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: Tonga
Host Institute: United Nations Capital Development Fund
Volunteer Category: International Specialist
Number of Volunteer: 1
Duration: 12 months
Expected Starting Date: Immediate
Duty Station: Nuku’Alofa [TON]
Assignment Place: Family Duty Station
Assignment Place Remark:

Please note that the approximate monthly Volunteer Living Allowance will be USD 2,196.69 as of January 2021 (at single rate). An additional family allowance may be paid for up to two recognized dependents (see also below, under Conditions of Service).

Living Conditions

The Kingdom of Tonga is the last Polynesian monarchy consisting of around 176 islands. About two-thirds of Tonga’s population lives on the main island of Tongatapu and Tonga has never completely lost its indigenous governance. The economy is sustained by agriculture, fishing, and the money sent home by Tongans living abroad, many of them in New Zealand and the US. Volunteers are encouraged to dress conservatively. Traditionally, women must cover knees and elbows, and men usually dress in pants or tupenu (cloth wrap skirt). Tonga has two cellular providers, Digicel (Tonga) Limited and Tonga Communications Corporation (UCALL). Coverage is generally good in urban areas but fades quickly as you move to rural locations. Internet connections are readily available at reasonable speeds and internet cafes are available in town with wireless hotspots around businesses and hospitality complexes. There is a post office, travel agents, local businesses, as well as small shops, cafes, and a supermarket selling imported food and a vegetable market with competitive prices. The NZ High Commission is also in the centre of town. Banks in Tonga include ANZ, Bank of Tonga, and Westpac. Volunteers can open a local bank account once they arrive in Tonga where monthly living allowances are paid into. You will
find ATMs in town with an increasing number of shops also having EFTPOS machines. Some hotels/guest houses accept foreign credit cards. The local currency is TOP - Tongan Pa'anga. Visit oanda.com for current exchange rates. There are no problems moving around Tonga although you will be given a more detailed security briefing upon arrival. Take care when walking alone and avoid this at night. Precautionary measures are recommended, such as insect repellent and long sleeves/ trousers in the evening if outside and a mosquito net. Skin infections can develop quickly so have a good supply of plasters, antibiotic cream, and antibiotics. Medical care is limited in Tonga, with Tonga’s main hospital (Vaiaola Hospital) being a 10-minute ride from the capital, Nuku'alofa.

Assignment Details

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<th>Assignment Title</th>
<th>Country Coordinator</th>
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Organizational Context & Project Description

The UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) makes public and private finance work for the poor in the world’s 47 least developed countries. With its capital mandate and instruments, UNCDF offers “last mile” finance models that unlock public and private resources, especially at the domestic level, to reduce poverty and support local economic development.

UNCDF’s financing models work through two channels:

- Financial inclusion that expands the opportunities for individuals, households, and small businesses to participate in the local economy, providing them with the tools they need to climb out of poverty and manage their financial lives;
- And by showing how localized investments — through fiscal decentralization, innovative municipal finance, and structured project finance — can drive public and private funding that underpins local economic expansion and sustainable development.

By strengthening how finance works for poor people at the household, small enterprise, and local infrastructure levels, UNCDF contributes to SDG 1 on eradicating poverty and SDG 17 on the means of implementation. By identifying those market segments where innovative financing models can have transformational impact in helping to reach the last mile and address exclusion and inequalities of access, UNCDF contributes to a number of different SDGs.

Since 2008, UNCDF has been supporting digital finance with significant success, with digital finance currently the largest part of its inclusive finance portfolio. This includes digital innovations linked to off-grid energy, agriculture, employment, health and transport. UNCDF is also host to the Secretariat of the Better than Cash Alliance, a partnership of governments, companies, and international organizations that accelerates the transition from cash to digital payments in order to reduce poverty and drive inclusive growth.

With many professionals with strong digital finance experience across the globe and with several hundreds of projects on digital finance on-going, UNCDF is one of the leading development agencies in digital finance with a mission and expertise to reach low-income customers in some of the world’s most difficult markets.

Based on this experience UNCDF started in 2017 to expand the scope of its programmatic agenda to go beyond digital finance using its newly launched strategy “Leaving no one behind in the digital era”. Through this strategy it intends to move its focus from digital finance (DF) to digital economies which constitutes a logical integration of UNCDF experience in financial inclusion and digital, developed over many years. The legacy of UNCDF intervention programmes was built through a range of country/regional programmes and global thematic initiatives, which has established a very strong reputation for UNCDF vis-à-vis donors and peers.

The UNV will be responsible for coordinating UNCDF’s work in one of the Pacific countries mentioned above. Last year UNCDF has started to tailor its new strategy to the Pacific context with two complementary programme initiatives that are part of a bigger portfolio approach to implement UNCDF’s strategy “Leaving no one behind in the digital era” in the Pacific region. These two programmes are:

- The Pacific Digital Economy Programme (PDEP) and the
- Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme (PICAP) and both of which implementation will start in 2020.

The country programme coordinator will be responsible for activities, outputs, and outcomes under both PDEP and PICAP programmes in the respective country. This involves working closely with UNCDF partners, from the government, such as the central bank and ministries, the private sector, including but not limited to commercial banks, mobile network operators, fintechs, insurance companies, remittance service providers, etc, as well as development partners, such as other UN Agencies, donor organizations and NGO’s.

Sustainable Development Goals

17. Partnerships For the Goals
Task description

Under the supervision of the UNCDF’s Programme Manager the UN Volunteer will be the key person on the ground to structure the UNCDF engagement in the country and will undertake the following tasks:

- Coordinate the implementation of UNCDF’s programme activities in the country which includes the management of project implementation according to annual work plan, quality assurance and ensuring achievement of outputs.
- Support the development of a pipeline of innovative projects and initiatives using UNCDF’s Technical Assistance facilities and blended finance instruments (e.g. grants, loans and guarantees);
- Build and maintain strategic partnerships, capitalize on business opportunities, and support in resource mobilization for the strategy in the region;
- Support relevant ministries and other entities from the Governments, such as the Ministry of Meteorology, Environment, Information, Disaster Management, Climate Change and Communications, the Ministry of Labour, Commerce & Industries, and the Central Bank to improve the countries policy and regulations to introduce Climate Disaster Risk Financing (CDRF) strategy to better manage economic losses after a disaster;
- Support in partner relationship management with financial service providers like commercial banks, insurance service providers, fintechs, mobile money operators, remittance service providers etc. through financial and technical support from UNCDF;
- Represent UNCDF in all country-level workshops, conferences, and other events where UNCDF is invited;
- Facilitate country visits of regional technical specialists and other colleagues by liaising with partners in organizing meetings;
- Support timely reporting from partners that have received support as may be required;
- Contribute to knowledge management and communication by writing blog posts, focus notes, etc.

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

Robust relationships with Government departments, financial services stakeholders, donors, and other development partners;

- A portfolio and pipeline of high quality and innovative projects and other initiatives to support the development of Tonga’s digital economy, as well as on climate disaster risk financing;
- Increased visibility and recognition by UNCDF’s stakeholders in the country for its expertise and capacity to deliver development outcomes for an inclusive digital economy, as well as on improved financial preparedness for climate change and disaster risks;
- The development of capacity through coaching, mentoring, and formal on-the-job training when working with (including supervising) national staff or (non-) governmental counterparts, 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.

- 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 |

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

Economics, Finance, Accounting, Management or Equivalent

A lower qualification in combination with qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of an M.A. degree

Required experience: 36 months

Experience Remark

Minimum 3 years of working in commercial banks, other financial institutions, regulatory institutions, capital markets, development finance institutions etc

- Solid experience in financial services and/or digital economy sector (e.g. Digital Finance, FinTech, InsurTech, eCommerce, Telco, etc);
- Experience working in development countries is considered an advantage.
- Experience working with development partners, such as UN organizations or other multilateral organizations (e.g. WorldBank, IFC, ADB) is considered an advantage.

Language

- English (Mandatory), Level - Fluent

Area of Expertise

- Finance, accounting and audit Mandatory
- Administration and administrative assistance Mandatory
- Human resources management and development Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement

Economics, Finance, Accounting, Management or Equivalent

Need Driving Licence: No

Competencies & Values

- Accountability
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Building Trust
- Client Orientation
- Commitment and Motivation
- Communication
- Empowering Others
- Ethics and Values
- Integrity
- Judgement and Decision-making
- Knowledge Sharing
- Planning and Organizing
- Professionalism
- Respect for Diversity
- Self-Management
- Technological Awareness
- Working in Teams
Conditions of Service for International Specialist:


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$ 1,682. 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 (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 procedure

* 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.

Application deadline: 14 February 2021

doa.apply_url  https://vmam.unv.org//candidate/show-doa/VE9OUjAwMDAwNw==

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.