

UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

LBNR000343--Senior Economist

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

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Country of Assignment | Lebanon |
| Host Institute | United Nations Development Programme |
| Volunteer Category | National Specialist |
| Number of Volunteer | 1 |
| Duration | 6 months |
| Possibility of Extension | Yes |
| Expected Starting Date | 10-10-2020 |
| Duty Station | Beirut [LBN] |
| Assignment Place | Family Duty Station |
| Assignment Place Remark | |

Living Conditions

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 CIGNA insurance plan.

Assignment Details

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|-------------------------|------------------|
| Assignment Title | Senior Economist |
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Organizational Context & Project Description

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

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

On 4 August 2020, a warehouse at the Beirut Port containing large quantities of ammonium nitrate exploded. The blast caused widespread damage and the ensuing fires released toxic materials in the environment. On 5 August, the Government of Lebanon declared a two-week state of emergency in Beirut. The blasts destroyed an estimated 120,000 metric tonnes of food stocks, including wheat, soy and other staples. Grain silos at the port were also heavily damaged in the explosions. The Beirut Port is expected to be inoperable for at least one month, pending repairs, debris removal and safety clearances.

Initial assessments indicate that at least 12 primary health care centres have been severely damaged. At least three hospitals have been rendered partially or fully inoperable. An additional 120 schools, used by 55,000 Lebanese and non-Lebanese children, sustained various levels of damage. Humanitarian partners are conducting further damage assessments, in close coordination with relevant government authorities. On 6 August, a total of 255 new COVID-19 cases were recorded, a new record for Lebanon. The emergency in Beirut has caused many COVID-19 precautionary measures to be relaxed, raising the prospects of even higher transmission rates and a large caseload in the coming weeks.

The explosions come as Lebanon faces a multi-faceted crisis. In recent months, economic contraction, increasing poverty and rising prices have compounded needs among Lebanese and non-Lebanese communities, including the large refugee population in Lebanon. Increasing COVID-19 transmission is straining the country's health systems. Social tensions continue to grow in many parts of the country. Following a special cabinet meeting on 10 August and the earlier resignation of several ministers, Lebanon's Prime Minister Diab announced the resignation of his government, describing its role now in a care-taking capacity.

This deployment is part of the UNDP UNV Tandem Teams initiative, whereby an international expert working remotely is paired with a national expert (NUNV).

Sustainable Development Goals

3. Good Health and Well-being

Task description

In the aftermath of Beirut explosion and in response to COVID19 outbreak, the UNDP office in Lebanon is providing support the Lebanese people to recover the multi-levelled economic, social, environmental, and financial shocks. Towards this end, the UNDP team is working on several tracks to: i) mitigate the immediate implications of the crises, ii) manage the recovery phase; iii) and provide the Lebanese society with better tools, mechanisms and policies to strengthen the country's resilience to shocks and crises. UNDP support spans wide area of initiatives including carrying out relevant impact assessments, providing implementation support, performing advocacy, connecting with donors, and supporting central and local governments to respond to and sustain shocks.

One of the core aspects to be addressed, within the context of the multi-layered crisis, is the economic and social fragility of Lebanon, and the inability of the fragmented social protection systems and policies to properly respond to the crisis and mitigate its implication.

Towards this end, a senior economist is needed to support the UNDP Country Office and to be part of the economic support team guiding UNDP's programmes and interventions.

The UNV shall have the following tasks and responsibilities:

- Update and maintain macro-economic, social, fiscal and financial datasets
- Perform data crunching and data analysis in variety of socio-economic domains
- Contribute to the preparation of policy briefs, background papers, concept notes, reports, proposals and factsheets.
- Prepare minutes of meetings and briefings whenever needed
- Carry out research in various economic areas including poverty, productive sectors, social protection, public finance, funding flows, etc.
- Review documents and papers and provide comments
- Initiate and maintain links with partners including Government agencies, NGOs, and programmes.
- Respond to ad hoc requests forwarded by UNDP higher management

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

- Development of the socio and economic framework in Lebanon together with the international economist
- 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 Master degree or equivalent

Education - Additional Comments

- Master's degree in Economics, Social Studies, Finance or closely relevant subject.

Required experience 36 months

Experience Remark

- At least 3 years (up to 15 years) of high-quality applied research and experience in the macroeconomic field – including social protection, poverty reduction, international trade and fiscal and monetary
- Strong communication skills;
- Familiarity with processes of UN agencies and/or IFIs an asset;
- Work individually as well as part of a team towards common goals;
- Good knowledge of the public sector is a plus
- Familiar with the work of donors and international organizations
- Good knowledge of statistical analysis tools is preferable such as Stata, SPSS, or others.
- Excellent team player and proactive contributor.
- Ability to work independently and meet deadlines.
- Resourceful and well connected

Language

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

Area of Expertise

- Macroeconomics and public finance Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement**Functional Competencies:**

- Knowledge of macro and micro economics – including multi poverty reduction, social protection, macroeconomic modelling international trade - concepts, principles and policies and ability to apply to strategic and/or practical situations;
- Understanding of poverty dynamics, social protection principles and their application to current national economic and development issues; proven capacity to deal with policy analyses and poverty research;
- Knowledge of global macroeconomic trends and ability to collect and analyse macro and micro economic data at country level; Knowledge of impact assessment methodologies;

- Knowledge of Economic Planning and Recovery concepts and the ability to apply to strategic and/or practical situations;
- Knowledge of data and statistics analysis for 2030 Agenda for development and the ability to apply to strategic and/or practical situations;
- Knowledge of sustainable development concepts, principles and issues and the ability to apply to strategic and/or practical situations, covering the economic, social and environmental dimensions.

Need Driving Licence

No

Competencies & Values

- Accountability
- Ethics and Values
- Planning and Organizing
- Professionalism
- Respect for Diversity
- Self-Management
- Technological Awareness
- Working in Teams

Conditions of Service and other information

Condition of Service

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

Conditions of Service:

Note on novel coronavirus – COVID-19.

The rapidly changing nature of novel coronavirus COVID-19 has placed significant and increasing restrictions on the freedom of movement of people, even within countries. Such restrictions may affect the ability national UN Volunteers to begin their assignments at their assigned duty station or limit the ability to enter UN premises. Thus, UNV cannot guarantee assignments will proceed as normal.

Candidates for national UN Volunteer assignments requiring travel to the duty station may be exceptionally granted during this period alternative working arrangements to work from their place of recruitment until restrictions are lifted. Candidates for national UN Volunteer assignments may also need to begin their assignments remotely in cases where access to UN premises is restricted. These are decisions at the discretion of the host entity. Candidates proceeding to interview are recommended to discuss travel requirements, any restrictions, and possible alternative arrangements with the host entity. If selected, candidates should carefully consider the circumstances before accepting UNV's offer.

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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.

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 (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 and official processes;
- 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;
- Any necessary security measures, ensuring that UN Volunteers are covered by the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS) in line with the UNDSS Security Policy Manual;
- 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

LBNR000343-7786

Application procedure

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* 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.

This is a national UN Volunteer assignment, therefore only nationals of Lebanon and legal residents in the Lebanon with a residency permit, the status of refugee or with the status of being stateless are eligible to apply.

Candidates with long-term experience are encouraged to apply. Provided that the respective requirements are met, the assignment might be considered as UN Volunteer expert, including 40% additional VLA or as UN Volunteer Senior Expert (15 years of experience incl. international experience), including 100% additional VLA.

Application deadline: 30 September 2020

doa.apply_url

<https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/show-doa/TEJOUjAwMDM0Mw==>

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.