



DemocracyLab: Being Inclusive

DemocracyLab has paved the way for a large number of volunteering opportunities through its projects, providing opportunities through for diverse types of roles and responsibilities. Once signed up, a volunteer from any part of the world can select the role that suits them best.

Nurturing an inclusive culture is an indispensable component of recruiting as it leads to improved creativity, efficiency, and innovation. Diversity in the workforce unleashes immense potential for versatility in work. It facilitates in furthering facilitating an organizational culture where each person feels free to express their thoughts and ideas and feel comfortable.

That's why DemocracyLab has set an example by encouraging volunteers from around the world to get engaged in its tech for good projects. Such inclusivity and diversity provide are a core strength of the organization, which believes that diverse teams working together with goodwill and respect can accomplish remarkable things.

Through virtual tech for good initiatives, the Volunteering opportunities at DemocracyLab have opened the doors for millions who want to make a mark by helping out their communities through virtual tech for good initiatives. The organization has been at the forefront when relating tech for good With a vast selection of projects to choose from, aimed at resolving social, economic, environmental, and civic problems. Volunteering with the organization has

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- Intro statement: DL is inclusive
- Background: What is inclusivity, why is it important
- Expansion: How DL practices inclusivity by working digitally
- Quotes
- Conclusion: Call to action

Commented [RL2]: Any thoughts on a catchier title? "Versatility through Inclusion"

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Commented [RL4]: Removed to avoid the repetition with "has paved the way" above.

Commented [RL5]: Q: Is this saying millions of people have volunteered with DLab, or more of a general statement on the potential? If the latter, I'd recommend rephrasing without a number, such as "...opened the door for anyone who wants..." to avoid any misinterpretation.

only gives remote volunteers ~~have~~ the chance to develop their skills. ~~but also while making~~ a difference ~~to so many~~ in the world. Inclusivity and diversity provide core strength to the organization, which believes that diverse teams working together with goodwill and respect can accomplish remarkable things.

DemocracyLab has paved the way for a large number of volunteering opportunities through its projects, providing opportunities through diverse types of roles and responsibilities. Once signed up, a volunteer from any part of the world can select the role that suits them best. Here are some of the inclusive behaviors that ~~have~~ helped the organization DemocracyLab to encompass a worldwide presence ~~has been as follows~~:

- Providing volunteer opportunities to people from diverse backgrounds and skills.
- Practicing inclusion strategies in recruitment, responsibilities, and succession planning
- Encouraging ~~diverse~~ teams with a variety of skill sets ~~and by~~ giving them opportunities to showcase their talent.
- Creating a sense of belonging.

Democracy Lab has set an example by encouraging volunteers from around the world to get engaged in its tech for good projects. I have been a part of this organization for around two years now and can say that I definitely feel like an important part of it, ~~and always am willing to contribute~~. And there are many other international volunteers who feel the same about the work they do at DemocracyLab. Here are testimonials from some of our active volunteers about how the organization has made a difference in their lives.

Hakki (UX Designer from Turkey)

"I wanted to improve my international experience as a UX designer and also do some networking by joining DLab. Being able to connect and collaborate with people from various backgrounds is refreshing and interesting. I really enjoy working with people with various skill sets. Time difference is a challenge but DLab's inclusive environment helps me freely express my opinions and find opportunities to hone my skills. It sounds strange but without Covid-19, I wouldn't be in DemocracyLab. Bc of the pandemic, it seems like we're moving into a physically distant but digitally more connected world. This is a borderless world where everyone can connect, collaborate, and create value regardless of their actual location. And I believe that in the long run it will have unprecedented results for everyone."

Zoe Nguyen (UX designer from Germany):

"I joined Democracy Lab to improve my skill as a product designer and I was happy to contribute my skill for good causes to society through the platform. I chose specifically DemocracyLab as I was inspired by the mission and the values of the organization. It creates a win-win situation for non-profit projects that lack resources as well as skilled

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people who want to practice some tech skills or simply want to help. Not to mention, I am amazed at how the platform grows by the teamwork of a diverse group of people and I am proud to be a part of the team."

Anee-Marie Nnaedozie (UX designer from UK)

"I joined Democracy Lab because of their cause and what the organisation represents. I enjoy being part of the organisation because of the causes and projects we inadvertently help by doing what we do. - I've had the pleasure of working with great designers that I've collaborated with and learnt from; and would love to continue to do so."

Aashish Sawhney (India)

"I joined DemocracyLab as I was inspired by its mission and the work they are doing for TechForGood projects. Its been a great experience so far to volunteer and give back to the community and I encourage more people to come ahead and contribute."

Nurturing an inclusive culture is an indispensable component of recruiting as it leads to improved creativity, efficiency, and innovation. In such unpredictable, virtual-first times, it is not a bad idea for non-profits to expand their circle and give a chance to with international volunteerism. Diversity in the workforce unleashes immense potential for versatility in work. It facilitates in furthering an organizational culture where each person feels free to express their thoughts and ideas and feel comfortable. The team at DemocracyLab takes this diversity and inclusion to heart, and it shows in the incredible work we all accomplish together.

Picture Citation:

Stories, Blue Mesa Health. "3 Questions Smart Benefits Directors Ask When Choosing a Workplace Wellness Program." *Medium*, Medium, 28 Feb. 2018, medium.com/@BlueMesaHealth/3-questions-smart-benefits-directors-ask-when-choosing-a-workplace-wellness-program-ffea97f290e9.

