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

**Country of Assignment**
Afghanistan

**Host Institute**
UN Mission in Afghanistan

**Volunteer Category**
National Youth

**Number of Volunteer**
1

**Duration**
until 31-12-2021

**Expected Starting Date**
Immediate

**Duty Station**
Kunduz [AFG]

**Assignment Place**
Non-Family Duty station

**Assignment Place Remark**
All youth and university assignments are without family

**Living Conditions**

1. **Conditions of Service for National UN Youth Volunteers**

   The duration of your assignment is indicated above with the possibility of extension subject to availability of funding, operational necessity and satisfactory performance. However, there is no expectation of renewal of the assignment.

   Travel to duty station (if applicable) and a Settling-In-Grant will be provided in the event the duty station is not within commuting distance from the place of recruitment. The applicable Volunteer Living Allowance is provided monthly to cover housing, utilities and normal cost of living expenses. Life, health and permanent disability insurance are included) and final repatriation (if applicable).

   Furthermore, in non-family duty stations that belong to hardship categories D or E, as classified by the ICSC, a Well-Being Differential (WBD) on a monthly basis will be provided.

   

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

Assignment Title: Associate Political Affairs Officer

Organizational Context & Project Description

According to UN policy directives to achieve gender equity, and the UN system-wide goal established in 1994 to reach 50/50 parity at all levels and in all entities, the gender imbalance at UNAMA is staggering. The representation of female staff at UNAMA varies from 7% to 30%.

During the past 10 years, there has been ongoing concern about the gender imbalance at UNAMA. This was most recently expressed during the Senior Gender Dialogue meetings by the current SRSG. It was noted that additional measures are now required if the status quo is to change. Consequently, the SRSG asked the O/CMS to review the situation and identify creative ways to attract and retain qualified female national and international staff. UNAMA Gender balance project: Capacity building of female national candidates: Pursuant to UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) and 7 subsequent resolutions together comprising the Women, Peace & Security (WPS) agenda, relevant UN policies promoting gender equality within the organization and a request from the SRSG to identify ways to address the current gender imbalances at UNAMA, we see the potential to pilot a National Youth UN Volunteer (NUNV) scheme targeting national women university graduates for 1-2 years to allow them to gain professional work experience in order to apply for regular posts. The use of National UN Volunteers in UNAMA can provide a framework for enhancing the opportunities for national women to advance through addressing the present Human Resources requirements of academic qualifications and lack of work related experience training that continue to have adverse effects women’s access to employment in DPKO/DPA missions. Recruitment of national UNVs through the NUNV modality to work alongside UNAMA personnel will provide on-the-job training which will help to strengthen their technical and professional skills ensuring that young female Afghans enjoy equal access to employment opportunities and will meet experience requirements to apply as national staff in UNAMA.

Justification: In order to implement the political affairs division work plan, with special reference to SC Resolution 1325 of 2000 on Women, Peace and Security, female national UNV Political Affairs Assistants are required in the Political Affairs Division HQ in Kabul as well as in each of the field offices, in order to be able to address peace and reconciliation with the inclusion of different sectors of civil society, especially women and victims representatives in peace and reconciliation processes.

The lack of female staff impacts upon the Mission’s ability to implement its mandate, particularly as it relates to the inclusion of women in peace processes (a key component of the mission mandate and the obligations of the UN Security Council in the Women, Peace and Security agenda). This position is specifically to provide support to engage women in peace processes, and to build capacity of staff to develop gender-sensitive and gender-responsive methods of work in important area of building an environment conducive to peace and stability.

The lack of female national staff in political affairs teams in the field offices limits the Political Affairs Division from implementing its mandate to support women groups and gender equality. The majority of the country is conservative and male-dominant where women have less engagement in social and civic activities outside their homes. The majority of the political teams in the field have no national female staff. Recruiting a female NUNV to each political team in the field and providing her on-hands-training will support greater engagement, capacity development and advocacy support with women groups for women empowerment.

Sustainable Development Goals

16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Task description

Under the direct supervision of an international Political Affairs Officer in each region, Peace & Reconciliation Office the National UN Youth Volunteer will:

- Collect, selecting and analyse information from diverse sources, including publications and the media, with special attention to the representation of all segments of society including vulnerable categories like minorities and women;
Support the monitoring of national, provincial and district level political developments and keep abreast of latest trends and developments in the area of assignment in accordance with the priorities established by the mission;

Coordinate to maintain up to date knowledge of events relating to political issues in general, and in particular areas of responsibility as well as thematic mandates;

Support in the development and maintaining of profiles/maps database for the political section, including: provincial and district profiles, tribal profiles, background of important personalities, and other directories, profiles, maps as requested;

Facilitate in maintaining contacts with regional/local civil and government officials/structures; community leaders; political parties and civil society representatives in areas of responsibility; Assisting in preparing summaries of articles from a wide variety of sources and provide inputs to reports;

Support the Office’s provision of good offices in line with the mandate;

Interpret from English into Pashto/Dari and vice-versa during meetings; Translate documents from English into Pashto/Dari whenever necessary;

Support visiting teams/missions as required;

Participate in periodic field missions in order to update the overall political situation;

Provide administrative and logistical support to officers in the Political Affairs Division; including arrangements for meetings, preparing documents etc.

Support field trips including preparation of road mission requests and arrange for security clearances

Create and maintain administrative files and official records including records of incoming and outgoing correspondence

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- Provide annual and end of assignment reports on UN Volunteer actions, results and opportunities using UNV’s Volunteer Reporting Application- 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

- A National Youth UN Volunteer has groomed to enhance her job prospect within UNAMA/UN AFPs; As the result of the Project a wider selection of competent and confident National Female Candidates are available for job selection;
- With an increase recruitment of National Females, UNAMA’s gender ratio increases from its current 7% ratio;
- The development of capacity through coaching, mentoring and formal on-the-job training, when working with (including supervising) national staff or (non-) governmental counterparts, including Implementing Partners (IPs);
- Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) perspective is systematically applied, integrated and documented in all activities throughout the assignment
- The National UNV Political Affairs Assistant, through practical on hands training will provide necessary high –quality efficient, timely and responsive support rendered to the Political Affairs Division;
- The National UNV Political Affairs Assistant will have gained practical skills in the area of Political Affairs addressing the present Human Resources requirements of academic qualifications and lack of work related experience training that continue to have adverse effects women’s access to employment in DPKO/DPA missions
- 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.

Qualifications/Requirements

**Required Degree Level**

Bachelor degree or equivalent

**Education - Additional Comments**

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F. +49 (0) 228-615 2001  W. www.unv.org

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
First Level degree or equivalent; post-secondary training in political affairs, law, humanities or related area

required experience 0 months

Experience Remark

Relevant experience in areas linked to political affairs, governance and development issues is desirable.

Language

- English (Mandatory), Level - Fluent
- AND - Persian (Mandatory), Level - Fluent

Area of Expertise

- Development programme management Mandatory
- Political affairs and political reporting Optional

Area of Expertise Requirement

Previous experience in political affairs, governance and development issues is desirable

Need Driving Licence

No

Competencies & Values

- Accountability
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Working in Teams

Conditions of Service and other information

Condition of Service  Click here to view Conditions of Service

Conditions of Service:

The rapidly changing nature of novel coronavirus COVID-19 has placed significant and increasing restrictions on the freedom of movement of people, even within countries. Such restrictions may affect the ability national UN Volunteers to begin their assignments at their assigned duty station or limit the ability to enter UN premises. Thus, UNV cannot guarantee assignments will proceed as normal.

Candidates for national UN Volunteer assignments requiring travel to the duty station may be exceptionally granted during this period alternative working arrangements to work from their place of recruitment until restrictions are lifted. Candidates for national UN Volunteer assignments may also need to begin their assignments remotely in cases where access to UN premises is restricted. These are decisions at the discretion of the host entity. Candidates proceeding to interview are recommended to discuss travel requirements, any restrictions, and possible alternative arrangements with the host entity. If selected, candidates should carefully consider the circumstances before accepting UNV’s offer.

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.

Travel to duty station (if applicable) and a Settling-In-Grant will be provided in the event the duty station is not within commuting distance from the place of recruitment. The applicable Volunteer Living Allowance is provided monthly to cover housing, utilities and normal cost of living expenses. Life, health and permanent disability insurance are included ) and final repatriation (if applicable).

Furthermore, in non-family duty stations that belong to hardship categories D or E, as classified by the ICSC, a Well-Being Differential (WBD) on a monthly basis will be provided.

For UN Volunteer entitlements, kindly refer to the link https://vmam.unv.org/calculator/entitlements

**Supervision, induction and duty of care of UN Volunteers** *(Roles and Responsibilities of Host Entity)*

UN Volunteers should be provided equal duty of care as extended to all host entity personnel. Host entity support to the UN Volunteer includes, but is not limited to:

- Introductory briefings about the organisation and office-related context including security, emergency procedures, good cultural practice and orientation to the local environment;

- Support with arrival administration and official processes;

- Structured guidance, mentoring and coaching by a supervisor including a clear workplan and performance appraisal;

- Access to office space, equipment, IT support and any other systems and tools required to complete the objectives of the assignment including a host entity email address;

- Access to shared host entity corporate knowledge, training and learning;

- Any necessary security measures, ensuring that UN Volunteers are covered by the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS) in line with the UNDSS Security Policy Manual;

- Leave management;

- DSA for official travel, when applicable;}
- All changes in the Description of Assignment occurring between recruitment and arrival or during the assignment need to be formalized with the United Nations Volunteer Programme.

- Investigate misconduct: sharing reports with the UNV;

- Provide emergency assistance, e.g. the death of volunteer or medical evacuation, in collaboration with UNV. Accept letters of guarantees or potential liabilities for covering medical costs not claimable under medical insurance in extraordinary situations (e.g. isolation facilities’ services during pandemics).

**Application Code**

AFGR001615-9756

**Application procedure**

[doa.apply_url](https://vmam.unv.org//candidate/show-doa/QUZHUjAwMTYxNQ==)

**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.*