UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

JORR000403--Population Data Fellow, Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (Jordan)

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: Jordan
Host Institute: United Nations Population Fund
Volunteer Category: International Specialist
Number of Volunteer: 1
Duration: until 14-08-2020
Possibility of Extension: Yes
Expected Starting Date: 01-09-2019
Duty Station: Amman [JOR]
Assignment Place: Family Duty Station

Living Conditions

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is strategically located in the Middle East covering a diversity of landscapes. Bound by Syria to the north, Iraq to the northeast, Saudi Arabia to the east and south, the Red Sea to the south and Israel and the Palestinian National Authority to the west.

Weather: The weather in Jordan is not too extreme. Summer is dry, with temperatures regularly reaching 35 degrees centigrade. The winter is colder with temperatures often dropping to freezing point. Amman is hot and sunny from May to October with cool, pleasant evenings, whereas winters are rainy with occasional short snowfalls.

Safety and Security: Jordan is a relatively stable country. The potentials for internal or external armed conflict are considered very unlikely in the current political environment. Peaceful demonstrations, and sometimes road blockages, do occur in Jordan motivated by domestic factors such as unemployment, deprivation of resources and development or for regional issues such as solidarity with the Palestinian cause or with the Syrian crises. Most of these events are driven by civil society unions and Islamic parties. Domestic tribal civil unrest sometimes turning violent especially outside the main cities due to tribal dispute or socio-economic reasons. In all occasions law enforcement agencies usually manage to contain the situation.

Road traffic accidents are the primary threat against UN personnel in Jordan. Poor road conditions and bad driving behaviours are the main
reasons for the high rate for traffic accidents.

Amman is a category A duty station with security level 1.

**Transportation:** Taxis are abundant and readily available in Amman. Public minibuses are the most common form of public transport. They normally only leave when full, so waiting times of an hour or more are inevitable, especially in rural areas. The larger air-con buses offer a speedy and reliable service, departing according to a fixed schedule.

**Health Services:** Medical facilities are generally very good, particularly in Amman where there are several modern, well-equipped public and private hospitals. Almost all doctors (and most pharmacists) speak English; many have studied abroad.

**Language:** The official language of Jordan is Arabic, but English is widely spoken – especially in the cities. Many Jordanians have travelled or have been educated abroad so French, German, Italian and Spanish are also spoken, but to a lesser extent.

## Assignment Details

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UNFPA is the United Nations Population Fund. Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled.

UNFPA supports:

1. Reproductive health care for women and youth in more than 150 countries – which are home to more than 80 per cent of the world’s population
2. The health of pregnant women, especially the 1 million who face life-threatening complications each month
3. Reliable access to modern contraceptives sufficient to benefit 20 million women a year
4. Training of thousands of health workers to help ensure at least 90 per cent of all childbirths are supervised by skilled attendants
5. Prevention of gender-based violence, which affects 1 in 3 women
6. Abandonment of female genital mutilation, which harms 3 million girls annually
7. Prevention of teen pregnancies, complications of which are the leading cause of death for girls 15-19 years old
8. Efforts to end child marriage, which could affect an estimated 70 million girls over the next 5 years
9. Delivery of safe birth supplies, dignity kits and other life-saving materials to survivors of conflict and natural disaster
10. Censuses, data collection and analyses, which are essential for development planning
Data Fellows Programme

UNFPA will host its inaugural cohort of Population Data Fellows in its global headquarters (New York) and selected regional and country offices around the world in 2019-2020. Through this programme, Population Data Fellows will come together to design and deliver targeted projects that contribute to the overall population data work of UNFPA.

The inaugural cohort of 2019-2020 Population Data Fellows will contribute to UNFPA’s work on civil registration and vital statistics in the areas of

1. completeness and quality assessment of vital event (births, marriages and deaths) registration data,
2. multivariate analysis, using survey, census and registration data, of the proximate determinants of vital event under-registration and its socioeconomic consequences, and
3. statistical adjustment of incomplete and deficient civil registration data and the production of valid and reliable vital statistics from civil registration data.

The Fellowship programme will be residential for a period of up to 12-months (possible extension subject to available funding), with Fellows living at a specific UNFPA duty station and working in the associated UNFPA office under the direction of either the Country Office’s UNFPA Representative, the Regional Office’s Population and Development Regional Advisor, or the Population and Development Branch Chief at UNFPA Headquarters.

Data Analytics of vital event registration data

The programme is seeking to understand the proximate determinants of under-registration of vital events across the life course, including registration of births, marriages, divorces, and deaths. Further, this work seeks to understand the social, economic and political consequences for individuals of being invisible to the civil registration system. This work will be closely aligned with large-scale data analysis of civil registration, census and survey data.

In order to systematically strengthen CRVS systems, we need to understand how complete they are and the quality of the underlying data. This is important to identity which areas of the system need further improvement, and it is also being needed to make adjustments to civil registration data when producing representative and reliable vital statistics at national and subnational levels. Fellows engaged in this workstream will support analysis and assessment of civil registration data under the guidance of UNFPA technical staff.

Capacity building in completeness assessment, demographic data quality assessment and vital statistics analysis

UNFPA supports National Statistics Offices in low- and middle-income countries via technical capacity building. This workstream involves development of capacity building materials and support to training workshops for National Statistics Offices and Civil Registration authorities in the area of civil registration...
Sustainable Development Goals

17. Partnerships For the Goals

Task description

Under the direct supervision of the Head of office, the UN Volunteer will:

- Learn and apply contemporary technical methods of assessing data quality and completeness of civil registration data, adjusting civil registration data to account for coverage and content error, and producing vital statistics from civil registration data and other resources;
- Contribute to the development of capacity building materials, tools and worked examples, to support staff of national counterparts such as statistical officers and civic registration;
- Contribute to the facilitation of capacity building workshops and data laboratories for officials from National Statistics Offices and civil registration authorities;
- Conduct statistical and demographic analysis, using standard statistical software packages (e.g. R, Stata or SPSS) to support data processing, assessment and analysis of civil registration data;
- Contribute to routine and ad-hoc discussions and meetings within UNFPA on civil registration, vital statistics and legal identity;
- 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

- Solid knowledge of demographic and statistical methods for assessing, processing and analyzing civil registration data in low-/middle-income countries;
- Support to the production of capacity building resources on assessing data quality and completeness of civil registration data, adjusting civil registration data to account for coverage and content error, and producing vital statistics from civil registration data;
- Contributions to assessments of completeness and quality of civil registration data, statistical adjustments on incomplete civil registration data, multivariate analyses of proximate determinants and social consequences of vital event under-registration, and production of vital statistics analysis outputs in collaboration with UNFPA staff, national statistics offices and civil registration authorities;
- Successful support to facilitated workshops and data laboratories for national statistics offices and civil registry staff in the assessment, adjustment and analysis of civil registration data and production of vital statistics;

- 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
- University undergraduate degree or equivalent in the quantitative social sciences, such as demography, public health epidemiology, statistics, sociology, economics or related discipline (such as computer science), Masters degree preferred.

Required experience
24 months

Experience Remark
- Demonstrated interest and/or experience (up to 2 years) in applied statistics, public health, epidemiology, and demography
- Motivated to contribute towards peace and development and to serve others;
- Good interpersonal, networking and communication skills;
- Willingness to contribute and work as part of a team;
- Flexible and open to learning and new experiences;
- Respect for diversity and adaptability to other cultures, environments and living conditions;
- Previous experience as a volunteer and/or experience of another culture, (i.e. studies, volunteer work, internship) would be highly regarded;
- Skills to use relevant statistical packages (particular in R, or related statistical tools/packages such as Stata or SPSS) and willingness to learn (or existing familiarity with) GitHub or version control systems;
Computer skills (i.e. Word, Excel, PowerPoint, social media, and others).

Language Skills
- English (Mandatory), Level - Fluent
- AND - Arabic (Mandatory), Level - Fluent

Area of Expertise
- Statistics Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement
- Need Driving Licence: No

Competencies & Values
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Commitment and Motivation
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Ethics and Values
- Integrity
- Planning and Organizing
- Professionalism
- Respect for Diversity
- Working in Teams

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
- 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 JORR000403-4928

Application procedure

* Not yet registered in the UNV Talent Pool?

1. Please first register your profile at https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/signup

2. Important: After creating your account, complete all sections of your profile and submit it.

3. Then go to ‘My Page’ at https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/mypage and click on the ‘Special Calls’ hyperlink

4. Lastly, select the special call to which you would like to apply.

* Already registered in the UNV Talent Pool?

1. Please first update your profile at https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/profile.

2. 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.

NOTE: Women, indigenous people, people with disabilities, LGBTQI candidates and other marginalized groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

Application deadline: 21 July 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.