

# Valuing Professional Citizenship

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# What is Professional Citizenship?

As oral health professionals we have a broad responsibility to the community in which we choose to practice and assist our communities with health issues and donate our time and or services to improve the health of the community.



**Colour Run 2015, ACT Dental practice raises money for children's heart disease**

- As dental health professionals we should demonstrate leadership within the community regarding health issues.
- Professional citizenship may include **active** membership of a dental society working to improve community health by developing and facilitating dental programs for the community



# FDI Principles of Volunteering

[www.fdiworldental.org/media/.../Guidelines-for-dental-volunteers-2005.](http://www.fdiworldental.org/media/.../Guidelines-for-dental-volunteers-2005)



Long Tan Dental Project Vietnam Project established in 2007



2-3 years olds waiting for dental screening Long Tan Kindergarten 2014

- Preference should be to work in an established programme or project
- Apply dental professional ethics in **all** settings.

- Emergency care and service provision are important however it is essential to ensure long term sustainability and improvement in community health



Dental health education in Long Tan Primary School 2011

- A volunteer should be cautious about introducing new material and equipment without **prior** consultation



Australian dental hygienists' society donates a percentage of proceeds from CPD events annually to the Long Tan fund to purchase mobile equipment for the project in Vietnam



- General principles such as project planning, reporting and evaluation are essential to the success of a project.
- Any volunteer should respect the culture of the host community and try to adapt as much as possible.



Celebrating Vietnam's National Day in the clinic 2014



Long Tan pre-schoolers rest from 10.30- 1pm and then have their lunch until 2pm. Clinic does not operate between these hours.

# Challenges facing volunteer programs and volunteers



The project objective is to provide preventive services to school children in Long Tan



The local government actively support the Fluoride Rinsing Program at Long Tan Primary School

- Objectives and agenda of the volunteer
- Behaviour of volunteers
- Adherence to project objectives
- Sustainability of the project
- Continued community/  
government support for the  
project

Australian Dental Association  
Volunteer Handbook  
<http://www.ada.org.au>

- Challenging clinical environments, including power outages, extreme weather conditions, unreliable equipment, transport and storage of materials.
- Infection control challenges
- Simple bathroom and hygiene challenges





- Unsafe environments, (wild dogs & wildlife) transport breakdowns and pick-pockets
- Managing safe food and water, supplies and unfamiliar cuisines
- Infectious disease
- Regional instabilities
- Lack of leadership & experience



**Lunch time is always a great opportunity for cultural exchange and enjoy fantastic food!**

## Communication challenges

- language, names unfamiliar, repetition, formatting, dates of birth un-known, record keeping and consent
- No access to social media

[www.allianceforacavityfreefuture.org](http://www.allianceforacavityfreefuture.org)

[www.gcdfund.org](http://www.gcdfund.org)

[internationalvolunteer.ada.org/.../ADA](http://internationalvolunteer.ada.org/.../ADA) International Dental Volunteer



Long Tan Pre-school



# Pre-planning Tips



- Research the country, people and culture and learn a little of the language & read the volunteer guidelines
- Carry essentials in carry-on luggage & a change of clothes
- Ensure gloves are the next size up working in humid conditions, take a torch.
- Bring measure of humility, a smile and an open mind and your dental ethics
- Remember notify your indemnifier!

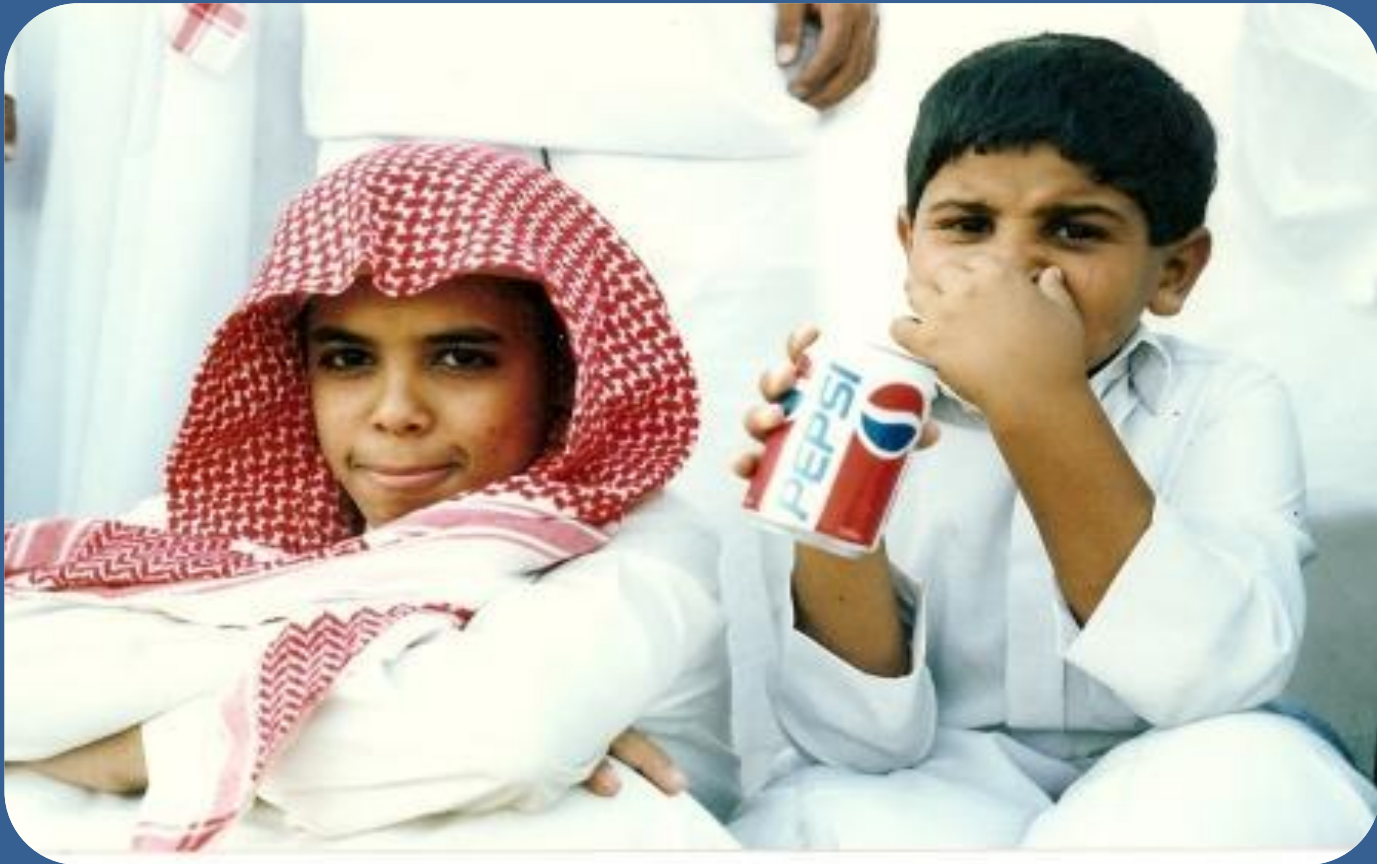
# Tips on your Arrival



- Expect to meet authorities and go through local processes and meeting/ greet with schools, health authorities & principles before you commence clinic
- Expect unscheduled visits from authorities
- Always operate within your scope of practice
- Remember quality not quantity, understand clinicians may work at different paces.
- Respect all team members, they have each have a role



International volunteering does not suit everyone and there are many other options to develop citizenship within your own community



# Collaborative Partnerships

- Collaborative advantage describes strategic alliances between organisations and the realisation of achievements which cannot be achieved by one association exclusively. (Huxham & Vangen 2010 p.72)
- Common interests for oral health societies may include improved health outcomes and searching for innovative solutions and achieving results that could not be achieved without successful strategic alliances and oral health societies. (Huxham & Vangen 2010 p.72)
- Opportunities to collaborate and focus on on upstream public health measures as well as downstream measures

# Challenges facing Collaborative Partnerships

- There is a complexity to collaborative partnerships and even the most successful partnerships may experience inertia. Collaborative inertia describes the impeded progress of alliance outcomes (Huxham & Vangen 2010 p.72)
- Contributing factors to inertia may include; inability to agree to common goals, lack of trust, partnership fatigue and an environment of continual change (Huxham & Vangen 2010 p.72-84)

# Collaborative Partnerships





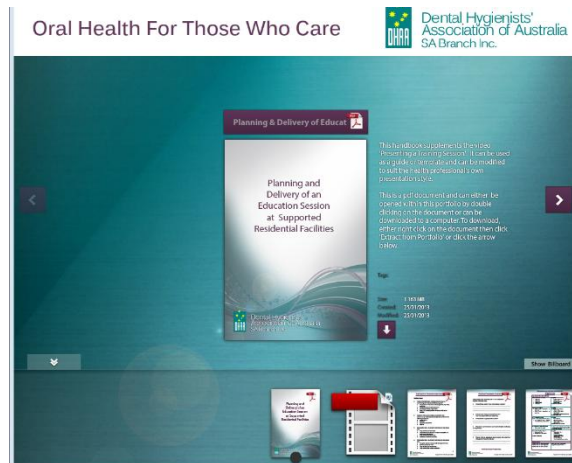
# Developing your citizenship with Universities

- Tutoring
- Mentoring
- Clinical placements
- Research
- Innovation
- University community outreach projects and research projects

<http://health.adelaide.edu.au/dentistry/community-outreach/>



# Oral Health For Those Who Care Package



- Resources for Carers in Aged care facilities
- Videos
- Information and instructional videos on
- Needs Assessment
- Preparation
- Delivery and Presentation
- Teaching methods
- Evaluation
- Costing and Fees
  
- Oral care video for staff ( 15 mins duration)
- Handouts
- When to refer guide
- Special product list
- Feedback Forms
- Video: Oral care for acute care

[www.dhaa.info/store/](http://www.dhaa.info/store/)

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ARROWH

Thank you to the patients who have given their consent for  
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