This endows UNV with a unique potential to address these issues, which it will leverage in particular by focusing on:

1) climate change adaptation through people-centred approaches; and
2) development of innovative approaches to disaster risk reduction by harnessing the power of volunteerism to build community resilience for inclusive and coherent national disaster prevention, preparedness and risk reduction strategies.

In this way, UNV will contribute to the increased effectiveness of UN agencies in promoting resilience to climate change and disaster risks, and to the establishment of enhanced global, regional and national capacity for environmental management and disaster risk reduction.

**UNV STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2014 - 2017**

**COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme has articulated the scope and dimensions of its strategic direction and results for four decisive years in its Strategic Framework 2014-2017.

This Strategic Framework focuses UNV programmatic efforts in five key areas:

- securing access to basic social services,
- community resilience for environment and disaster risk reduction,
- peace building,
- youth, and
- national capacity development through volunteer schemes.

UNV will also focus on building a credible body of knowledge informed by research, innovation and evidence in order to advocate and enhance the integration of volunteerism into peace and development programming.

**WHY PARTNER WITH UNV?**

In 2015, UNV began supporting the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience throughout Asia and the Pacific. UN Volunteers, familiar with and often originating from local communities, have been vital to promoting sustainable development. As locals themselves, they are familiar with using locally-appropriate and environmentally-sound practices, including indigenous knowledge in environmental management and capacity development to respond to natural disasters.
Volunteerism is an important component of the programme on Community-Based Adaptation (CBA), jointly implemented by participating governments, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and UNV.

From 2008 to 2013, the CBA programme implemented projects across 10 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific. UN Volunteers focused on highly vulnerable communities in the countries concerned and assisted them in increasing their capacity to adapt to climate variability and long-term climate change. In the course of the programme, 49 NGOs and community-based organizations developed and implemented sustainable community-driven adaptation projects.

One international and six national UN Volunteers supported the mobilization of over 5,800 community volunteers, and the project reached 64 communities and an estimated 240,000 people, and worked with 100 community groups (Final Evaluation Report for the Community-Based Adaptation Programme, 2013).

In the last five years, UNV has been involved in disaster response and risk reduction activities in a number of countries including Ecuador, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

In 2008, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and UNV set up a fund to strengthen the role of volunteerism in disaster risk reduction. The funds aimed to reduce community vulnerability to natural disasters, support local volunteering and facilitate early recovery. The Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Peru were the first three countries where the fund was applied. Through the financing of 25 national UN Volunteers, cooperation projects were carried out that contributed, for instance, to training more than 500 volunteers from Civil Defence and Universidad Nordestana in Dominican Republic, 1,770 individuals from civil society in Ecuador, and 351 leaders in Peru, who supported the recovery process after the earthquake that affected the ICA region in 2007.

Escuelas Vivas (Living Schools) was a triangular South-South initiative between UNV and the governments of Brazil and El Salvador, in which skills, knowledge and best practices were transferred between the two nations to deepen the knowledge of hundreds of students, their families and local communities concerning disaster risk reduction and food security. Around 40 activities focused on risk prevention, including workshops and evacuation simulations to train students and their families, and also to develop a disaster preparedness plan for the schools, with the support of more than 500 volunteers.

**ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Small communities are likely to be hit hardest by climate change. At the same time, they are often least able to cope with its impact. In addition to attempts to mitigate global warming, adaptation measures need to be adopted to manage and cope with its effects.

Volunteerism is an important component of the programme on Community-Based Adaptation (CBA), jointly implemented by participating governments, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and UNV.

From 2008 to 2013, the CBA programme implemented projects across 10 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific. UN Volunteers focused on highly vulnerable communities in the countries concerned and assisted them in increasing their capacity to adapt to climate variability and long-term climate change. In the course of the programme, 49 NGOs and community-based organizations developed and implemented sustainable community-driven adaptation projects.

One international and six national UN Volunteers supported the mobilization of over 5,800 community volunteers, and the project reached 64 communities and an estimated 240,000 people, and worked with 100 community groups (Final Evaluation Report for the Community-Based Adaptation Programme, 2013).

In the last five years, UNV has been involved in disaster response and risk reduction activities in a number of countries including Ecuador, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

In 2008, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and UNV set up a fund to strengthen the role of volunteerism in disaster risk reduction. The funds aimed to reduce community vulnerability to natural disasters, support local volunteering and facilitate early recovery. The Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Peru were the first three countries where the fund was applied. Through the financing of 25 national UN Volunteers, cooperation projects were carried out that contributed, for instance, to training more than 500 volunteers from Civil Defence and Universidad Nordestana in Dominican Republic, 1,770 individuals from civil society in Ecuador, and 351 leaders in Peru, who supported the recovery process after the earthquake that affected the ICA region in 2007.

Escuelas Vivas (Living Schools) was a triangular South-South initiative between UNV and the governments of Brazil and El Salvador, in which skills, knowledge and best practices were transferred between the two nations to deepen the knowledge of hundreds of students, their families and local communities concerning disaster risk reduction and food security. Around 40 activities focused on risk prevention, including workshops and evacuation simulations to train students and their families, and also to develop a disaster preparedness plan for the schools, with the support of more than 500 volunteers.

**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

In the last five years, UNV has been involved in disaster response and risk reduction activities in a number of countries including Ecuador, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

In 2008, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and UNV set up a fund to strengthen the role of volunteerism in disaster risk reduction. The funds aimed to reduce community vulnerability to natural disasters, support local volunteering and facilitate early recovery. The Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Peru were the first three countries where the fund was applied. Through the financing of 25 national UN Volunteers, cooperation projects were carried out that contributed, for instance, to training more than 500 volunteers from Civil Defence and Universidad Nordestana in Dominican Republic, 1,770 individuals from civil society in Ecuador, and 351 leaders in Peru, who supported the recovery process after the earthquake that affected the ICA region in 2007.

Escuelas Vivas (Living Schools) was a triangular South-South initiative between UNV and the governments of Brazil and El Salvador, in which skills, knowledge and best practices were transferred between the two nations to deepen the knowledge of hundreds of students, their families and local communities concerning disaster risk reduction and food security. Around 40 activities focused on risk prevention, including workshops and evacuation simulations to train students and their families, and also to develop a disaster preparedness plan for the schools, with the support of more than 500 volunteers.