Thank you for your interest in UNICEF and in volunteering overseas! The UNICEF Australia office is located in Sydney, and as such we do not have many volunteering opportunities in other states or territories. However, occasionally we require the assistance of volunteers for in our Sydney office. If you would like to be added to our volunteer register, please send us your details here.

As our role in the Australian office is primarily fundraising and advocacy, we do not recruit volunteers or employees to work with UNICEF overseas. Recruitment for both volunteer and paid positions overseas is arranged through UNICEF Headquarters, based in New York City. Detailed information can be obtained from the UNICEF International website: www.unicef.org/about/employ/

There are a number of other organisations based in Australia that provide a diverse range of international volunteer opportunities for Australians. The following contacts often offer volunteer positions with UNICEF in some of our overseas country offices:
- Australian Volunteers International (AVI)
- RedR Australia
- Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID)

We’ve provided more information on these programs within this document.
Since 1951, AVI volunteers have been supported by the Australian Government to work in over 60 countries in a wide range of development programs.

www.australianvolunteers.com

Most assignments require the volunteer to have relevant qualifications and demonstrated professional experience. Volunteers for positions in the following fields are commonly requested:

- Agriculture
- Business Marketing & Tourism
- Community & Social Development
- Education & Training
- Engineering & Architecture
- Finance & Economics
- Health
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Law & Justice
- Management
- Administration & Library
- Special Education & Disability
- Skilled Trades
- Natural Science & Environment

Assignments can be either short term or long term. Recruitment takes place regularly with assignments starting at various times throughout the year.

AVI offers assignments in various countries across Asia, the Middle East, Africa and the Pacific, including:


If you’re interested in volunteering with AVI, you can head along to one of their free information sessions to find out more directly from both staff and previous volunteers. If you’re ready to apply, current opportunities and the online application process are accessible here. Keep in mind that the process takes approximately five months, which allows you plenty of time to prepare yourself for your experience.
RedR Australia provides emergency assistance to communities devastated by conflict or major natural disasters. They provide qualified personnel to help humanitarian relief programs worldwide. Relief workers are also taken through training courses by RedR to prepare them for the harsh conditions they may face.

www.redr.org.au/

WHAT

Trained relief workers are kept on a Standby Register, which allows RedR to mobilise and give help when and where it is needed most. Their register serves as a standby facility for UN agencies (including UNICEF), international non-government organisations and the Australian Government.

WHO

The recruitment process ensures that the most suitable personnel are selected for standby. Partner Agencies often call for volunteers to undertake assignments in the following functions: coordination, health, humanitarian protection, communication, logistics, engineering and education.

WHERE

Register members are helping humanitarian efforts around the world, wherever it is needed most. You can visit their site to see where volunteers are currently working.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

Application for the register requires an initial online application, which begins the thorough selection process. More details about the process can be found here. Their training courses are also very highly regarded in the humanitarian sector and are open to members of the public to apply or enrol.
AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEERS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (AVID)

The AVID program is an initiative of the Australian Government and is managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. It provides opportunities for skilled Australians to volunteer overseas and work with local people to reduce poverty. It is kept in line with partner and Australian Government development priorities and the Millennium Development Goals. The program also works in partnership with other organisations Australia Volunteers International, Scope Global and the Australian Red Cross. www.australianaidvolunteers.gov.au/

? WHAT
A wide range of professional skills are needed to address development needs across the globe. The sectors most commonly requested by AVIDs overseas partners are:

- Education
- Health
- Population & Reproductive Health
- Water & Sanitation
- Government & Civil Society
- Conflict Prevention & Resolution
- Peace & Security
- Social Infrastructure
- Transport & Storage
- Communications
- Energy Generation & Supply
- Banking & Financial Services
- Business
- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Construction
- Trades
- Tourism
- Commodity Aid
- General Programme Assistance
- Humanitarian Aid
- Fishing
- Industry
- Mineral Resources & Mining

WHERE
The program operates primarily in Asia, Africa the Middle East and the Pacific, with volunteers going wherever need is greatest and where Australia’s development interests lie.

WHEN
The length of the assignment is based around the need of the host organisation. It can vary in length anywhere from three months to three years.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP
All AVID assignments are managed on behalf of DFAT by their core partners: AVI, Scope Global and the Australian Red Cross. To apply, visit their volunteer assignment page. You can filter assignments by sector/skills, core partners, location and length to find one that would suit you.
UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS (UNV)

The UNV program is the UN organisation that contributes to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide. UNV contributes by advocating for recognition of volunteers, working with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilising an increasing number and diversity of volunteers, including experienced UN Volunteers, throughout the world. Their Online Volunteering Service connects development organisations directly with thousands of online volunteers.

www.unv.org/

WHAT

UNV Volunteers work in technical cooperation with governments, with community-based initiatives, in humanitarian relief and rehabilitation and in support of human rights, electoral and peace-building processes. Sectors of work include:

- Agriculture
- Health
- Education
- Human Rights Promotion
- Population
- Information & communication technology
- Community development
- Vocational training
- Industry

WHO

There are a number of minimum requirements needed in order to be eligible to register. Applicants need to have a university degree or higher technical diploma, a minimum of two years working experience and a good knowledge of at least one of the three UNV working languages: English, Spanish and French. There is also a minimum age requirement of 25 years.

WHERE

Over the years, UNV volunteers have served in about 130 different countries. Today 40 per cent are at work in Africa, 26 per cent in Asia and the Pacific, and 15 per cent in Central and Eastern Europe; the rest can be found in the Arab States, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Thirty per cent serve in the world’s poorest nations; half of all the volunteers work outside capital cities, frequently in remote towns and villages.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

If you meet their minimum requirements, you can fill out the web-based registration form. Keep in mind the registration involves two parts and can take up to 60 minutes. If you are under the age of 25, you can still register to be an online volunteer. For detailed information about both opportunities, visit their FAQ’s page.
NEED MORE INFORMATION?

These are just a few organisations that offer overseas volunteer opportunities. There are myriads of other organisations through which you can go. Many offer projects that do not require you to have any qualifications or experience, just a big heart and a determination to help. Commonly offered projects include teaching English, community development, wildlife conservation, children’s programs and environmental management and may be available across Africa, Asia, the Pacific and Central and South America. If you need help on where to get started, your travel agent can help put you in touch with a reputable organisation. *Lonely Planet* also has a volunteering travel guide with a heap of useful information.

Are you a student?
There are also many organisations that specialise in youth and student volunteering, some of which may have been approved by your university for course credit towards your degree. Speak to your student centre or careers advisor to see what your school or university might offer or to even arrange your own group expedition!

CONTACT
For further information about the work of UNICEF Australia, please contact our Supporter Relations team on 1300 884 233

www.unicef.org.au

Thank you to Digital Media Intern Brianna Walsh for designing this volunteer pack.