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Bimonthly Newsletter

April-May 2015

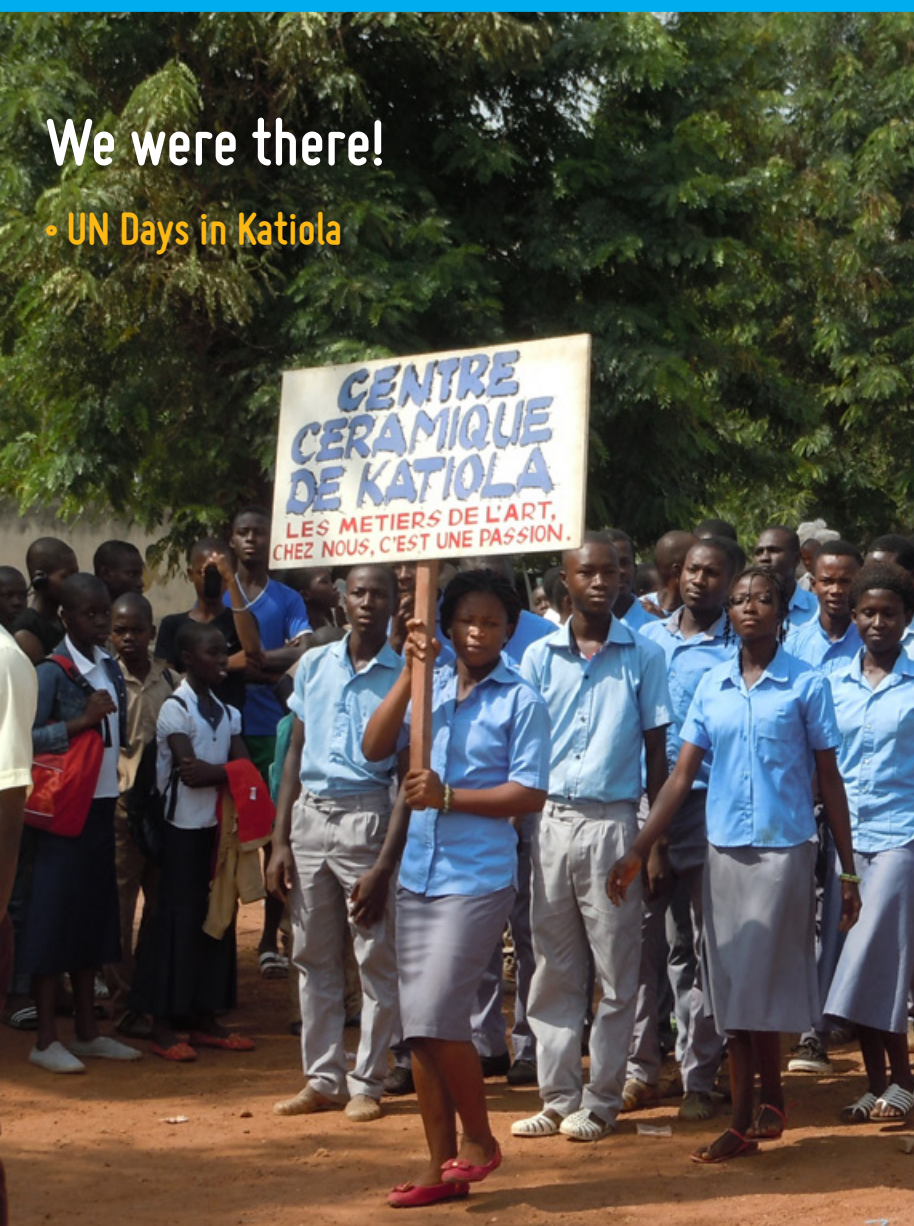
UNV Flash

Côte d'Ivoire

N° 2

We were there!

• **UN Days in Katiola**



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EDITORIAL

Dear UN Volunteers, dear colleagues,
dear partners,

It has been a real pleasure for me to join recently the UN Volunteer team in Côte d'Ivoire, and I would like to start those few lines by addressing my sincere thanks to the whole UNV support team, to the UN Volunteers and to all colleagues and partners, for your warm welcome and good thoughts, since my arrival. It is in the plane to Abidjan that I went through the first newsletter "UNV Flash Côte d'Ivoire", and I was already impressed, not only by its quality, its innovative composition, its illustrations, but also by all the positive messages that are emphasized. This has encouraged me even more and made me eager to start this new mission.

I have integrated the UNV family three years ago, with the position of UNV Programme Officer, in relation with the agencies and programmes of the UN System, and I have always been convinced of the added value of volunteerism for United Nations, but also for the development in general. My experience in Iraq last year evidenced once again the engagement and outstanding contribution of UN Volunteers in crisis and post-crisis contexts and in the resolution of conflicts.

Out of those first two weeks in Côte d'Ivoire, I would mainly keep in memory the great energy of the UN Volunteers I had the opportunity to meet and of the support team working with me on a daily basis. I have also been impressed by the diversity of profiles and areas of expertise. We will receive in May the official visit of a delegation from our UNV Headquarters, and the meetings and activities that we have scheduled will be an opportunity to showcase and recognize the contributions of all those UN Volunteers.

I take this opportunity to introduce the willingness of the UNV Programme, which

has become mine, to adopt a more integrated approach of the Programme in the country, by liaising further the initiatives of the UN Volunteers assigned at agencies and assigned at UNOCI (UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire). This new approach will allow us to act as one team, while joining our efforts and competencies.

I am very much looking forward to working with all of you, and I am also eager to visit the UN Volunteers serving on the field.

I am also happy to see that the achievements of the UN Volunteers are well reflected in this newsletter, and its quality features the scope of their contributions.

Eventually, I would like to close this editorial by renewing my availability to support as much as I can the efforts of the UN Volunteers all along their assignments and to capitalize on those volunteerism experiences.

Thanks and enjoy your reading!

Pauline Deneufbourg

UNV Programme Manager



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About us

UNV programme :

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that contributes to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide.

Volunteerism is a powerful means of engaging people in tackling development challenges, and it can transform the pace and nature of development. Volunteerism benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer by strengthening trust, solidarity and reciprocity among citizens, and by purposefully creating opportunities for participation.

UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for recognition of volunteers, working with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing an increasing number and diversity of volunteers, including experienced UN Volunteers, throughout the world. UNV embraces volunteerism as universal and inclusive, and recognizes volunteerism in its diversity as well as the values that sustain it : free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity.

www.unv.org

Online Volunteering :

The Online Volunteering service is one of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme's corporate tools to mobilize volunteers for development.

The Online Volunteering service connects volunteers with organizations working for sustainable human development. Volunteers contribute their skills online to help organizations address development challenges.

Online volunteers are...

professionals, students, homemakers, retirees, people with disabilities and expatriates from across the globe who support organizations over the Internet. They are people who commit their time and skills over the Internet, freely and without financial considerations, for the benefit of society. What they have in common is a strong commitment to making a real difference to development.

www.onlinevolunteering.org

Introducing you...

UNV Support Office and Field Unit !



Pauline Deneufbourg

Programme Manager

With the support of a multifunctional team, the PM provides administrative, operational and programme support to UN Volunteers, and ensures timely follow up of all requests coming from UN Volunteers; continues UNV Programme development with UN agencies, host government, and other partners present in the country; develops advocacy and public information activities on UNV involvement and volunteer activities in the country; advocates for integration of the UNV Programme's work in the country into strategic documents; supervision of the UNV Support Office and of the UNV Field Unit in the UNDP Country Office.



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Amy Cissé

UNV Administrative
& Finance Officer

In charge of all UNV entitlements such as Home Visit, R&R, 30 days DSA for redeployment (replaced by 1 month MLA). Focal Point UMOJA with Finance, raising Ear Marked Funds and preparing memos related to UNV entitlements to be sent to other sections (Finance and Budget, Human Resources, O/CMS, etc). Welfare Secretary and Focal point for UNV Support Office.



Monica Nowosad

UNV Administrative and
Recruitment Officer

Managing and monitoring UNV recruitment activities and on-boarding, orientation to newcomers, redeployments, internal transfers, contract renewals, repatriations, attendance monitoring and approval, providing advice to UN Volunteers on HR related matters, training delivery.



Isabelle Rampa

UNV Capacity
Development and Project
Officer

Internal and external communication, advocacy, providing support to volunteering projects and activities with local volunteering organizations, coordinating capacity development of UN Volunteers in ONUCI and UN Country team, supporting UN Volunteers in national capacity development.



Marie Laure Kouadio

Administrative assistant

Creating personal files for newly recruited UN Volunteers upon arrival, issuing certificates. Registration / distribution of incoming and outgoing correspondence for the Unit. Creating and updating UN Volunteers' FSS cards. Leave request approval. Alternate of Amy Cissé for financial issues.



Dramane Coulibaly

Administrative and
logistic assistant

All arrangements linked to arrival of new UN Volunteers, check in or check out process, effective support for all medical related issues to Volunteers, consultation with mail & pouch Unit. Dramane is at the moment also in charge of the support to UN Volunteers affected to agencies and programmes, in the absence of Anna Fanny.

*Anna Fanny*

Programme Assistant

With the overall guidance of the Programme Manager, assists the Programme Officer in all administrative and financial tasks regarding UN Volunteers serving in Agencies and Programmes (recruitment follow up, visas, end of contract and repatriation, Monthly Living Allowance...).

New UNV Programme Officer



We will soon welcome in our team a new UNV Programme Officer. The UNV PO has the overall responsibility for project management and developing programmes to promote and enable the contribution of volunteers to various development efforts. Under the supervision of the Programme Manager, and together with the Programme Assistant, the UNV PO administers UN Volunteers in UN agencies/programmes and promotes volunteerism amongst partners.



We were there!

Katiola: UN Volunteers involved in the 38th United Nations Days from 3 to 5 March 2015

The United Nations Days take place about every two months in different locations. They bring the people together around a central theme, with the participation of different divisions of the UNOCI, UN agencies and programs.

The UN Volunteers always actively participate. In Katiola, this materialised in activities such as volunteer screening for HIV /AIDS or blood

donor operations and facilitation of workshops with traditional chiefs, women's and youth associations, elected and senior officials, primary and secondary school teachers, security forces, media and ex-combatants. The theme of the various workshops was **"The people of Katiola and the UN hand in hand to build peace, promote national reconciliation and development."**



Abou Diakhate, UN Volunteer as a Training Officer from the HIV-AIDS Unit, facilitates a workshop with the women's associations (UNV Programme, 2015).



Laura Aldriguetti (right), UN Volunteer in the Civil Affairs Office in Bouake, conducts, together with her colleagues Marion and Michel, the workshop with traditional chiefs (UNV programme, 2015).



Dramane Coulibaly, from the UNV Support Office, runs a workshop with the youth associations (UNV Programme, 2015).



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Mata Maiga, UN Volunteer in the PIO (Public Information Office) captured all the events during the 3 days (UNV Programme, 2015).



Anabella Corridoni, UN Volunteer from the "Security Sector Reform" (SSR) division and Abdoulaye Alpha Touré, facilitated a workshop with Security Forces (UNV Programme, 2015).



In the evening of March 3rd films were shown to the communities of Katiola featuring the United Nations, with Questions/Answers games and lots of prizes to win!

March 4th was dedicated to the procession of schools, theater presentations, sports games and speeches. All surrounded by the United Nations stands.



Abou sets up the HIV stand in order to explain his work to the local authorities (UNV Programme, 2015).



Anabella at the SSR stand (UNV Programme, 2015).





Desire Hicuburrundi was at the DDR stand: explaining Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration to the scholars (UNV Programme, 2015).



Procession of Schools (UNV Programme, 2015).



The communities of Katiola in the shade of the surrounding trees to listen to the speeches, music and children's shows! (UNV Programme, 2015).

Isabelle Rampa

UNV Project and Capacity Development Officer,
UNV Support Office Abidjan



Volunteering in the Field

Our Human Rights Officer in Bondoukou

This section allows us to discover in each edition what United Nations Volunteers are doing in the field. We will learn how they help the organization fulfil its mandate, about their activities, what life is like in the field, their success stories and the lessons learned from failures. In short, how they contribute to making a difference to the daily lives of the Ivorian people.

In this edition, I will introduce you to **HAMADOU DJIBO**, UNOCI's Human Rights Officer for Eastern Ivory Coast, based in Bondoukou.

Trained as a lawyer, Hamadou Djibo, a Nigerien national, holds an advanced degree in Human Rights from the Catholic University of Louvain-la-Neuve in Belgium.

He began his professional career at the National Commission for Human Rights in his home country, Niger, where he completed his initial training in the promotion and protection of human rights. This earned him a scholarship from the University Commission on Development, allowing him to specialize in this field.

After completing his training, he had the chance to work at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Banjul, Gambia.

He then returned to his home country where he worked for the UNHCR (United Nations High Commission for Refugees) as a protection officer. Armed with this experience, he decided to return to the international sphere on November 21, 2012, as a UN Volunteer in UNOCI's Human Rights division. His duties in the field include promoting human rights, advocacy work with local authorities, providing



Group picture after an outreach session (ONUCI tour). Djibo Hamadou is surrounded by the chief and population of the town of Yezimale (Hamadou Djibo, 2014).

technical support to civil society structures, empowering them in different thematic areas with which they are connected. In cases of a fundamental human rights violation, he intervenes to try and stop the offence and bring the perpetrator to justice as prescribed by law. By making regular visits to detention centres, Hamadou Djibo helps improve detention conditions for the prisoners. Large penal establishments, security forces, former combatants, and civil society leaders, all benefit from his experience through training sessions on various topics that he organises for them.

His past and present activities are always linked to the promotion and protection of human rights, which have fostered his humanistic love for others and which he is especially delighted to share. **Being of service to others, being a voice for the voiceless, and the defender of the defenceless...this is how he defines his daily work as UN Volunteer Human Rights Officer.**

Mr. Hamadou Djibo recognizes that the volunteer spirit has led him to understand people's different situations and to raise their awareness of the values of peace, human rights, and the need for everyone to contribute to the consolidation of these ideals by respecting each other's human rights.

Speaking of the actual impact of his work on people, Hamadou Djibo is delighted that nowadays the administrative authorities, law enforcement officials, community leaders and the ordinary people are all more aware of the need to respect human rights. This translates into collaboration in denouncing human rights violations which, in the past, were settled informally and

in much secrecy. There certainly remains much to be done in a country that seeks to emerge from a crisis that has marked it deeply, but this volunteer draws satisfaction from the confidence that people place in him, and especially from the fact that they "feel secure once the Human Rights division is seized of any matter concerning a human rights violation".

A difficult job, and inspite of our involvement we are not all-powerful

Hamadou Djibo's actions have not always been as successful as he wished. At times, he has

"My greatest regret is not being able to provide medical assistance to victims of sexual violence, in spite of the successful legal assistance which often led to the conviction of the perpetrators. This was so in the case of a three year old girl in the Adiaké community who was raped in 2014 by a young man in his thirties.

experienced a sense of failure in restoring their rights and dignity to victims, for many reasons:

The victim required surgery. In spite of my advocacy to partners, the victim did not receive proper care in good time. I feel as though I did not succeed in restoring her dignity to this innocent victim, although I did all that lay within my power for justice to be served."



M. Djibo interviewed by ONUCI FM, while giving a training to local partners on sexual violence related trials (Hamadou Djibo, 2014).



Success story

“The success story that I like best is one in which I intervened to report the case of an out-of-court settlement for the rape of an under-age girl. In spite of being threatened, I referred this case to the prosecutor for criminal investigation. On the day of the hearing, my presence

alone in court was enough to signal the verdict. I heard people whispering: “It’s over; when UNOCI takes charge of a matter, no one can make any more deals.” The guilty party was convicted and this served as an example to the entire community.”



M. Djibo speaking to the scholars of the Modern college of Agnibilekro during a procession of schools (Hamadou Djibo, 2014).

Desire Ndagijimana

UNV Public Information Officer,
Communication and Public Information, Bondoukou

The country I come from

Niger, my lovely country... did you know?



Flag of Niger
(CIA World Fact Book, 2004).

Named after the third longest river in Africa, the Republic of Niger is the largest country by surface area in West Africa, covering 1,267,000 square kilometres. Its landscape is one-fifth savannah and four-fifths desert, with nearly 18 million inhabitants. The capital Niamey is divided in two by the river Niger, with a "Left Bank" and a "Right Bank" connected by a bridge – the 'Pont Kennedy' – built in the 1970s. Niger, my lovely, is much more than a country that suffers from famine and drought, while also being the fourth-ranking producer of uranium in the world. It actually contains a wealth of cultural, artistic and ecological wonders that will surprise you.



Map of the Niger River (Kimdime, 2006).

A pioneer in African cinematography...

Did you know that it was Niger, my lovely, which brought **African cinema** to international attention in the 1960s and 70s through the Nigerien director and actor Oumarou Ganda? Ganda's first film 'Casablanca' was an autobiographical tale of his service in the French Expeditionary Corps in Indochina. The film premiered in Paris in 1968 and was also presented at Cannes, later receiving awards at the Moscow International Film Festival, the Malaga Film Festival and a mention at the Carthage Film Festival in Tunisia. Ganda was also the winner of the best film award

at the very first FESPACO (Panafrican Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou) in 1972 for his film "Wazzou Polygame", about polygamy and forced marriage in Niger. I invite you to have a look at Oumarou Ganda's films, as well as other films by Nigerien film-makers, such as "Gossi" and "La Case" by Gatta Abdourahmane (1979), and contemporary films such as "Al'lessi: An African Actress" (2004) by Rahmatou Keita – the first African documentary in the official selection at the Cannes Film Festival – and 'Tuwo yayi magana' by Tarbiyya (2005).

Fashion for Peace and Development...

Did you know about FIMA, the International Festival of African Fashion? In 1998, Nigerien designer Alphadi, also known as the "Magician of the Desert", launched the International Festival of African Fashion (FIMA) in the Tiguidit dunes, on the edge of the Air Ténéré

desert, bringing African designers together with international designers such as Jean-Paul Gautier, Kenzo, Paco Rabanne, and Yves Saint-Laurent to showcase their creations and promote African textiles and designs. Since its creation, FIMA has continued to create



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opportunities for development, for example through the establishment of a school of fashion in Niger, and by providing a platform for using fashion and creativity as a driver for peace and development in the West African region. FIMA is a biennial event organised in different areas of Niger to promote Nigerien culture and

tourism. The next edition of FIMA will take place in the capital, Niamey, from 25-30th November 2015 and it will reveal the fast-growing urban dimension of Niger to an international audience. If you love African fashion and new cultural experiences, I recommend you attend this long-awaited event!

Safari between savannah and woodlands...

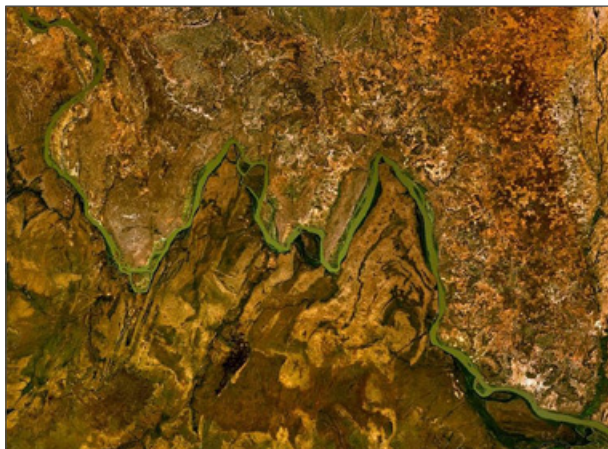
Did you know about the **“W” National Park of Niger?**

It is part of the “W” Regional Park, a cross-border park named after the “W”-shaped bends in the Niger River. The regional park includes parts of Niger, Benin and Burkina Faso, and covers a total area of 10,000 km².

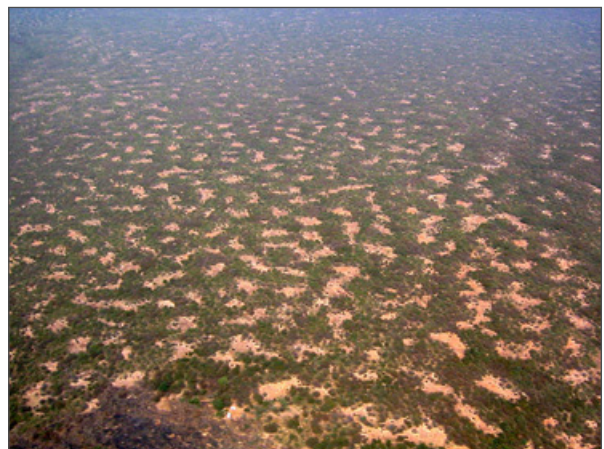
The park's most interesting feature is its diverse landscapes, which include wetland ecosystems (large and small rivers and ponds) and dry land

The Niger reserve, known as the “W” National Park of Niger, is a stunning site in an unvisited corner of Africa, which offers an incredible safari experience. The park lies in a transitional zone between the Sahelian and Guinea savannahs; and it connects with the Tamou and Dosso wildlife reserves (of Niger) and to the “W” National Parks of Burkina Faso and Benin.

ecosystems with a mixture of grassy areas, brush, shrub land and gallery forests.



Bends in the River Niger which give W National Park its distinctive name (Julio Reis, from a Nasa World Wind screenshot, 2005).



Aerial view of a gapped bush plateau in the Nigerian part of W regional park (Nicolas Barbier, 2003).





The Mekrou river near Point Triple in the W National Park, during the rainy season (Marco Schmidt, 2007).

The park is known for being the home of some of West Africa's very last surviving wild elephants and buffalos. Other large mammals, including lions, cheetahs, hippos, warthogs, baboons

and caracals, can be found in the park. The bird population is also worth seeing, with nearly 350 bird species, including bustards, fish eagles and hornbills.



*Baboon in the Niger section of the Parc W du Niger. This appears to be a male Vervet Monkey, *Cercopithecus pygerythrus* (Roland Hunziker, 2006).*



Elephant in the Niger section of the Parc W du Niger (Roland Hunziker, 2006).

The “W” National Park of Niger has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1996, and I

invite you to embark on this unique and spectacular safari experience if ever you should be in the region!

OH...one clarification!

What do you call someone from Niger? How do you differentiate them from someone from Nigeria? Isn't it the same sound some may ask? NO. Someone from Niger should

be called, not “Nigh-jee-rian” but ‘Nee-jay-rian’ to minimise confusion. Now, to avoid confusion altogether, you can simply say ‘He/ She is from the Republic of Niger’.

Finally, to fans of **quad-biking** on sand dunes, **camel** rides in the **desert**, traditional **leatherwork**, silver **jewellery** and **woodcarving**, lamb (**méchoui**) grilled in holes in the sand,

and **Hausa architecture** (decorated mud brick houses) : **SEE YOU SOON in Niger, my beautiful country!**

Samira Keita

UNV Coordinator Officer,
Office of the SRSG, Daloa



Our Specialist of the month

Interview of Paola Paoletti

Chief Counsellor

Paola is the Chief of the Staff Counselling Unit at the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire. **She was a UN Volunteer from 2005 to 2008 in UNMIK** (United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo). We met with her and she shared some information about her experience.



I am a chartered organizational psychologist specialized in psychotherapy. I have also studied workplace mediation, strategic HR, project management, and negotiation. I have a PhD in organizational wellbeing with a thesis on organizational stressors and conflict

in humanitarian organizations. I worked in several countries as a Mental Health program manager and as a training consultant and workplace mediator for NGOs and international organizations.

How did you become a UN Volunteer?

I was doing private practice as a psychologist when I decided to enroll in a Master's program in Human Rights and Conflict Resolution. In that program, I had a lot of exposure to the United Nations' work. I met with a UNV programme staff member at a job fair organized by my school at that time and she encouraged me to

create my UNV profile online.

I had never thought of working in the UN, but I was already doing a lot of volunteer work. Later on, I was contacted by the UNV programme in Bonn for a Staff Counsellor position in UNMIK and I accepted it.

How was your experience as a UN Volunteer Staff Counsellor in UNMIK?

I was the only UN Volunteer at that time and I was lucky to have outstanding managers who taught me a lot about how to be a Staff Counsellor. As a Staff Counsellor, you have to remain very neutral.

Not only are you a psychologist, but you also serve the organization. I learned this new role with the support of my managers.

How did your UNV experience impact your career?

When my supervisor left UNMIK, I took over the staff counselling role for the whole mission. This was a very challenging and rewarding experience which led me to being offered my first position as a professional staff member. After UNMIK, I worked at the UN Headquarters in New York.

When I left New York I had the chance to work outside the UN system in several countries. That experience allowed me to develop professionally but I missed working for this organization and I consider myself lucky for the opportunity that I have had to return to the UN system.



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Could you talk to us about the role of the Staff Counselling unit in a UN Peacekeeping Mission?

Individuals working in peacekeeping operations face many challenges: ever changing contexts, volatile environments, hardship, loneliness, and issues in their workplace. Staff counsellors can provide support to all staff members for all matters related to their wellbeing, at work and in their

private lives, and our services are fully confidential. During the retrenchment, we also support staff with training and coaching related to soft skills and career development in collaboration with IMTC (the Integrated Mission Training Center) – to help staff prepare for their next challenge.

What about your team? Do you have any UN Volunteers working with you?

I am blessed to work with amazing colleagues in this mission – the counsellors are all very skilled professionals with high levels of professional integrity. My UN Volunteer colleague, Maite, is a true asset for the team – she single-handedly provides support and training to all UN staff in the West Sector. It is a demanding job, but even during challenging times she never loses her positive attitude and good mood. I learn something from her every day. **I think UN Volunteers are pillars of the organization.** Many

times they demonstrate exemplary professionalism. **I personally considered it a privilege to serve as a UN Volunteer. I think UN Volunteers should always be treated with respect and be given the recognition they deserve.** As I was saying earlier, I had excellent managers and I believe that really helped my professional development.

Another UN Volunteer just joined us, Estelle. She is based in Abidjan and will also cover the needs in the whole East sector. (Bouake, Bondoukou, Yamoussoukro and Korhogo).

Do you have any advice for the UN Volunteers in Ivory Coast?

As a general advice, I would suggest that they focus on their career development, and take all opportunities they get to learn inside and outside the organization. I would suggest they plan their careers by defining their goals and identifying the

different paths that could lead them to achieve these goals. The Staff Counselling Unit will be happy to help UN Volunteers develop a career plan!

Etiam Fiagan

UNV Associate Human Resources Officer,
Recruitment Unit , Abidjan



Since last time...



International Mine Action Day

On 8 December 2005, the General Assembly declared that 4 April of each year shall be observed as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action. It called for continued efforts by States, with the assistance of the United Nations and relevant organizations, to foster the establishment and

development of national mine-action capacities in countries where mines and explosive remnants of war constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the civilian population, or an impediment to social and economic development at the national and local levels.

Theme in 2015: More than Mines

The United Nations applies mine action expertise to an increasingly wide range of explosive hazards, from unexploded missiles, artillery shells, rockets, grenades and mortars, to unsafe

and unsecured weapons and ammunition, improvised explosive devices and cluster bombs. Mine action creates space to allow humanitarian access, stabilization and development.



Destruction of weapons, Korhogo (UNMAS, 2014).



Demolition of Ammunition (UNMAS, 2015).



On 2 April 2015, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Mine Action Day under the theme “More than Mines”.

In partnership with Ivorian security forces, a special event presented UNMAS achievements in serving UNOCI and national capacity improvements in terms of security and protection of civilians' issues.



UNMAS Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI, 2015).

#morethanmines

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Visit us at: www.unmas.org

Julie Dahan

Programme Officer, UNMAS



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21st commemoration of the Genocide in Rwanda

On 11th April, 2015, from 5 p.m., at the Cocody district hotel, The Rwandan community in Côte d'Ivoire, the Rwandan UNPOLS contingent of the UN peacekeeping mission in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), representatives of public and private institutions and their friends, all took part for the 21st consecutive year in the commemoration of the 1994 Genocide perpetrated against Tutsis and moderate Hutus in Rwanda.



Walk to Remember (Tito Aman Bazahica, 2015)

The ceremony involved a commemorative “Walk To Remember”, followed by prayers, testimony from survivors and a film-show about the

Genocide. All the speeches focused on the same point: no more Genocide ever again in the world, and no more denial that Genocides happened.



After the march, outside the Cocody district hotel (Tito Aman Bazahica, 2015)



The commemoration ceremony (Tito Aman Bazahica, 2015)

Tito Aman Bazahica
UNV Pharmacist,
Medical, Abidjan,



Cultural agenda



Come and discover the group “**Au Nom du Slam**”.

You can see them perform :

- every **2nd Friday** of the month at **Le Basquiat Art Gallery** at **8 p.m.**
- every **1st Saturday** of the month at **Le Pams**, at **7 p.m.**

They also do other gigs – have a look at their :



“Collectif Au Nom du Slam”.

You can also take the opportunity to discover or revisit these two very different venues :

Le Basquiat Art Gallery



Where you can see AHONZO's work exhibited, as “Light and Knowledge,” until **16th May**. Follow their activities on their



“Le Basquiat Art Gallery”.

They'll be celebrating their first birthday at the end of May. Watch out for them!

At the Riviera intersection, going towards Attoban, 10 metres from the André Malraux lycée.

Le Pams, Abidjan's hottest live music venue!



This Bar will treat you to a varied live music programme Wednesday through Sunday.

We especially recommend the all-girl band **Bella Mundo** every Thursday night.

Situated at II Plateaux, 2nd traffic light on the right after the Sococé supermarket on the way from Cocody (street of the 12th arrondissement).

For a totally different scene

If you haven't yet been to the **Villa Kaïdin**, you should get over there ASAP! The Villa Kaidin is a unique cultural and artistic venue in Abidjan, a place for meeting people and exchanging ideas, which hosts a range of

events as well as artists in residence. We were blown away by the beauty of the place: its architecture, the work by Monique Le Houelleur, and most of all by the displays of land art in the garden.

Elle



A theatrical performance, will be shown there on **8th** and **23rd May, 2015**, at **7.30 p.m.**

“Elle”: “Along the street, a woman walks. She walks with someone other than herself. She sets up an internal dialogue. Walking along, she makes associations and hypotheses, weighing the pros and cons of a whole existence. She walks and uses her walk to construct and deconstruct her life as a woman.”

The Villa Kaidin will also play host to a Workshop on Positive Energy, on **15th May 2015**, at **8 p.m.**, and on **19th May 2015**, at **9 a.m.**, with Amélie N'Zé, coach and hypnotherapist.

www.villakaidin.com

Tel: +225 22 43 62 66

773 rue D30 Martin Luther King, behind the US Embassy – Riviera Golf.

Isabelle Rampa

UNV Project and Capacity Development Officer,
UNV Support Office Abidjan



Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the editorial team for their precious collaboration, to Julie and Tito for their articles and to Paola for accepting to answer to our questions.

A warm welcome to Pauline in our team, and great thanks for everything she already does for the UN Volunteers.

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et Catherine SCHØNBERG

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