



# Anniversary CCIVS

**Increase partners & volunteers!** \* **Improve** your projects!  
\* **Work within a global movement!** **Glocalise!**

The Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) was founded in 1948 and is one of 20 NGOs worldwide maintaining formal relations of association with UNESCO.

Another year is about to pass. CCIVS members have organised many different kinds of projects and are planning their activities for the year to come. New trends are developing and CCIVS and its members will need to address new challenges. CCIVS also recently turned 60 and time seems ripe for a new look at the basics.

In 2009, through the project "Culture meets Concepts", CCIVS will focus on how to create the conditions for a fair and equal dialogue between partners in Europe and Africa. CCIVS will also work on Human Rights Education through voluntary service and non formal education, more heritage projects will be organised, more training sessions and other ideas are also in the air.

After almost 9 years as Director, I will leave CCIVS at the end of this year. I have been active with CCIVS and several of its members in different capacities for more than 15 years now. CCIVS for me was more than an employment; it was a passion and an outlook on life. I will quit the job but I will not quit the convictions. I thank all those who have accompanied and helped me over the last years and who have stood by my side when things were difficult.

My special thanks go to Regis Colin, the second half of our office dream team over the last 4 years. We found the perfect sub division of tasks, and worked efficiently and smoothly.

I'm glad to leave CCIVS knowing that there will be continuity, new energy and enthusiasm from Francesco Volpini, my designated successor, whom I know and trust. All the best and good luck!

**Simona Costanzo Sow**

Simona's commitment is one of the reasons why CCIVS today is different from the organisation I left after my voluntary service almost 6 years ago. The recognition of our actions, the involvement of members, a renewed structure and a number of initiatives all testify of the rich heritage I will receive on 1 January 2009. To guarantee the necessary 'change in continuity' that built over 60 years our unique culture and strength, there is only one thing I will never stop giving and asking for, something that makes us united and proud of ourselves: work, together.

**Francesco Volpini.**

## 5/12 INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY 2008



(P. Cascione)

**International Volunteer Day (IVD) December 5 is a great opportunity to showcase the contribution of volunteers to society and encourage more people to volunteer, promote specific volunteering initiatives, and/or launch new ones.**

On the World Volunteer Website you can find some **ideas to organise your IVD**. You can also find lots of **links, logos, posters, official IVD messages etc** in many languages, which can be helpful for you to mark the day.

You could **organise a special event, inform all your partners** about your activities and provide them with concrete examples. You could send a press release to local and national media, which might be more interested in covering you on this special dedicated day!

For more information visit

[www.worldvolunteerweb.org](http://www.worldvolunteerweb.org)

### WHAT'S UP in CCIVS?

- "Culture meets Concepts", from 31.01 to 06.02 2009, Nairobi, Kenya.
- "Patrimonito 2009", new campaign with new projects. The call will be sent in January but you can already think about which project(s) can be introduced.
- **Membership fees and contributions to the International Solidarity Fund:** check your situation and do not forget that your organisation has to be up-to-date in order to join any CCIVS activity!

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## CCIVS 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

CCIVS celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008. To mark this event, the Secretariat created a new webpage.

It contains more information about CCIVS' history from its early years to our days, how it evolved, how it has grown and became what it is today.

The website is still in progress, but you can already find:

### Information about CCIVS history

"The initial basic idea of the international voluntary service was to work in projects aiming at the **physical reconstruction of public infrastructure after the World Wars while concretely learning to live together...** Individual CCIVS member had carried out such projects since the 1920s. In fact the founding myth of one of our founding members, SCI, goes back to a project in 1920 in Esnes, near Verdun, France"...

For more background go to:

<http://www.unesco.org/ccivs/New-SiteCCSVI/60/ccivs60-2.htm>

### Some testimonies from the 60s



"Creative chaos" best describes the state of our office during the early 1960s (...). The germ of an idea at lunch time could be thrashed out by two, on stencil by three and in the post to our seventy-five member organizations by four-thirty. Whatever else about CoCo in those days, we were certainly productive.

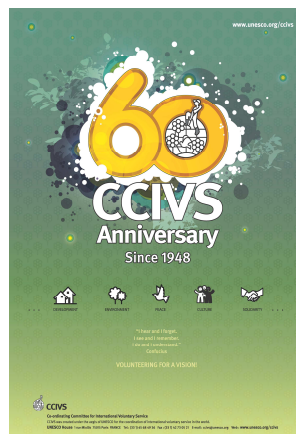
Glyn Robert, "CCIVS in the 60s"

"...The early 1960s was, and we were extraordinarily lucky more or less to realize it even then, a time of shifts in the world configuration of socio-economic power unprecedented since the end of World War II. (...) It was exhilarating to be in Paris at the CCIVS Secretariat, a unique focal point for observing all these confusing changes and, we thought with a mite of arrogance, influencing them..."

Arthur Gillette, "Columbus' sailors"

To see more go to:

[www.unesco.org/ccivs/New-SiteCCSVI/60/ccivs60.htm](http://www.unesco.org/ccivs/New-SiteCCSVI/60/ccivs60.htm)



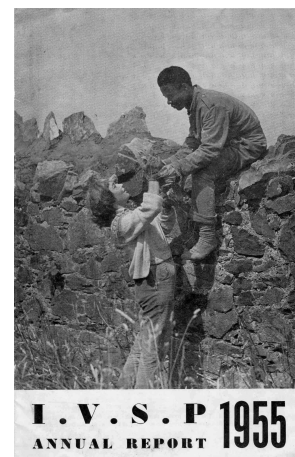
You will also find posters and CCIVS logos like this that you can download for your perusal

*"I am looking forward to the time when the average youngster - and parent or employer - will consider that one or two years of work for the cause of development, either in a far away country or in a depressed area of his own community, is a normal part of one's education."*

U THANT (UN General Secretary 1961 - 1971)

In: Arthur Gillette, One million Volunteers. The Story of Volunteer Youth Service, from the CCIVS web site

If you have any stories, anecdotes, or have material and documents (pictures, articles ...) you consider interesting, this is a good opportunity to share them with a wider public!



CCIVS has currently over **100 members** in about **90 countries**. You can get new partners and volunteers through meetings, project and e-communication! Most **publications and seminar reports** can be downloaded from the website!

Members, their programmes and specific projects are also introduced in the **website** of CCIVS. You are free to provide contents and news at any time.

### CONTACTS

For general information contact the CCIVS secretariat at [ccivs@unesco.org](mailto:ccivs@unesco.org)\*

Check out the website at [www.unesco.org/ccivs](http://www.unesco.org/ccivs)

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