

The Regional Consultation on the Plan of Action to Integrate Volunteering into the 2030 Agenda in UNECE Region

Geneva, 21 March 2019

Time:
9:30 – 13:00

Venue: International Conference Centre
Geneva (CICG)

Address: Rue de Varembe 17, 1211 Geneva,
Switzerland

Around the world, ordinary people volunteer to carry out a range of roles for the good of their communities and societies. Research has shown that the efforts of the more than 1 billion volunteers around the world are equal to that of 109 million full-time equivalent workers, this workforce exceeds that of many major global industries. We estimate that the UNECE region is home to more than 49 million volunteers.

The Plan of Action to Integrate Volunteering into the 2030 Agenda, is a framework developed by member states through UN General Assembly Resolutions to help governments, UN agencies, Volunteer Involving Organizations, civil society organizations, academia and the private sector enhance the recognition and integration of volunteerism in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Through the collective efforts of all stakeholders, the Plan of Action seeks to:

- a) Strengthen people's ownership of the 2030 Agenda;
- b) Systematically integrate volunteering in national strategies and policies;
- c) Measure the impact of volunteering.

The Plan of Action engages stakeholders, convenes dialogues, and generates knowledge and evidence on integrating volunteerism into the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Regional Consultation on the Plan of Action to Integrate Volunteering into the Agenda 2030 in the UNECE region is organized in the context of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (RFSD) as mandated by the December 2018 UN General Assembly Resolution "Volunteering for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". The outcome of the Consultation will inform and feed into the Global Technical Meeting on Volunteerism on 'Reimagining Volunteerism for the 2030 Agenda' to be held as a special event as part of the High-Level Political Forum in July 2020 in New York.

Findings from the Regional Synthesis Report on Volunteerism and Agenda 2030 will also be shared at the event. The report has been prepared by the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme using the information submitted by Member States through their National Situation Analyses. Participants will be encouraged to provide further evidence, share knowledge and discuss regional trends, best practices, opportunities and challenges on volunteerism in Europe.

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme hosts the Plan of Action Secretariat and is designated by the UN General Assembly as the UN entity to support the implementation of the Plan of Action

This consultation is organized and facilitated by:



under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)