



## UN Volunteers Build Stronger Youth Leadership

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme takes another step in building stronger leadership among Filipino youth.

The two-day workshop “**YES (Youth Empowerment Series) 4 MDGs!**”, jointly hosted with the United Nations Association of the Philippines (UNAP) and public colleges and universities, will take place in the City College of Calapan in Calapan City (January 31-February 1), the University of Northern Philippines in Vigan City (February 12-13), and the Philippine Normal University in Cadiz City (February 27-28). Up to 45 selected young leaders between 16 and 28 will attend each of YES 4 MDGs workshops that will address youth volunteers’ role in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), strengthening of leadership skills and networks, and promoting awareness on effective HIV/AIDS prevention. The workshop also intends to provide essential information on volunteering, HIV/AIDS, and active involvement in development.

YES 4 MDGs demonstrates concerted efforts of government and non-government sectors in empowering the youth to fully participate in development initiatives. The workshop will enable young leaders to make collective recommendations on strengthening volunteerism that will feed into UNV’s future programming.

The UNV is the leading advocate for promoting civic engagement in development initiatives through volunteering. UNV’s unique approach to development is reaffirmed by Republic Act 9418, also known as the “Volunteer Act of 2007,” that institutionalizes volunteerism as a strategy for national development and international cooperation. Built on strong partnership, UNV and its government counterpart, the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA), co-hosted a series of activities to promote volunteerism during the National Volunteer Month in December. UNV is administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

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*The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that supports sustainable human development globally through the promotion of volunteerism, including the mobilization of volunteers. It serves the causes of peace and development by enhancing opportunities for participation by all peoples. It is universal, inclusive and embraces volunteer action in all its diversity. It values free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity, which are the foundations of volunteerism.*

For more information, contact:

Hiroyuki Takita (Mr.), UNV Programme Officer

Tel: (02) 889-7550

Email: [hiroyuki.takita@undp.org](mailto:hiroyuki.takita@undp.org)

Website: [www.unv-ph.org](http://www.unv-ph.org)

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