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: Mali
Volunteer Category: International Specialist
Number of Volunteer: 1
Duration: until 30-06-2022
Expected Starting Date: Immediate
Duty Station: Mopti [MLI]
Assignment Place: Non-Family Duty station

Assignment Place Remark

Living Conditions

Mopti is non-family duty station. Living conditions are acceptable, but security instructions need to be strictly complied with. The national currency is the Franc CFA (April 2020 exchange rate is 1 US$ = 600 FCFA). Visa credit cards are acceptable in some hotels and large shops in Bamako. Mali is a country prone to malaria, so mosquito nets are highly recommended. Basic medicines are available from UN Medical Section or from pharmacies, but provision need to be made for specialized medication.

Security recommendations from the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) must be followed by all UN Staff during their assignments in Mali. Appropriate measures are in place to mitigate the current security risk for UN personnel in the country. All UN Volunteers, like all UN personnel, undergo a security briefing and the 3 days mandatory training “Safe and Secure Approaches in Field Environments” (SSAFE) upon arrival, where practical guidance and recommendations are provided regarding security threats in Mali. An additional security briefing is provided upon arrival to the final duty station.

Like all UN personnel, UN Volunteers based in Mopti are accommodated in UN premises. UN provided accommodation in Mali is...
compliant with wellbeing standards, i.e. female/male bathrooms. A welfare committee is also active in all duty stations to ensure enough access to welfare commodities, including food supplies.

Emergency contacts (security, medical, staff counselling, UNV Office) are made available for all UN Volunteers upon arrival, and each individual is provided with a VHF radio and a call sign, which can be used at all time.

For the sake of rewarding experience, UN Volunteers in MINUSMA carry out their duties with flexibility, commitment and a willingness to live and work in challenging conditions including heat and limited water and electricity supply.

**Assignment Details**

**Assignment Title**
Associate Political Affairs Officer

**Organizational Context & Project Description**

The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) was established by Security Council resolution 2100 of 25 April 2013 to support political processes in the country and to carry out a number of security-related tasks. The Mission has been asked to support the transitional authorities of Mali in the stabilization of the country and implementation of the transitional roadmap, focusing on major population centres and lines of communication, protecting civilians, human rights monitoring, the creation of conditions for the protection of humanitarian assistance and the return of displaced persons, the extension of State authority and the preparation of free, inclusive and peaceful elections (http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/minusma).

**Sustainable Development Goals**
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

**Task description**

Under the direct supervision of the Chief of the Mediation Section, the UN Volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

- Gather, select, verify, and analyze information contained in communications and publications received from different sources, including internal mission reports and the press;
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge relating to the political, social and security situation in Mopti region;
- Keep abreast of latest trends and developments in the area of assignment and provide updates and inputs to the Chief Mediation and the Head of Office;
- Provide technical and substantive support for the implementation of the mandate of the Mediation Section;
- Maintain contacts with other components of the Mission, UN international partners and government authorities on political and security issues, coordination and policy matters;
- Maintain regular contact with all relevant local political actors and civil society groups;
- Assist in compiling and producing daily, weekly, flash and other written reports as directed by the Head of Section.

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**

- Timely and accurate reporting on complex political issues, including intercommunal violence is provided to the Chief of the Mediation Section;
- Key political developments, trends and emerging issues in Mopti region, as well as emerging issues with respect to the implementation of MINUSMA mandate are identified, analysed and monitored;
• Contextual information materials, such as background notes, political profiles and databases of relevance to the assigned portfolio are prepared and reviewed;
• Collaborative relationships with mission components, UN Common System colleagues and counterparts, Government representatives, political leaders, civil society actors, military and law enforcement actors, academic and research institutions are developed and maintained;
• Consultation and cooperation are established with partners to develop strategies and plans of action to address political challenges, in pursuit of shared objectives;
• Official meetings, events and visits, are prepared and supported.

Qualifications/Requirements

Required Degree Level

Master degree or equivalent

Education - Additional Comments

Advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in political science, international relations, social sciences, law, public administration, Humanities or a related field.

A first level university degree with a relevant combination of academic qualifications and two additional years’ experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

Required experience

24 months

Experience Remark

A minimum of two years of practical professional work experience in political affairs, diplomacy, conflict resolution, or related field. Work experience in West Africa is desirable. Work experience supporting mediation and reconciliation efforts between local communities in conflict-affected areas is required. Experience in West Africa is mandatory.

Language

• English (Mandatory) , Level - Fluent
• AND - French (Mandatory) , Level - Fluent

Area of Expertise

• International law Mandatory
• Public law Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement

• Experience in working with Outlook, Excel, Word, Power Point, social media.
• Sound judgment in applying expertise to resolve a range of issues/problems, including politically sensitive ones, and the ability to proactively seek and recommend sound policy initiatives or other solutions;
• Proven analytical, research and negotiating skills;
• Excellent oral and listening skills, including an ability to articulate and defend one's analysis or proposals;
• Ability to develop and maintain contacts and foster collaboration with national and international partners to acquire timely information; with gender and geographical consideration.
Conditions of Service and other information

Condition of Service

Click here to view Conditions of Service

Conditions of Service for International Specialist:


The rapidly changing nature of novel coronavirus COVID-19 has placed significant and increasing restrictions on the freedom of movement of people across the globe, within countries and across borders. Such restrictions make it very difficult for international UN Volunteers to begin their assignments at their assigned duty station and UNV cannot guarantee assignments will proceed as normal.

Candidates for international UN Volunteer assignments during this period may be exceptionally granted alternative working arrangements to work from their place of recruitment until restrictions are lifted. This is at the discretion of the host entity. Candidates proceeding to interview are recommended to discuss the likelihood of travel and possible alternative arrangements with the host entity. If selected, candidates should carefully consider the circumstances before accepting UNV’s offer.

In cases where the UN Host Entity partner has requested the UN Volunteer to perform their assignment remotely, the Post Adjustment Multiplier (PAM) and related entitlements to be paid may be adjusted to the temporary duty station from where the UN Volunteer has been requested to work if requested by the UN Host Entity.
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$ 1,651. 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 UN Volunteer entitlements, kindly refer to the link https://vmam.unv.org/calculator/entitlements

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.

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

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 including setting-up of bank accounts, residence permit applications and completion of other official processes as required by the host government or host entity;

- 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;

- Inclusion of the volunteer in emergency procedures such as evacuations;

- 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 MLIR000940-7731

Application procedure

* 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 for to which you would like to apply.

Application deadline: 06-06-2021

doa.apply_url https://vmam.unv.org//candidate/show-doa/TUxJUjAwMDk0MA==

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.