

UNV Post-Assignment Report

Duties performed:

During the fabulous UNV journey, I worked as a Communication Officer at UNICEF Viet Nam, with responsibilities spanning both office and field work.

My office tasks mainly included content production, digital communication and campaign support. For instance, in content production for social media, I shortened the scripts for the Country Programme Document video package and produced videos, ensuring they were engaging and suitable for social



For campaign support, I contributed to World Children's Day and U-Report mobilization efforts. My work with U-Report included developing short clips and assisting in organizing the UN tour and the STEAMese Festival 2024.

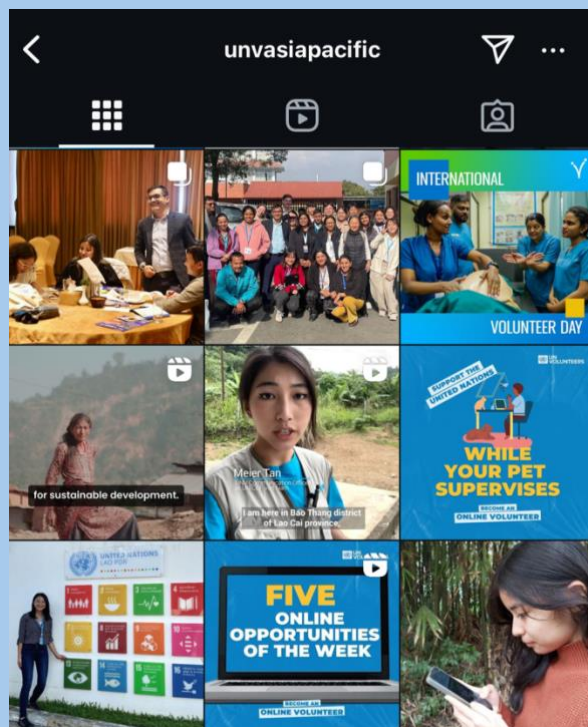


During the emergency response to Typhoon Yagi, the most devastating storm to hit Viet Nam in 70 years, I was privileged to be a part of the emergency team to support media-related tasks. I participated in field missions in Lao Cai and Yen Bai, the most affected provinces in northern Viet Nam, where I produced human interest stories and videos.



Learning experiences:

A major achievement was a field reporting video I created during the field mission in Lao Cai province. The video highlighted what I witnessed in a flooded house and how UNICEF Viet Nam's HCTs provided immediate assistance to the affected families. The video generated a great result, attracting the interest of the UNV regional office for wider dissemination. This led to a collaboration post between UNICEF Viet Nam and UNV Asia Pacific on social media, reaching over 6,000 views.



The collaboration continued as I delivered an article capturing the contributions of three UNVs from different sections during the emergency response. The article not only showcased the efforts of UNVs and inspired action but also served as another channel to raise awareness of Typhoon Yagi's impact and UNICEF Viet Nam's emergency support.



Challenges encountered:

Languages and cultural differences were the main challenges I faced. Even though English is the main working language at the UN Viet Nam office, it's important to remember that most projects are designed to serve local communities. Therefore, many materials and campaigns were written and conducted in Vietnamese and involved Vietnamese culture.

For instance, while working on the videos and scripts, all the interviews with the UNICEF's beneficiaries were conducted in Vietnamese. I had to carefully align the audio with the footage and ensure the content went seamlessly. It was not easy even with English transcripts and help from local colleagues.

The challenges became much more obvious during field missions. Field tasks involved extensive communication and interviews with the local authorities and residents in rural areas.



As a journalistic person, I truly felt some contexts could be lost in translation, but the feelings and interactions could go beyond words and languages, and these were the vital parts that composed the human-interest stories I produced.

These languages and cultural differences served as a reminder, while the UN may appear international and elite, our work must not only connect globally but also remain down-to-earth, reaching the people who need it most.



Reflections:

The UN office is like a cultural melting pot and a small earth as it contains people from all around the world.

Despite the differences in nationality, culture, and background, it's the shared humanity and common goals that bring people together. We had been divided by nations, but we are connected by thoughts.



The six months is undoubtedly one of the best times in my life, not just professionally but personally as well. It brought me a new perspective to see the world and shaped me into a better person. The experience at the UN helped me to become an outstanding journalist with a global perspective and affirmed compassion can turn to action.



Thank you, Viet Nam!