UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

MLIR000870--Communications Specialist

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>Mali</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Host Institute</td>
<td>United Nations Children's Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Category</td>
<td>International Specialist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Volunteer</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expected Starting Date</td>
<td>01-05-2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duty Station</td>
<td>Mopti [MLI]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment Place</td>
<td>Non-Family Duty station</td>
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The Mopti duty station is on a 6-week Rest and Recuperation (R&R) cycle.

Living Conditions

The climate in Mali is hot and dry, with temperatures climbing above 40 degrees Celsius during the day. Taking measures to prevent mosquito bites is recommended as malaria can be a concern. As a predominantly Muslim country, it is preferable to dress respectfully, especially while traveling outside the capital. Mali has daily flight connections to transport hubs Africa as well as Europe and has numerous banking facilities. Wifi and 3G are widely available in the capital, though connectivity can at times be limited in other regions. Drinking bottled water is advisable.

Mali is a unique country and UNICEF is a unique humanitarian agency. It provides for an interesting and
enriching environment, but also requires a mature level of cultural awareness, as well as stamina and commitment. Therefore, flexibility and the ability and willingness to live and work in challenging conditions are essential.

The Mopti duty station is on a 6-week R&R cycle.

Assignment Details

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<tr>
<th>Assignment Title</th>
<th>Communications Specialist</th>
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Organizational Context & Project Description

UNICEF, the world's leading organization working for the rights of children, seeks a dynamic Communications Specialist to support communications on emergencies in Mali. The Specialist will create compelling multimedia content which engages audiences in Mali and abroad and coordinate media engagement around the crisis in central Mali.

In 2012, political instability in Mali’s capital and armed conflict in the northern part of the country transformed a longstanding “silent emergency” into an internationally recognized crisis. The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) was established by the Security Council in 2013 to support political processes in that country and carry out a number of security-related tasks.

The outbreak of the conflict led to an increasingly fragile environment for children. Since 2018, a sharp deterioration of the security situation has also been observed in central Mali, with an increase in grave violations against children, including injuries, deaths, detentions and sexual violence.

UNICEF works with partners to respond to the increasing vulnerability of children in central and northern Mali through tailored child protection support, as well as through responding to the deteriorating health and nutritional status of children and their access to quality education. UNICEF continues to promote the rights and wellbeing of all children in Mali as outlined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In view of the volatile context which has placed increased needs on external communications, ensuring the situation of the most vulnerable children is strategically highlighted through media and quality multimedia content has become crucial to meeting UNICEF Mali’s advocacy and resource mobilization goals.

Sustainable Development Goals  10. Reduced Inequalities

Task description

Under the direct supervision of the Chief of Field Office, Mopti, and in close collaboration with the Chief of Communication who oversees all external communication for UNICEF Mali, the UN Volunteer will:
• Regularly go on field trips within Mopti to collect testimonies, quotes, and photo and video stories that illustrate the situation of children and women in Mali and UNICEF’s interventions in favor of children and women, in particular the most vulnerable
• Write compelling, talkable and audience-tailored content for social media, websites and blogs (such as unicef.org/mali and UNICEF Connect) as well as internal platforms, in support of UNICEF Mali’s advocacy and resource mobilization objectives
• Coordinate local media activities, including with partner media and with child journalists, with a view on ensuring regular reporting on children’s issues in central Mali and supporting the increase in brand awareness for UNICEF in Mopti
• Participate and promote UNICEF’s positions in communications and advocacy meetings with other UN agencies and humanitarian actors
• Plan, coordinate and accompany punctual media visits to Mopti
• Where necessary and with the guidance of the Chief of Communications, support the Chief of Field Office with advice on strategic communications in crisis-affected areas
• Where necessary and under the guidance of the Chief of Communications, prepare key messages and talking points for media and prepare spokespersons in Mopti for media interviews
• Upon special request and when required, conduct field missions to Timbuktu and Gao to gather content and/or facilitate media missions
• Carry out other tasks as needed under the supervision of the Chief of Field Office and the Chief of Communications in close consultation with programme colleagues and the Emergency Management Team

The UN Volunteer will also work closely with programme staff in the Mopti field office, the C4D officer in the Mopti field office, the Digital Communications Officer in Bamako and the entire Communications team, the Emergency Management Team and short-term specialized consultants brought in on a project basis.

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 UNICEF team member, efficient, timely, responsive, client-friendly and high-quality support rendered to UNICEF and its beneficiaries in the accomplishment of her/his functions, including:

• A steady stream of multimedia content, including photo stories and quotes, is produced based on testimonies gathered from children and women on field trips in Mopti
• UNICEF Mali’s online presence is further strengthened through the showcasing of UNICEF’s humanitarian action in central Mali, further contributing to UNICEF’s position as the leader on children’s issues in Mali
Brand awareness of UNICEF in central Mali is further strengthened
High-quality media coverage of UNICEF interventions in central Mali is ensured

- 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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<th>Required Degree Level</th>
<th>Bachelor degree or equivalent</th>
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**Education - Additional Comments**

Bachelor’s degree, ideally in journalism, marketing, communication, social sciences, or international affairs.

Master’s degree is preferred but not a requirement.

**Required experience**

- Sixty months

**Experience Remark**

- Five years’ professional experience in communication, print/broadcast media and/or digital media with experience in crisis/emergency situations preferred
- Fluency in French and strong mastery of English

**Language**

- French (Mandatory), Level - Fluent
- AND - English (Optional), Level - Working Knowledge

**Area of Expertise**

- Public information and reporting Mandatory
- Web and graphic design Mandatory
- Arts, music, photography and film Optional

**Area of Expertise Requirement**

- Excellent copywriting skills and the ability to tailor copy to target audiences, including youth, decision-makers and donors. Experience in writing for the web, for blogs and for social media is essential
- Demonstrated skills in photography. Videography skills, particularly in producing video for social media use, are a distinct advantage.
- Demonstrated skills in working with media and facilitating media reporting on priority topics
- Dynamic self-starter able to work independently under high pressure and tight deadlines
- Strategic and creative thinker able to approach tasks with innovative thinking, going beyond routine and standard approaches
- Highly familiar with social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
- Graphic design and layout skills (Adobe InDesign, Illustrator, etc) are an advantage

Need Driving Licence: No

Competencies & Values

- Accountability
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Building Trust
- Client Orientation
- Commitment and Motivation
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Empowering Others
- Ethics and Values
- Knowledge Sharing
- Planning and Organizing
- Professionalism
- Vision
- 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 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  MLIR000870-6357

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 for to which you would like to apply.

Application deadline: 3 March 2020

doa.apply_url  https://vmam.unv.org//candidate/show-doa/TUxJUjAwMDg3MA==

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.