



International
Voluntary
Service

**Fostering Peace &
Understanding to achieve
lasting change**

**2017-
2020**

**STRATEGIC
PLAN**



Sri Lanka



Scotland



India



Tanzania

Where we work



We have working partnerships in the following countries:

Americas

Canada
Chile
Ecuador
El Salvador
French Guiana
Greenland
Mexico
Peru
United States

Africa

Kenya
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Nigeria
Tanzania
Togo
Uganda

Europe

Albania
Austria
Belarus
Belgium
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Kosovo
Luxembourg
Macedonia
Moldova
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Ukraine
United Kingdom

Asia

Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
China
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Japan
Jordan
Malaysia
Mongolia
Palestine
Russia
South Korea
Sri Lanka
Taiwan
Thailand
Turkey
Vietnam

Australia & Oceania

Australia
Micronesia

Our mission



To promote peace, justice and understanding through volunteering

All our primary objectives and activities contribute to this mission by:

- Promoting global citizenship through volunteering and recognising its powerful contribution to the delivery of the SDGs
- Promoting a better understanding of the benefits of cross-cultural exchange
- Enabling ways to achieve social justice through non-violent means
- Building meaningful partnerships and relationships that promote cross-cultural exchange
- Strengthening civil society at home and abroad.

Our values

Service

We believe volunteering helps build understanding across cultures and traditions, and challenges negative social attitudes, leading to lasting behavioural and cultural change.

Respect

We respect and value all those that we work with, we listen to others and value diversity. We show consideration for others and recognise each other's differences and rights. We celebrate differences in nationality, ethnicity, gender and background.

Integrity

We act with integrity at all times and take responsibility for using our resources efficiently. We never compromise our reputation and are transparent and accountable to volunteers, members, partners and all key stakeholders. The safety, security and physical and emotional health of our volunteers is a key priority.

Collaboration

We communicate effectively and openly and work collaboratively with people and organisations.

Innovation

We are open to new ideas, embrace change, and take disciplined risks to develop sustainable solutions for peace and justice.

Our vision

Our vision since our inception in 1931 is that volunteering and working together will be seen as one of the main means to build society. It will be considered as one of the most important tools to achieve a culture of peace and understanding.

Strategic Plan

2017-2020

This document sets out our strategic framework, our priorities and how we will work to achieve these. Since 2015, we have carried out a rigorous assessment of the organisation to ensure we continue to work in the most effective ways for our beneficiaries, members and funders. We want to ensure that we deliver quality and meaningful activities and can demonstrate the impact of our work to our key stakeholders.

This plan is to ensure IVS is resilient for the future and is capable of adapting to the changing needs of society. We will continue to build on our experience, our knowledge and expertise to build a portfolio of projects that support the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2015, governments around the world signed up to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all. Specifically, Goal 16 is dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels. For the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part and to reflect this, the SDGs and the UN Plan of Action to Integrate Volunteering into the 2030 Agenda will inform our current and future work.

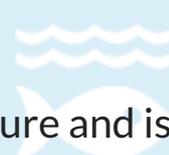
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



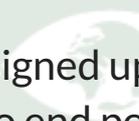
15 LIFE ON LAND



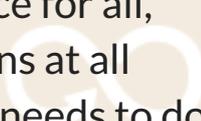
14 LIFE BELOW WATER



13 CLIMATE ACTION



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



10 REDUCING INEQUALITY



Our Primary Objectives

2017-2020

1. We will develop more and better volunteering opportunities

We will do this by:

- Creating volunteer opportunities, for all members of society, that promote personal development, social service and intercultural understanding
- Providing mutual support through the exchange of volunteers across partner organisations
- Striving to ensure that opportunities are accessible to all members of society of new partners both at home and abroad
- Aiming to break down perceived barriers to volunteering by offering a range of opportunities for both skilled and unskilled volunteers that ensure lasting long-term benefit to local communities
- Strengthening relationships with existing partners and developing a network of new partners both at home and abroad
- Enhancing the capacity of our local and international partners working in cooperation with local communities
- Identifying projects with clearly defined needs and measurable, sustainable outcomes that we can monitor and evaluate.



2. We will manage our charity as effectively and efficiently as possible

We will do this by:

- Developing and implementing effective operational practice that enables the International Voluntary Service staff, volunteers, trustees and members to carry out their roles effectively and efficiently
- Implementing robust monitoring and evaluation procedures to enable us to continually learn and improve the quality and impact of the work of both IVS and our partners at home and abroad
- Developing and implementing a diverse income generation strategy that addresses the changing funding infrastructure and landscape in the UK and Europe and that enables us to deliver our strategic priorities in ways that can be sustained beyond 2020
- Engaging our members, staff, trustees and volunteers in raising the profile of the International Voluntary Service through a programme of fundraising, marketing and awareness building activities
- Researching and collating the history of IVS to affirm our strengths and inform our future direction



IVS Volunteers, 1944



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