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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Assignment</th>
<th>Bangladesh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Host Institute</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Category</td>
<td>International Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Volunteer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Starting Date</td>
<td>Immediate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Station</td>
<td>Dhaka [BGD]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment Place</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment Place Remark</td>
<td>Family Duty Station</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Living Conditions**

Dhaka is the centre of political, cultural and economic life in Bangladesh. Although its urban infrastructure is the most developed in the country, Dhaka suffers from urban problems such as pollution, lack of public transport and overpopulation. In recent decades, Dhaka has seen modernization of services, communications and public works. The city is attracting large foreign investments and greater volumes of commerce and trade. It is also experiencing an increasing influx of people from across the nation; this has reportedly made Dhaka one of the fastest growing cities in the world.

Historically, Bangladesh has been a safe country for internationals, but a series of security incidents since autumn 2015 have led to increased security measures for UN international staff and volunteers. While Dhaka is not categorized as a hardship station and a cessation of incidents is expected to lead to relaxation of security measures, the volunteer should be prepared for limitations in freedom of movement on foot, by public transport, and to certain locations.

**Assignment Details**
"Partnerships for a Tolerant, Inclusive Bangladesh (PTIB)", is a multi-year initiative to understand and prevent violence and extremism in Bangladesh through promoting tolerance and inclusivity. The project responds to the Secretary General’s call for every country to develop a coherent and contextual strategy to prevent violent extremism (PVE), while reaffirming the need for inclusive institutions, transparent politics, and a commitment to fundamental human rights.

Violence in Bangladesh is multifaceted, and often tied to critical historical junctures in the country’s development. One of the many legacies of the independence struggle has been an enduring tension between Bangladesh’s secular and religious factions.

Extremist terrorism since the attacks of 2005 has most often taken the form of targeted assassinations. 2015 saw a significant increase in these kinds of personalized attacks by extremist groups, with 25 targeted killings, up from only two in 2014. These attacks prompted government and international partners to seriously reconsider extremist potential in Bangladesh. This multi-year initiative started following the United Nations Secretary General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE) that has been endorsed by the Government of Bangladesh in April 2016. UNDP Bangladesh is one of many organizations now looking to map and better understand the scope of the problem, and to propose sustainable means of peaceful change.

The project has three outcome components:

1. Research Facility: Improve knowledge, understanding, and insight into the drivers of violence in Bangladesh;
2. Citizen Engagement: Enhance inclusivity and tolerance through citizen engagement activities, both on and offline, with a focus on youth, women, migrants and religious communities;
3. Government Engagement: Sensitize the government to international best practices that promote social inclusion and tolerance.

Under the Research Facility component, UNDP supports the Bangladesh Peace Observatory (BPO). Hosted by the University of Dhaka, the BPO aggregates and maps violence across Bangladesh by using a combination of open data and media reports. BPO supports a range of actors—government institutions, academia, civil society organizations (CSOs), and the media—to make evidence-based public policy decisions, interventions and programming based on data, research, and analysis. BPO also aims to use mapping and data analytics technology to inform users of states of violence and other forms of discord in terms of time, space and theme, including political, ethnic, communal, criminal, gender-based, and extremist violence.

The UNDP PTIB project is looking for a Data Scientist for BPO with expertise in data science who can provide advice and mentoring to the BPO data management team. The scientist will be able to provide reach out to his/her established network to engage on the use of data analytics in general. H/She will be
able to advise BPO’s data management team on new methods, data presentation and publications relevant to BPO’s research. The person will be familiar with data science for peace, conflict and violence issues. The Data Scientist will review BPO’s existing data portfolio and suggest general improvements and additions to ensure its in line with BPO’s strategic work plan.

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

**Task description**

Under supervision of UNDP-PTIB Project Manager and day to day reporting to the CGS, Dhaka University, this position is responsible for supporting and guiding the BPO data analytics team, reviewing methods, sharing scientific findings, exploring new methodologies and providing advisory support to BPO in terms of developing its data science portfolio including presenting, visualizing and communicating the data.

**MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Data Scientist will

- Provide scientific support through methods sharing and technical advice to BPO data analytics team;
- Ensure that data validation processes, data quality control standards, testing strategy and test plans for data services are applied to applications;
- Work with complex technical data stores such as Hadoop, Amazon S3, relational databases, Azure BLOB, Azure Data Lake store, and MS Azure DW;
- Stitch data together with scripting languages;
- Copyediting of database products such as peace reports, peace graphics, info graphics etc.;
- Provide specific technical advice in the form of documented exchanges to BPO data analytics team on data analysis including scripting, coding and web design;
- Provide analytics on layering non-traditional datasets in a visually compelling manner and provide advisory support to development of new and relevant prototypes delivered through documented online exchange;
- Provide new methods in the data science field that are relevant to development and humanitarian sector delivered through a report;
- Support trainings/webinars/speaking engagements (as defined by BPO) to broad range of stakeholders on big data for the peace and conflict sector;
- Think strategically about the uses of data and how new digital data sources can contribute to driving efficiency across the development and humanitarian sector;
- Design and implement statistical data quality procedures around new data sources;

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

- Specific technical support in the form of documented exchanges to BPO data analytics team on data
  analysis including scripting, coding and web design;
- Support the data management team on layering non-traditional datasets in a visually compelling
  manner and provide advisory support to development of new and relevant prototypes delivered
  through documented online exchanges;
- Support and advice BPO team with data storytelling and communications visually presenting BPO
  incident data using various visualization and chart-making tools (open source, custom, and off-the-
  shelf);
- Develop new methods in the data science field that are relevant to peace, conflict and violence
  sectors delivered through a report;
- Report on running trainings/webinars/speaking engagements (as defined by BPO) to broad range of
  stakeholders on big data for the development and humanitarian sector;
- Deliver a technical report on the scalability of two of BPOs prototypes;

- 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 dur-ing the assignment, such as reporting on the number of
  volunteers mobilized, activities participated in and capacities developed

Qualifications/Requirements

### Required Degree Level

**Master degree or equivalent**

### Education - Additional Comments

Advanced university degree in relevant field in Computer Science, Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Statistics, Engineering or other related disciplines or the equivalent combination of education and experience in a related area.

### Required experience

**36 months**

### Experience Remark

- Adequate experience in data analysis or data visualization, quantitative and qualitative data, media
  data and social network data is required;
- Experience with scripting, coding, and web design for data access, analysis and presentation
required;
• Familiarity with analytical techniques such as text mining, sentiment analysis, machine learning, predictive analysis, event detection, or modelling of complex systems desirable;
• Experience working in the fields of peace and conflict sector desirable;
• Experience analysing data from social monitoring systems, monitoring and evaluation work, or other survey work in developing countries and writing scientific articles desirable.
• Demonstrated experience presenting work to both technical and non-technical audiences and leading a data science team;
• The data scientist needs to be equipped with knowledge and expertise in interface design and modern web development (to design end-consumer appealing visualizations) with experience in d3.js (D3 is a JavaScript library for visualizing data with HTML, SVG, and CSS).
• Expertise in the broader aspects of dealing with data like relational databases, data management, data analysis and visualization tools.

Language Skills
• English (Mandatory), Level - Fluent

Area of Expertise
• Other communications related experience Mandatory
• Database design, administration and maintenance Mandatory
• Geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement
• Demonstrated understanding of data analysis, visualization and data story telling;
• Ability to contributes effectively to team-based activities, working collaboratively and sharing information openly; works effectively with colleagues as well as with partners and other stakeholders to pursue common goals;
• Ability to facilitates and encourages open communication in the team, communicating effectively; offers advice diplomatically
• Capacity to takes initiative and seeks opportunities to initiate action;
• Capacity to actively produces and disseminates new knowledge; creates/contributes to mechanisms to collect and share knowledge;
• Ability to speak and write persuasively in English, adapting style and content to different audiences;
• Proficient in speaking with wide range of stakeholders, from government counterparts to private sector companies;
• Ability to communicate insights, expertise and trends in a way that non-specialists can comprehend;
• Good presentation skills in a workshop setting.
• Teaching and advisory skills building capacity within diverse range of teams

Need Driving Licence
No

Competencies & Values
• Accountability
Conditions of Service and other information

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$ 1,631. 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**

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.

Application Code  BGDR000538-5335

Application procedure

* Not yet registered in the UNV Talent Pool?

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?

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.

Application deadline: 10 September 2019

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.