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Volunteers linking  
knowledge with needs

# ICVolunteers



## WHO ARE WE?

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ICVolunteers is an international non-governmental organization that recruits, trains and coordinates volunteers for non-profit conferences, events and projects. We also offer experienced organizational and management services to event and project coordinators.



With its headquarters in Geneva, ICVolunteers has continued to expand, and now has offices and permanent representation in a number of countries, including South Africa, Mali and Canada.



In addition, ICVolunteers plays an important role in the field of volunteerism by promoting civic commitment and involvement, and by providing leadership and links between organizations, individuals and communities.

### OUR VISION

*The vision of ICVolunteers is to help **develop** a future where both individuals and communities can reap the benefits of personal commitment and free will. Through **volunteering**, we seek to link knowledge with needs and to promote a better, more equitable society **involving** all fields and actors.*

*ICVolunteers works with a network of 11.000 volunteers from age 16 to 87, coming from 179 countries.*



***Linking knowledge with needs. Involving volunteers from all walks of life.***

*Our volunteers are people who offer their time, skills and expertise to projects that need assistance.*

## WHAT DO WE DO?

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ICVolunteers offers professional assistance, and both provides and trains volunteers for a wide range of non-profit events and activities by:

- Recruiting and managing volunteers
- Providing welcome and logistical services
- Offering language services: translation and interpretation
- Writing and editing articles or conference reports
- Setting up and managing an online and onsite library on volunteerism
- Building new programs in response to longer-term needs for technical assistance in developing countries
- Coordinating the CyberVolunteers Program, which links volunteers who have information technology skills to ongoing projects, enabling South-South, North-South and South-North cooperation

*Our volunteers speak 150 different languages.*



*“The opportunity you gave me to participate as a reporter with ICVolunteers is one of the most important in my life so far. Because I had the chance to work in the field that I study, and also the chance to get to know great people who can teach me big lessons in life and work.”*

*Maritza Cardenas Ortiz,  
volunteer from Colombia*

## Who Benefits from ICVolunteers?

ICVolunteers creates opportunities covering a wide variety of interests that benefit both volunteers and public or private entities, non-governmental organizations and international institutions.

- **Project and event organizers need assistance:**

Humanitarian and other non-profit projects often have very limited budgets and therefore depend heavily on the help of volunteers. ICVolunteers provides competent assistance to organizers of non-profit projects, for which it recruits, trains and coordinates volunteers.

- **Volunteers are searching for interesting ways to help:**

ICVolunteers provides motivated individuals with unique opportunities to support organizations in need in local, national and international settings. By offering their time and skills, volunteers share their knowledge and strengths with those who need them, while acquiring new expertise that benefits them both personally and professionally.

## Projects

*Some past key projects include:* World AIDS Conferences (Switzerland, South Africa, Spain); UN Social Summit, Copenhagen +5; World Summit on the Information Society; Commission on Human Rights; Landmine Survivors' Network training sessions; creation of information systems in various contexts; conferences organized by the Cantonal Hospital and different universities; Geduc (sustainable development); Metropolis (Migration); International Day of Older Persons; S-Dev; Casa Alianza; and the Marathon of Geneva.



## HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

ICVolunteers relies on communities, businesses and people like you. There are a number of ways you can get involved:

- **Volunteer:** Get involved in our latest projects and contribute to major local, national and international events, while meeting new people and building your skills and contacts.
- **Use Our Services:** We are here to help your organization with conferences and projects. The annual membership fee for benefiting members is CHF 200 (EUR 140).
- **Become a Member:** Support ICVolunteers by becoming an individual member. Annual membership starts at just CHF 50 (EUR 35), or CHF 35 (EUR 25) for students and retirees, and entitles you to benefits including special events, our quarterly newsletter, and more.
- **Corporate Giving:** Corporate partners make a crucial contribution to ICVolunteers while enjoying the benefits of association with our organization.
- **Gift Membership:** Share your interest in volunteers linking knowledge with needs or support a specific program with a gift membership.

## Some of our Partners and Donors

### United Nations and Intergovernmental Organizations:

CERN, FSN, PAVD-VNU (Mali), UNESCO, UNITAR

**Governments:** State and City of Geneva, France, Mali, Senegal, Switzerland

**Local authorities:** Haut Conseil des Collectivités Territoriales (Mali), Association des Municipalités du Mali

**Civil society:** CIVICUS, CONGO, ISF, IAVE, Iko Poran (Brazil), Cape Town Volunteer Center (South Africa), Biblio'Brousse (Burkina Faso), ANAIS Afrique Centrale, CEPROCID, PDHRE/DPEDH (Mali), ICT for Development, Conservation Through Public Health (Uganda), Azur Développement (Congo-Brazza), CRESP (Senegal)

### Universities and research centers:

Université de Dakar, CESAG, Université de Genève, Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (Campus numériques)

**Private sector:** MCI Group, MCART, Softwares, IBM

**Donors:** Republic and Canton of Geneva, City of Geneva, Loterie Romande, France SCAC, Geneva International Academic Network (GIAN), Institut francophone des nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la formation (INTIF), MCI Group, CopyQuick, Celltec

*Since its foundation, ICVolunteers has implemented 400 projects on five continents thanks to many cross-sectorial partnerships and the support of our donors.*



## ICVolunteers from Past to Present

**1997** Viola Krebs, Director, recruited our first volunteers, for the 12<sup>th</sup> World AIDS Conference.

**1999** Success of these initial efforts led Krebs and others to found ICVolunteers.

**2003** ICVolunteers obtained associative status with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations (DPI).

**2005** The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) granted ICVolunteers special consultative status.

On 21<sup>st</sup> October 2005, ICVolunteers became an international federation.



*"I do not speak English very well. Yet, it is key to follow UN conferences. Thanks to volunteer interpreters, I was able to actively participate in the discussions."*

*Jean-Claude, participant in the Landmine Survivors Training of "Raising the Voices"*

## Offices and Representations around the World

