent of the UNV executed projects under the categories explained above were funded from country IPFs and other UNDP sources representing approximately \$4,8 million in expenditures that year^{2/} and the remaining 15 per cent was financed from sources such as government and third party cost sharing and trust funds representing approximately \$860,000 in expenditures in 1982.

27. The other 44 per cent of the currently serving volunteers are directly attached to projects executed by various United Nations agencies. The fielding and administrative backstopping of these volunteers are done by UNV, while the day-to-day management and technical backstopping is provided for the executing agency concerned.

28. The costs of volunteers included in projects executed by various United Nations agencies amounted to approximately \$5.2 million in expenditures in 1982 or 44 per cent of the over-all UNV programme.

29. The issue of support cost related to the UNV activities has three components: (a) reimbursement of support costs for projects funded from UNDP sources (paras. 26-27 above) and executed by UNV; (b) reimbursement of support costs for UNV-executed projects funded through cost sharing and trust fund arrangements (para. 27); (c) reimbursement of support costs for projects which include UNV inputs but are executed by various United Nations agencies (paras. 28-29).

30. The reimbursement to UNV of support costs for activities covered under paragraph 30 (a) above would appear to be a straightforward action whereby 13 per cent of UNV project costs could be applied for UNV-executed projects funded by UNDP. This would represent an internal bookkeeping exercise, consisting in the transfer of funds from programme to administrative accounts within UNDP headquarters itself. The calculation would be done annually at the end of the year starting with 1984. These support cost earnings would be credited to the biennial budget of UNV.

31. Since the UNV programme is still in the process of establishing the concept of international volunteerism as an integral part of multilateral development co-operation, it would appear that it may not be appropriate at this time to establish a principle of seeking reimbursement for support costs on funds either made available by recipient governments, or by a third party donor under cost-sharing arrangements. Such reimbursement arrangements might possibly have discouraging effects on the bilateral organizations which participate in the UNV programme by co-financing their nationals to serve as United Nations volunteers. Furthermore, as mentioned in paragraph 27 above, the size of UNV activities under this component, when expressed in terms of expenditures, would translate into a very modest amount of reimbursement of support costs at present. Nevertheless, where provision of services of United Nations volunteers through third party cost-sharing by a single donor would involve an identifiable, additional burden to UNV, consideration will be given to negotiating the inclusion of ad hoc support costs within the financial contribution.

32. Reimbursement of support costs for activities covered under paragraph 30 (c) above could require a lengthy process of negotiation with the agencies, since the level of UNV technical involvement varies greatly from project to project, sometimes being rather extensive but mostly usually being minimal. Furthermore, such a system would not be conducive to easy agreement or to increased programming of UNV inputs. Currently total reimbursement of support costs for UNV inputs is being made to executing agencies. UNV inputs in an agency project sometimes could be as little as a single volunteer involving an annual allocation of approximately US\$ 12,500. As mentioned above, while the fielding and administrative backstopping of the volunteers included in the agency executed projects are done by UNV, the agency also provides technical supervision and backstopping of the volunteers as part of the substantive backstopping of the entire project. The creation of additional bureaucratic complexities over split allocations of support cost reimbursement would be counter-productive to the goal of encouraging agencies to utilize more United Nations volunteers.

33. The Administrator therefore recommends that support costs be charged on UNDP-financed, UNV-executed projects, that the inclusion of support costs reimbursement be negotiated where the size of projects financed through third party cost-sharing would make such an arrangement appropriate, and that the status quo be retained in all other cases.

B. Status of the Special Voluntary Fund

34. As was the case during 1981, in 1982 the Special Voluntary Fund resources continued to be utilized first and foremost for the financing of external costs of United Nations volunteers originating from developing countries for whom no co-sponsorship was available. In accordance with Governing Council Decision 79/24, the Special Voluntary Fund also continued to finance in-country costs for UNV Programme Assistant posts in LDCs. In December 1982, eight programme assistants were serving in LDCs, financed from the Special Voluntary Fund.

35. In spite of the repeated appeals to donor countries to increase their voluntary contributions to the Special Voluntary Fund, the level of contributions for 1982 has remained very much static, as far as the contributions from traditional donor countries are concerned. As reported earlier, the situation has been further aggravated inasmuch as the UNDP annual allocation to the Fund has been totally discontinued as of 1982, as directed by the Governing Council at its session in June 1977.^{3/} At the same time it is gratifying to report that the Government of Norway, in addition to making a regular contribution of approximately \$85,000 to the Fund, for the first time since 1978, and pledging a similar amount for 1983, also made a special donation in 1982 of \$282,000. The continuing strong support to the Special Voluntary Fund from the Government of Italy is also noted with gratitude. The Administrator welcomes this development with much appreciation and hopes that other donor countries who have not contributed to the Special Voluntary Fund and/or discontinued their contributions over the past years will follow this example. Another noteworthy and very significant contribution to the Fund during 1982 came from a private individual donor in an amount of \$500,000, as reported to the Governing Council at its twenty-ninth session. With these two relatively substantial contributions, the income for the Special Voluntary Fund during 1982 is expected to reach \$1.5 million. Despite the rather unexpectedly high income for the Fund during 1982, the over-all resource situation of the Special Voluntary Fund continues to be very unpromising and cannot maintain the programme at its current growth rate. On the other hand, UNDP/UNV continues to be very reluctant to resort to the resources of developing countries, such as IPFs, to meet part or all of the external costs of volunteers originating from developing countries since resources available to these countries are already far short of meeting their priority development requirements, without any such additional burden. In view of the value of the UNV contribution and its capacity to respond to development needs in a cost-effective and efficient manner, the programme should not be allowed to decline because of a lack of funds available to the Special Voluntary Fund.

IV. CONCLUDING REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATION

36. It will be observed from the preceeding pages that the UNV programme has been able during 1982 to continue responding in a positive way to increasing demands from developing countries in all regions, especially from LDCs, for middle-level operational expertise in a variety of fields. Demands for the kind of expertise the programme is able to provide are increasing and it is anticipated that this is a trend which will continue throughout the decade. The programme is ready to respond to such requests. In order to do so, however, it will be necessary for the Governing Council, in future its sessions, to formulate and support proposals which will enable the programme to assume its increasing responsibilities in the field of international volunteer assistance to development.

37. In the light of the above, the Administrator recommends that:

The Governing Council,

1. Take note of the Annual Report of the Administrator, DP/1983/31;
2. Decide that support costs should henceforth be charged in respect of UNDP-financed, UNV-executed projects; and
3. Appeal to member governments to make renewed efforts to bring about a solution to the problem of financing the Special Voluntary Fund.

1/ A/37/197 dated 20 October 1982, paragraph 78.

2/ This figure is based on 1982 year end provisional figures.

3/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-third session, Supplement No. 3A (E/6013/Rev.1), p. 52

Annex I

PROGRAMME TRENDS IN 1982
(Situation on 31 December 1982)

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
1. United Nations volunteers in service	975	935
2. United Nations volunteers en route	179	101
3. Number of countries in which volunteers are serving	91	90
4. Women volunteers	195	169
5. Women volunteers assigned in 1982	91	84
6. Women volunteers originating from LDCs	51	11
7. Assignments of volunteers in 1982	470	374
8. Completions of assignments in 1982	358	414
9. Contract extensions in 1982	231	280
10. Applications received in 1982	3484	2945
11. Candidates placed on roster in 1982	1428	1192
12. Number of candidates on roster	2016	2038
13. Submissions in 1982	420	513
14. Number of projects with UNV participation		
Total	<u>337</u>	<u>339</u>
in Africa:	232	186
in Asia and the Pacific:	71	76
in the Middle East and Europe:	12	51
in the Caribbean and Latin America:	23	26
15. United Nations volunteers:		
in Africa:	367	399
in Asia and the Pacific:	434	395
in the Middle East and Europe:	134	108
in the Caribbean and Latin America:	40	33
16. Origin of United Nations volunteers in service:		
industrialized countries	211	172
developing countries	764	763

Annex II

COUNTRIES OF PLACEMENT AND ORIGIN OF SERVING VOLUNTEERS
Total serving volunteers: 935 (31 December 1982)

Countries of placement:

Africa

Benin 10, Botswana 14, Burundi 2, Cape Verde 4, the Central African Republic 21, Chad 2, the Comoros 24, the Congo 4, Equatorial Guinea 3, Ethiopia 4, Gabon 10, the Gambia 6, Ghana 1, Guinea 2, Guinea-Bissau 33, Ivory Coast 3, Kenya 15, Lesotho 25, Liberia 12, Malawi 5, Mali 8 + 2 DDS, Mauritania 10, Mozambique 14, Namibia 2, Niger 10, Rwanda 5, Sao Tome 12, Senegal 4, Seychelles 3, Sierra Leone 4, Somalia 43, Swaziland 8, Togo 4, Uganda 11, the United Republic of Cameroon 3, United Republic of Tanzania 34, Upper Volta 16, Zimbabwe 6.

38 countries

Subtotal 399 (42.7 per cent)

Arab States and Europe

Bahrain 4, Democratic Yemen 8, Djibouti 5, Lebanon 4, Oman 1, the Sudan 23, Syrian Arab Republic 16, Turkey 1, Yugoslavia 1, Yemen 45.

10 countries

Subtotal 108 (11.6 per cent)

Latin America and the Caribbean

Antigua 1, Belize 1, Colombia 1, Dominica 3, the Dominican Republic 1, Grenada 1, Guatemala 1, Haiti 9, Honduras 2, Jamaica 1, Montserrat 1, Panama 1, Paraguay 1, Peru 1, St. Kitts-Nevis 1, Saint Lucia 4, St. Vincent and the Grenadines 1, Trinidad and Tobago 3.

18 countries

Subtotal 33 - 3.5 per cent

Asia and the Pacific

Afghanistan 6, Bangladesh 11 + 3 DDS, Bhutan 18, China 11, Cook Islands 22, Fiji 2, Indonesia 7 + 19 DDS, the Lao People's Democratic Republic 7, Malaysia 5 + 1 DDS, Maldives 7, Nepal 4, Niue 6, Pakistan 2, Papua New Guinea 10, Philippines 6 + 24 DDS, Samoa 9, Singapore 1, Solomon Islands 7, Sri Lanka 167 + 24 DDS, Thailand 4 + 1 DDS, Tonga 4, Trust Territory of the Pacific 1, Tuvalu 2, Vanuatu 4.

24 countries

Subtotal 395 (42.1 per cent)

Countries of origin:

Non-IPF countries

Australia 3, Austria 1, Belgium 15, Canada 12, Finland 13, France 15, Germany, Federal Republic of, 7, Ireland 11, Italy 10, the Netherlands 7, Norway 2, Spain 4, Sweden 1, Switzerland 3, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland 17, the United States of America 50, The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics 1.

17 countries

Subtotal 172 (18.4 per cent)

IPF countries

Antigua 1, Argentina 2, Bangladesh 50, Benin 7, Bolivia 1, Brazil 22, Burma 140, Burundi 8, the Central African Republic 1, Chad 5, Chile 3, China 10, Colombia 3, Cuba 2, Dominican Republic 1, Egypt 8, Ethiopia 4, Ghana 20, Greece 2, Guinea 1, Guyana 1, Haiti 4, Honduras 1, Hungary 1, India 85, Indonesia 13, Iran 1, Ivory Coast 1, Kenya 1, Mali 4, Mauritius 11, Namibia 1, Nepal 61, Nigeria 1, Pakistan 12, Peru 13, Philippines 83, Poland 1, Portugal 1, Rwanda 19, Senegal 6, Seychelles 1, Sierra Leone 4, Singapore 1, Somalia 2, Sri Lanka 95, Sudan 4, Syria 1, Thailand 3, Togo 3, Uganda 3, the United Republic of Cameroon 2, the United Republic of Tanzania 6, Upper Volta 1, Zaire 1, Zimbabwe 1, Refugees 12.

56 countries

Subtotal 763 (81.6 per cent)

Annex III

VOLUNTEERS IN THE FIELD:
BREAKDOWN BY SECTORAL CATEGORY (31 DECEMBER 1982)

	<u>Number of Volunteers</u>	<u>o/o</u>
Health	231	24.7
Education	165	17.7
Social sciences	108	11.5
Agriculture	98	10.5
Administration	95	10.2
Skilled trades	89	9.5
Engineering	71	7.6
Architecture	49	5.2
Natural sciences	20	2.1
Transport and communications.....	<u>9</u>	<u>1.0</u>
TOTAL	935	100.0

Annex IV

CONTRIBUTIONS AND PLEDGES TO THE SPECIAL VOLUNTARY FUND
(AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1982)
(US DOLLARS)

<u>Country</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>Pledged for 1983</u>
Austria	7 700	7 700	7 700
Bangladesh		1 029	1 000
Belgium	202 532	163 265	
Bhutan	500	575	690
Botswana	509	462	459
Brazil	10 000	10 000	10 000
China			20 000
Denmark	12 577		57 143
Germany, Federal Republic of	113 636		120 000
Guinea-Bissau	370		
India	5 000	5 000	5 000
Indonesia		1 000	
Italy	205 321	140 845	136 519
Lesotho	200	200	1 000
Liberia		2 000	
Morocco	5 000	5 000	5 000
Netherlands	200 000	177 481	
Norway		366 436	70 423
Philippines	1 000		
Solomon Islands		500	
Sri Lanka		3 000	3 000
Switzerland	103 865	126 289	
Thailand	1 500	1 500	1 500
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands	1 000		
Tunisia	3 210	3 692	4 061
Uganda	38		
United States of America	350 000	200 000	
Subtotal	1 223 958	1 215 974	443 495
Private individuals	2 000	504 000	
TOTAL	1 225 958	1 719 974	443 495

