

United Nations Volunteer Programme Report

Tong Sze Wun, Suki

University Volunteer in SDG Research and Advocacy

United Nations Development Programme

Bangkok Regional Hub

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1. Before the Assignment



AVS Training, 9th June 2019

The story started from 4-days trainings with AVS. Prior to the training, I thought it would be a boring session as all the other compulsory workshops or talks I joined in university. However, the training has changed my mind. Coming from business background, it is not common for us to discuss so much about the meaning of life and the vision for making the world a better place – we'd rather focus on our grade or internship. I felt so excited and sense of belongings by meeting a group of people having the same passion with me in the training. The content is also insightful that help me to think about some of our hidden assumptions and biased under certain conditions. I also learnt that lots of things we have now should not be taken as granted.

2. During the Assignment

During the reporting period, my main responsibilities included to provide support to the day-to-day management and coordination of the MY World 2030 Asia-Pacific Programme as well as research and ad-hoc tasks in support of the Inclusive Growth Team (for instance, inputs to graphic design and data visualisation work).

The 3rd phase of the MY World Programme started in August 2019 and will last until February 2020. I supported the selection and onboarding of Advocates, the participation at advocacy events, and daily communication support. In addition, I helped coordinate a social media campaign in China during the Global Week to #Act4SDGs. Building on the successes of the previous phases, over 47,000 MY World votes were collected since 2018.



As for my daily routine, I provided daily support and communication to our recruited advocates and participated relevant Youth event to present for MY World Programme. For example, I was invited as keynote

speaker for Future Leader Congress which held in United Nations conference room. I also compiled and disseminated the advocates' profile to country office and partners.

One of my achievement for this programme is that, I successfully led a social media campaign in China with colleague from UN SDG Action Campaign during the global week to #Act4sdgs. I prepared customized guideline for social media

campaign in China, encouraged advocates from China to join the global week, review the WeChat and Weibo posting and contacted UNDP China for making the joint efforts to spread the impact.

In terms of research, I provided research inputs to several publications and research project managed by the Inclusive Growth Team:

1) SDG Acceleration Partnership Report:

I reviewed the methodologies, joined

the online consultations and provided comments on the desk review related to the sustainable economies;

2) Protests movement analysis in Hong Kong: I contributed an analysis on the long-term causes behind the conflict in Hong Kong, and a review of the structural, contextual, driver and triggers;

3) Desk review on UNDP's actions in the data field.



3. My feelings

Being a part of United Nations, I love the word 'diversity', in terms of people, experiences and perspectives. I met so many great and interesting people in UN. Coming from business and finance background, it is really lucky for me to



have such experience, to know a world that I never think about and get some different insights. The best thing I learnt in UN is to see how the world is connected, from public to private, from developed to developing, from history to future. I

have gained a more holistic view on the world, instead of trapping to my own small field.

4. Some tips for choosing the assignment

I believe the task descriptions will be the most important session to look at. As for me, I tried to choose an assignment that could potentially match my personal interest and my future planning. For example, I am keen on applying for master, thus I applied the assignment 'SDG Research and Advocacy', in which the research part would be highly relevant to my next step.

Sometimes the terms used in UN might be very difficult to understand and interpret. As for some interesting tips for selecting the assignment, the most of jobs in UN could be categories into three types – communication, research and event. To simply summarized the key characteristics, I think communication type of work could be interpreted as a marketing job that some technical skills such as photoshop, illustrator will be an advantage. The research work requires more advanced writing skills, while event related work will have more communication and coordination with different parties. Another popular term in UN system is capacity building – a term that looks very confusing. Simply speaking, capacity building means training and sharing knowledge to the participants, mostly through workshop or dialogue.