

UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

GMBR000011--Local and Community Development Expert

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	Gambia
Host Institute	United Nations Capital Development Fund
Volunteer Category	National Specialist
Number of Volunteer	2
Duration	12 months
Expected Starting Date	Immediate
Duty Station	Banjul [GMB], Kerewan , Mansakonko,
Assignment Place	Family Duty Station
Assignment Place Remark	

Assignment will be in Kerewan, North Bank Region or in Mansakonko, Lower River Region

Licence for vehicle and/or motorcycle is required.

Living Conditions

The country has recently embarked on a transition to a democratic civilian government. The security situation in the Gambia is considered to be calm and is classified by the UN as a family duty station. The UN Volunteer is expected to dwell in Kerewan, in North Bank Region, and is required to perform regular field missions across the target LGA. Amenities and facilities such as hospitals, running water, electricity may be limited.

As this is a national UN Volunteer assignment, the UN Volunteer will be responsible for arranging his/her own housing and other living essentials. National UN Volunteers are part of the malicious insurance plan. The current monthly Volunteer Living Allowance rate in The Gambia is GMD 13,520;

Assignment Details

Assignment Title Local and Community Development Expert

Organizational Context & Project Description

UNCDF makes public and private finance work for the poor in the world's 47 least developed countries. With its capital mandate and instruments, UNCDF offers "last mile" finance models that unlock public and private resources, especially at the domestic level, to reduce poverty and support local economic development. UNCDF's financing models work through two channels: financial inclusion that expands the opportunities for individuals, households, and small businesses to participate in the local economy, providing them with the tools they need to climb out of poverty and manage their financial lives; and by showing how localized investments — through fiscal decentralization, innovative municipal finance, and structured project finance — can drive public and private funding that underpins local economic expansion and sustainable development. By strengthening how finance works for poor people at the household, small enterprise, and local infrastructure levels, UNCDF contributes to SDG 1 on eradicating poverty and SDG 17 on the means of implementation. By identifying those market segments where innovative financing models can have transformational impact in helping to reach the last mile and address exclusion and inequalities of access, UNCDF contributes to a number of different SDGs.

UNCDF is bringing its expertise in enabling local communities and economies to become climate resilient and sustainable, as well as its experience in facilitating youth access to finance, including through digital, in support of job creation, under the "Jobs, Skills and Finance (JSF) for Women and Youth in The Gambia" Programme funded by the 11th European Development Fund.

This programme will contribute to stabilizing the economic, social and security situation of the country during the democratic transition by facilitating social inclusion and employment of the youth and women, with a specific emphasis on promoting gender equality and addressing climate change.

It will do so through two components:

- Component 1: Job creation for the youth, women and local communities and equal access to employable skills development.
- Component 2: Improved access to finance

The JSF programme will be delivered essentially through two UNCDF mechanisms/approaches: the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL), and Youth Start (YS):

The Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL) of the UN Capital Development Fund provides a

T. +49 (0) 228-815 2000

A. PO Box 260111, 53113 Bonn, Germany

F. +49 (0) 228-815 2001

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country-based mechanism to increase awareness and response to climate change at the local level, integrate climate change adaptation into local governments' planning and budgeting systems in a participatory and gender sensitive manner, and increase the amount of finance available to local governments for climate change adaptation. LoCAL combines performance-based climate resilience grants (PBCRGs) with technical and capacity-building support. It uses a demonstration effect to trigger further flows for local adaptation, including national fiscal transfers and global climate finance for local authorities, through their central governments. Since its global scale up in 2014, LoCAL has engaged 99 local governments in 13 countries, representing over 6 million people. Between 2014 and 2017, it delivered close to USD 14.5 million, with grants and technical assistance to countries totaling USD 9.8 million. During the same period, 507 climate change adaptation interventions were finalized across 11 countries using grants, with another 68 under implementation or being planned. The LoCAL mechanism will be deployed under Expected Result 1.1 (ER1.1) "Sustainable and equal employment opportunities for youth and women are created" of the JSF working closely with the two other expected results.

The YouthStart (YS) Programme of the UN Capital Development Fund supports youth financial inclusion to better manage school-to-work transitions and access economic opportunities. It aims to increase access to finance for low-income youth in Least Developed Countries, by developing approaches to offer youth tailored financial and non-financial services. The YS experience will support Expected Result 2.1. (ER2.1) "Regulatory framework on the financial sector improved" of the JSF working closely with the two other expected results.

The first set of activities will aim at creating jobs (ER1.1). Local authorities and communities will be supported in the identification of needs in priority sectors and in planning investments accordingly. A particular emphasis will be placed on making sure investments contribute to climate resilience by applying the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility methodology, including Performance Based Climate Resilient Grants. Prioritized investments will be delivered through cash for work programmes for youth and women and, where relevant through procurement to local Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) so that jobs are created in the short to medium term. Workers benefitting from employment will be supported in parallel with access to financial (ER2.1) and non-financial services (ER1.2) with a view to broaden their medium to long term economic perspectives.

Sustainable Development Goals 13. Climate Action
UNV Focus Area Community resilience environment & disaster reduction
Task description

The Project team delivering the JSF located in Banjul will be headed by a Programme Management Specialist who will report in a matrix management arrangement to the LoCAL Programme Manager (Africa) and the Youth Start (YS) Programme Manager.

The project team will include the following technical staff: National Technical Specialist (local government finance and local economic development), an International Climate Change Specialist, a National Gender Specialist, a National Investment Officer, an International Financial Inclusion Expert, and Field Officers.

Under the direct supervision of the Programme Management Specialist and in close collaboration with other JSF team members and key stakeholders at the national and subnational levels, including local government authorities (LGAs), local planning committees and communities in target LGAs, the UNV Local and Community Development Expert will undertake the following tasks:

- Under the guidance of the Climate Change Expert, support local government authorities (LGAs) to collect and interpret climate-related data and information, as well as undertake local climate risk assessments, and to mainstream climate change into local public planning and budgeting systems, particularly at Ward Development Committees level;
- Under the guidance of the National Technical Specialist (Local Government Finance and Local Economic Development), support capacity building (“learning by doing”) and preparation of local government development and investment plans and budgets that foster job creation, gender equality and green and climate resilient local economies;
- Support the development of terms of reference for various activities to be undertaken by pilot LGAs (e.g. procurement, local recruitment processes, etc) and provide general administrative support to the successful implementation of activities/interventions/investments by target LGAs;
- Support LGAs in the management, implementation and monitoring of performance-based climate resilience grants and activities/interventions/investments and propose improvements through reviewed work plans, for instance;
- Support the preparation and participate and contribute to the annual performance assessment of pilot LGAs;
- Facilitate consultation and exchange of information, synergies, learning and know-how at the local level, in particular in relation with partners and stakeholders involved with JSF’s expected results (ER), specially ER1.1 “sustainable and equal employment opportunities for youth and women are created” and ER1.2 “TVET, skills development and apprenticeship opportunities in line with MSME’s needs are improved and made more accessible to youth and women”, and ER2.1 “Regulatory framework on the financial sector improved”;
- Support the preparation of periodic technical and financial reports on the implementation of JSF/LoCAL activities and undertake regular monitoring of the activities, including through field visits;
- Under guidance of the National Skills Expert, assist in providing inputs to the TVET roadmap development and support the identification of skills gaps and training needs in the area of climate change and green job skills; support the mapping of training providers and skill areas in target LGAs in line with LoCAL investment menu and climate resilience grant priorities; facilitate consultations with LGAs on setting up of new training centres and roll-out of training services to rural youth communities; provide inputs to curricula development and apprenticeship scheme activities in line with training priorities in LGAs;

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

- As an active [insert name Host Agency] team member, efficient, timely, responsive, client-friendly and high-quality support rendered to UNCDF and its beneficiaries in the accomplishment of her/his functions, including:
 - Short term employment opportunities for youth and women are created;
 - Awareness of LGAs and local stakeholders is increased on job creation, gender equality and climate change and capacities to address those issues are build through “learning by doing”;
 - LGA development and investment plans and budgets that foster job creation, gender equality and green and climate resilient local economies are developed;
 - Methods and procedures for mainstreaming into local public planning and budgeting, as well as into local resource allocation processes are identified and piloted;
 - Investments are delivered through “cash for work” programmes and procurement to local SMEs, employing youth and women;
 - The performance-based country mechanism (LoCAL) is effectively piloted and deployed in target LGAs;
 - Lessons learnt and good practices are documented, capitalized and shared (e.g. photos, videos, stories from the field, etc).
 - 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
- 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

Qualifications/Requirements

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Required Degree Level Master degree or equivalent

Education - Additional Comments

Master's degree or the equivalent in one of the following domains: climate change, environment, development, international relations, geography, engineering, agronomy;

Required experience 36 months

Experience Remark

Minimum three (3) years of experience with local and community development, climate change and/or environment related issues, of which at least one (1) supporting local governments and/or communities;

Practical knowledge and experience in monitoring and evaluation;

Practical knowledge and experience with planning and budgeting processes, preferably with local government authorities and/or communities;

Excellent communication skills, both written and oral;

Practical experience with training and capacity building activities;

Solid overall computer literacy, including proficiency in various MS Office applications (Excel, Word, etc.) and email/internet; familiarity with database management; and office technology equipment;

Language Skills

- English (Mandatory) , Level - Fluent

Area of Expertise

- Climate change mitigation and mechanisms for technology transfer Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement

Need Driving Licence Yes

Conditions of Service and other information

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

Conditions of Service:

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

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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 (health insurance for up to 3 dependents), as well as final repatriation (if applicable) and resettlement allowance for satisfactory service.

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

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 GMBR000011-3470

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 to which you would like to apply.

This is a national UN Volunteer assignment, therefore only nationals of (the Programme Country) and legal residents in (the Programme Country or territory) with the status of refugee or with the status of being stateless are eligible to apply.

Application deadline: 31-01-2019

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.