

## UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

### VNMR000052--Programme Associate in Public Health Policy, practice and Management in Integrated Early Child Development

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that promotes volunteerism to support peace and development worldwide. Volunteerism can transform the pace and nature of development and it benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer. UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for volunteerism globally, encouraging partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing volunteers. In most cultures volunteerism is deeply embedded in long-established, ancient traditions of sharing and support within the communities. In this context, UN Volunteers take part in various forms of volunteerism and play a role in development and peace together with co-workers, host agencies and local communities. In all assignments, UN Volunteers promote volunteerism through their action and conduct. Engaging in volunteer activity can effectively and positively enrich their understanding of local and social realities, as well as create a bridge between themselves and the people in their host community. This will make the time they spend as UN Volunteers even more rewarding and productive.

## General Information

<b>Country of Assignment</b>	Viet Nam
<b>Host Institute</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>Volunteer Category</b>	International Specialist
<b>Number of Volunteer</b>	1
<b>Duration</b>	12 months
<b>Expected Starting Date</b>	Immediate
<b>Duty Station</b>	Hanoi [VNM]
<b>Assignment Place</b>	Family Duty Station
<b>Assignment Place Remark</b>	

#### Living Conditions

Viet Nam is a middle-income country which has witnessed rapid economic growth with impressive results in poverty reduction over the past twenty-five years. The country has deepened its integration into global and regional institutions such as the WTO, the UN institutions and ASEAN. Its current path of development is guided by the Socio-Economic Development Strategy from 2011-2020 which was endorsed at the 11th Communist Party Congress in 2011. A new Socio Economic Development Plan will be launched in 2016. The incumbent will live in Ha Noi which has most of the economic and social amenities at a reasonable cost. Depending on living arrangements, housing can be expensive. Security is good. Ha Noi has a humid, tropical climate and monsoons. Summers, between May and September, are very hot with plenty of rain, while winters, from November to March, are cold and relatively dry. Living conditions in Hanoi are relatively good by developing country standards. In line with further improvements in the availability of goods and services, health facilities, and housing, the level of hardship in the duty station has recently been upgraded from C to B. Security is also reasonably good relative to other developing country large cities. Viet Nam was recently ranked as one of the more secure and stable places to live and do business by outside research groups.

# Assignment Details

## Assignment Title

Programme Associate in Public Health Policy, practice and Management in Integrated Early Child Development

## Organizational Context & Project Description

Viet Nam has attained remarkable achievements in maternal and child survival. Infant, child and maternal mortality reduction has made a significant progress to achieve Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of child and maternal mortality reduction. The maternal mortality (MMR) declined significantly from 233 to 69 and to 49 per 100,000 live births in 1990, 2009, and 2013 respectively. Infant mortality rate fell from 44.4 in 1990 to 15.3 in 2010 and 14.9 infants per 1,000 live births in 2014; and that of under 5 mortality declined from 58.0 in 1990 to 23.8 in 2010 and 22.4 per 1,000 live births in 2014 respectively. The country is likely to be on track to achieve the Million Development Goals (MDG).

However, the major gap in supporting the cognitive and emotional development of boys and girls in Viet Nam is found in the zero to four age group. Approximately 77 per cent of kindergarten-age children and 13 per cent of pre-primary school age children do not attend any formal pre-learning programme.<sup>14</sup> Disparities in learning outcomes between the Kinh majority and the ethnic minorities are mainly attributed to a lack of school readiness. More than two in three children aged one to 14 years old experience violent discipline, 16 per cent of children aged five to 17 years are involved in household chores and economic activities that constitute child labor, and 8 per cent are working under hazardous conditions. There are over 170,000 children without parental care, many destitute or abandoned.

An Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD) approach will focus on a continuum of care from the time of pregnancy to the early childhood until eight years of age through an integrated approach of health, nutrition, WASH, education and social protection. The IECD models will focus on the first, critical 1,000 days in a child's life. Expectant mothers will receive quality care during and after pregnancy, newborns will be breastfed in their first hour and exclusively for the next six months, and all young children will be vaccinated and receive a minimum acceptable diet. Throughout, care-seeking, good hygiene and sanitation are vital. Parents and caregivers will also be supported to offer the stimulation and protection from violence that will help children to make a safe transition to kindergarten and primary school.

UNICEF is working with the Government of Viet Nam to address this through the Child Survival and Development Programme. Focus on strengthening institutional capacity in equity-based planning and monitoring for scaling up IECD interventions for improved action will address inequities. In this process, multiple strategies will also be related to support national/ sub-national equity based analyses and generate evidences on IECD with the partnership of UN, WB, GAVI, NGOs and other private sectors. There will also be a strong focus on using IT for awareness raising on m-IECD.

The International UN Volunteer will be a part of the successful IECD team at UNICEF that contributed to the issues of Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD), neonatal health, immunization, PMTCT and initiation of early child care and development. The selected candidate will also be exposed to innovative models to Increase national capacity in providing access to essential high-impact maternal and child health interventions, including improvement in managerial capacity for evidence-based prioritization, planning and frequent monitoring on IECD and immunization; and Improvement in supply chain and logistics systems to ensure sufficient supply of vaccines and cold chain equipment and commodities for IECD. This includes IECD sensitive interventions rolled out in collaboration with the broader UNICEF team working on nutrition and water and hygienic sanitation for child survival and development.

The International UN Volunteer will participate in other areas that has strong linkage i.e. Nutrition, WASH, Education (including IECD), Child protection and Social inclusion. It is also the opportunity of the UN Volunteer to interact with specialists of HIV and AIDS to not only participate in the use of proven HIV prevention and treatment interventions by children, pregnant women and adolescents, but also in increasing national capacity to provide access to essential service delivery systems for scaling up HIV interventions and supply chain and logistics systems to ensure sufficient supply of ARV. There is also an opportunity to interact with staff from various Ministries and other stakeholders in Viet Nam from WHO, UNFPA, UNAIDS, and World Bank, GAVI, Global Fund, INGOs, and private sector.

Under the supervision of the Chief of CSD programme and IECD Programme Component 2 and work in close collaboration with the UNICEF's IECD team the UN Volunteer will provide technical support for planning, implementation and monitoring the IECD

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The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

modelling in 03 selected provinces being supported by UNICEF. In addition, the UN Volunteer will involve in generating and managing evidence and lessons learnt during the IECD modelling and contributing to policy development and advocacy for IECD at national level.

## Sustainable Development Goals

3. Good Health and Well-being

## UNV Focus Area

Securing access to basic social services

## Task description

Under the direct supervision of the Chief of Child Survival and Development Programme and IECD Programme Component 2, and, as part of the UNICEF IECD Programme team, the International UN Volunteer will participate, contribute and assist in documenting the implementation of activities in the One UN Plan as follows:

Engage in multi-sectoral and inter-ministerial Health Policy in the context of IECD policy dialogue and development Support IECD team in planning and strategizing IECD approaches; enhance multi sectoral coordination in the context of universal health coverage.

Support IECD team in development of innovation in provincial level specifically for Public Health Policy dialogue at national level.

Support IECD team in modelling of intervention packages and platform at provincial level. This will include support the implementation, monitoring and documentation of the modelling results to advocate for national scale up of the successful model.

Support the implementation and documentation of the programme interventions focusing on IECD as they are the **core mandates** of UNICEF

Participate in the **development process of health policies** and monitoring the enforcement policies, strategies and plans on IECD. Support the communication of results and examples through annual reports, donor reports, human interest stories, concept notes, proposals, speeches and social media messages related to IECD as a key driver to attainment of universal health coverage. This will further include **participation on relevant meeting(s)** partnership work meeting.

Coordinate with other team members to participate in other linked areas such as **WASH, education, child protection and social inclusion** to raise awareness on IECD from national to sub-national levels.

Furthermore, UN Volunteers are required to:- Strengthen their knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and external publications and take active part in UNV activities (for instance in events that mark International Volunteer Day)- Be acquainted with and build on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host country- Reflect on the type and quality of voluntary action that they are undertaking, including participation in ongoing reflection activities- Contribute articles/write-ups on field experiences and submit them for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.- Assist with the UNV Buddy Programme for newly-arrived UN Volunteers- Promote or advise local groups in the use of online volunteering, or encourage relevant local individuals and organizations to use the UNV Online Volunteering service whenever technically possible.

## Results/Expected Outputs

Documentation of the experiences for the purpose of public health policy dialogue on modelling of IECD interventions and promotion of healthy practices in ethnic minority communities and isolated communities in Viet Nam through field trip reports, programme reports, publications, human interest stories and social media messages.

Contributed to available desk reviews of international recommendations, evidence and best practices to advocate for IECD sensitive policies, plans and programmes capacity to legislate, plan and budget for scaling up of these interventions.

Contributed to annual work planning and reporting for UNICEF and the UN Joint IECD Programme Group, including annual reports, donor reports, concept notes, programme presentations and fundraising proposals.

Actively participated in monitoring and evaluation efforts of available policies related to IECD at national and sub-national level together UNICEF and partners.

- The development of capacity through coaching, mentoring and formal on-the-job training, when working with (including supervising) national staff or (non-) governmental counter-parts, including Implementing Partners (IPs);
- Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) perspective is systematically applied, integrated and documented in all activities throughout the assignment
- A final statement of achievements towards volunteerism for peace and development during the assignment, such as reporting on the number of volunteers mobilized, activities participated in and capacities developed

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# Qualifications/Requirements

**Required Degree Level** Master degree or equivalent

## Education - Additional Comments

**Type of degree:** Master degree level in Global Health and Development specifically in the area of Public Health Policy, practice and management.

**Required experience** 36 months

## Experience Remark

Very strong writing skills and conversant with info graphics  
 At least 3 years of experience working in developing countries on healthcare issues  
 Demonstrated interest and/or experience at least 2 years in IECD related planning, implementation, knowledge management and advocacy (specific thematic/technical area) required  
 Be an independent thinker and be self-motivated  
 Good interpersonal, networking and communication skills  
 Excellent reporting skills, presentation skills and oral communication skills  
 Motivated to contribute towards peace and development and to serve others  
 Previous experience as a volunteer and/or experience of another culture, (i.e. studies, volunteer work, internship) would be highly regarded

## Language Skills

- English (Mandatory) , Level - Fluent

## Area of Expertise

- Public health Mandatory

## Area of Expertise Requirement

Additional Requirements for Area of Expertise: Development Programme Management

**Need Driving Licence** No

## Competencies & Values

- Accountability
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Commitment and Motivation
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Ethics and Values
- Integrity
- Planning and Organizing
- Professionalism
- Respect for Diversity
- Self-Management

# Conditions of Service and other information

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## Condition of Service

[Click here to view Conditions of Service](#)

### Conditions of Service for International Specialist:

The contract lasts for the period indicated above with possibility of extensions subject to availability of funding, operational necessity and satisfactory performance. However, there is no expectation of renewal of the assignment.

A UN Volunteer receives a Volunteer Living Allowance (VLA) which is composed of the Monthly Living Allowance (MLA) and a Family Allowance (FA) for those with dependents (maximum three).

The Volunteer Living Allowance (VLA) is paid at the end of each month to cover housing, utilities, transportation, communications and other basic needs. The VLA can be computed by applying the Post-Adjustment Multiplier (PAM) to the VLA base rate of US\$ 1,602. The VLA base rate is a global rate across the world, while the PAM is duty station/country-specific and fluctuates on a monthly basis according to the cost of living. This method ensures that international UN Volunteers have comparable purchasing power at all duty stations irrespective of varying costs of living. The PAM is established by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) and is published at the beginning of every month on the ICSC website <http://icsc.un.org>.

For example, kindly enter the link [Calculator](#)

In non-family duty stations that belong to hardship categories D or E, as classified by the ICSC, international UN Volunteers receive a Well-Being Differential (WBD) on a monthly basis.

Furthermore, UN Volunteers are provided a settling-in-grant (SIG) at the start of the assignment (if the volunteer did not reside in the duty station for at least 6 months prior to taking up the assignment) and in the event of a permanent reassignment to another duty station.

UNV provides life, health, permanent disability insurances as well as assignment travel, annual leave, full integration in the UN security framework (including residential security reimbursements).

UN Volunteers are paid Daily Subsistence Allowance at the UN rate for official travels, flight tickets for periodic home visit and for the final repatriation travel (if applicable). Resettlement allowance is paid for satisfactory service at the end of the assignment.

UNV will provide, together with the offer of assignment, a copy of the Conditions of Service, including Code of conduct, to the successful candidate.

Application Code

VNMR000052-2727

## Application procedure

### How to apply via the UNV Talent Pool

*\* Not yet registered in the UNV Talent Pool?*

Please first register your profile at <https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/signup>. Important: After creating your account, complete all sections of your profile and submit it. Then go to 'My Page' at <https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/mypage> and click on the 'Special Calls' hyperlink. Lastly, select the special call to which you would like to apply.

*\* Already registered in the UNV Talent Pool?*

Please first update your profile at <https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/profile>. Then go to 'My Page' at <https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/mypage> and click on the 'Special Calls' hyperlink to select the special call to which you would like to apply.

**This assignment is funded by the Government of Japan, therefore only nationals from Japan are eligible to apply.** Please note that if you have previously served as a UN Volunteer under *Japan Trust Fund*, you are not eligible to apply. If you are a former *Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer* (JICA-JOCV) and eligible to apply for JICA funded UN Volunteer assignments, you are not eligible to apply for this assignment funded by the Government of Japan.

Application deadline: **31 May 2018**.

## Disclaimer

*United Nations Volunteers is an equal opportunity programme which welcomes applications from qualified professionals. We are committed to achieving diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture.*