UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

SLBR000022—UN Country Coordination 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>Solomon Islands</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Host Institute</td>
<td>Resident Coordinator Office</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Starting Date</td>
<td>28-10-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duty Station</td>
<td>Honiara [SLB]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment Place</td>
<td>Family Duty Station</td>
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Living Conditions

Solomon Islands is a nation of 992 islands, situated in the South Pacific, stretching over 1,300 square kilometers of ocean. The nearest neighbors are PNG to the West, the Fiji Islands to the East, Australia to the South West and New Zealand due South. It is one of the four Least Developed Countries or LDCs in the Pacific. Its capital is Honiara, which is situated within the main province of Guadalcanal. The nation of the Solomon Islands is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. The Solomon Islanders comprise rich diverse cultures, languages, and customs. Of its 552,438 persons, 94.5% are Melanesian, 3% Polynesian, and 1.2% Micronesian. In addition, small numbers of Europeans and Chinese are registered.

The rural/urban population breakdown was 14% in cities, about 2% in dense urban peripheries and the remainder, 84% rural. Its untouched nature is pristine and beautiful, presenting potential for future tourism development. Clinics and main National Referral Hospital are in Honiara City Council, also in other
provinces, but as is the case in LDCs, the quality of specialized medical services is limited. There is a list of UN appointed physicians who are made available to provide first aid assistance and guidance. Malaria and Dengue fever are endemic in the Solomon Islands. Educational opportunities for older children of expatriate families are limited, and connectivity is expensive and slow. However, the ongoing undersea cable project is expected to address this challenge in the near future. The most common language spoken among the locals is Pidgin which is mixture of Melanesian and English. English is taught in schools and is the official language.

Solomon Islands along with many other Pacific islands is known for being one of the friendliest nations in the world. It is a unique country and UN RC is a unique human rights operation. It provides for an interesting and enriching environment, but also requires a mature level of cultural awareness, as well as more stamina and commitment than elsewhere to make life comfortable and affordable. Therefore, flexibility and the ability and willingness to live and work in harsh and potentially hazardous conditions, involving physical hardship and little comfort, are essential.

Assignment Details

Assignment Title

UN Country Coordination Specialist

Organizational Context & Project Description

The role of the Resident Coordinator in the context of the UN Reform has changed from coordination of planning (UNDAF) to coordination of both planning and joint implementation as a primary way of effectively and efficiently delivering results. Ensuring a highly consultative planning process is just one of the steps towards good results, but implementation, monitoring, evidence-based programme management equally matter and that’s where the Resident Coordinator function is moving now to.

To capacitate the Resident Coordinator Office to play a critical role in strategic joint programming takes time. In the context of the Multi-Country Office, organizing work outside the MCO hub is even more demanding of country presence and vision.

In order to strengthen coordination, deploying experienced UNVs to assess the gaps, provide transitional support and help with enforcement of the reform, assisting the dialogue between the RCO, UN Country Team and counterparts and stakeholders is a business model that is highly effective for the Pacific MCOs where staffing needs to await finalization of the MCO Review.

This position is part of the Resident Coordinator Multi-Country Office in Fiji, with duty station in Solomon Islands.

Sustainable Development Goals

17. Partnerships For the Goals

Task description

Under the direct supervision of UN Resident Coordinator in Suva, Fiji, the UN Volunteer will undertake the
following tasks, in close collaboration with other UN colleagues at the country level:

1. Coordinate UN inter-agency work in support of the Solomon Islands’ national priorities and the UN Pacific Strategy to advance on the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs and provide support to the RC in carry out his/her function under the new invigorated RC System under the UN Development System Reform.

- Support design, formulation, and implementation, monitoring and reporting of joint programmes, and joint programming processes amongst UN entities with a view for joint resource mobilization;

- Provide effective and efficient coordination support to all UN agencies (resident and non-resident to the Pacific) in implementing their programmes as well as initiating new cooperation engagements;

- Advise the RC/UNCT in articulating and actively communicating a credible and convincing strategic vision for the UN in Solomon Islands and as part of the multi-country UNDAF, which is consistent with national development goals and priorities, UN values, aligned with the 2030 Agenda and committed to the principles of universality, equality and leaving no one behind. This includes but is not limited to, promoting areas of work related to key populations and vulnerable groups; engagement with youth, volunteer organisations and other civil society entities; as well as acting as a member of various national and UN working groups as appropriate.

- Through active participation in RCO weekly meetings as well as other inter-agency working groups providing updates on UN’s engagement in Solomon Islands, provide strategy advice and develop recommendations to inform decision-making by the RC/UNCT in relation to repositioning of the UN System in Solomon Islands, with consideration to the Standard Operating Procedures for Delivering as One.

- Provide written analysis and summary on political, social economic and environment sector developments in Solomon Islands to the RCO and Pacific Joint UNCT.

- Advise the RC/UNCT on the development, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the new generation UNDAF in the Pacific and Solomon Islands context;

- Promote the UNDAF/UNPS and Joint Workplans, ensuring that the UNDAF M&E framework is followed-through and well reported upon Solomon Islands context. This could include mapping, monitoring and follow-up on UN’s programmes and support against national strategic plan sectors as well as provide written and verbal analysis on UN’s engagement in Solomon Islands advising a new entry points for further strengthen the partnership with the government.

- Support strategic design of UN’s policy and programmatic offer, signature services, operational capabilities, and partnership mechanisms at global and Pacific level and as relevant to the Solomon Islands context.

- Support identification, analysis and prioritization of joint programmatic work of UN entities in
response to national priorities and in line with the UNDAF and the 2030 Agenda;

2. Act as the main interlocutor for partnership with government, civil society, NGOs, development partners and UN agencies

- In consultations with a broad range of stakeholders, advise on positioning the UN as a key provider of integrated services and as a platform in support of the SDGs.

- In close collaboration with the RCO Fiji, ensure the formulation and implementation of the UN Partnership Strategy as well as Resource Mobilization Strategy considers the Solomon Islands context;

- Maintain relationship with government and other partners through sharing relevant information upon and attending relevant meeting upon request.

- Facilitate and action requests from Government and UN agencies, including but not limited to mission clearances and visa/entry processes, support with mission programmes, surveys, invitations to workshops and conferences.

- Provided support and preparation to high-level UN missions as well as UN technical colleagues, incl. extensive liaison and communication with government and non-government entities,

- Regular liaison and meetings with development partners.

3. Undertake Advocacy and Communication activities in Solomon Islands

- Provide input to strategic advocacy and communication advice to UNCT on the 2030 Agenda considering Solomon Islands context and boost impact of programmatic objectives under the UNPS in Solomon Islands;

- Monitor media in the areas related to the UN's mandates and programmes in Solomon Islands, as well as other issues relevant to the UN brand and positioning;

- Advise the RC/UNCT on public messaging and media outreach in Solomon Islands, and help manage reputational risks or crises around sensitive issues;

- In line with the UNPS Communication Strategy and Workplan, organise UN Day event and / or other international events in Solomon Islands

- Give presentations and conduct outreach activities as required (e.g. in schools)

- Together with RCO communication colleagues in Suva, work on messaging for social media posts, review and provide input to advocacy materials considering the country context

4. 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

- As an active RC Multi-Country Office team member, efficient, timely, responsive, client-friendly and high-quality support rendered to RC Multi-Country Office and its beneficiaries in the accomplishment of her/his functions, including:

- UN inter-agency work in support of Solomon Islands national priorities and the UN Pacific Strategy to advance on the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs is maintained, strengthened, and documented.
- Partnership with government, civil society, NGOs, development partners and UN agencies resulting in new entry points for cooperation
- Strategic advocacy and communication include consideration to Solomon Islands context and outreach activities undertaken

- 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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<tr>
<th>Required Degree Level</th>
<th>Master degree or equivalent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Education - Additional Comments</td>
<td>Economics, Social Sciences, International Relations, Political Sciences or other related fields.</td>
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<td>Required experience</td>
<td>36 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience Remark</td>
<td>Working experience in a development and / or humanitarian assistance sector, preferably in developing countries in relevant field, and in the Asia-Pacific region or in other SIDS countries. Good understanding of</td>
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Pacific context is considered an advantage. Good understanding of the United Nations and UN Coordination-related activities, especially inter-agency cooperation, UN Country Team support, and UNDAF cycle is considered an advantage.

Language Skills
- English (Mandatory) , Level - Fluent

Area of Expertise
- Other development programme/project experience Mandatory

Need Driving Licence  No

Competencies & Values
- Accountability
- Client Orientation
- Communication
- Ethics and Values
- Leadership
- Planning and Organizing
- Self-Management
- 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  SLBR000022-5024
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 (assignment) 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 (assignment) to which you would like to apply.

Candidates may apply to a maximum of three (3) special calls (assignments) per advertisement. You may specify your order of preference in the ‘Additional Remarks’ section of your profile.

This assignment is funded by the Government of Australia, therefore only Australian nationals are eligible to apply.

Application deadline: 18 August 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.