

UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

PANR000212--Climate and DRR 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

Country of Assignment	Panama
Host Institute	United Nations Children's Fund
Volunteer Category	International Specialist
Number of Volunteer	1
Duration	12 months
Expected Starting Date	Immediate
Duty Station	Panama City [PAN]
Assignment Place	Family Duty Station

Assignment Place Remark

Home based is acceptable. If Panama based, the UNV would live in Panama City with access to a good level of services and living conditions

Living Conditions

Living conditions in Panama are good. There is no immediate threat of violence and the situation in the country is peaceful. At times demonstrations are held related mainly to labor disputes or other local issues, typically non-violent. Politically motivated violence in Panama is not a problem, as neither are recognized domestic terrorist organizations.

Crime: Panama is relatively safe compared to other countries in Latin America. Although the areas of high crime are concentrated in the bigger cities, these are limited to specific spots.

Traffic safety and road conditions: Panama's roads, traffic and transportation systems are generally safe. Driving is often hazardous and demanding due to dense traffic, undisciplined driving habits, poorly maintained streets, and a lack of effective signs and traffic signals. Traffic accidents are a potential security issue. On roads where poor lighting and driving conditions prevail, night driving is difficult and should be approached with caution.

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Climate: Panama has a tropical climate. Temperatures are uniformly high –as is the relative humidity- and there is little seasonal variation. Diurnal ranges are low; on a typical dry-season day in the capital city, the early morning minimum may be 24°C in the afternoon maximum 30°C. The temperature seldom exceeds 32°C for more than a short time. Temperatures on the Pacific side of the isthmus are somewhat lower than on the Caribbean, and breezes tend to rise after dusk in most parts of the country. Almost all of the rain falls during the rainy season, which is usually from April to December. Although rainy-season thunderstorms are common, the country is outside of the hurricane belt.

Economy: In recent years, the Panamanian economy has been among the fastest growing and best managed in Latin America. However, like most countries in the region, Panama is feeling the impact of the global financial crisis, which threatens to undermine the social gains made in the past few years. Despite Panama’s status as an upper-middle income nation – as measured by per capita GDP – it remains a country of stark contrasts. Perpetuated by dramatic educational disparities, over one-third of Panama’s population lived in poverty in 2008 and 14.4% in extreme poverty.

Assignment Details

Assignment Title Climate and DRR Officer

Organizational Context & Project Description

Latin America and the Caribbean is one of the world’s regions most vulnerable to a diversity of natural hazards which have in parts been intensified by climate change: hurricanes in Central America and the Caribbean; torrential rains and flash flooding across the continent; prolonged droughts in Central and South America; cold waves in the mountainous regions; large scale fires in South America; and volcanic activity and earthquakes along the Pacific coast and in the Caribbean. These disasters result in forced displacements and expose children to increased risk of exploitation and abuse. Environmental sustainability and climate change issues affect the realization of fundamental rights of the child. Clean and healthy environment that sustains life on earth is critical for children’s survival, health, development and well-being. Climate change is an inter-generational equity issue as current and future generations of children and youth will be the most affected by lack of climate actions today. If current trends continue, key social sectors, land areas and ecosystems of Latin America and Caribbean region will be significantly affected by climate change, drastically reducing possibilities for human and social systems to adapt to the effects of climate change.

The LAC region is already grappling with high human and economic costs of climate related extreme and slow-onset events and their negative impacts on health, education, food, nutrition, water resources, fisheries, cities and migration. The COVID-19 epidemic has hit hard in the region, creating additional social and economic strains to children, adolescents and their families. Countries in the region may be faced with having to confront a major climate-related disaster at a time when they are firmly focused on COVID-19 response and recovery.

To respond to increased demand to address the impact of Climate-related risks in addition to the COVID-19, UNICEF’s LAC-RO management is requesting the support of UNV to assist with the overall agenda of building resilience, to improve knowledge management and evidence-based advocacy and policy change when engaging adolescents and youth. This will entail support to partnership with youth organizations and promote engagement of children and young people in climate and DRR related actions. Assist communication efforts to ensure the voices of children and young people from the region are represented in regional and inter-national forums and their voices captured in documents, reports and media briefs.

Sustainable Development Goals 13. Climate Action

Task description

Under the direct supervision of DRR and CC Specialist (please complete with the function of the supervisor), the UN Volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

Technical support on DRR, climate actions and resilience - to RO and CO

- Provide support to RO and COs to promote resilience through risk informed programming in accordance with UNICEF Strategic Plans (SP) and Regional Office Management Plans (ROMP) processes and terminology and contribute to its work plan and actions.
- Provide assistance to operationalize the LAC regional strategic framework for climate actions and children ensuring links with COVID-19 and the use of sectoral resilience programming with a humanitarian-development lens.
- Support the application of the "risk lens" linked with COVID-19 to overall and sectoral programming, for instance in SitAns, CPD PSN,

ToC etc. development and revision.

- Support countries in identifying opportunities for coherence with national priorities in implementation through strengthened policy and strategy frameworks (such as NDC, NAP, DRM/Sendai and SDG) and institutional arrangements, so that they are ambitious and child inclusive and supportive of local implementations (this can also include sector-specific plans).

Partnership and Resource mobilization – including Advocacy and representation

- Support working relationships with regional bodies, like climate and resilience interagency group and platform particularly, to ensure children's rights are included in any disaster risk management, climate and environment action frameworks (Regional Platform on DRR, Regional climate week, NDC Partnership).
- Support the development of LAC regional pipeline for climate finance i.e. GCF, bilateral donors and private sector, for accessing climate finance to promote adaptation /mitigation initiatives.
- Support organizing national and international DRR/CC workshops/ meetings or events such as International Day for Disaster Reduction, World Environment Day, and regional consultations and conference.

Knowledge management and evidence generation

- Support in Knowledge Management activities and south-south / horizontal cooperation. Including the mapping of UNICEF and its partners good practices on climate actions building resilience and the existing policies and programmes, including lessons and applicable recommendations that may enhance the initiatives, and allow the replication of the experience to other contexts.
- Assist Big Data work to ensure UNICEF's work is evidence-based, to inform and galvanize advocacy efforts, focusing on influencing national DRM, climate/environmental policies and better target their intervention. Support COs to identify priority areas for further analysis and integration.

Support engagement of children, adolescents and youth in climate action related activities.

- Support regional activities to promote the use of an advocacy toolkit to build capacity of adolescents and young people around climate change.
- Support evidence generation and document actions and results achieved by UNICEF when engaging adolescents as leaders in policy and advocacy change, including mapping existing interventions across the region
- Conduct stakeholder analysis and foster partnership with youth organizations and promote engagement of children and young people in climate and DRR related actions.
- Support communication efforts to ensure the voices of children and young people from the region are represented in regional and international forums and their voices captured in documents, reports and media briefs.

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;
- Reflect on the type and quality of voluntary action that they are undertaking, including participation in ongoing reflection activities;
- 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.

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

- Support provided to the refinement and implementation of the LAC Strategic Framework "Climate Action for Children". This will be done in collaboration with UNICEF country offices and external partners, with a focus on UNICEF and partner actions to contribute to achieve targets of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), National Adaptation Plans (NAP), and climate finance.
- UNICEF regional knowledge products on climate change, environment and youth are developed, including mapping of interventions on adolescent engagement in policy and actions and stakeholder analysis.
- Children and adolescents have a voice and representation in high level DRR/CCA forums, and their voices documented;
- Support was provided to ensure that UNICEF programming is risk-informed through the mainstreaming of DRR/CC and resilience

approaches in core programs; and through capacity development of staff and partners;

- LAC regional office developed pipeline proposals for climate finance (GCF, NDC CAEP/TAF etc.),
- Age, Gender, Disability and Diversity perspective is systematically applied, integrated and documented in all activities throughout the assignment;
- A final statement of achievements towards promoting DRR, climate change, durable solutions, resilience, and risk-informed programming during the assignment, 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

Required Degree Level Master degree or equivalent

Education - Additional Comments

Education - Additional Comments: University degree in relevant areas such as social science, economic and development studies, international relationship, or related climate and environmental field.

Required experience 36 months

Experience Remark

- Work experience in programme development and implementation
- A minimum of 3 years of relevant work experience focused on developing countries, in areas related to disaster risk management, climate and environment and building resilience.
- Familiarity with UNICEF programming or other UN and development organizations.
- Knowledge and technical expertise in one or more of UNICEF areas of global sectoral responsibility is an asset.
- Good understanding of the disaster risk, climate and environment development context in Latin America and the Caribbean region.
- Capacity to work with multidisciplinary groups and good capacity for coordination, analysis and synthesis.
- Experience working with and mobilizing young people
- Able to work independently as part of and in constant communication with the “safe and clean environment” team as well as with Communication and Adolescent Development teams and country offices.

Language

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

Area of Expertise

- Disaster risk reduction Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement

Community resilience environment & disaster reduction

Programme development and implementation

Climate and environment and building resilience.

Good understanding of the disaster risk, climate and environment development context in Latin America and the Caribbean region.

Need Driving Licence

No

Conditions of Service and other information

Condition of Service

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

Conditions of Service for International Specialist:

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 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) 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\$ 1,651. The VLA

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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 ([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 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 PANR000212-7531

Application procedure

You can only apply if you have created your profile at <https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/signup>

Watch this video for the specific steps you must follow: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VT5uJ_FoIWU

If you are already registered in UNV's Talent Pool, make sure your profile is up to date before applying.

Application deadline: 16-Aug-2020 at 23:59hrs, Germany time zone

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

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.