

VOLUNTARY WORKCAMP ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA



OUR PROFILE

Who We Are

The Voluntary Workcamps Association of Nigeria (VWAN) is an international voluntary service (IVS) organization dedicated to promoting a culture of peace and development through organizing international voluntary projects, workcamps, and exchanges in local communities for people of all ages and backgrounds. Since 1963, VWAN has contributed to the development of hundreds of impactful projects in local communities, enabling both local and international volunteers to foster positive change and community development.

Our Vision and Mission

Vision: To create an egalitarian and peaceful society through international volunteering projects with personal, community, and global impact.

Mission: We strive to promote volunteerism, a culture of peace, intercultural exchange, international understanding, and solidarity

Our Objectives

- To become a catalyst for widespread added-value projects and solutions, centered on volunteering and social change.
- To provide extraordinarily impactful volunteering opportunities in local communities, for individuals and particularly young people.

Our Thematic Areas

- Climate Justice/Sustainable Environment
- Gender Inclusion
- Peace Education

Our Core Values

- Peace & Non-violence
- Gender Equality
- Inclusion & Citizenship
- Climate Action
- Inter-Cultural & Bio-Diversity

Groups we work with

- Youth Engagement
- Rural communities
- Marginalized/Underprivileged communities

Partners

- Branch of Service Civil International (SCI)
- Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS)
- Network of African Voluntary Service Organization (NAVO)
- West African Voluntary Association Network (WAVAN)
- Youth Organizations and Networks (National Youth Council of Nigeria)
- Corresponding with relevant Government Ministries and Agencies (Ministry of Youth & Social Development, Ministry of Culture & Tourism)

REPORT OF VWAN FOR 2025 ACTIVITIES

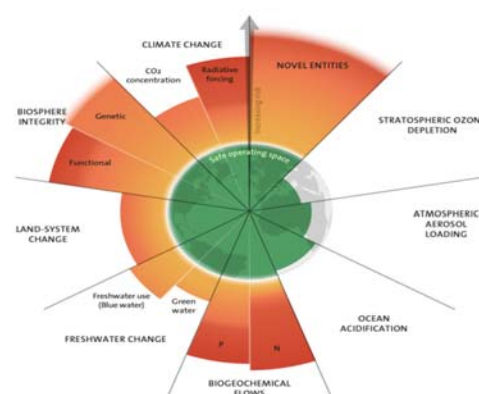
- The year 2025 activities saw us breaking barriers of Long Term Exchange Placement with Germany. The siege placed on the Visa appointment and prolonged delay was overcome but not without the intervention of a high level Officer of the Foreign Ministry in Berlin. The Visa appointment for 2 of our outstanding excellent volunteers were granted and approved. The two of them attended the Visa appointment interviews and they were given 18 months visas to Germany for Long Term Volunteering - LTV Projects. Both of them left Nigeria on 26th June 2025 to Europe. They have already settled in their projects and doing fine to cope with other assignments and community efforts in Germany.



- In the year our President took part in the African Volunteers Summit organized by UNESCO in conjunction with SCI facilitating the programme under the auspices of Network of African Voluntary Organisations. The Assembly of delegates from sub-regional networks took place from 9th to 14th June 2025.

About 35 delegates from 20 partners and 13 countries took part in the strategic programme to reposition IVS in Africa considering thematic action like Climate Justice, Environmental Sustainability, Capacity Building and Decolonization. The outcome of the event has impact on South – South cooperation many other projects and toolkits were developed.

- In the 3rd quarter of 2025, SCI Switzerland organized and Ecological Breakdown Seminar titled “Digging Deep – Exploring the Roots of Ecological Breakdown” funded by the Swiss National Agency. VWAN was represented by the President. The focus was on the area of imperialism and Colonial exploitation leading to decolonization concept of ancient legacies.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

- The SCI was magnanimous to approve and allocate a grant of €4,000 to finance some local projects under the Regranting facility. The objective was to empower the organization and made it responsive for global community. VWAN applauded this initiative and commence planning and implementation of several projects at 4 different States of Nigeria.



In July 2025 the first project was launched at Social Development Institute (SDI), Iperu Remo Ogun State between July 20 2025 and July 27, 2025. The project was on Peace Education and Capacity Building tagged **Building Bridges: A Volunteer Workcamp for Peace, Rights & Community Action**. Both internal and external facilitators from Mercie Kubasu of ICYE-Kenya covered the events with online paper presentation and workshop drills. About 19 youngsters were present in the event and delegates were drawn up from Colleges and Universities. Young volunteers gathered together at Social Development Institute at Iperu to practically discuss various challenges related to **violence, conflict resolution and environmental degradation**. The absence of structured **peace education programs** in schools and youth organizations has largely contributed to rising cases of poor conflict management skills.



The second phase of the project took place from 18th August to 31st August 2025 at YMCA Camp, Eruwa in Ibarapa East Local Government of Oyo State. The title of the project was **Rooted in Change: Cultivate Climate Resilience through Permaculture and Community Action** which tends to focus on Agriculture, Foods Preservation, Forest Conservation, Organic and Non-Organic Food, Permaculture and Green Revolution. Dr. Wahab Bello , Dean of Faculty of Agriculture from College of Technology and Agriculture in Igboora delivered a resounding and impactful paper to moderate the event. We also had an online panel discussion with Miss Brilliant Chepkirui from Kenya global NGO who engaged and enriched participants with desired knowledge of ecological breakdown. The participants were later divided into syndicate groups to carry out Workshops while considering the aspect of building resilience on climate change and sustainable environment. The event in Eruwa was both non-



formal education and practical experience on seedling and planting trees. The colonial legacies and modern perception of agro-allied farming was explored. Issues for contention at this Workshop includes poor waste management and low recycling rates which has contributed to over-flooding and pollution some States. More importantly, increasing deforestation, improper waste disposal, and lack of have resulted in deteriorating environmental conditions, affecting air and water quality. Young people, who make up a significant portion of the population, often **lack access to environmental education** and the resources needed to drive sustainable change in their communities.

🌍 The third phase of the SCI regranting project was held at UNESCO World Heritage Site, Odode, Idanre in Ondo State. The project took place from 20th September to 30th September 2025. The State Ministry of Culture and Tourism rapidly responded to our requests for materials and accommodation. About 17 participants drawn from Edo State, Oyo State, Lagos State, Ondo State and Osun State took part in the project.

- Between September 28 and October 6th Project Admin Officer, Isabel Okosun was sent as delegate to represent VWAN at the Exchange Platform Meeting (EPM) in Germany. The yearly EPM brings both branches and partners together to review and evaluate processes, statistics and exchange for the year. The various challenges and values of exchange within the global network were reviewed. An informal training on the new Online Placement System (OPS) was also shared with delegates from different organisations. Issues of Palestine, insecurity, disarmament and method of bridging Peace were discussed.



Isabel with SCI-President - Alex

Some recommendations were sent to ICM in Bulgaria for consideration and approval.

- Due to inability to secure early appointment for one of our active Executive Member to attend Forced Labour programme in Switzerland between November 16 to November 25, 2025, he could not attend the event. It was indeed a frustrated effort. It was a serious failure and moment of reflection on our bilateral cooperation with Embassies and statutory agencies.

The 38th CCIVS General Assembly and General Conference was held at Pretoria in South Africa from 11th November 2026 to 17th November 2026. This was another big event that Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) organized to consider several reports both administration, finance and operational exercise. VWAN had been a full member of CCIVS since 1978. The President represented the organisation and he was able to present proposal on passionate consideration to review process of disaffiliation of members from the network due to inability of members to pay for their membership fees. Many more fruitful discussions and engagement took place at the meeting. VWAN remained focus and supportive to international solidarity of the Network. The General Assembly considered the various Strategic Planning from 2026 – 2037 of the Network in the area of SP1: Capacity Building SP2: Quality & Local Engagement SP3: Advocacy & Visibility SP4: Governance & Resilience.



The National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) to which we are also affiliated member had a congress at the Administrative College of Nigeria (ASCON) in Badagry from 5th December 2025 to 7th December 2025 under the theme **Local Youth Actions for SDGs and Beyond**. VWAN was ably represented by our agile young Activist Ugochi Ezeobika as official delegate. It was a forum to bring all the Voluntary Youth Organisations, Local Youth Organisations and Community Based



Organisations (CBO) in Nigeria together to address the going on concerns and also give report of their various activities for the year 2025. VWAN has been a staunch member of the Youth Network – NYCN for the past 6 decades. The Nigerian Youths gathered together under this umbrella and they came up with strategic plans for your involvement in nation building.

The International Volunteer Day, December 05, 2025 was also celebrated in grand style at the Shotubo Village in Sagamu, Ogun State. Voluntary Workcamps Association of Nigeria brought Students and Lecturers of some Secondary and Tertiary institutions together to create awareness

on expected roles of leaders and youngsters in volunteering and how to create resilience towards passion for community engagements.

The Shotubo Council of Chiefs and Youths in the community endorsed the need for deeper involvement in the whole community development

and also building a sustainable inclusion and self development. The planting while considering ecosystem affects Climate Change in the world activities was led by Mrs. Flourish VWAN leadership in Ogun State. The participants including Veterans in Secondary and Tertiary institutions in Ogun State.



environment for social event culminated in tree and ecological breakdown as it today. The direction for these Olorunfemi and the Sagamu attendance recorded over 50 VWAN and Students from



Activities in the Secondary School propagating the inclusivity system in Volunteering in Nairobi, Kenya June 2026



CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

BUILDING BRIDGES: A VOLUNTEER WORKCAMP FOR PEACE, RIGHTS & COMMUNITY ACTION

Shagamu, Ogun State
20th - 27th July, 2025

FREE

- * Accommodation
- * Feeding

<https://wwan.org.ng/projects.html>

Venue: Social Development Institute, Shasha, Iperu, Shagamu, Ogun State

PEACE EDUCATION Project took place at Sagamu, Ogun State under the SCI-Regranting Action



CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

ROOTED IN CHANGE: CULTIVATING CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH PERMACULTURE & COMMUNITY ACTION

Eruwa, Oyo State
Mon, 18th - Sun., 31st August, 2025

FREE

- * Accommodation
- * Feeding

AGE
18 - 35 years

<https://wwan.org.ng/projects.html>

Venue: YMCA Camp, Eruwa, Oyo State

ECOSYSTEM of Climate Change Project held at Eruwa in Oyo State under the SCI-Regranting Action Rooted in Change Empowerment Programme



CLIMATE ACTION Group in Eruwa during the Sustainable Environmental Project on Ecosystem



Training Session on Ecology Barriers and Sustainable Living Environment in Climate Change





**NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF NIGERIA (NYCN)
Annual Congress held at ASCON Badagry, Lagos
from 5th to 7th December 22025**



Cross section of participants that celebrated the International Volunteers Day at Shotubo Village Community Hall at Sagamu outskirts of Ogun State led by Mrs. Flourish Olorunfemi, Sagamu VWAN Coordinator on December 05, 2025



Mrs. Flourish Olorunfemi, Sagamu Team Leader coordinated -- Health Officers conducting simple test for 2025 International Volunteers Day at Shotubo Village a member of Executive at IVD Day



38th Annual General Assembly & Conference of CCIVS at Pretoria in South Africa in November 2025. Delegates at State House, Pretoria in South Africa



Participants at the Exchange Platform Meeting at Bonn, Germany on Global South Exchange



ABOUT US

VWAN is an international voluntary service (IVS) organization dedicated to promoting a culture of peace and development through organizing international voluntary projects, workcamps and exchanges in local communities for people of all ages and backgrounds.

- ✓ Contribution to social inclusion and engagement of young people
- ✓ Creating unity of purpose
- ✓ Active citizenship and involvement
- ✓ New interests, experiences and hobbies
- ✓ Pooling local resources and initiating new projects
- ✓ Intercultural dialogue, peace and solidarity
- ✓ Bringing dynamism in community interaction dialogue, peace and solidarity

WHAT WE DO?



PROMOTING VOLUNTEERING

These are short or long term projects with duration of 0-12 months driven by VWAN local groups in Nigeria, with different partners all over the world with the aim of promoting solidarity, cooperation and awareness within the topic of peace education.



PEACE EDUCATION

Training projects, seminar, workshop activities structured with a participatory non-formal educational methodology to building competences of volunteers.



PROJECTS OF COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

These are various ad hoc development projects implemented by VWAN in Nigeria, usually in cooperation with donors and development partners.

WHAT IS A VOLUNTARY WORKCAMP?

A Voluntary Workcamp is a short term voluntary community work organized in cooperation with a local project or community.



A workcamp is a unique form of volunteering that brings people together (often 10-20 volunteers) from different countries, cultures and backgrounds to live, work and learn together in local communities for a period of 1-3 weeks.

WHY DO WE DO WORKCAMP?

FOR PEACE:



Workcamps utilized Peace education workshops to break down barriers between people and foster intercultural understanding. In this way contributes to culture of peace and cooperation

Practical work concerning issues such as environmental conservation, cultural heritage, social justice, rural and human development.

TO WORK, LIVE & LEARN:



FOR SOLIDARITY:



Global understanding and solidarity for a just world. Solidarity between human beings on all levels, working to support local communities and involve new people in the process

Engaging communities for development. Welcoming to the central challenge of developing communities in a sustainable way.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Our History

VWAN was founded by Late Professor Justin Yale Labejo in 1963. He had the privilege to attend an international exchange programme in Europe and later in Ghana. He then gathered like minded friends to replicate his experiences and establish VWAN as an international voluntary service NGO in Nigeria.

Our Vision

It is to create an egalitarian and peaceful society through international volunteering projects with personal, community and global impact.

Our Mission

VWAN strives to promote volunteerism, culture of peace, intercultural exchange and international understanding and solidarity.

THROUGH OUR NETWORK OF COOPERATIVES WE HAVE ENGAGED IN VARIOUS VALUE-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT ENDEAVORS TANGENTIAL TO THE SDG'S & CORRESPOND TO UNESCO COMMISSION & OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS/AGENCIES

Contact us today to join us in building a better community and sustaining a greater future.

+234-706-600-0085

More Information

www.vwan.org.ng

@vwanigeria

PROMOTING VOLUNTEERING, PEACE EDUCATION, AND PROJECTS OF COOPERATION FOR YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

OUR NETWORKS (STAKEHOLDERS)

- ✓ Service Civil International (SCI)
- ✓ Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS)
- ✓ Pan African Youth Network for Culture of Peace (PAYNCoP)
- ✓ National Youth Council of Nigeria
- ✓ Civil Society Organizations
- ✓ Network of African Volunteer Organization (NAVO)
- ✓ West Africa Voluntary Association Network (WAVAN)

**ONE HUMANITY;
ONE PLANET;
ONE WORLD.**



+234-706-600-0085 www.vwan.org.ng

Td. Shyllon Street, Palmgrove, Lagos.