



## UNDP supports the youth to strengthen their career potential



*Young people worldwide are willing to bring positive changes and contribute to the development of the countries, though they lack access or tools to enact the change.*

*The regional project 'Knowledge Management and Capacity building in Russia-UNDP Partnership' gives the Russian youth a unique opportunity to gain valuable knowledge of different regional aspects and challenges that the Europe and the CIS region faces. The project supports students' aspirations in acquiring professional experience and contributing to positive changes in the region through the Internship programme in UNDP offices that started in 2017 and has since attracted more than 30 Russian students and graduates.*

*The inspiring stories below show how the internship changed professional lives and significantly boosted career opportunities of four active Russian students and graduates in the field of international cooperation and development.*

**Anna Glukhova** supported UNDP Armenia in the area of communications. During her internship, she helped implement media strategies of 'Integrated Support to Rural Development: building resilient communities' and 'Integrated Rural Tourism Development' projects assisting in organizing public events, creating numerous communication products, especially in the Russian language: information leaflets, exciting human stories about rural people in Tavush region published at UNDP in Armenia [social media channels, thus raising the awareness about the UNDP project activities among Russian-speaking audience.](#)

Anna took part in several field missions to follow the project implementation process and search for new tourism destinations in order to create new tourism products. This experience facilitated her better understanding of real people's needs in rural areas, their vision of the future, and how UNDP contributes to social and economic development of the Republic of Armenia.

*'Thanks to this programme, I had a unique opportunity to observe the concrete results of UNDP projects for the development of rural tourism and border communities, which are aimed at improving the lives of people in the region.'*

Her commitment, valuable practical skills in the field and lively interest in rural and agricultural development helped her build the professional path further: at present, Anna works at the FAO Liaison Office with the Russian Federation as an Assistant Communication Specialist.





**Ruben Gazanchian** performed his duties as the intern at UNDP Tajikistan with the main focus on youth empowerment. He proved to be an outstandingly proactive person constantly proposing his own initiatives to the ongoing project 'Start-up Chohihona' and revising training materials for young entrepreneurs.

*'I have gained diverse useful and real-world skills and competences in the field of knowledge management and capacity building, it also increased my professional efficiency at the UNFPA'*

Ruben's leadership skills and entrepreneurial spirit along with invaluable working experience in Tajikistan resulted in his appointment as a Resource Mobilization and Monitoring Assistant for UNFPA Tajikistan under the UNV Full Funding Programme financed by the Russian Federation. During his UNV assignment Ruben will be assessing opportunities of resource mobilization and closely work on UNFPA's donor intelligence strategy.

**Maria Yastrebova** served as the intern at UNDP Belarus providing the expertise on the Eurasian Economic Community and CIS for several projects. During the internship, Maria also contributed to project proposals on improvement of SDG-oriented state budgeting and applying the BIOFIN<sup>1</sup> methodology. She assisted with conceptualization, proposal pitching and resource mobilization and also analyzed the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on long-term trends in the private business industry.

*'I could not have acquired the position as a UNV if not for the knowledge and skills I got during my internship with the KM Project'*



Her enthusiasm, devotion to learning, interest in protection of environment and knowledge acquired during the internship led to her selection outside the CIS region as an International Youth UNV for UNDP Kenya for the position of Environment and Climate Change Associate Officer, the assignment under the UNV Full Funding Programme financed by the Russian Federation. Maria will be in charge of Natural Resource Management (NRM), Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change, Energy projects elaboration and will work in close connection with Global Environment Facility.

<sup>1</sup> BIOFIN - Biodiversity Finance Initiative. To learn more: <https://www.biodiversityfinance.net/index.php/about-biofin/biofin-approach>

**Nikolay Komarkov** supported New Partnerships and Emerging Donors Team in Istanbul Regional Hub in its activities aimed at building development partnerships, including with the private sector and resource mobilization. He conducted extensive researches on mapping opportunities with IFIs, ODA financing mechanisms, engagement of private sector to RBEC projects.

*'The internship at UNDP was a defining point in my career. It gave me valuable skills and knowledge that remain my competitive advantage to this day'*

His outstanding performance and the proven ability to adapt rapidly to the working environment, as well as the outstanding writing skills together with excellent analytical judgement were also successfully applied during a temporary employment with the UNV as a consultant for the regional launch of the 'State of the World Volunteerism' report and further permanent employment with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. Nikolay's current position is the assistant attaché at the Department of International Organizations.



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*Active young educated and motivated Russian students, are encouraged to chase the opportunity of internship with UNDP which would be helpful and meaningful for developing practical skills, new ideas and higher aspirations.*

*More information about the Internship Programme can be accessed by the [link](#).*

*If you have any questions, please, contact UNDP Partnership Support Office in the Russian Federation <https://expertsfordevelopment.ru/>, [contact@expertsfordevelopment.ru](mailto:contact@expertsfordevelopment.ru)*