UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

GTMR000135--Health System Strengthening Junior Officer

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>Guatemala</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Host Institute</td>
<td>United Nations Children's Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Category</td>
<td>International Youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Volunteer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possibility of Extension</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Starting Date</td>
<td>14-06-2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Station</td>
<td>Guatemala City [GTM]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment Place</td>
<td>Family Duty Station</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Living Conditions

The UNV position will be mainly based in Guatemala City, but with some work travel to the field.

Guatemala is a multi-lingual, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural country in Central America. It borders to the north and west with Mexico, to the south with the Pacific Ocean, to the northeast with Belize, to the east with the Caribbean Sea and Honduras, and to the southeast with El Salvador. It has an extension of 108,000 square kilometers. Data from the National Statistics Institute 2018 indicate that Guatemala has a population of 14,901,286, and their population is primarily rural and indigenous (41% of the population). Although Spanish is the official language, 22 languages and their various dialects are spoken. In 2015, the country was divided politically and administratively into 22 departments and 340 municipalities.

The capital offers excellent living conditions, with various types of facilities. Housing is readily available, and rents can be negotiated. Guatemala City offers big supermarkets and malls and a wide variety of local markets with plenty of available fresh and processed goods.
food stuffs of all kinds. There are international telecommunications systems, easy access to internet and modern banking facilities. There are good quality private hospitals accessible to the UN staff. Infrastructure, roads, utilities are telecommunications are standard. Like in other big cities with significant crime rates, caution must be exercised always. All new staff undergoes Security briefing at the UNDSS (UN Department for Safety and Security) and elaborate Security documents are provided as well as all relevant Security information.

In recent years, Guatemala has been hit by various natural disasters, including tropical storms, volcanic eruptions and droughts. Guatemala is a unique country that provides for an interesting and enriching environment, but also requires a mature level of cultural awareness.

Assignment Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Title</th>
<th>Health System Strengthening Junior Officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Organizational Context & Project Description

UNICEF works in more than 190 countries and territories to help children survive and thrive, from early childhood through adolescence. The world’s largest provider of vaccines for developing countries, UNICEF supports child health and nutrition, safe water, sanitation, and hygiene, quality basic education for all boys and girls, and the protection of children from violence, exploitation, and HIV/AIDS. UNICEF is funded entirely by the voluntary contributions of individuals, businesses, foundations and governments.

Guatemala is the country in the world with the sixth highest chronic undernutrition rates in the world, with 46.7 per cent of children stunted at national level. Moreover, these figures hide large inequalities among different population groups. For example, stunting is higher within indigenous children (61.5 per cent) or within the poorest quintile of the population (65.9 per cent). Moreover, there are vast regional inequalities, with 70.0, 68.7 and 67.7 per cent of children in the departments of Totonicapán, Quiché and Huehuetenango being stunted, while only 25.3 percent of children in Guatemala City are stunted.

Based on data from the ENSMI 2014-2015, mortality rate in children under 5 is 35 per 1,000 live births, while mortality rate in children under 1 year is 28 per 1,000 live births. This means that 80 per cent of the mortality in children under 5 occurred during the first year of life. The most frequent causes of death in children under 5 are infectious diseases (e.g. pneumonia, flu, intestinal infections) and malnutrition (e.g. nutrition-related anaemia, acute malnutrition). In order to reduce these diseases, there is a need to improve knowledge and care practices by caregivers and families regarding health, nutrition, early stimulation, water, hygiene and sanitation. In addition, there is a need for social services to be improved and extended, so that all children in Guatemala and their families can have access to quality services regarding nutrition (e.g. growth monitoring, nutrition counselling), health (e.g. immunization programmes), access to safe water and environmental sanitation.

UNICEF Guatemala is currently supporting the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (MoPH) in Guatemala to design, implement and monitor various health, nutrition, and water and sanitation actions, focusing on health system strengthening (HSS) for scale up of quality service delivery. This UNV assignment will be part of this health system strengthening programming initiative, which is included under the current Outcome “A health start to life”, and will be soon included under the outcome “nutrition, health and WASH” under the new UNICEF Guatemala country programme, which will start on January 1, 2022.

The Guatemala UNICEF Country Office is seeking a Health System Strengthening Officer who will be responsible for assisting in the development of the action plan for health systems strengthening for the next four years (2022-2025) in the frame of the new country programme. The Officer will assist the Chief of Nutrition with the analysis of bottlenecks, the development of a road map in coordination with the MoPH and the implementation of the actions that are agreed upon with key stakeholders. The UNV will provide day to day technical support to the Nutrition Chief with the coordination of actions and the consolidation of inputs derived from the nutrition, WASH and health teams. The UNV will first report to the Nutrition Chief. The supervisor of the UNV might change once the office recruits a health officer, who would become the main supervisor, being the Nutrition Chief the secondary supervisor in that case.

Sustainable Development Goals

3. Good Health and Well-being

Task description

Under the direct supervision of Chief Nutrition, the International UN Youth Volunteer will:

T. +49 (0) 228-815 2000
F. +49 (0) 228-815 2001
A. PO Box 260111, 53113 Bonn, Germany
W. www.un.org
Qualifications/Requirements

- Carry out a bibliographic review regarding HSS in Guatemala,
- Assist UNICEF with the design and development of a bottleneck analysis for the different pillars of HSS, at national and departmental level,
- Assist with the preparation of an action plan for HSS that can be implemented in the frame of the new UNICEF country programme,
- As part of a team, assist the nutrition chief with the design and implementation of specific actions to strengthen the health and nutrition supply chain,
- Assist the nutrition chief with the coordination and integration of nutrition, health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) actions to be implemented by UNICEF in support of the health sector,
- Support with collection, analysis and monitoring of health and nutrition data, and assist, as part of a team, with the implementation of interventions to improve the health information management system and the Rapid-pro technology,
- Participate in the health cluster and other health, nutrition and WASH related coordination platforms, both in development and humanitarian situations, and take minutes when required,
- As part of a team, support the development of key actions to facilitate the humanitarian-development nexus for the work related to health system strengthening,
- Support the health and nutrition teams with inputs and with the coordination of UNICEF technical assistance interventions to improve the quality of antenatal and postnatal care, as well as essential services for newborns, through the health sector.
- Support the health, nutrition, WASH and communication for development (C4D) staff with the implementation of C4D actions to improve attitudes and practices by the population, including the C4D around the work of the COVID-19 vaccine roll out.
- Any other related tasks as may be required or assigned by the supervisor.

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 desk review regarding health system strengthening in Guatemala developed.
- A bottleneck analysis conducted for the different pillars of health system strengthening, at national and departmental level.
- A UNICEF HSS action plan developed.
- At least one action implemented to strengthen the health and nutrition supply chain.
- Minutes for each coordination meeting attended.

- 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

Required Degree Level
Bachelor degree or equivalent

Education - Additional Comments
Public health, medicine, health sciences, nutrition, or other related sciences.

Required experience
0 months

Experience Remark

We are inspiration in action

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

20 Feb 2021
Conditions of Service and other information


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) per month and 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 (choose from the drop down menu the appropriate rate here): US$1,346. The VLA base rate is a global rate, while the PAM is 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 also 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 the final repatriation travel (if applicable). A 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;

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

GTMR000135-8853

**Application procedure**

This assignment is funded by the Government of Sweden, therefore only Swedish nationals are eligible to apply. Moreover, candidates must be between 18 and 29 years of age throughout the assignment.

Please apply via the link below. You can then either log in if you already have an account or register via ‘Candidate Signup’. You may apply to a maximum of three assignments per advertisement and indicate your order of preference in the ‘Additional Remarks’ section of your profile.

Application deadline: 15 March 2021

**Selection process**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The selection will be done by the UN Host Entity at the level of the country of assignment. Interviews will be conducted by the UN Host Entity between 29 March and 16 April. Usually these interviews are competency-based.

**Assignment Preparation Training**

Prior to deployment, the selected candidate will be required to attend a mandatory preparation training from 7 to 11 June 2021 organized by Sida.

COVID-19: In case of travel restrictions, assignments may start remotely or start dates may be postponed.

**doa.apply_url**

https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/show-doa/R1RNUjAwMDEzNQ==

**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.