

ONLINE SURVEY
ON
VOLUNTEERISM
Sri Lanka
April 2022



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1. Background

The Government of Sri Lanka is in the process of preparing for its second Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2022. This process aims to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges, and lessons learned, to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNR also seeks to strengthen policies and institutions of government, as well as to mobilise multi-stakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In this context, UNV Sri Lanka is supporting the VNR process to highlight volunteer contributions to the 2030 Agenda in VNR reports. UNV, and other volunteering stakeholders, will be working to increase recognition surrounding the contribution of volunteering towards the 2030 Agenda and incorporate a whole-of-society approach in the VNR. UNV Sri Lanka thus conducted a National Situational Analysis (NSA) and Online Survey on Volunteerism to help inform its inputs into the VNR process. The online survey aimed to gather evidence surrounding the activities of volunteers during 2020 – 2021, the impacts of COVID-19 on volunteering, as well as the benefits, constraints, motivations for volunteering, and areas for improvement perceived by volunteers. The survey collected feedback from both individual volunteers, and organisations that involved the help of volunteers in order to construct a holistic picture surrounding the volunteering space in Sri Lanka.

The results of the survey revealed insightful evidence of the contributions of volunteering during the past two years. Some of the key points have been noted below, while a detailed summary of the main findings is included in the final section of the report.

Key Findings

- Quality education, good health and well-being, and the reduction of poverty were the primary SDGs targeted by volunteering efforts during the past two years. Encouragingly, cross-cutting areas such as gender equality, climate action and peace, justice and strong institutions also emerged as popular responses.
- Individuals were motivated to volunteer due to a mix of altruistic and self-improvement factors. However, given the strong youth profile of the sample of individual respondents, time constraints, location/distance barriers, and financial constraints were noted to be impeding volunteers from achieving their full potential.

- COVID-19 proved to be both a challenge and an opportunity for volunteers. Responses indicated that on average 44 percent of volunteering activities were conducted online, displaying the resilience and adaptation developed over the course of the pandemic to continue volunteering efforts. Volunteers and organisations were also quick to step up to the needs of the community, with a majority of respondents stating that they had been involved in volunteering activities related to COVID-19.
- There exists further room for improvement in involving volunteers in government strategies, plans and programmes. Respondents also suggested that the provision of a community hub for volunteers and the integration of volunteering into the education system could be beneficial for Sri Lanka.
- Education reforms, good governance/ human rights & skill development were identified as the main priorities for Sri Lanka to achieve the SDGs. However, in order to make progress, volunteers highlighted the importance of having effective policies and implementation, strong leadership as well as good education and awareness.

2. Survey Methodology

The Online Survey on Volunteerism 2022 targeted two groups of respondents; (1) Individual volunteers, with a particular focus on youth volunteers, and (2) Volunteer Involving Organisations (VIOs), which included the private sector, public sector, civil society organisations, tertiary educational institutions, and others. The survey consisted of two questionnaires, each aimed at the relevant group of respondents. For the purposes of the survey, **volunteering was defined as “Noble acts of enhancing human well-being on one’s free will with no cost to the final beneficiary and without accepting any personal gain.”¹**

Questionnaire A – Individual Volunteers:

consisted of 23 questions grouped under 6 modules.

- **Module 1:** Background information
- **Module 2:** Volunteering Experience
- **Module 3:** Volunteering activities during COVID-19
- **Module 4:** Benefits of Volunteering
- **Module 5:** Youth Perspective
- **Module 6:** Government Support

Questionnaire B – Organisations:

consisted of 20 questions grouped under 4 modules.

- **Module 1:** Background information
- **Module 2:** Volunteering Programme Details
- **Module 3:** Volunteering Programmes During COVID-19
- **Module 4:** Advantages for the Organisation and Government Support

The survey was administered using an online survey platform by sharing the hyperlink with potential respondents via email. Responses were recorded on respondents’ internet-enabled devices. The survey link remained active for a period of one week.

¹ National Policy on Volunteerism 2019

Questionnaire A received 416 responses, of which 206 respondents completed all mandatory questions in the survey, achieving a completion rate of 50%. Questionnaire B received 123 responses, of which 75 respondents completed all mandatory questions in the survey, achieving a completion rate of 61%.

Limitations

Data collected through the survey was not based on sampling methodology and statistical techniques which ensure nationally representative results. The survey was designed to obtain a broad understanding of volunteering activities conducted in 2020 and 2021 that can be examined in detail through further studies.

3. Profile of Respondents

3.1 Individual respondents

The sample of individual respondents displayed a balance of both genders, with robust female representation which accounted for 62 percent of responses. A large proportion of respondents (73%) belonged to the youth category, a key demographic targeted through the survey.² Approximately 19 percent of respondents were in the age group of 30 to 44 years, and the remainder were above 44 years of age.

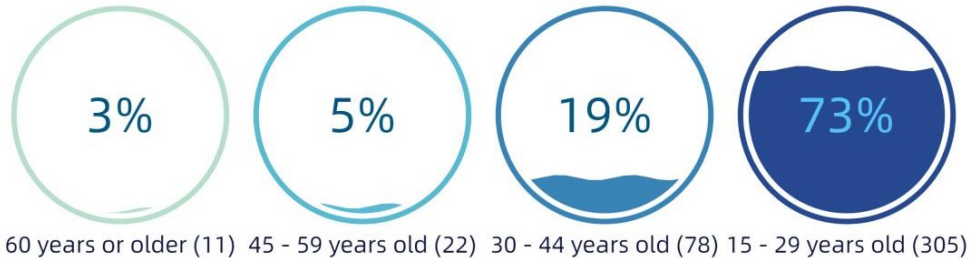


Figure 1. Age group of respondents

Approximately half of the respondents indicated that they were students, while a further 33 percent indicated that they were engaged in full-time employment. This is consistent with the observation of a large proportion of youth respondents in the survey. 10 percent of respondents were engaged in part-time employment or self-employment, and the remaining respondents indicated their occupational status as being retired or not employed.

² For the purposes of this survey, persons between the ages of 15 – 29 are defined as youth, in line with the official definitions utilised by UNV.



Figure 2. Occupational status of respondents

The sample displayed good geographical representation, having respondents from 23 of the 25 districts.³ Many of the respondents were residing in the Colombo district (41%), however, there were also a considerable number of responses from the districts of Gampaha (13%), Kandy (6%), Kalutara (6%), and Kurunegala (5%).

3.2 Organisations

The main types of organisations captured by the survey were civil society organisations/ NGOs and government institutions, which accounted for 33 percent and 28 percent of total respondents respectively. The sample also had robust representation from the private sector (17%) and academic institutions (12%), with the remaining respondents belonging to miscellaneous categories such as associations, foundations, and clubs.

³ All districts except for Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts were represented.

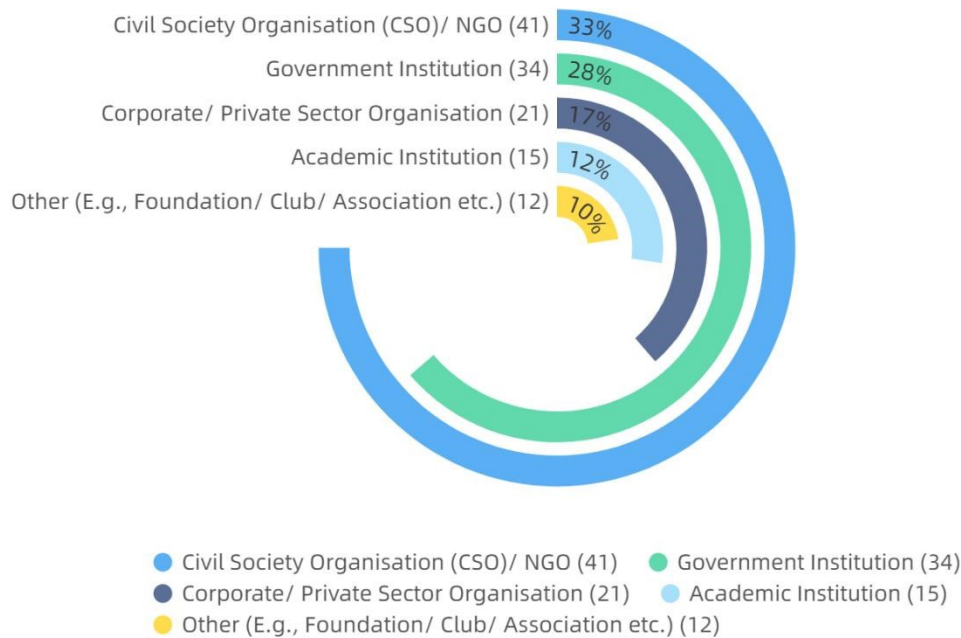


Figure 3. Category of organisation

Many of the organisations had a strong pool of employees engaged as volunteers, with 50 percent of respondents indicating over 60 volunteers in their respective organisations. 21 percent of respondents were smaller scale organisations, consisting of 1 – 20 volunteers. The remaining respondents indicated the number of volunteers was 21 – 40 persons (19%) or 41 – 60 persons (11%).

44 percent of organisations had been heavily involved in the volunteering sphere, having implemented over 15 volunteer initiatives during 2020 and 2021. This is consistent with the observation that many of the responding organisations had a strong volunteer force of over 60 persons. 26 percent of respondents stated that they had implemented between 6 – 15 initiatives during the past two years, and the remaining group of respondents (30%) had implemented fewer than 6 initiatives.

4. Analysis

4.1 Volunteering Activities

Encouraging results from individual respondents showed that over 80 percent of volunteers had been involved in informal volunteering: by helping friends, neighbours, and their community. Volunteering formally through an organisation or group was also popular, with 60 percent of respondents having been involved in this mechanism. The relative number of affirmative answers that each mode of volunteering received is illustrated in the bar chart below. The volunteering activities of respondents were mainly small and medium scale initiatives, as over 70 percent of respondents stated that the average number of beneficiaries targeted by each initiative was less than 50 individuals.

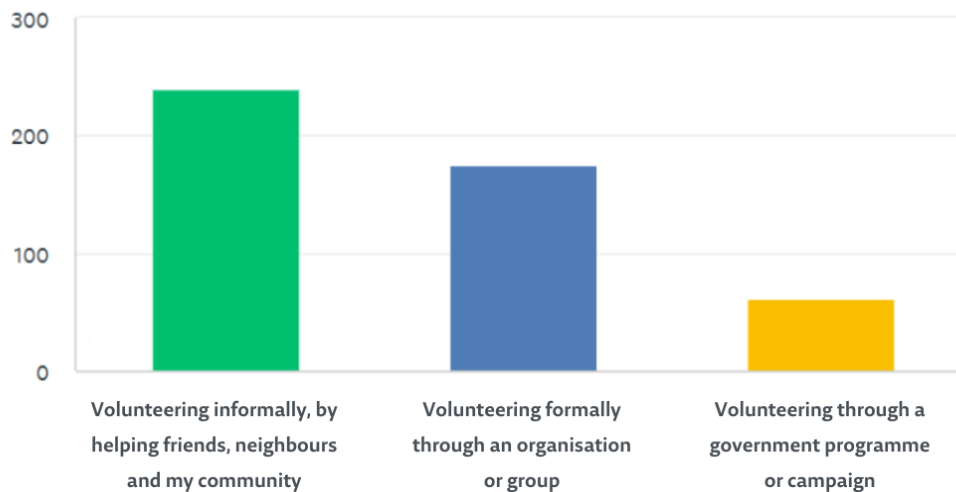


Figure 4. Forms of volunteering

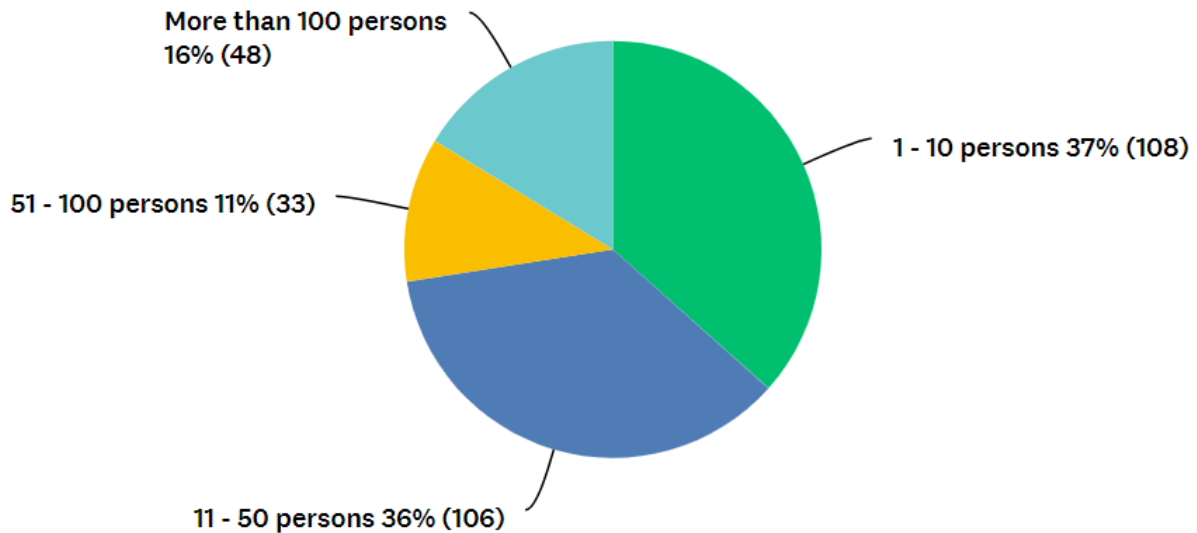


Figure 5. Number of beneficiaries targeted through volunteering activities

A vast majority of individual respondents indicated that they spent less than 40 hours a month on volunteering activities. Approximately 45 percent of respondents estimated that the time spent was less than 10 hours a week, while 40 percent estimated spending 11 – 40 hours. This is consistent with the profile of the respondents, which showed that a vast majority were engaged in full-time employment or studying, which may constrain time available for volunteering activities. Time constraints also emerged as the leading factor when respondents were queried on the challenges faced in volunteering.

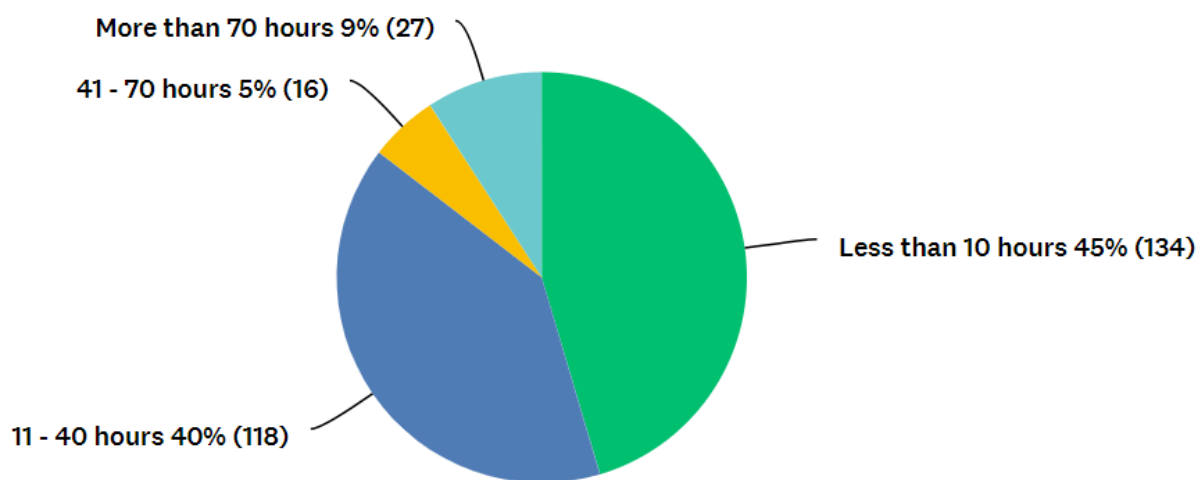


Figure 6. Time spent on volunteering

Responses from both individuals and organisations showed that volunteering initiatives mostly fell into the categories of mutual aid, service, and campaigning. The survey also identified SDG 4, SDG 3, and SDG 1 as the main areas to which volunteering initiatives contributed. Other prominent areas which emerged were SDG 2, SDG 5, SDG 6, SDG 13, and SDG 16. While initiatives relating to poverty, education, and health are among those typically associated with volunteering initiatives, it is promising to see cross-cutting areas such as gender equality, climate change, and peacebuilding also receive the attention of individual volunteers and organisations. Further, organisations noted that youth, kids, and adolescents were the main beneficiary groups targeted by their volunteering initiatives. Women, persons living in poverty, and elderly people were also frequently targeted as beneficiaries.



CASE STUDY 01

Dilmah Ceylon Tea
Company |
Wetland Clean-up

*SDGs covered by the project:
SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 17*

The Wetland Clean-up organised by Dilmah Ceylon provides an example of collaboration between the private and public sector on environment conservation efforts in Sri Lanka. To commemorate World Wetlands Day 2020, approximately 30 employees of Dilmah Ceylon voluntarily engaged in a clean-up of wetlands in Colombo, working closely with the Sri Lanka Navy and Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation (SLLDC). Sri Lanka's wetlands are an integral part of protecting the country's biodiversity and combatting climate change.

CASE STUDY 02

Oxford College of
Business |
Water
purification
project

*SDGs covered by the project:
SDG 3, SDG 6, SDG 9, SDG 11*

This project aims to construct a water purification plant in order to provide clean drinking water to the residents of the village of Liyanwela in the Monaragala District. The initiative is in progress and is jointly carried out by Oxford College of Business by partnering with the Gammadda organisation of the Capital Maharaja Group. Approximately 14 volunteers were involved in the water purification project. The overall objective of the volunteer initiative is to foster sustainable livelihoods through infrastructure enhancement in rural areas and is expected to impact 350 families living in the Monaragala District by increasing access to clean water.

4.2 Impact of COVID-19

The results of the survey yielded positive insights into the adaptability and resilience shown by individual volunteers and organisations in the face of the pandemic. The collective proportion of organisations reporting that they commonly used an online or hybrid modality in carrying out their volunteering initiatives was 83 percent. Feedback by individual respondents also estimated that, on average, 44 percent of volunteering activities had been conducted online during the past two years. It is encouraging to observe the adaptation of organisations and individuals in order to continue their volunteering efforts amidst the unique challenges posed by COVID-19.

Nevertheless, it is interesting to note that the pandemic has had varied impacts on the time spent by individuals on volunteering. While 41 percent of volunteers note that they had spent *more* time on volunteering due to COVID-19, a similar proportion of respondents stated that they had spent *less* time on volunteering. This may be an area for further analysis, in order to understand the dynamic factors affecting the behaviour of respondents due to the pandemic.

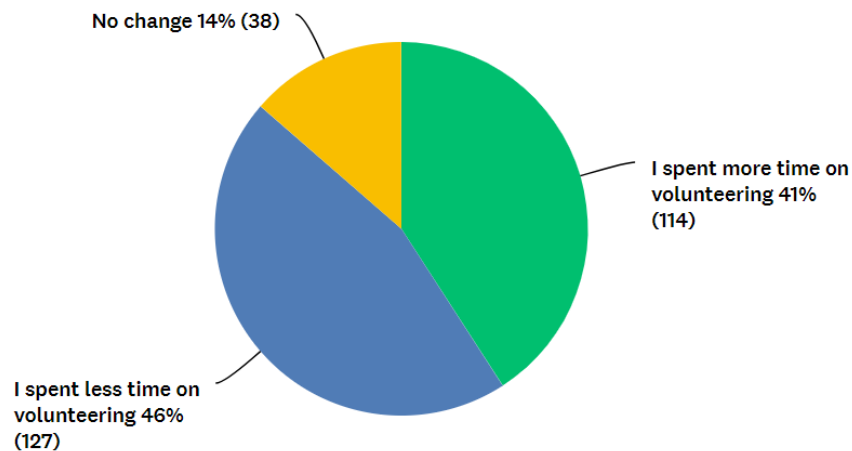


Figure 7. Impact on time spent on volunteering due to COVID-19

The results of the survey also provided evidence of the fact that the pandemic had presented both a challenge and a volunteering opportunity, as many volunteering initiatives had been organised with specific reference to COVID-19. 60 percent of individual respondents stated that they had been involved in a volunteering initiative directly related to COVID-19, and 72 percent of organisations responded to having organised COVID-19 related volunteering initiatives. The nature of such initiatives were mainly education campaigns and awareness-building initiatives as well as programmes to distribute food and other essential items.

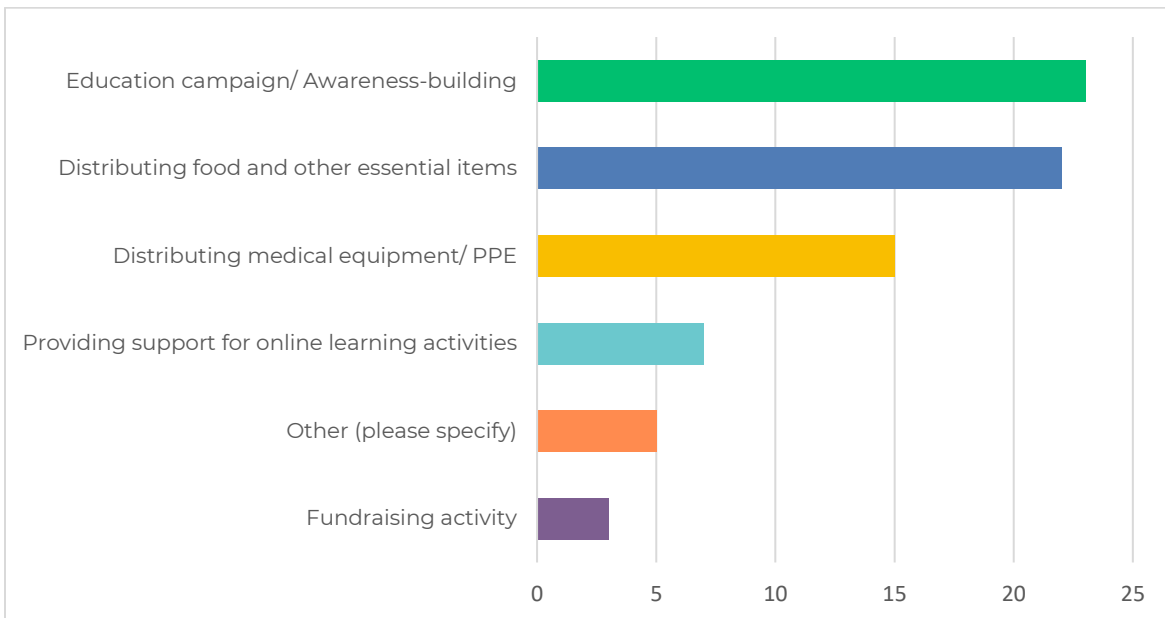


Figure 8. Activities performed by volunteers in this initiative

CASE STUDY 03

Manusath Derana |
“Smile Within”
campaign

SDGs covered by the project: SDG 3

Manusath Derana, a charity organisation associated with Derana media corporation, partnered with the national telecommunications services provider SLT-Mobitel in 2020 for the “Smile Within” campaign. The programme commenced in the early stages of the pandemic in Sri Lanka and carried out the donation of one million face masks and an awareness building campaign in order to support COVID-19 mitigation efforts in Sri Lanka. The programme consisted of 50 events conducted across the island, with each being supported by approximately 150 volunteers.

4.3 Benefits of volunteering

Individual respondents revealed that their participation in volunteering was motivated by a mix of reasons relating to altruism and self-improvement. The predominant motivation cited by volunteers was the desire to contribute to society, with almost 70 percent of respondents selecting this as a motivating factor. The desire to gain new experiences and to build self-confidence also emerged as strong motivators.

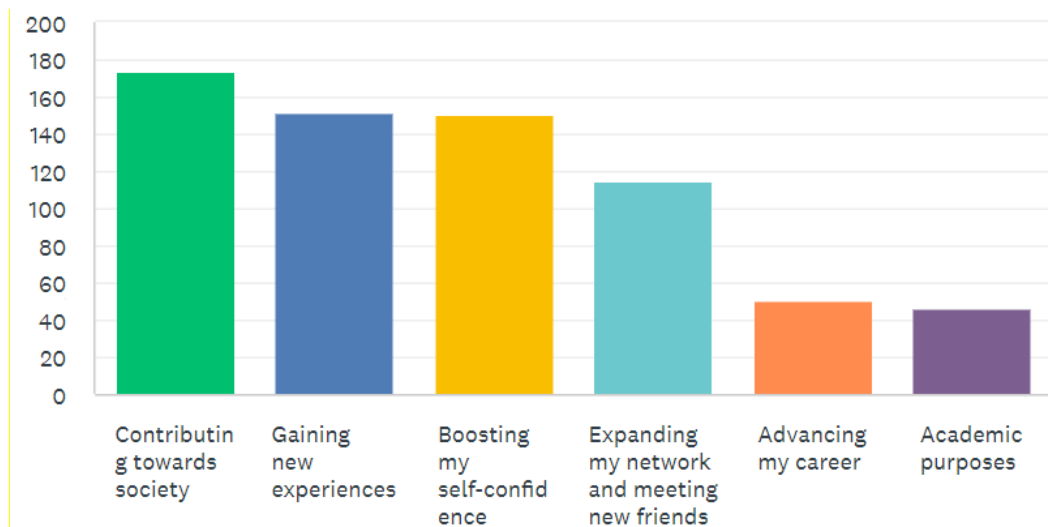


Figure 9. Motivation to engage in volunteering activities

CASE STUDY 04

National School of
Business
Management (NSBM) |
Spandana 2021

*SDGs covered by the project:
SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 6*

With the involvement of the volunteering efforts of 12 students and lecturers of the institute, NSBM conducted the Spandana donation programme in May 2021. The aim of the programme was to support families with differently-abled children by providing them with daily essentials, particularly at a time when many families were facing difficulties due to COVID-19. Approximately, 75 beneficiaries were targeted through this programme, including parents and children. In addition to providing the families with standard essential items required in the household, NSBM sought to address the unique challenges of the pandemic by providing respiratory masks and other PPE as well as basic medicines and cleaning supplies.

In open-ended responses elaborating on the role of volunteering in achieving the SDGs, volunteers spoke passionately about the unique characteristics and perspectives of volunteers. Many of the responses highlighted that the selfless nature of volunteering meant that volunteers were committed and results-oriented in carrying out their service and were able to bring unique and diverse perspectives to an initiative. Respondents also pointed out that many volunteers are passionate about the causes and communities with which they volunteer, leading to positive outcomes. Volunteering within the community was also thought to create ownership over the results and boost community empowerment. Respondents also noted that the increased self-confidence and personal development gained through volunteering made it a positive avenue through which to contribute to the SDGs.

“Helping and caring for one another should be our second nature, whether, in ways great or small, it is what makes us inherently human. And enriching someone else's life is an assured way to find meaning in one's own life.

Volunteering is also an outlet for the frustrations one feels about certain issues and will leave you with a sense of agency and empowerment. For me, it's an avenue to do something about what I feel that needs to change.”

- Individual respondent

Nonetheless, participants noted that their participation in volunteering was constrained primarily by the lack of time, location/ distance barriers and financial constraints. These results correlate with the large proportion of youth respondents observed in the survey and are critical to note in encouraging youth volunteerism in the future.

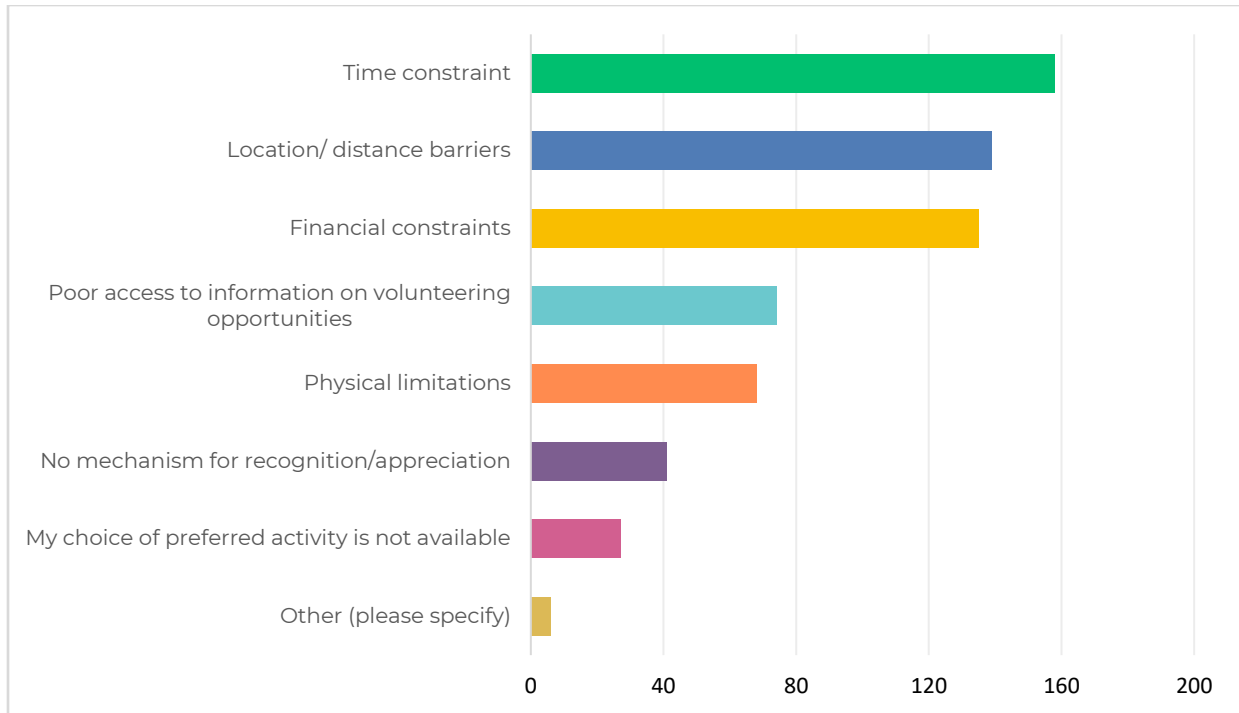


Figure 10. Main challenges in volunteering

From the perspective of organisations, volunteering initiatives were influenced by the desire to strengthen community-building within the organisation and to reinforce a sense of solidarity between the organisation and beneficiaries.

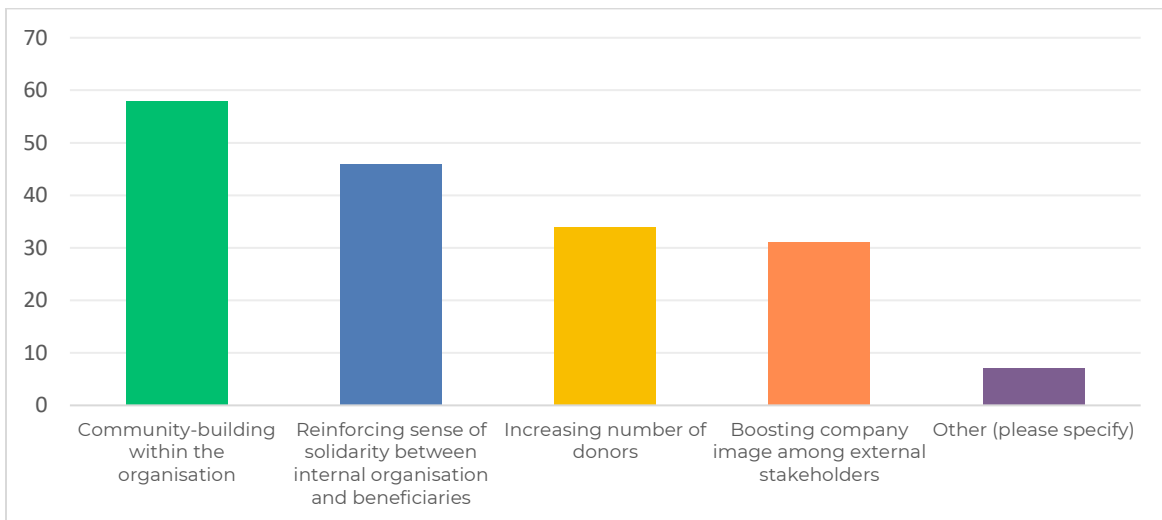


Figure 11. Advantages for the organisation through involving volunteers

CASE STUDY 05

Kelani Valley
Plantations |
"A Home for Every
Plantation Worker"
programme

SDGs covered by the project:

SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 6, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG 11, SDG 16, SDG 17

Launched in 2006 as one of Kelani Valley Plantation's (KVPL) key initiatives, "A Home for Every Plantation Worker" provides an illustration of private sector volunteering which successfully integrates multiple groups of stakeholders working towards a common goal. The project is aimed at improving the living standards of the company's plantation workers, and focuses on four dimensions; living environment, health & nutrition, community & capacity building, and community empowerment. The project involves the participation of KVPL employees and the plantation community alongside external partners who voluntarily provide financial and human resources. KVPL also provides financial allocations for this programme through its annual budget. "A Home for Every Plantation Worker" was featured in the booklet "Globally Positioning Sri Lanka's Best", released by the Global Compact Sri Lanka Network at the UNGC International Network Conference in 2007.

4.4 Recommendations for achieving the SDGs

Individual respondents identified four primary areas as needing prioritisation within Sri Lanka in the context of achieving the SDGs. The need to prioritise 'economic resilience and income equality' emerged as the top response, with over 60 percent of volunteers selecting this among their preferred areas of prioritisation. This result is a strong reflection of the prevailing economic conditions in Sri Lanka at the time of the survey. Other areas highlighted by respondents were (1) Educational reforms and educational infrastructure development, (2) Good governance, human rights, and justice, and (3) Skills development.

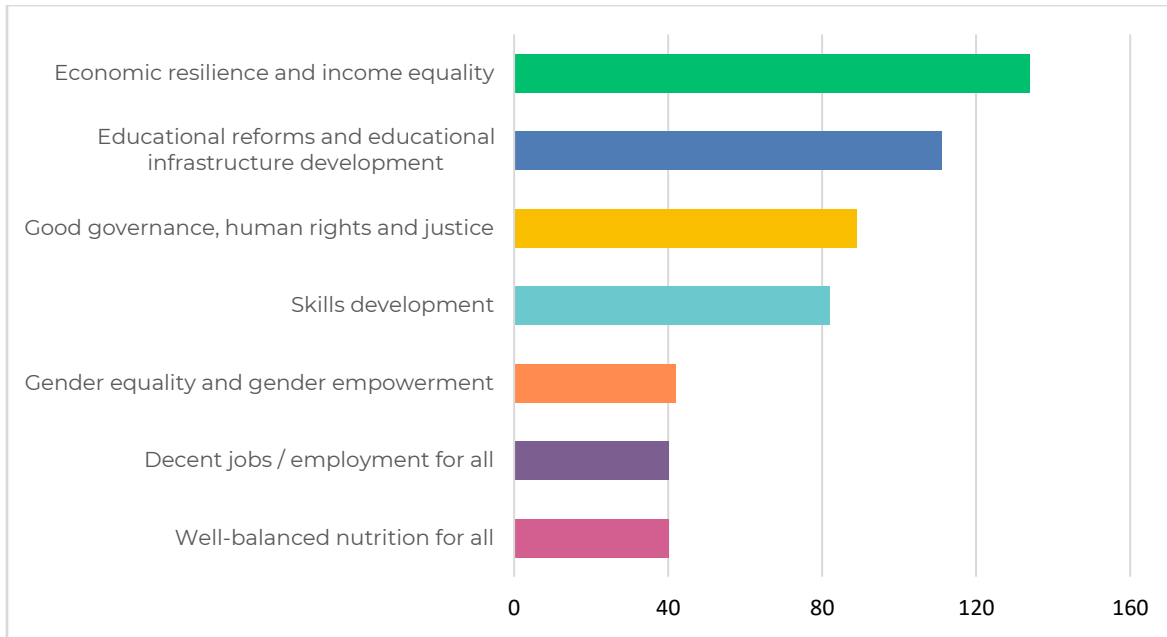


Figure 12. Prioritisation of sectors for the achievement of the SDGs

Note: The data visualisation above displays only the top seven responses which emerged from the twelve response options provided to respondents.

CASE STUDY 06

Provincial Department
of Education
Sabaragamuwa |
e-Nenapiyasa online
platform

SDGs covered by the project: SDG 4

An innovative case study of volunteering in the field of education comes from the Provincial Department of Education in the Sabaragamuwa province through the creation of the e-Nenapiyasa platform. The online learning platform was launched for the promotion of distance education in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The platform can be utilised by students, teachers, and school principals free of charge, and became one of the main platforms used in the country. The Department of Education mobilised a large number of volunteer teachers to create learning material across subject areas, to be completed by students each week. It is estimated that the e-Nenapiyasa platform involved the contributions of approximately 500 volunteers.

Respondents also expressed their views on the gaps and challenges they perceived in addressing the areas of priority that were identified by them (discussed above). Volunteers were of the view that a lack of commitment by policymakers was the primary challenge to be overcome, and this response was selected by 73 percent of respondents. Several other constraining factors were also highlighted, such as (1) Financial constraints, (2) A lack of suitable policies and plans, and (3) A lack of proper mechanisms to monitor and evaluate progress.

The main themes which emerged in responses to the multiple choice questions also came through strongly in open-ended responses provided by individuals with regard to recommendations. Three areas were highlighted amongst the feedback provided by respondents: namely (1) the need for effective policies and improved policy implementation, (2) the desire for strong leadership, and (3) the need for increased education and awareness. The key points highlighted under each of these themes are noted below.

Effective policies & Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Effective implementation, including proper monitoring & evaluation. ○ Communication & collaboration among all stakeholders. ○ Effective use of resources.
Strong leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Involvement of subject matter experts/educated individuals. ○ Good governance and transparency. ○ Youth participation and diversity in representation.
Education & Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased awareness of citizens on their rights & responsibilities, on SDGs, and volunteering. ○ Improved education systems, particularly in relation to preparedness for the job market.

4.5 Collaboration with Government

The survey results revealed that the participation of volunteers in public sector activities was low, indicating an untapped opportunity that could be capitalised on in the future. Only 21 percent of individual respondents stated that they had been involved in volunteering through a government programme or campaign

during 2020 and 2021. Similarly, individual volunteers displayed low levels of involvement in strategic policymaking and public sector collaboration, with only 17 percent having been involved in discussion/ dialogue led by the government and 15 percent having cooperated with government authorities on the ground.

CASE STUDY 07

Ministry of Irrigation |
Construction of
temporary coffer dam
on Sengal Oya anicut

SDGs covered by the project: SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 13, SDG 17

This volunteer-involving initiative provides an admirable example of collaboration between public authorities and community volunteers working towards the betterment of the agricultural community in the Puttalam district. During the harvesting season in 2020, 950 acres of paddy were cultivated under the Sengal Oya scheme. However, irrigation officials found that stored water in the tanks and the inflow of the feeder canal from the Sengal Oya anicut were insufficient for cultivation. Following discussion at the Project Management Committee meeting with farmers, a consensus was reached to construct a temporary coffer dam in order to divert water to the feeder canal. A coffer dam reaching 2 feet in height was constructed with the participation of around 50 volunteers, under the supervision of the Department of Irrigation. The harvest season was able to proceed successfully due to this collaborative effort.

However, it is important to note that there were robust levels of public sector collaboration at the organisational level. 47 percent of responding organisations had been involved in discussion/ dialogue led by the government and 61 percent stated that they had been involved in the implementation of government policies or plans. 51 percent of organisations stated that they had cooperated with local or other level Government authorities on the ground. Respondents provided feedback elaborating on their collaboration at the local government level, such as with Grama Niladhari officers,⁴ Police officers, Urban Councils, and Provincial Councils, as well as central government level, such as with the Ministry of Health, University Grants Commission (UGC) and Central Environment Authority (CEA).

⁴ A 'Grama Niladhari' officer is a public official in charge of a 'Grama Niladhari' division. The 'Grama Niladhari' division is an administrative sub-unit in Sri Lanka. The country is divided into 25 districts, which are then sub-divided into Divisional Secretary divisions. Each Divisional Secretary division is again sub-divided into 'Grama Niladhari' divisions.

CASE STUDY 08Gammadda |
Tree planting project
in Ella*SDGs covered by the project: SDG 13, SDG 15*

Gammadda, a non-profit organisation associated with the News 1st media corporation, collaborated with the Sri Lanka Army and several environmental organisations to launch a tree-planting campaign in the destroyed areas of the Ella forest reserve in September 2019. The programme was prompted by the damages caused by wildfires in the forest reserve. Many varieties of plants such as Runa, Sapu, Kudu-Dawula, Sudu-Handun, Gammalu, Nelli and Pihimbiya were planted in a 10 acre area in Kithul Ella of the Ella Forest Reserve. The project was the result of successful collaboration between the private and public sector, and involved several parties including the Uva Provincial Council, Department of Forest Conservation, Department of Wildlife, Central Environment Authority, Sri Lanka Army, Ella Divisional Secretariat and Ella Tour Guides Association working with Gammadda.

Individuals and organisations held similar views on the support required from the government for the development of volunteering activities for SDGs in Sri Lanka. The main strategies identified by respondents were (1) the provision of a community hub for volunteers, (2) the engagement of volunteers in government strategies, plans, and programmes, and (3) the integration of volunteering into the education system.

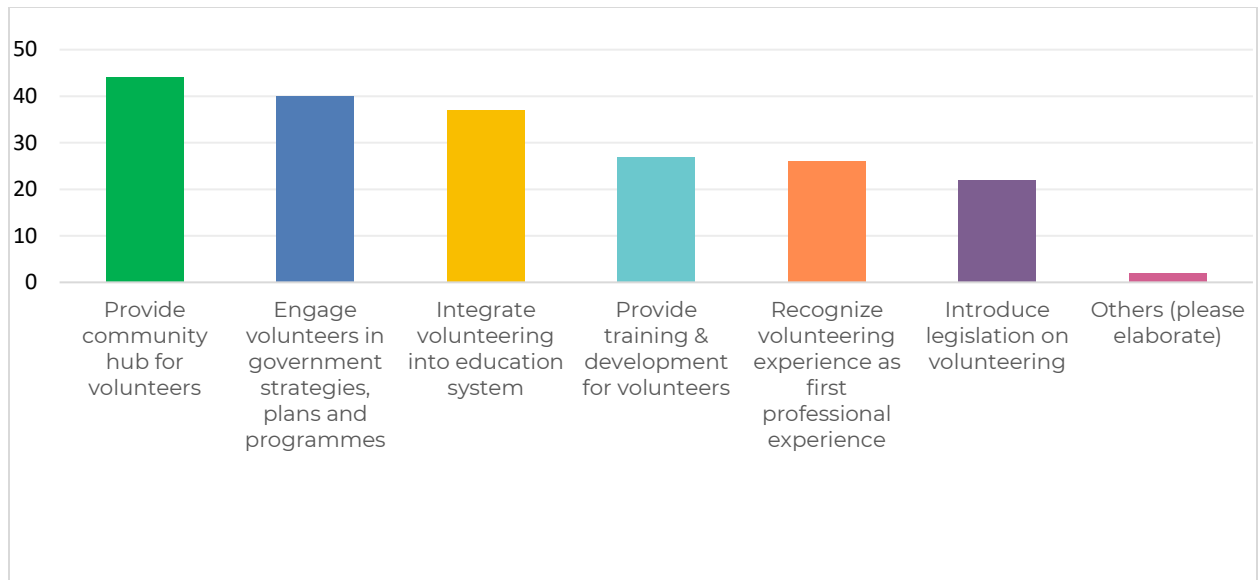


Figure 13. Figure 13. Government support for volunteering activities

5. Summary of findings

Volunteering Efforts During 2020 and 2021

The responses of both individuals and organisations showed that quality education, good health, and well-being, and the reduction of poverty were the primary areas targeted by volunteering efforts during the past two years. While efforts towards ensuring clean water and sanitation, as well as tackling hunger also featured in the top results, it was encouraging to also see cross-cutting areas such as gender equality, climate action and peace, justice and strong institutions addressed by volunteering efforts.

Individuals were motivated to volunteer due to a mix of altruistic and self-improvement factors, such as contributing to society, gaining new experiences, and boosting self-confidence. However, given the strong youth profile of the sample of individual respondents, time constraints, location/ distance barriers and financial constraints emerged as factors that held back their full potential for volunteering. Organisations were also keen to be involved in volunteering efforts to enhance a sense of community and solidarity with both internal and external stakeholders. These motivations and constraints are key factors to note in enhancing the involvement of volunteers, particularly youth volunteers, in the future.

Impact of COVID-19 on Volunteering

COVID-19 proved to be both a challenge and an opportunity for volunteers. While 41 percent of volunteers noted that they had spent *more* time on volunteering due to COVID-19, a similar proportion of respondents had spent *less* time on volunteering. Nevertheless, the responses indicated that on average 44 percent of volunteering activities were conducted online, displaying the resilience and adaptation developed over the pandemic period to continue volunteering efforts. Volunteers and organisations were also quick to step up to the needs of the community, with a majority of respondents stating that they had been involved in volunteering activities related to COVID-19. The most popular forms of volunteering in this regard were education/awareness-building campaigns, the distribution of food and other essential items, and the distribution of PPE and other medical equipment.

Path to Achieving the SDGs

Both individuals and organisations expressed similar views on potential areas for government support for volunteering. The main suggestions endorsed by respondents were the provision of a community hub for volunteers, the engagement of volunteers in government strategies, plans, and programmes, and the integration of volunteering into the education system. The results of the survey particularly highlighted that there is a gap in the involvement of volunteers in public sector activities. Only 21 percent of individual respondents indicated that they had been involved in volunteering through a government programme or campaign. Similarly, only 17 percent of individuals stated that they had been invited to discussions/ dialogue on SDGs led by the government, compared to 47 percent of organisations that responded affirmatively. Given the positive sentiments towards volunteering expressed throughout the survey, this represents an area of considerable untapped potential to further Sri Lanka's progress towards the 2030 Agenda.

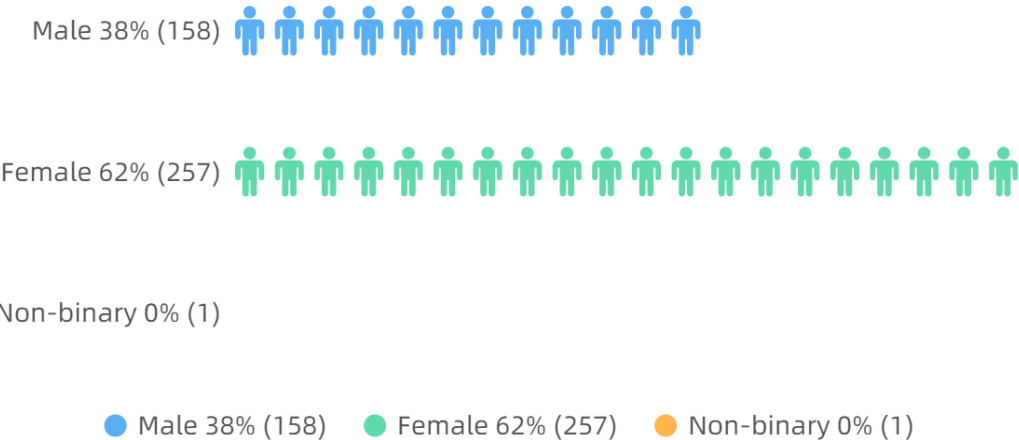
Further, respondents identified economic resilience, education reforms, good governance/ human rights & skill development as the main priorities for Sri Lanka to achieve the SDGs. Similar themes also came through when respondents expressed their thoughts through open-ended answers and are a strong reflection of the economic and social context of Sri Lanka at the time of the survey. Volunteer recommendations on areas for improvement centered around the importance of having effective policies and implementation, strong leadership as well as good education and awareness.

6. Detailed Survey Findings

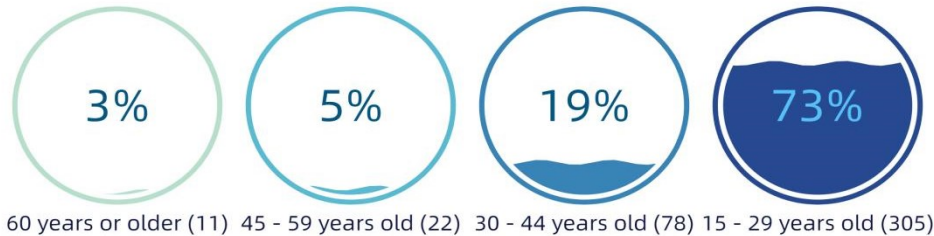
6.1 Questionnaire A: Individuals

6.1.1 Module 1: Background information

1) Gender of respondents

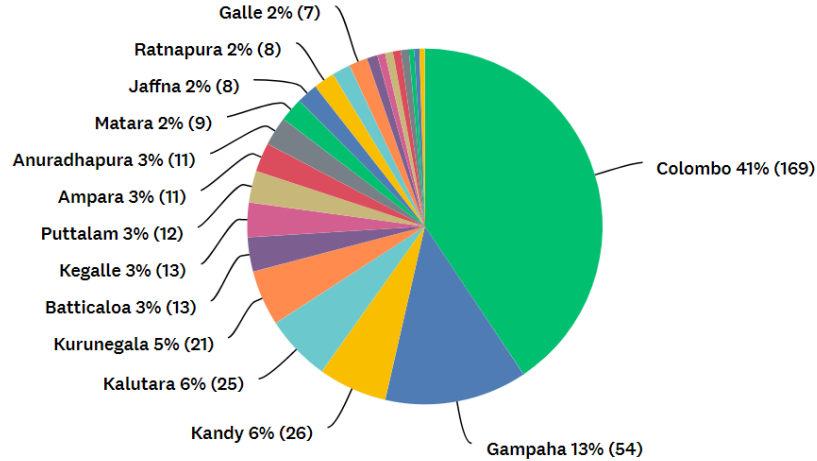


2) Age group of respondents

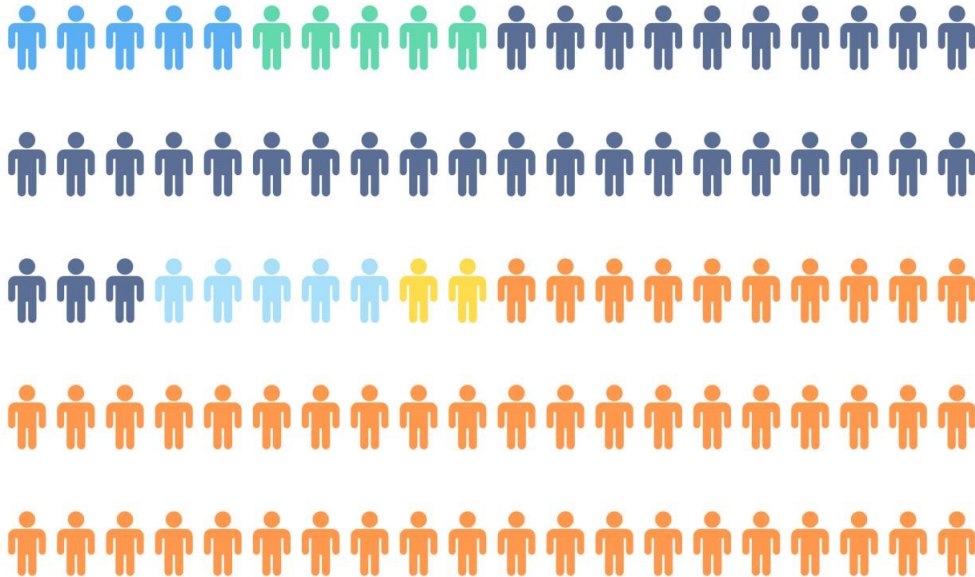


3) District of residence of respondents

(Note: Responses were received from 23 districts, however, only the top 14 districts are shown in the chart below due to limitations in the ability to visualize the data)



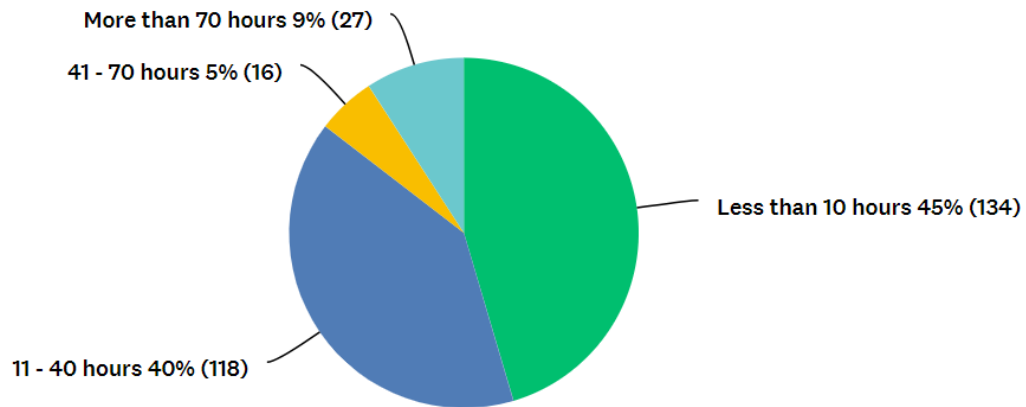
4) Occupational status of respondents



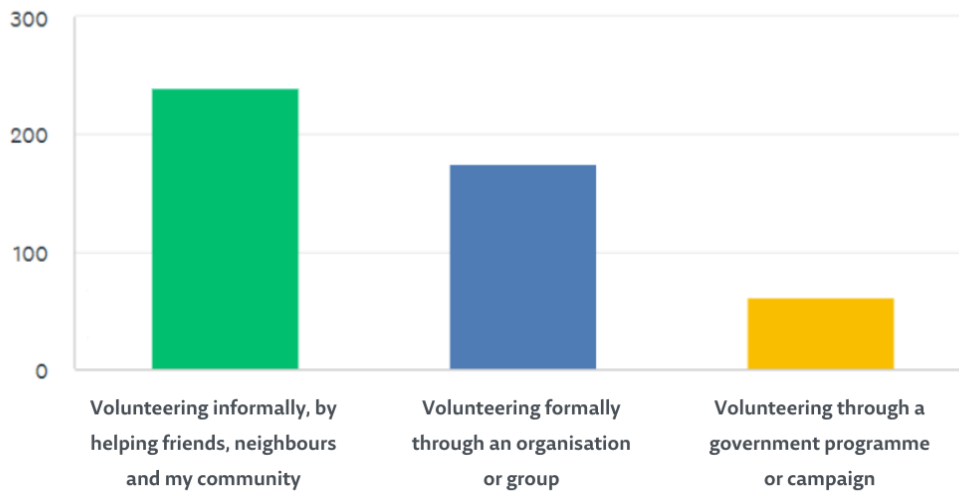
- Not employed 5% (19)
- Self-employed 5% (21)
- Employed (Full time) 33% (136)
- Employed (Part time) 5% (21)
- Retired 2% (8)
- Studying 51% (211)

6.1.2 Module 2: Volunteering Programme Details

5) Time spent on volunteering



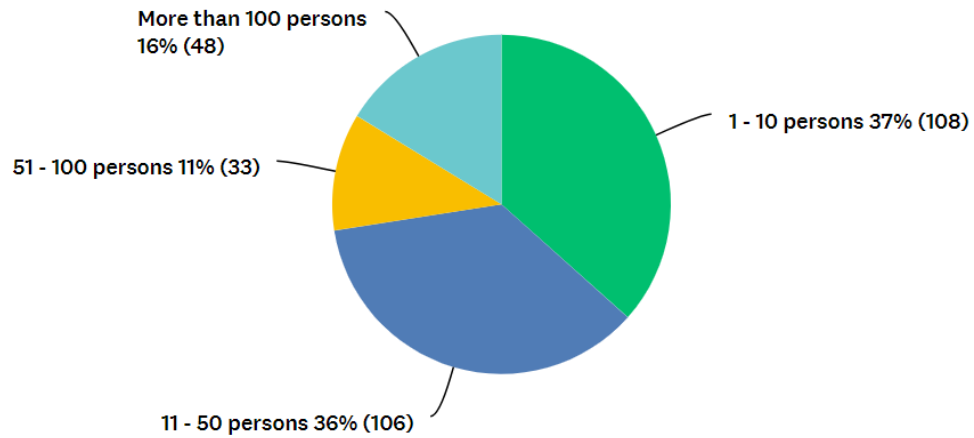
6) Forms of volunteering



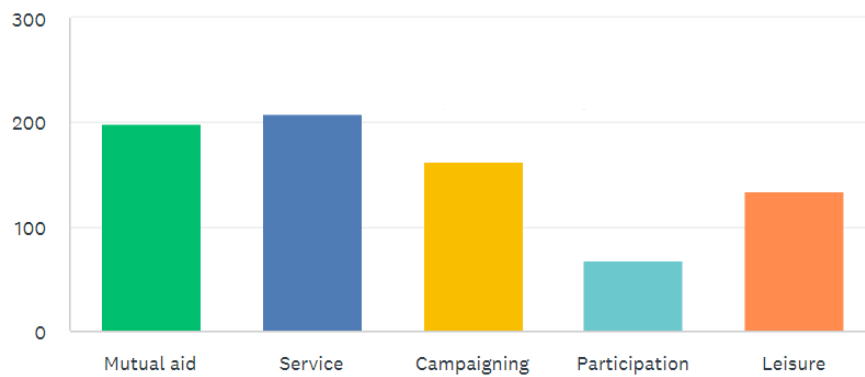
7) Percentage of volunteering activities conducted online

BASIC STATISTICS						?
MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	MEDIAN	MEAN	STANDARD DEVIATION		
0.00	100.00	49.00	44.48			29.53

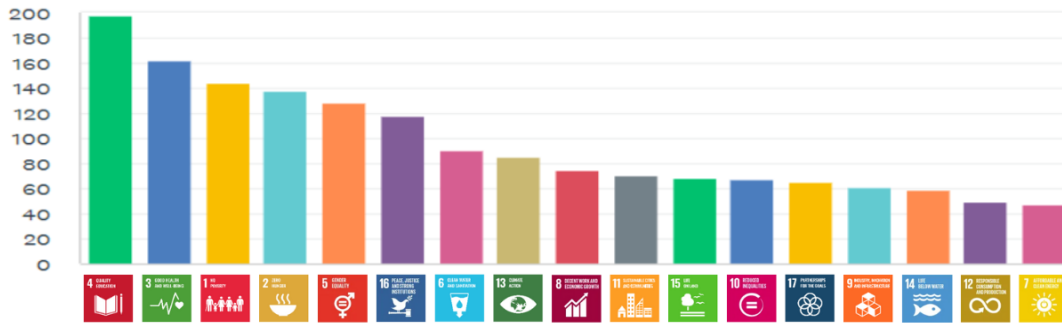
8) Number of beneficiaries targeted through volunteering activities



9) Categories of volunteering activities

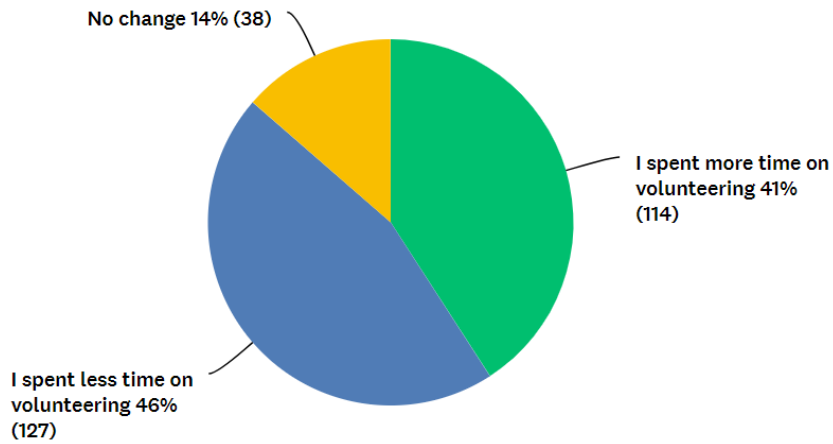


10) SDGs towards which volunteering activities contributed

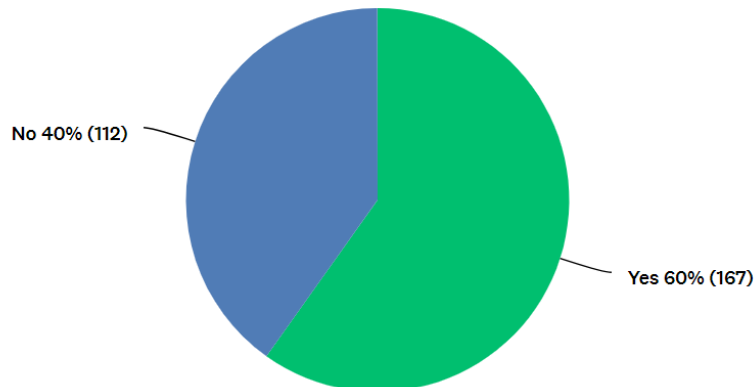


6.1.3 Module 3: Volunteering Programmes During COVID-19

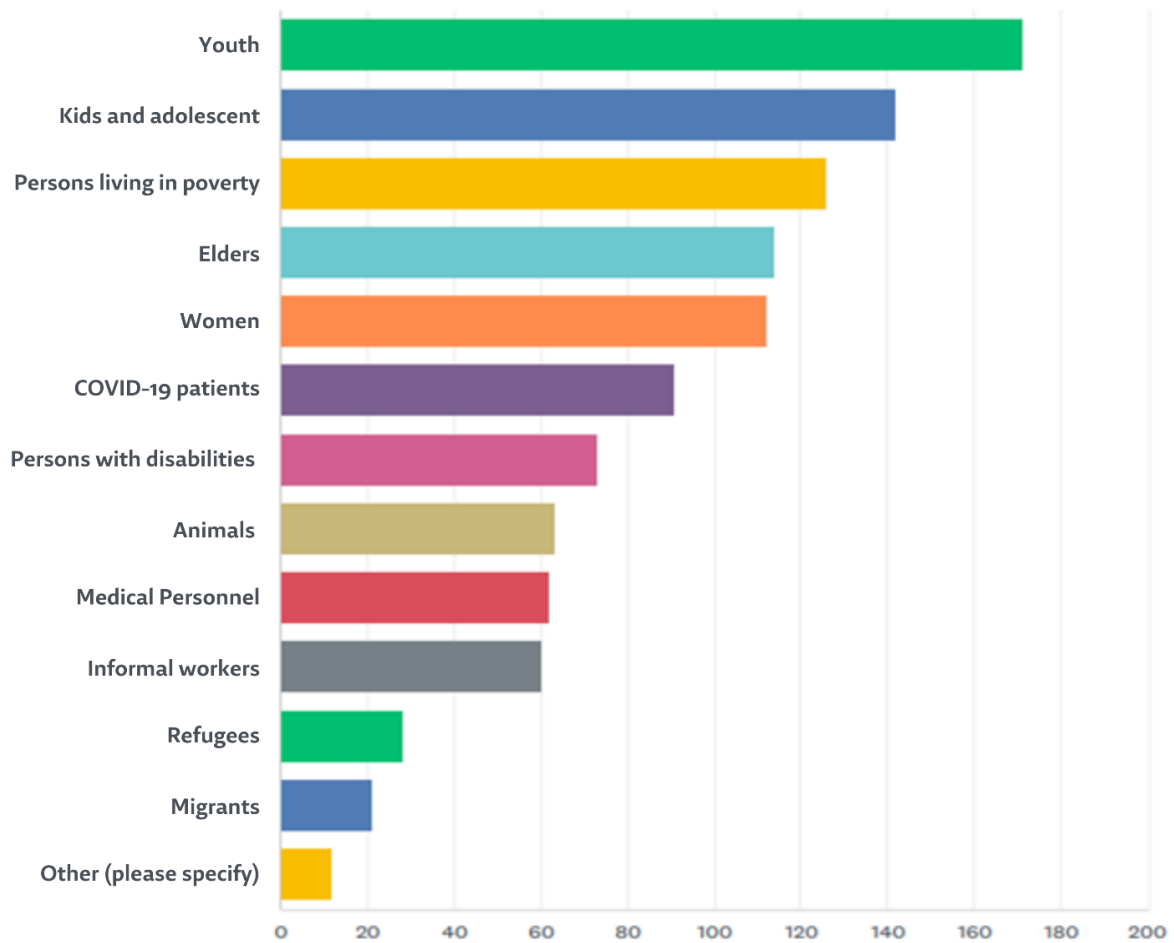
11) Impact on time spent on volunteering due to COVID-19



12) Volunteering experience directly related to COVID-19 response

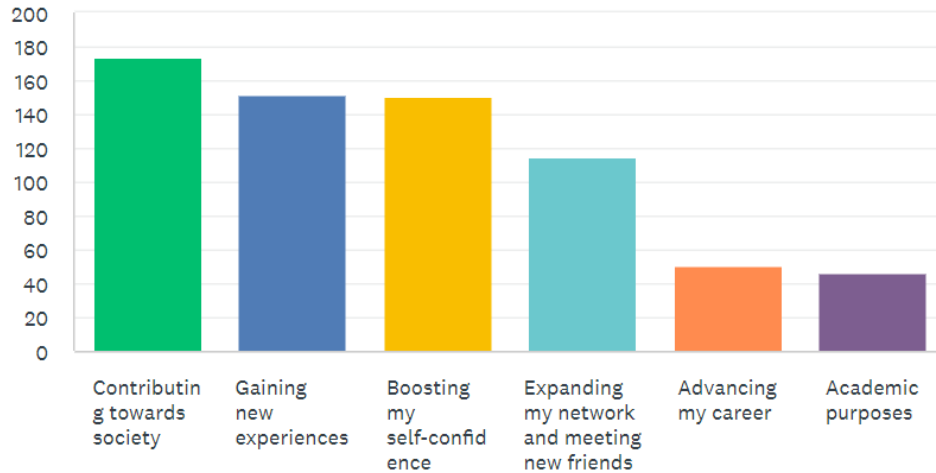


13) Targeted beneficiaries of COVID-19 response

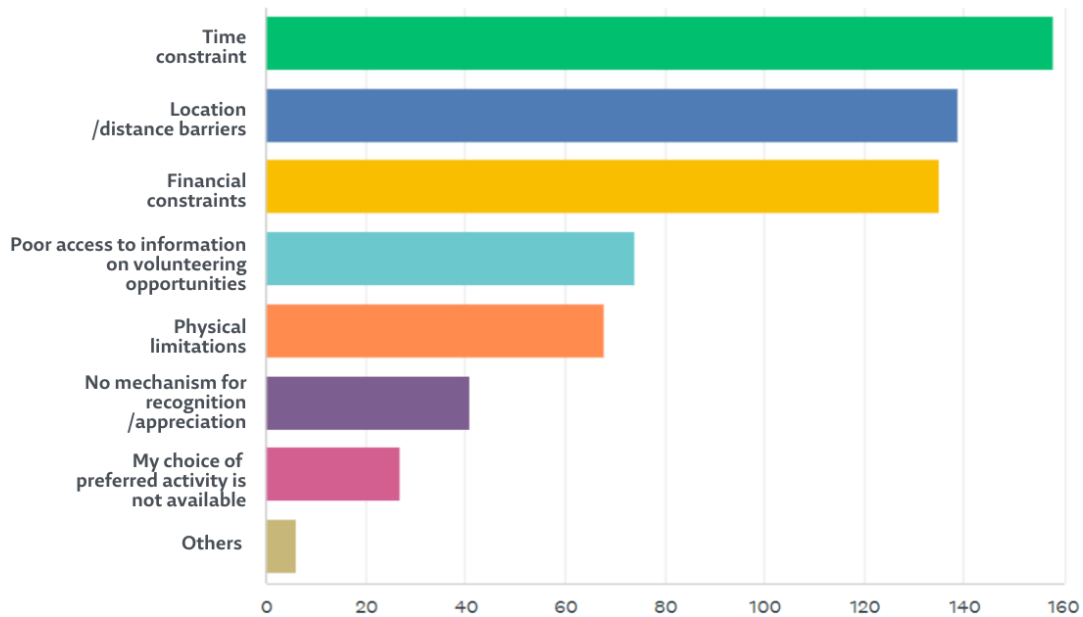


6.1.4 Module 4: Benefits of Volunteering

14) Motivation to engage in volunteering activities

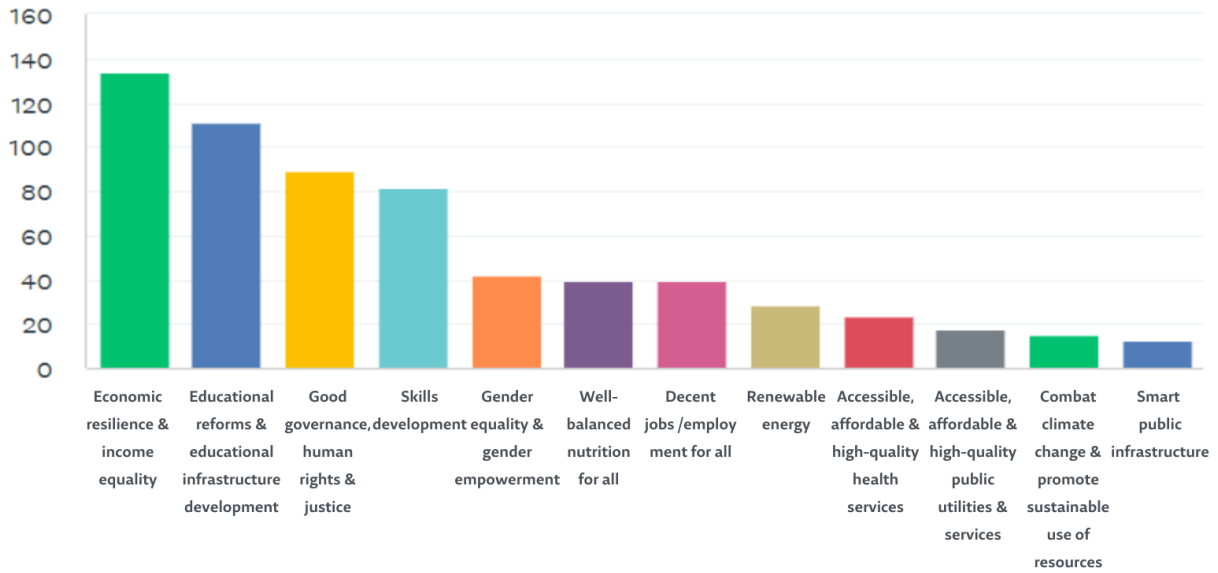


15) Main challenges in volunteering

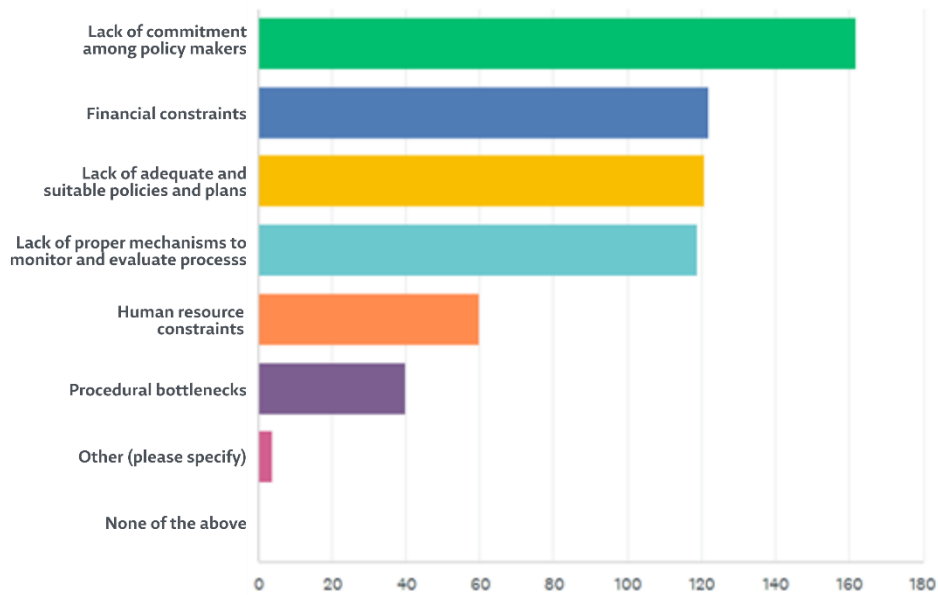


6.1.5 Section 4: Youth perspective

16) Prioritisation of sectors for the achievement of the SDGs

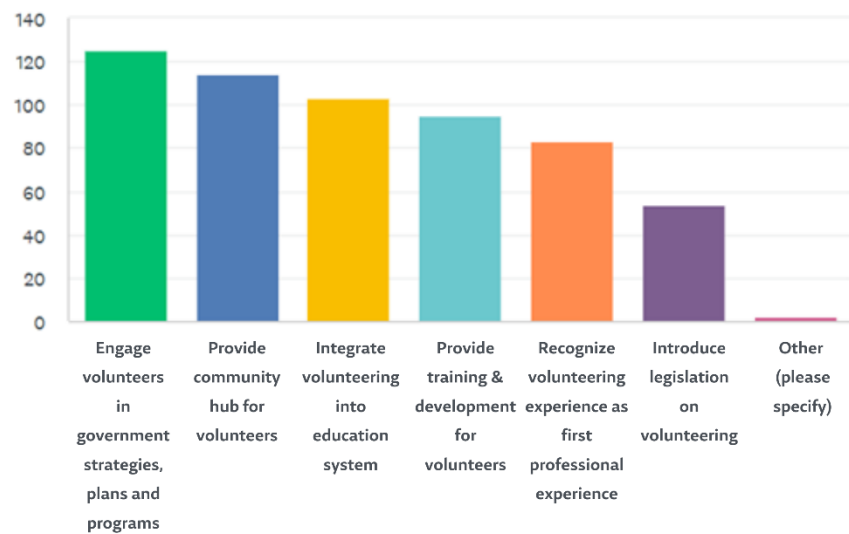


17) Gaps/ challenges which exist in the above areas

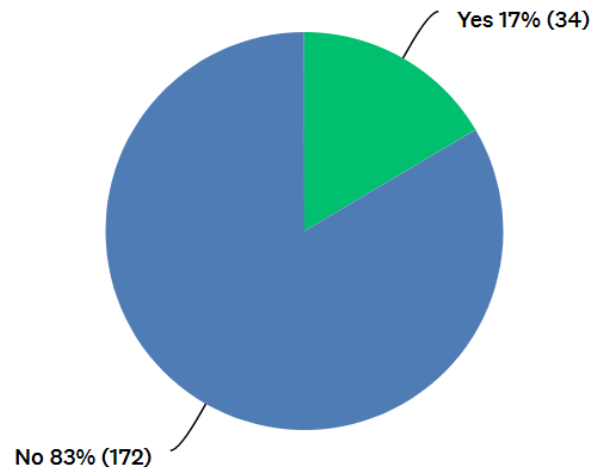


18) Recommendations – Open-ended answers.

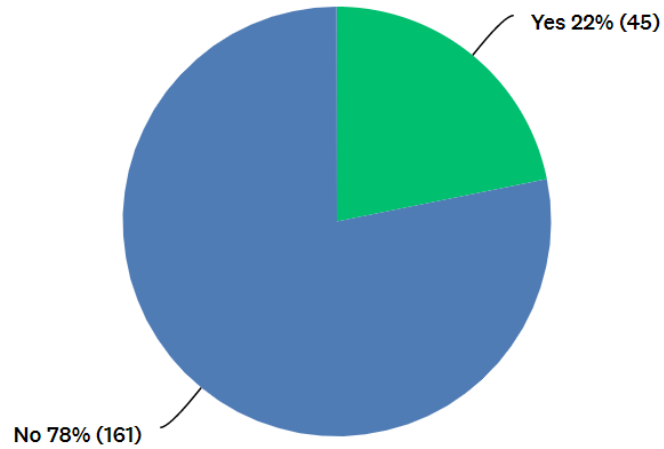
19) Government Support for Volunteering Activities



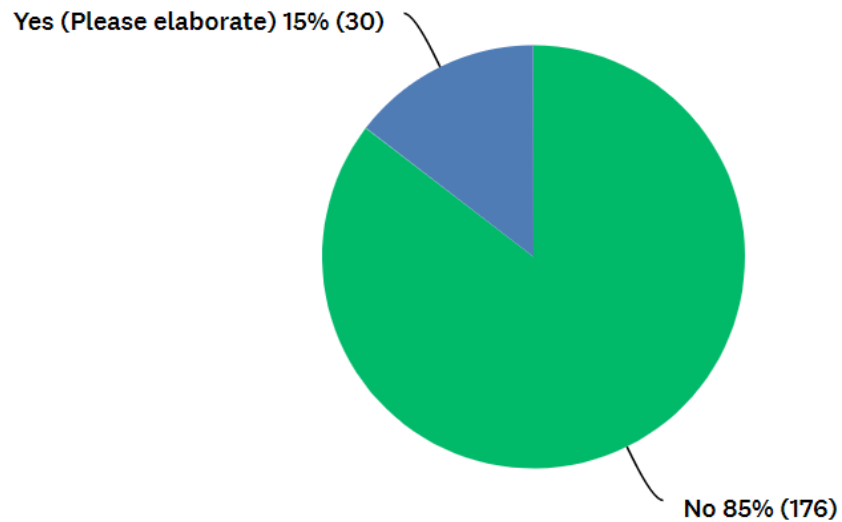
20) Participation in discussion/dialogue on SDGs led by the Government from 2020-present?



21) Engagement in the implementation of any government policies or plans



22) Cooperation with local or other level Government authorities on the ground

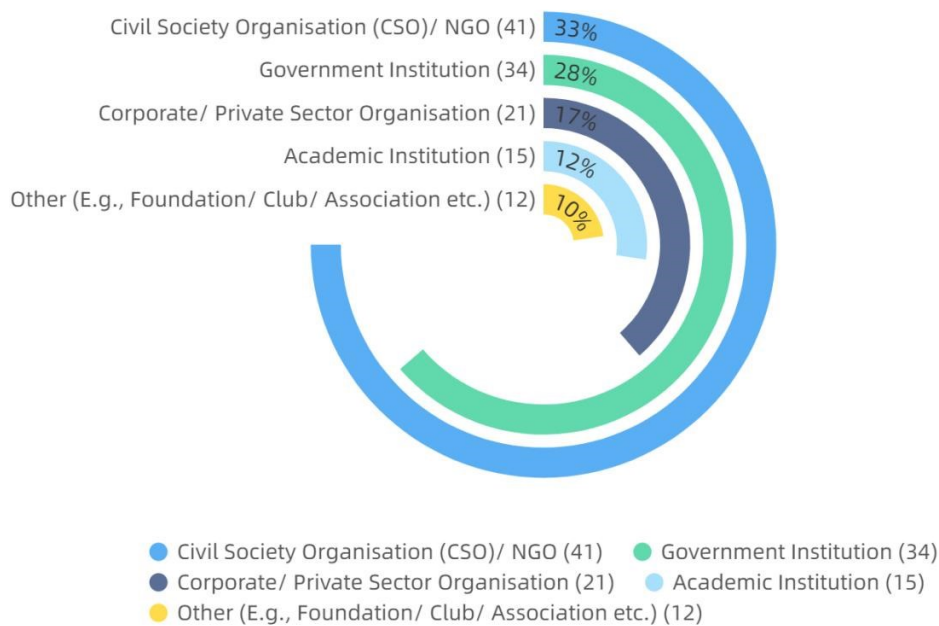


23) Role of volunteering in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals – Open-ended answers

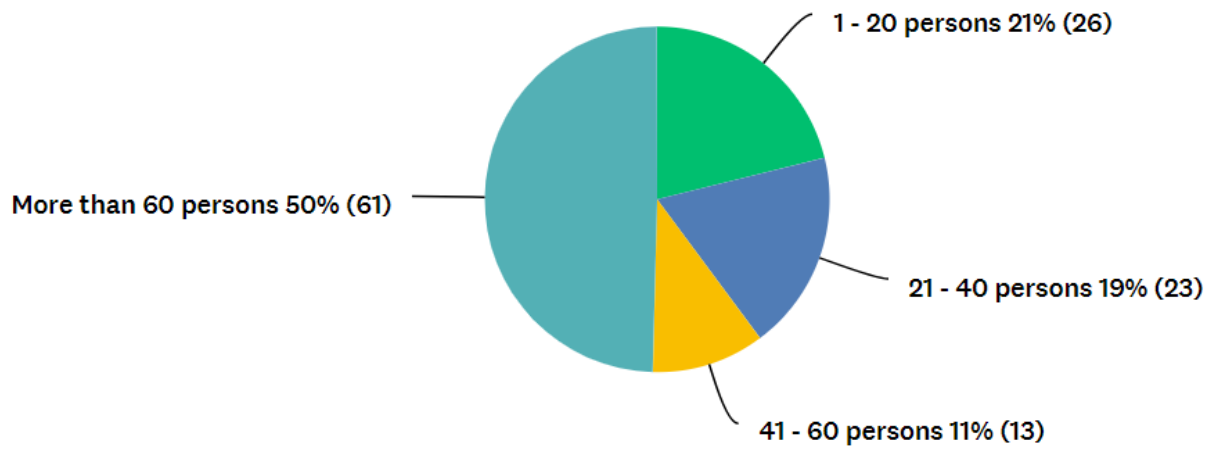
6.2 Questionnaire B: Organisations

6.2.1 Module 1: Background information

- 1) **Organisation name** – Open-ended answers. This included organisations on a wide spectrum such as Sri Lanka Unites, the Sarvodaya movement, Seylan Bank, Manusath Derana, the Department of Registrar of Companies and the University of the Visual and Performing Arts.
- 2) **Official organisation website or organisation social media account** – Open-ended answers.
- 3) **Current position in the organisation** – Open-ended answers. Responses were mainly received from mid to senior level of management, such as CEOs and Directors as well as Managers and Programme Coordinators.
- 4) **Category of Organisation**

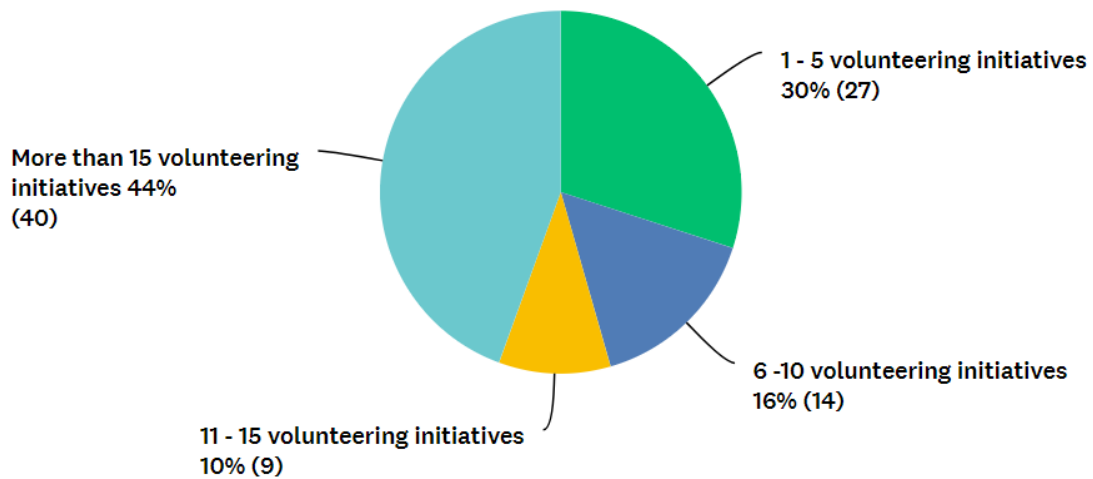


- 5) Number of employees engaged in volunteering activities of the organisation

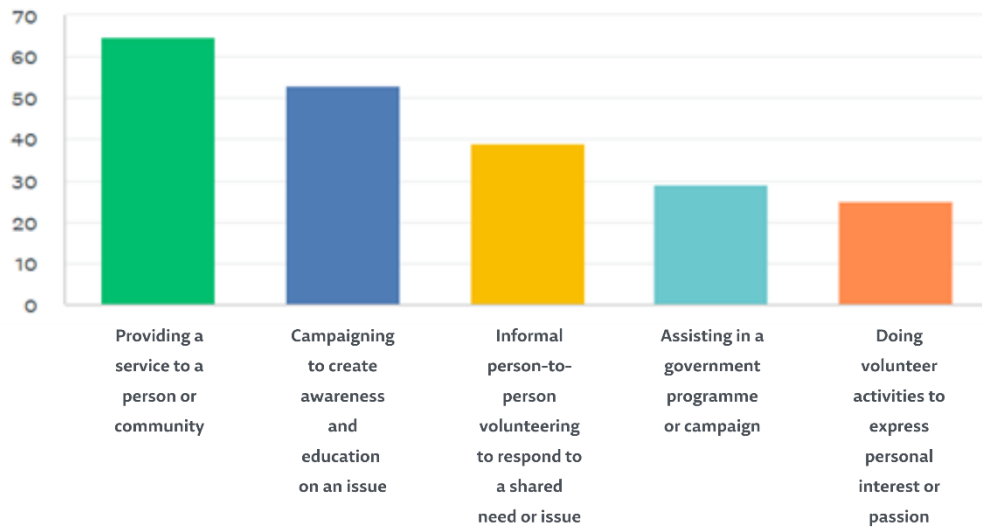


6.2.2 Module 2: Volunteering Programme Details

- 6) Number of volunteering initiatives the organisation has implemented during 2020 and 2021

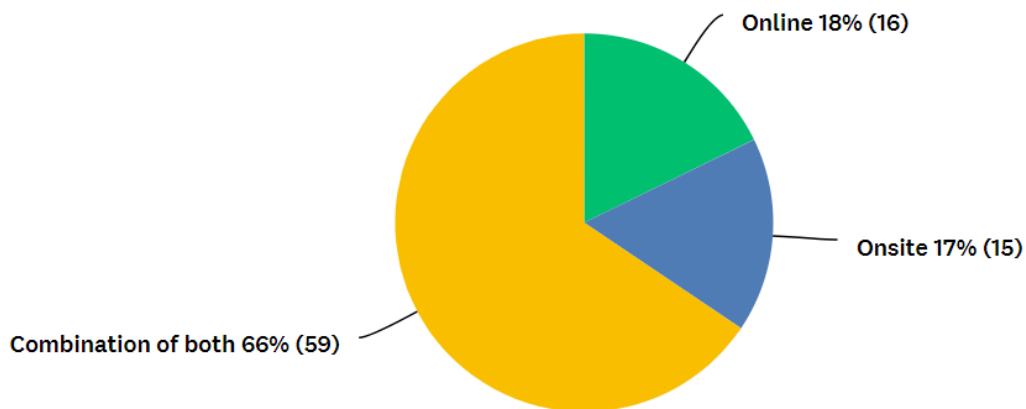


7) Category of volunteering activities

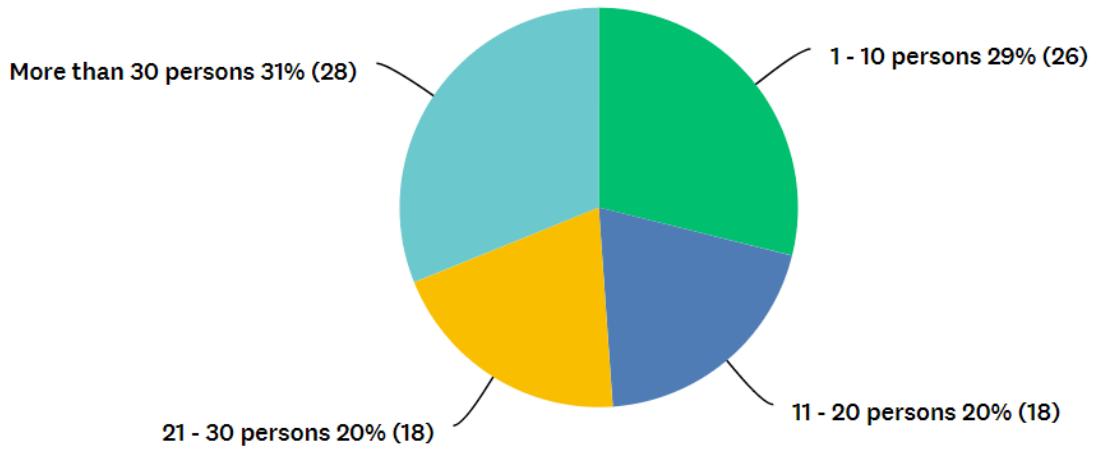


8) Most remarkable volunteering initiative your organisation engaged in during 2020 – 2021 – Open-ended answers

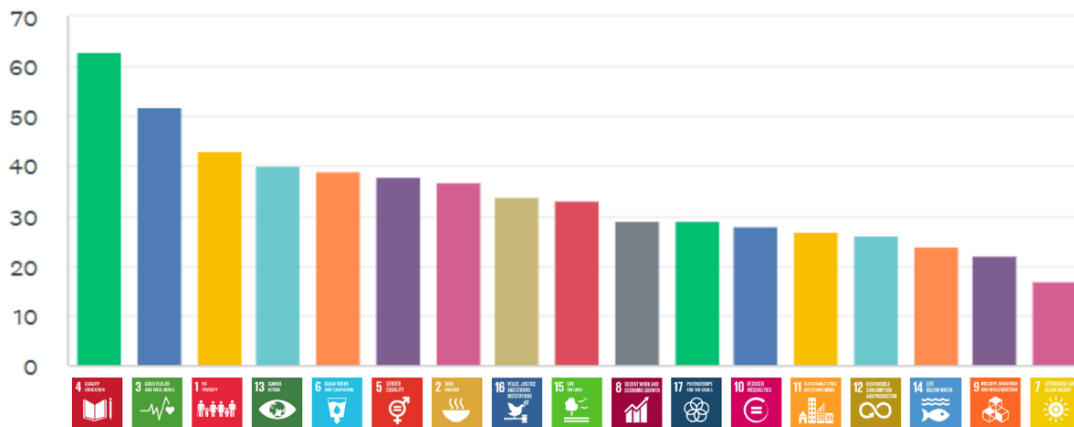
9) Modality utilised for volunteering initiatives



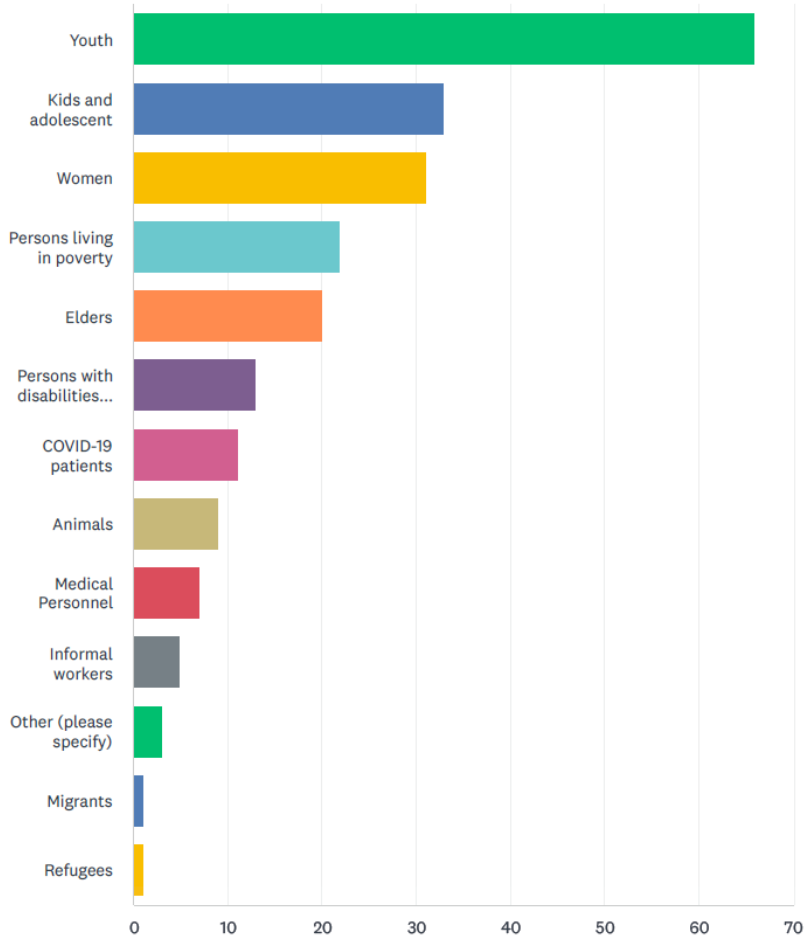
10) Average number of volunteers engaged in each initiative



11) SDGs towards which volunteering initiatives contributed



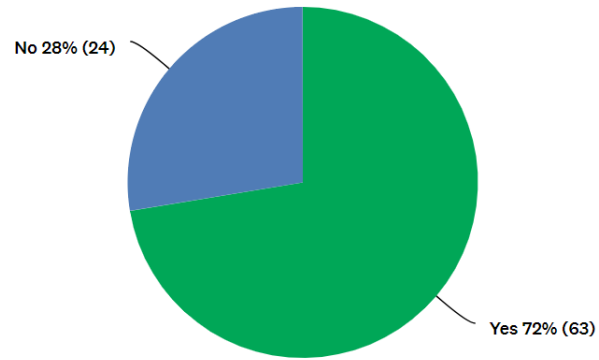
12) Main beneficiary groups



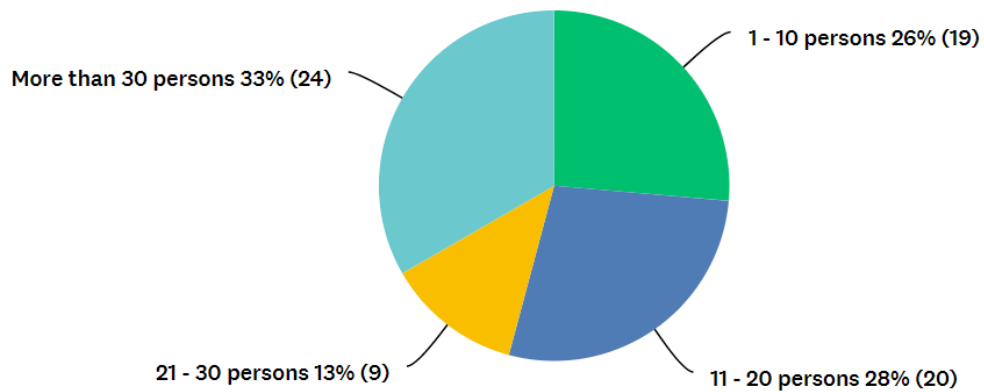
6.2.3 Module 3:

Volunteering Programmes During COVID-19

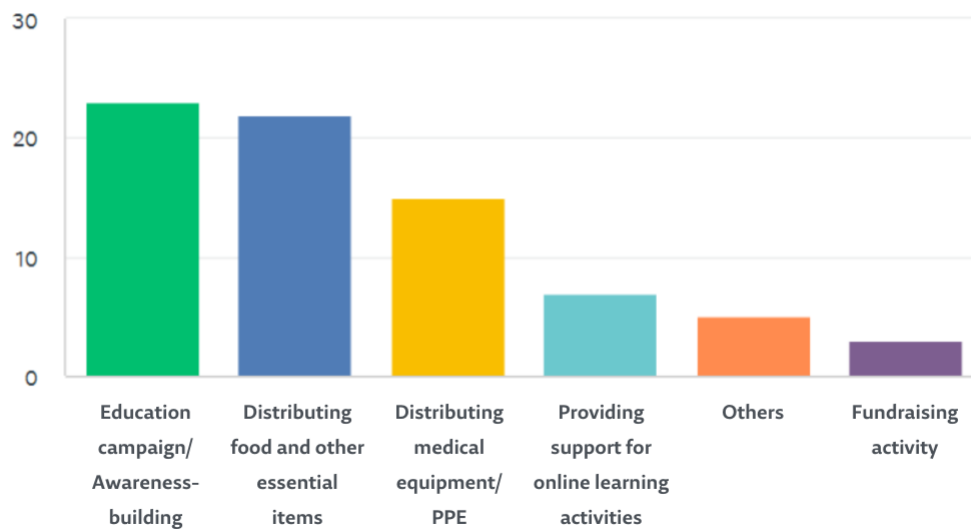
13) Volunteering programme/initiatives specifically designed to respond to COVID-19



14) Active volunteers involved in volunteering initiative

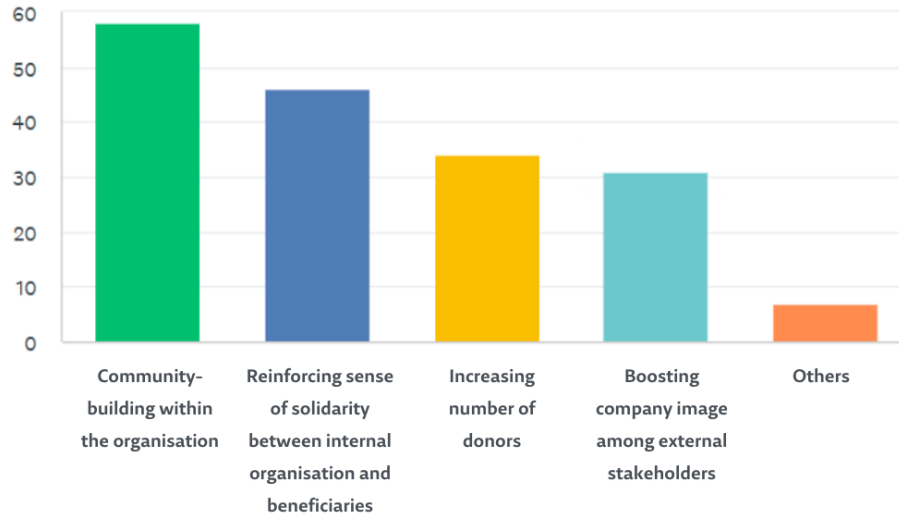


15) Activities performed by volunteers in this initiative



6.2.4 Module 4: Advantages for the Organisation and Government Support

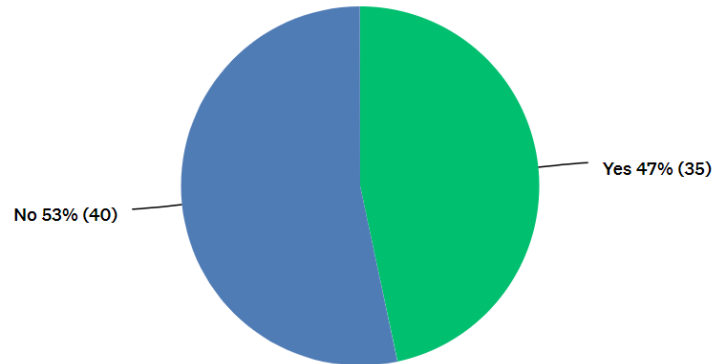
16) Advantages for the organisation through involving volunteers



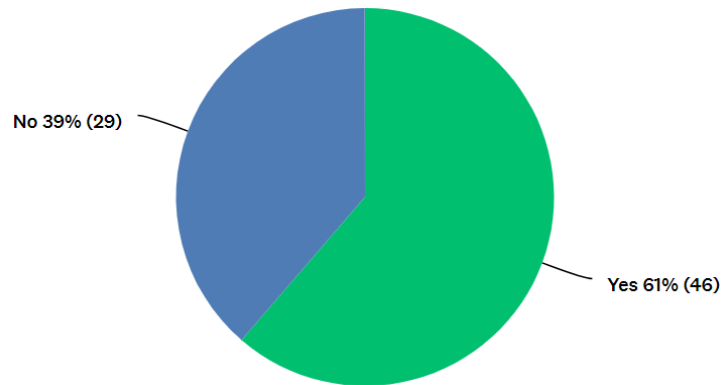
17) Government support for volunteering activities



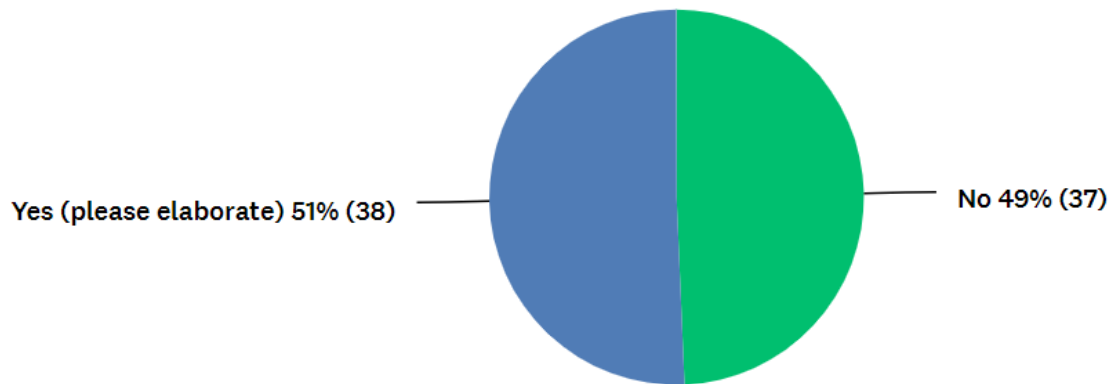
18) Participation in discussion/dialogue on SDGs led by the Government from 2020-present



19) Involvement in the implementation of government policies or plans








20) Cooperation with local or other level Government authorities on the ground












7. Annex 01: Extracts from UNV50 Country Awards 2021 – Sri Lanka






The following are direct extracts from the submissions received for the UNV 50 Country Awards and were used as the basis for the case studies cited in this report.



Name of Volunteer Involving Project	Date of Project	Number of Volunteers Deployed	Description of Project	SDG Number/s Covered by the Project
Dilmah Ceylon Tea Company PLC				
World Wetlands Day - Wetland Clean-up	02 February 2020	30	<p>"Dilmah Conservation partnered with the Sri Lankan Navy, Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation (SLLDC) and Dilmah Tea staff to commemorate World Wetlands Day 2020 by cleaning up the stretches of beautiful wetland ecosystems of Colombo.</p> <p>https://m.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.2361842700582528&type=3&comment_id=2362045400562258</p> <p>Page 124: https://issuu.com/dilmah/docs/dilmah_purpose_book_-_edition_2</p>	 <p>Sustainable Cities and Communities</p>  <p>Climate Action</p>  <p>Partnerships for the Goals</p>

Oxford College of Business				
Water purification project	11 September 2020	14	<p>Construction of a water purification plant is currently under way at a cost of Rs.12 Mn to provide clean drinking water residing in Liyanwela in the Monaragala District. The project is jointly carried out by Oxford College of Business and "Gammadda" of Capital Maharaja Group. The project will be completed in December 2021. Objective: To foster sustainable livelihoods through relevant infrastructure enhancement in rural areas. Impact: The project will impact 350 families living in the Monaragala District and it increases the access to clean water. Evidence: Annual Report: https://www.ocbsrilanka.edu.lk/annual-reports/ (Page No. 83-Annual Report 2020/21)</p> <p>YouTube: https://youtu.be/sNLHSzslOaQ</p>	 <p>Good Health and Well-Being</p>  <p>Clean Water and Sanitation</p>  <p>Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure</p>  <p>Sustainable Cities and Communities</p>

Power House Ltd. - TV Derana				
Health-Covid19 Pandemic- "Smile Within", 1 million mask donation & awareness campaign	07 June 2020	150 volunteers X 50 events	"Initially, no clear advice on wearing masks in Sri Lanka. Though police urged, people consider it uncomfortable and unpleasant. Some were reluctant to wear masks also due to scarcity and higher prices. Manusath Derana and partners made the necessary social change with "Smile within" one million masks donation and awareness campaign.	 <p>Good Health and Well-being</p>
NSBM Green University				
Spandana 2021- NSBM Students, lecturers	Start – 18 May 2021 End – 25 June 2021	12	supported families with mentally disabled children by providing them with daily essentials. About 75 people affected by the current Covid-19 pandemic benefited by this donation. Apart from the usual items available in a donation pack, the given-out package consisted of 5 Nos KN95 Masks, 6 Nos Medical Masks, a Sanitize Bottle, 2 packets of Pas Panguwa, 2 cards of Panadol, 3 bars of soap, and 1 packet of washing powder. Not only the parents, but also the little kids went home happy with a package designed specifically for them. They received a special package with 12 Chocolates of 3 varieties, 5 varieties of Biscuits, Cheese, Fresh milk, Apples and Grapes. In total the package contained 36 different varieties of items and was valued at 6500 LKR a package.	 <p>No Poverty</p>  <p>Zero Hunger</p>  <p>Clean Water and Sanitation</p>

Kelani Valley Plantations PLC				
Home for Every Plantation Worker Project	2006 to 2021	3500+	<p>"KVPL's main CSR project – A Home for Every Plantation Worker was launched in 2006. The project is deployed across all 25 KVPL estates. It is funded by KVPL through an annual budgetary allocation and also Rs. 1.50 from every kilo of single origin leafy tea sold. The project is constructed on the four primary pillars of: Living environment, Health and nutrition, Community capacity building, Empowerment of youth. In executing this project all KVPL employees specially HRD staff and all the plantation communities, and several external stakeholders were voluntarily participated and supported with financial and human resources.</p>	<div data-bbox="1675 302 1797 415">  <p>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p> </div> <p data-bbox="1570 423 1913 451">Good Health and Well-being</p> <div data-bbox="1675 488 1797 602">  <p>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</p> </div> <p data-bbox="1633 610 1850 638">Quality Education</p> <div data-bbox="1675 667 1797 781">  <p>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</p> </div> <p data-bbox="1570 789 1913 816">Clean Water and Sanitization</p> <div data-bbox="1675 846 1797 959">  <p>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p> </div> <p data-bbox="1570 967 1913 1027">Decent Work and Economic Growth</p> <div data-bbox="1675 1065 1797 1179">  <p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p> </div> <p data-bbox="1612 1187 1871 1247">Sustainable Cities and Communities</p>

Provincial Department of Education Sabaragamuwa				
e-Nenapiyasa Learning Management System	From September 2019 to present	32	Created for the promotions of distance education in Sabaragamuwa and able to deliver distance education with innovative manner to all over the country. It is serving well to the students, teachers, principals etc. completely free of charge. and became one of the main platforms in the country with higher number of uses and usages	 Quality Education
Ministry of Irrigation				
Construction of temporary coffer dam on Sengal Oya anicut across Deduru Oya- Puttalam district	15 July 2020	50	During the Yala season of 2020, 950Acs of paddy was cultivated under Sengal Oya scheme. But stored water in the tanks and the inflow of feeder canal from the Sengal Oya anicut at Daduru Oya was insufficient for the cultivation. This issue was discussed at the Project Management Committee meeting with the farmers and decided to construct a temporary coffer dam on the top of the Sengal Oya anicut in order to divert water to feeder canal. On the 15.07.2020 coffer dam about 2ft height was constructed with the participation of members of FOO of Sengal Oya scheme under the supervision of ID. Polu sack bags was supplied by ID and work was done by Sramadhana and 2020 Yala season was successful without failing.	 No Poverty  Zero Hunger  Climate Action  Partnerships for the Goals

Gammadda				
Tree planting project in Ella	01 September 2019	60 Volunteers	<p>Ella forest reserve attracts a large number of tourists and had garnered the attention of the globe, was burnt due to a wild-fires, and was left neglected without any authority taking action to prevent it. Gammadda V-Force promptly reacted and joined hands with the Sri Lanka Army and with several Environmental Organisations in Sri Lanka, marked the first step of preventing such disasters and to preserve these natural resources, launched a tree planting campaign in the destroyed areas of the Ella Forest Reserve on 1st of September 2019. This endeavour was undertaken with the sole intention of fulfilling a national requirement and a need. Many varieties of plants such as Runa, Sapu, Kudu-Dawula, Sudu-Handun, Gammalu, Nelli and Pihimbiya were taken to the mountains in large numbers to be planted in ten acres of damaged area in Kithul Ella of the Ella Forest Reserve. It was a significant feat to have seen the Uva Provincial Council, Department of Forest Conservation, Department of Wildlife, Central Environment Authority, Sri Lanka Army, Ella Divisional Secretariat, Ella Tour Guides Association and Sri Lanka Police also joining hands with Gammadda V-Force in this endeavour. Governor of the Uva Province, Maithri Gunaratne was also present at the campaign.</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFoQYIAXHd4</p>	 <p>Climate Action</p>  <p>Life on Land</p>

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