



## Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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Think Globally. Act Locally!

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### International Volunteer Day, 5 December 2019

The United Nations' (UN) annual International Volunteer Day (IVD) has promoted and celebrated the contribution volunteers make across the globe since 1985. The UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, says the diverse and dynamic role of volunteerism in promoting the Sustainable Development Goals merits strong support from Governments and other stakeholders. On this International Day, I thank volunteers for their efforts to leave no one behind."

In fact, civil society depends on volunteers to deliver a range of services across many sectors. Our group, Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc., is managed and operated entirely by volunteers. Consequently, HOPE proudly promotes IVD and invites you to add your time and skills to the global initiative of improving our world.

In Australia, with bushfires currently happening in several States, many community members have volunteered their time/services – directly through fire-fighting, or by helping to feed the emergency service personnel. On Thursday 5 December, IVD gives us all the opportunity to celebrate these volunteers' efforts and thank them for the good work they have done.

The theme of the 2019 IVD is "volunteer for an inclusive future", which promotes equality through volunteerism locally, nationally, and internationally. Volunteerism not only improves our communities, but for people who are often excluded from main-stream activities within our communities, volunteering enables them to improve their lives while using their time and skills to effect change that strengthens solidarity, engagement, and inclusion.

You can find out more about IVD from the [UN Volunteers](#) website. Also, follow IVD on [Facebook](#), [Flickr](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Trello](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#) and by using the hashtags [#volunteer4inclusion](#) and [#IVD2019](#). You can contribute to IVD by sharing photos or videos that promote equality through volunteerism.

If you would like to volunteer, [HOPE](#) is always on the lookout for new volunteers, either local or remote, that can contribute their time and talents to events and display activities, general administration duties, and media/publications work. Find out more [here](#).

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