UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

ZWER000096—Medical Epidemiologist

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: Zimbabwe
Host Institute: World Health Organization
Volunteer Category: National Specialist
Number of Volunteer: 1
Duration: 3 months
Expected Starting Date: Immediate
Duty Station: Harare [ZWE]
Assignment Place: Family Duty Station
Assignment Place Remark: 

Living Conditions

The name Zimbabwe is derived from the Shona phrase, dzimba dzemabwe, meaning houses of stone or stone building which are symbolized by the Great Zimbabwe ruins near the present-day town of Masvingo. Zimbabwe is landlocked and situated in Southern Africa with a total land area of 390,757 square kilometres. It is bordered by Mozambique to the east, South Africa to the South, Botswana to the west and Zambia to the north and northwest. The country is divided into 10 administrative provinces and 62 districts. The capital city is Harare, and other major cities include Bulawayo, Gweru, Kadoma, Kwekwe, Masvingo, and Mutare. The population of Zimbabwe is estimated to be 13.061 million with 52% being female. The major ethnic groups are Shona and Ndebele.

There are two main seasons: The rainy/green season (November to May) and the dry season (June to October). There are usually many hours of sunshine every day (even during the rainy season), and the
temperature doesn’t feel as hot as it could, due to Zimbabwe’s high altitude and low humidity. Towns in the Eastern Highlands like Nyanga, Vumba and Mutare are usually cooler than the rest of the country. Towns in lower altitude areas like Victoria Falls, Beitbridge, Bulawayo and Kariba are warmer than the country average during the day, and cooler in the evenings. House of sunlight in Zimbabwe don’t change much during the year.

The usual precautions that should be taken in any city in the world apply here too such as being wary of thieves, pickpockets etc. avoiding certain shady areas. Medical Vaccinations should also be taken as directed by medical authorities.

Assignment Details

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<tr>
<th>Assignment Title</th>
<th>Medical Epidemiologist</th>
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Organizational Context & Project Description

The incumbent, working under the supervision of the WHO Representative, and in close collaboration with other cluster leads in the WHO country office, will work as the Epidemiologist under the WHO Health and Emergencies (WHE) cluster. The incumbent will be expected to work very closely with national authorities, from Ministry of Health as well as other Ministries and Government agencies responsible for preventing, detecting and/or responding to emergencies and disasters.

The work of the incumbent will be guided by health emergency policies, strategies and activities as articulated in Zimbabwe National Health and Disaster management policies, strategies and plans, United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), WHO’s 13th General Programme of Work, WHO Country Cooperation Strategy as well as WHO Country office approved biennial programme budget.

The incumbent will be expected to work very closely with WHE officers in neighbouring countries, in the Regional Office, including the sub-regional hubs as well as in Headquarters. The incumbent will be expected to develop excellent working relations with partners from UN system, national and international non-Government Organizations, professional associations, community-based organizations, civil society organizations and other stakeholders.

Sustainable Development Goals 3. Good Health and Well-being

Task description

Under the direct supervision of the World Health Organization Representative and working within the WHO Health Emergency Cluster, the UN Volunteer - Medical Epidemiologist will undertake the following tasks:

- Provide technical advice to the MOHCC IDSR and partners, in the development and implementation of strategies and programmes related to the epidemiological needs for priority diseases, conditions and events. Under the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) and International Health
• Conduct real-time analysis of outbreak intelligence data on infectious diseases, with other team members, for epidemic forecasting and detection, guide national and districts on data quality improvement, use of data for monitoring of trends, ALERT and ACTION thresholds (triggers), as well as methodologies for performing Data Quality Audit (DQA) at district and health facility level.

• Synergize surveillance and response data received from multiple sources including Health Information Systems, vertical reporting programmes, community Based Surveillance and IDSR. Improve on efficiency of data collection, correlation, analysis, interpretation and timely action.

• Provide technical support for the establishment and functionality of Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) and Public Health Management Committee (PHEMC) for potential hazards like Infectious diseases, Zoonotic event, Food safety events and chemical events at the district level as per the national guidance and standards.

• In collaboration with the MOHCC Directorates of Disease Prevention and Control (DPC) and Primary Health care, strengthen the implementation of Community Based Surveillance (CBS) for priority diseases, conditions and events including Points of entry/cross border surveillance, where applicable.

• Provide technical guidance for the establishment, implementation and maintenance of the electronic IDSR (e-IDSR) as well as related descriptive and analytical studies.

• Support the MOHCC in the production of information products and reports including weekly newsletters, quarterly bulletins, annual reports, IHR reports, outbreak situation reports, etc.

• Contribute to capacity building of the surveillance workforce at national and district levels to enhance IDSR/IHR implementation

• Timely reporting to WHO on a variety of epidemiologic data needs on daily/weekly/monthly basis as required.

• In cooperation with MOHCC IDSR Programme, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the planned surveillance activities, as well as alert and response capacities for event detection, verification and response in compliance with IHR 2020.

• Support the conceptualization, design, execution and analysis of communicable and non-communicable disease prevention and control related operational research

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**

- Training reports: in support of the training activities to the MOH the incumbent will be expected to produce training reports to detail the technical support provided during the training and the outcome of the training with the expected impact to improvement or strengthening the MOH capacity.

- Outbreak investigation reports: the investigation report will provide details on the technical support provided to the team and the capacity building impact to the outbreak in question that will be investigated.

- Monthly epidemiological bulletins: MOH in Zimbabwe will need to build the capacity to develop the monthly epidemiological bulletins.

- Annual epidemiological report: this will be part of the support provided to the MOH in epidemiological data management. The capacity building in analysis and dissemination products for decision making will be capture.

- End of deployment report: this will be the final report of the incumbent.

  - 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);

  - 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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<tr>
<td><strong>Education - Additional Comments</strong></td>
<td>Bachelor's degree in Epidemiology, Public Health, Community Health or equivalent</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Desirable</strong>: Master's degree in Epidemiology, Public Health or Community Health.</td>
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Required experience 60 months

Experience Remark

At least five years related experience, at the district or national level, in implementation of public health surveillance, outbreak investigation and response.

Previous experience in implementation of Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) is necessary.

Language
- English (Mandatory), Level - Fluent

Area of Expertise
- Disaster risk reduction Mandatory
- Resource mobilization, partnership and donor coordination Mandatory
- Public health Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement

Need Driving Licence No

Competencies & Values
- Accountability
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Commitment and Motivation
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Ethics and Values
- Integrity
- 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
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**

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.

Application Code: ZWER000096-6679
Application procedure

* Not yet registered in the UNV Talent Pool?

Please first register your profile at [https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/signup](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](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](https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/profile). Then go to 'My Page' at [https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/mypage](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: 30 March 2020

doa.apply_url: [https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/show-doa/WldFUjAwMDA5Ng==](https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/show-doa/WldFUjAwMDA5Ng==)

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.