



International
Association for
Volunteer
Effort

E-IAVE

September 2013

In This Issue

We are sorry to be so late in arriving!

News from IAVE

- **Leading Together in the Face of Disaster – Companies and NGOs Working Together**
- **IAVE World President Visits Vietnam**
- **IAVE National Representatives in the Spotlight: Galina Bodrenkova, Russia**
- **GCVC Webinar Addresses Employee Volunteering and Corporate Giving**
- **Have YOU completed the Global Youth Volunteers Survey yet?**
- **On Behalf of Our Friends at Atlas Corps**

The Final Word: Raaida Stars for IAVE in Geneva

WE ARE SORRY TO BE SO LATE IN ARRIVING!

Your editor took two weeks personal time to join his wife and 24 others from his church on a two week pilgrimage to Palestine and Israel, primarily to understand better the conflict and the reality of life on both sides but also to visit the “Holy Land.” So, he fell behind and now is working to catch up. But, never fear, the October issue will be out on time, the last week of the month.

Thanks for your patience!

LEADING TOGETHER IN THE FACE OF DISASTER – COMPANIES AND NGOS WORKING TOGETHER

IAVE is pleased to announce the availability of “Leading Together in the Face of Disaster,” the report of a special Global Dialogue between corporations and NGOs.

Just copy this link to download a free copy of the report:

<http://iave.org/sites/default/files/Final%20Disaster%20Dialogue%20Report%20September%202013.pdf>

The one day Dialogue was held in conjunction with IAVE’s World Volunteer Conference in London, December 10, 2012. It involved 25 participants from corporations and humanitarian agencies. The focus was on disaster-related volunteer activities – preparedness, prevention, response, relief and short - and long-term recovery.

The Dialogue was preceded by preparatory interviews to gain perspective on the two primary focal points:

The Dynamics of Collaboration. How does it work? What make it successful? What are the risks? What are the realities, the limitations? What are the potential benefits to both parties and how can those be realized?

The Role of Volunteers. What are appropriate and inappropriate roles for volunteers? How can engagement of people with needed expertise be maximized? What are the opportunities for people at distance from a disaster to help? How can companies create an employee engagement program around disaster?

Find out the answers to these questions and much more in the report.

The Global Dialogue was made possible through the sponsorship of UPS® which also was the Diamond Sponsor for the World Volunteer Conference. We deeply appreciate the active leadership and support of Eduardo Martinez, President of The UPS Foundation, and the assistance of Joe Ruiz, Director of the UPS Humanitarian Relief Program.

IAVE WORLD PRESIDENT VISITS VIETNAM

[We are pleased to share this report from IAVE's World President, Dr Kang Hyun Lee, on his recent trip to Vietnam.]

This trip was planned by Volunteering Korea (VK) with a fund from Korean government to do research on volunteering in Vietnam. The goal of this project is to find a proper partner in Vietnam for capacity building of volunteer infrastructures in Vietnam. VK commissioned the task to Volunteering Culture Korea (VCK, formerly known as Volunteer 21) and I was invited to play a bridge role between Vietnam and Korea.

The 2nd 5-year plan of the Korean government to promote volunteering in Korea includes international exchange and infrastructure support in soft-currency countries, which was my idea. Vietnam was chosen by me to visit for fact finding. The purpose of visit were:

1. Research on status of civil society and volunteerism in Vietnam
2. To find out government policy on volunteering
3. To find out ways to support Vietnam Volunteer Centers (VVIRC and its branch offices)
4. To find out ways to empower volunteer leaders and volunteer organizations, and to promote volunteerism in Vietnam
5. To identify potential partners

I asked Do Thi Kim Hoa of the Vietnam Volunteer Information and Resource Center (VVIRC) and also IAVE National Representative to help organize our visit to Vietnam. She kindly made all meeting schedules for us in Hanoi, Hochimin and Danang including setting up a meeting with one of the five secretaries of the Youth Union, which supervises VVIRC. She also served us as an interpreter traveling with us. We are deeply moved by her warm hospitality and perfect management of the schedules including selection of restaurant to taste every famous Vietnam's delicacies.

In every city, we visited office of VVIRC and had meetings with leaders of volunteer groups and clubs. All of them said like a unison, they need more financial resources, leadership, basic skills, fund raising skills, and volunteer management trainings, international exchange or working with international volunteer groups and opportunities to participate international volunteer conferences. I think IAVE may have a role in trainings in the future.

We found that the volunteering tradition is very strong and well preserved by the effort of government through Youth Union. Summer volunteer campaign by Youth Union and VVIRC was successful to bring 5 million people, mostly youth, in volunteering for community service from cleaning brooks from aqueducts to building bridges and comforting war widows, called as "Heroes of Mothers". I watched the Closing Ceremony of the Campaign and other events on that day including blood donation (about 500 people participated on that day). In fact, Danang city gets 95% of blood need from volunteers while Hanoi gets 90% of blood need from volunteers.

We visited an Hanoi Blood Transfusion Hospital to meet a blood donating organization. The organization members are mostly youth and they were allowed to keep their office space within the hospital. So, they not only campaign for blood donation caring the people who donated blood, but also they provide various hospital volunteer activities too.

Then, we went to a park where a group of college and high school students were making lanterns using empty beer cans and small candles to be used in decoration for August Full Moon Celebration for children of low income families.

I found another unique volunteering. In Vietnam, like other countries, they have an annual college entrance exam which is held in big cities like Hanoi and Hochimin. Students from rural areas have difficulties in finding room and board affordable. Many of them do not know how to get the exam site. So, many student volunteers help the rural students to find room and board for the exam and transport them to the exam sites by their scooters or bicycles. Students who do not have scooters or bicycles, they borrow scooters or bicycles for this purpose. This volunteering has been a tradition in many colleges. The students received such assistance when they took exams, they become volunteers to provide the same services to new exam taking students and this beautiful tradition passes down to new students.

I gave five IAVE medals (made to commemorate IYV in 2001) to VVIRC with five 16GB USBs donated by VCK to be used at the International Volunteer Day ceremony honoring outstanding volunteers.

The talks between Youth Union and Volunteering Culture Korea went very well to establish a partnership in developing volunteerism to nationwide including assisting enabling existing VVIRC and further development of infrastructures in other cities.

IAVE NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES IN THE SPOTLIGHT: GALINA BODRENKOVA, RUSSIA

A regular contribution to the E-IAVE by now, this month's dialogue mis with Galina Bodrenkova from Russia. Galina has been involved with IAVE for over 20 years, contributing immensely to promoting volunteering and enlarging IAVE's presence in her country.

In the lines below, she talks about the organization she represents, her role as a National Representative as well as her hopes for future involvement with IAVE.

“Russian Volunteer Development Centre started its journey in 1991 under the name of Moscow Charity House (MCH). Initially, MCH worked with over 60 various agencies that provided social assistance to people in need that involved more than 2.000 volunteers in delivering those social services,” Galina explains the origins of the organization she is currently involved in. Due to its growing experience in managing volunteering and with the help of expertise from IAVE, MCH quickly repositioned itself to be the national volunteer center for Russia and has been helping create a favorable environment for the development of volunteering in Russia since 1994.

“Our activities include delivering seminars training and workshops on volunteerism, organizing Volunteer Spring Week and Global Youth Service Days as well as running the annual all-Russian conference on volunteerism,” Galina says about the current activities at the Russian Volunteer Development Centre.

In regards to her role as an IAVE National Representative, Galina says “it is a great honor and a great responsibility, for me as well as for my organization”.

Based on the ideas, values and volunteer management practices IAVE, Galina tries to raise awareness about volunteering and volunteer support capacity building in the regions of Russia by improving the ability of local volunteer centers to more effectively engage volunteers through training and networking and creating conditions for the exchange of experiences.

“I try to develop IAVE by bringing in new Russian members, especially young people” Galina adds to explain about what she does as a NR. In fact, Russia now has one of the largest IAVE memberships with 60 individual, organizational and youth members.

In her work, Galina is driven by the deep conviction that the development of volunteering is an effective tool for engaging citizens in solving the problems of society and it also helps in strengthening civil society (non-profit sector) by increases its ability to be a partner in the dialogue with government authorities. “Volunteers feel and act as useful members of society,” says Galina.

“I think that IAVE’s new initiative of setting up a Global Network of National Volunteer Centers will be another opportunity for National Representatives of many countries, including Russia, to come together and I look forward to engaging with IAVE in the future. I believe that this will be a strong network of professional exchange of experiences, knowledge, and cooperation in the development of volunteering worldwide.” Galina concludes our discussion as she looks to continue her engagement with IAVE members.

IAVE would like to thank Galina for taking time and sharing some of her thoughts with us. If you want to get in touch with Galina, she can be reached at gbodrenkova@yandex.ru!

GCVC WEBINAR ADDRESSES EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERING AND CORPORATE GIVING

IAVE’s Global Corporate Volunteer Council (GCVC) held its second webinar of 2013 on the days of September 11 and 12, with members participating from all regions of the world. The focus was on the relationship between employee volunteering and companies’ philanthropy.

Our main presenter was Sam Santiago from American Airlines, chair of GCVC and member of the IAVE Board of Directors. The following represents a small portion of his presentation.

American Airlines has five areas where they focus their community investment: children in need; veterans and military; breast cancer, disaster relief, and employee giving and volunteering. Employee giving, company donation, and volunteering woven throughout all their focus areas.

Employee giving and volunteering has always worked together at American Airline throughout their long history. But there has also been a unique outcome to this approach – in that certain dedicated airline professionals took their passion for giving and volunteering a step beyond and groups from around the world came together to form their own non-profit organizations and other employee associations for community service, incorporating fundraising and volunteering from the beginning.

Some of these organizations are Airline Ambassadors, Medical Wings International and the Something Magic Foundation. These special “offshoots” of American Airlines and the community spirit learned there have in their own right made a huge difference in many parts of the world.

In the case of Airline Ambassadors, they have helped orphans and vulnerable children worldwide by leveraging connections with the airline industry towards humanitarian service. Volunteers escort children for life-changing medical care, hand deliver humanitarian aid to children in orphanages, clinics and remote communities, as well as advocate and educate on child protection and human trafficking awareness.

American Airlines currently separates their work into two tracks – corporate partnerships and employee-led partnerships. Corporate partnerships support the company’s focus areas and include a vast array of elements such as advertising, cause marketing, publishing, in-flight video promotions and, when appropriate, employee giving and volunteering.

One good example of a corporate partnership is AA’s relationship with the Komen Breast Cancer organization – this involves all of the above, from employee involvement in fundraising walks and volunteering to painting some of their airlines pink (the signature color of the Komen Foundation) in honor of the partnership.

American Airline is inclusive of all employees – from those that take reservations to flight attendants to maintenance workers to engineers - in its volunteering and giving efforts, and despite going through difficult times recently, their spirit is best summed up in a quote by one of their union leaders - “As long as we have a breath in our bodies and a penny in our pocket, we’ll give.” – Dale Danker, President TWU Local 514 TULE.

Thanks to Sam for a great presentation and to all those who participated in September’s webinar!

[This report was provided by Sarah Hayes, Consultant Director for IAVE’s Global Corporate Volunteer Council.]

HAVE YOU COMPLETED THE GLOBAL YOUTH VOLUNTEERS SURVEY YET?

IAVE is promoting an open global survey to establish the ten most important areas of interest that youth volunteers of different regions worldwide are more active and/or interested in. This is one of the steps to the development of our Global Youth Volunteers (GYV) initiative, an

envisioned platform that seeks to engage and connect every young volunteer and their initiatives worldwide, through strategic regional partnerships, with three focus areas: Follow Your Passion; Build Your Skills; and, Multiply Your Impact.

To answer the Survey, please go to: <http://es.surveymonkey.com/s/BKYZXPM>

For more information on GYV, visit: <http://www.iave.org/gyvolunteers> or write gyvolunteers@iave.org.

ON BEHALF OF OUR FRIENDS AT ATLAS CORPS

For the past eight months, IAVE has greatly benefited from the presence of Ramona Dragomir, Atlas Corps Fellow from Romania. Ramona serves as manager of our network of National Representatives and of our developing National Volunteer Center Global Network.

Now we say “thank you” to Atlas Corps for this wonderful asset by passing along this announcement that they now are accepting applications for their next group of Fellows.

“Our application is now open for our next class of the Atlas Corps Fellowship, and we need your help spreading the word to outstanding nonprofit leaders around the world. We are recruiting both nonprofit professionals from overseas to come to the U.S., as well as Spanish speakers from around the world (including the U.S.) to go to Colombia, for our fellowship program that develops leaders, strengthens organizations, and promotes innovation to address critical social issues. We have supported 206 nonprofit leaders from 54 different countries through a year of service and training.

“Atlas Corps seeks nonprofit leaders from around the world to apply for Fellowships in the U.S. and Latin America. Atlas Corps engages leaders committed to the nonprofit sector in 6-18 month, professional fellowships at organizations to learn best practices, build organizational capacity, and return home to create a network of global leaders.

“In addition, Fellows will supplement daily knowledge with theoretical topics presented in the Atlas Corps Global Leadership Lab and networking with leaders from around the world. This prestigious fellowship includes a living stipend to cover basic expenses (food, local transportation, and shared housing) and health insurance.

“Applications are accepted year-round, but to be considered for the May class, **we encourage applications by November 1**. For more details about eligibility requirements and the application process, please visit bit.ly/ApplyAtlasCorps. “

THE FINAL WORD: RAAIDA STARS FOR IAVE IN GENEVA

IAVE Staff member Raaida Mannaa, Project Manager of Global Youth Volunteers, participated in the Annual Curators Meeting of the World Economic Forum's Global Shapers Community, that took place in Geneva, Switzerland on August 16-20. The event gathered more than of 200 youth leaders from more than 160 countries from all regions worldwide.

The Global Shapers Community is a global network of local groups (Hubs) developed and led by young people who are exceptional in their potential, achievements and drive to make a contribution to their communities. The Community has a strong local and global dimension, and relies on young people to shape and lead it. Raaida, Founding Curator of the Barranquilla (Colombia) Hub, not only represented her city, but was also sharing the message of IAVE and

the work we are developing with our Youth Strategy. She participated in different activities, such as a volunteer workshop and a dialogue with the Forum on Youth Unemployment.

The program of the meeting focused on the vision, values and culture of the Community, aiming to ensure the success and sustainability of each Hub and the greater network. You can read more about it on Raaida's blog at <http://bit.ly/RaaidaWEF>.