



International  
Association for  
Volunteer  
Effort

# E-IAVE

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## Will We See You in Madrid, Antigua or Kuala Lumpur?

2017 is another exciting year for IAVE, with three different regional conferences in Europe, Latin America and Asia-Pacific! In Europe, we are working with Telefónica to bring the 2017 European Conference on Corporate Volunteering in Madrid. In Latin America, Centro de Voluntariado Guatemalteco is hosting the 7<sup>th</sup> Latin America Regional Volunteer Conference in Antigua. Yayasan Salam in Kuala Lumpur will host the 15<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Regional Volunteer Conference.

**Learn more about each of the conferences on the next page and see how you can participate!**



## 2017 EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING: Partnering for Impact

Madrid, Spain  
May 8-9<sup>th</sup>

The goal of the conference is to significantly advance both the discussion and the practice of corporate volunteering in Europe, engaging key thought leaders as well as executives and managers of companies committed to developing strong, high impact volunteer efforts. The conference will focus on corporate partnerships– with NGOs, with community and public sector organizations, and with UN agencies as well as company-to-company collaborations. The health and strength of these partnerships is key to impactful corporate volunteering.

The 2017 conference will build on the conversations and learning that took place at the European Conference on Corporate Volunteering held in Zurich in September 2015, as well as the Forum: Corporate Volunteering Response to the Refugee Challenge held in Berlin in May 2016.

### The conference is open to:

- Professionals in the field of corporate citizenship, corporate social responsibility, community relations and volunteering;
- NGO representatives that facilitate or partner with corporate volunteer programs;
- Representatives of United Nations agencies that work with corporate volunteers;
- Government officials responsible for formulating and implementing government policy and programs related to volunteering.

View the complete [conference program](#) and [register today](#) to join us in Madrid!



## 7<sup>th</sup> LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE Volunteering: A Pathway to Development

Antigua, Guatemala  
October 18-20<sup>th</sup>

In October 18-20, Antigua Guatemala is hosting our VII Regional Volunteer Conference in Latin America; we have chosen the Guatemalan Volunteer Center (GVC) as the co-organizer and local host. Both IAVE and the GVC have as their mission to promote and

strengthen volunteering in communities and countries; this partnership is a great opportunity for the volunteer leaders of the region to meet and share experiences, tools and knowledge on volunteering issues.

The main theme of the Conference, **Volunteering: A Pathway to Development**, recognizes the power and importance of volunteering to reach important goals such as the 2030 Agenda. Today more than ever, volunteering, through all sectors, is positioned as an essential platform for the development of our communities.

The general objective of the event is to strengthen and empower participants with tools and successful experiences to face the challenges of volunteering in

the development of their communities and countries. The Conference will have national and international experts for each subtheme throughout the three days, with different types of activities such as Plenary and Parallel Sessions and Workshops.

UNESCO designated Antigua as a World Heritage Site in 1979. It is surrounded by three impressive volcanoes and is one of the most touristic destinations of the country due to its well-preserved and colorful colonial architecture.

**Learn all the details of the event on [our website](#) and join us in Antigua Guatemala! The call for presenters is [open online](#) until April 20<sup>th</sup>.**



## 15<sup>th</sup> ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

November 22-26<sup>th</sup>

[Yayasan Salam Malaysia](#) will host this year's 15<sup>th</sup> IAVE Asia-Pacific Regional Volunteer Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, between November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

Representatives from both organizations publicly launched the event with a press conference that took place on March 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center. The event, which will include a separate part focused on youth volunteers, is expected to attract around 300 international participants and as many local ones.

Volunteers are constantly coming up with new ideas, and, in most cases, are the ones who implement them. Through our theme "The power of volunteering: what have you changed?" the conference intends to explore how volunteering is beneficial for social innovation and people's welfare.

Volunteering activities and program often get started as a reaction to developments in the society, by introducing change in the communities where they take place and on the beneficiaries of their actions. With this conference, we seek to create a dialogue space in the Asia-Pacific region for the participants to engage with one another while discussing, debating and deepening their understanding about how volunteering is responding to modern lives.

*"It is our hope that this conference can mobilize volunteer groups into a single force in reaching out to the community and be more cohesive*

*in their efforts. It will also give a better snapshot of our volunteering landscape, so we can put them (volunteer groups and organizations) together and gauge how strong we are in the volunteering field,"* said Yayasan Salam's Board of Trustees member, Datuk Yong Soo Heong during the press conference.

The conference is designed around six major topics which hold particular interest in the

Asia-Pacific region.

- Leadership
- Technology and social innovation
- The Sustainable Development Goals: with a

focus on poverty, education and climate change

- Financial sustainability
- Corporate volunteering
- Strategic partnerships

We look forward to meeting volunteer leaders, organization, government and company representatives from the Asia-Pacific region in Malaysia.

**Visit the 15<sup>th</sup> IAVE Asia-Pacific Regional Volunteer Conference [website](#) and register to get the latest news about the event!**

## IAVE Leads Global Research on National Leadership for Volunteering

In 2015, IAVE launched a research project to identify and develop a knowledge base about national leadership efforts for volunteering around the world. The research team cast as broad a net as it could, combining outreach to known NVCs with extensive internet-based desk research and engagement with a range of global volunteer involving and resource organizations to ask their assistance.

By last October, the team had looked at some 134 countries and had identified likely examples of organized national leadership for volunteering in 102 countries, completing interviews and surveying with 81. From that pool, we invited representatives of some 50 national leadership efforts to join us in a special two-day dialogue in Mexico City, just prior to the World Volunteer Conference. The final group who were able to attend represented 38 different countries spread across every region of the world.

Why are we focused on national leadership for volunteering?

First, it is a critically important component of the global volunteer community.

By creating and sustaining a national environment that highly values volunteering and that encourages and enables people to participate, national leadership for volunteering ultimately results in more people, more

effectively engaged with greater impact:

- addressing priority human, social, environmental and economic problems;
- building more cohesive, participative and resilient communities; and,
- helping people lead healthier, more productive and more fulfilling lives through their service to others and to society.

Second, IAVE has a long history of engagement with and support for national leadership efforts. By 2000, we had produced the first directory of national volunteer centers and since the creation of our website has maintained a list of those organizations that have so identified themselves. In 2013, IAVE created the Global Network of National Volunteer Centers (GNNVC) as a first step toward establishing a closer partnership with them.

In May, we will publish a report on the results of the dialogue in Mexico City. Soon after, we will have in place an online data base of the national leadership efforts we identified; and, soon after that, a final report with specific conclusions and recommendations of actions that can be taken to strengthen existing national leadership and to stimulate its development where it does not exist.

Kenn Allen, IAVE Senior Consultant, describes the

project as “the first of its kind, designed to take a comprehensive look at the different forms of national leadership for volunteering, recognizing that it differs widely from region to region, country to country. With it, we are laying the groundwork for an expanded role for IAVE.”

The research team is composed of Wendy Osborne, who began this work as a member of the IAVE board and now is a senior advisor to the project; Ramona Dragomir, the project manager; and, Kenn Allen, Senior Consultant to IAVE.

## Joining Our Rwandese Colleagues in Kwibuka

By Agnetta Nyalita, IAVE Regional Representative, Africa

In Kinyarwanda, *Kwibuka* means ‘remember’. It is what the annual commemoration of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsis is now called.

This year, we join our Rwandese brothers and sisters in advancing reconciliation and nation building. Kwibuka started on Friday April 7<sup>th</sup> and will last for a period of one month. Volunteers from across the world play a catalytic role of enhancing peace and sustainable development. The Rural Development Initiative (RDI), IAVE’s National Representative for Rwanda led by Aime Kayumba, plans to support widowed genocide survivors and will also organize a vigil called Kinyarwanda Ijoro Ryo Kwibuka where local leaders show their support. Musicians will also be present, along with the **Ambassadors of Christ Choir**, a famous Adventist choir. Let us join together as the global volunteering community in celebrating the great work that RDI is doing during this event.

The people of Rwanda continue working together for the brighter future they deserve. Let’s come together with them to learn about, and commemorate, the Genocide against the Tutsis.



## Growing Individually, Achieving Jointly

By Adrine Shirinyan, IAVE National Representative, Armenia

*The SKYE Clubs project has been implemented by World Vision Armenia since 2015 in seven regions of Armenia. It is a youth-focused economic development model, which helps the disadvantaged youth to develop the skills, behaviors and attitudes necessary to obtain sustainable livelihood and to constructively contribute to their communities. Across the 7 regions of Armenia 23 SKYE Clubs unify about 350 young people over 18 years old and*

*about 50 volunteers – leaders and trainers. The groups meet weekly to develop active citizenship, leadership, employability and social entrepreneurship, as well as to identify community problems, to brainstorm, plan and implement community service and social enterprise projects.*

Since 2015, 4 clubs have been operating in two cities of Aragatsotn marz<sup>1</sup>, Aparan and Talin, 2 in each town. As a result of the work of 8 volunteer leaders and about 60 SKYE Club members, two remarkable projects were implemented.

The members of the youth clubs in Talin installed street signs and building numbers for their community. The club submitted the proposal to the local governance body and presented it to the community members and business owners, to gain support for the project.

The members of youth clubs based in Talin and Aparan have participated in the innovative thinking trainings and elaborated a project, which then came into being in both towns. The youth have set up stands, which received electricity from solar panels and are used by the citizens as free street phone chargers.

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## Share Your Story on Volunteer2030.org!

The objective of the Volunteer 2030 campaign is to highlight the value and importance of volunteers and their work toward successfully accomplishing the SDGs. Some of our key messages include:

- Volunteers make a positive contribution to sustainable development – they are needed to **implement** any framework
- Volunteers are key to increasing **civic participation** that holds leaders to account for their promises – empowering people
- Volunteers come in all different forms– international, national, community, youth, older people, diaspora, South-South etc. and all have a unique value and contribution.
- Volunteers will play a vital role in the accomplishment of each of the SDGs

There are no strict limitations to what you can share on [volunteer2030.org](http://volunteer2030.org). Feel free to mix media to tell your story! Combine text, video and pictures to best encapsulate your message. The only thing we ask is that the stories highlight the work that volunteers do to help achieve at least one of the SDGs. **Each story must be accompanied by a feature image of at least 1800px x 1000px in size.** Choose images that best show volunteers in action! Check out some of these great examples on the left.

**All submissions can be made to [info@volunteer2030.org](mailto:info@volunteer2030.org) or directly on the website at [www.volunteer2030.org](http://www.volunteer2030.org) using the upload tool.**