



UN YOUTH VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

Preamble:

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 Youth 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 Youth 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 Youth Volunteers even more rewarding and productive.

- 1. UNV Assignment Title:** UN Youth Volunteer in Climate Change and Environment
- 2. Type of Assignment:** International UN Youth Volunteer
- 3. Project Title** Technical support for the development of Dominican Republic's National Climate Change Strategies and UN CC projects and activities.
- 4. Duration:** 12 months
- 5. Location, Country:** Dominican Republic
- 6. Expected Starting Date:** February/ March 2016
- 7. Brief Project Description:**

The Dominican Republic has elaborated a preliminary National Climate Change Strategy oriented to address the main issues and challenges related to adaptation and mitigation measures and the key policies on climate change. The DR Government understood that climate change is a development threat that goes beyond the environmental agenda and consequently recently established a new cross-cutting structure, the National Council on Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism.

The National Council has the following functions: 1) Formulate, design, and execute public policies for the prevention and mitigation of the GHG emissions and the adaptation to the effects of climate change; 2) Contribute to the mitigation of climate change effects through sustainable environmental investments; 3) Formulate and approve the national investment strategy of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM); Establish and administer the National Carbon Fund, 4) Become the focal point of the UNCCC and the Kyoto and Nagoya Protocol; among others.

- 8. Host Agency/Host Institute:** UNDP

- 9. Organizational Context:**

The Dominican Republic increased by 9% forest cover, from 32.9% in 2003 to 39.7% in 2011 surpassing the metal Development Goal number 7. Also new millennium the surface of terrestrial protected areas exceeds 25%. It has also achieved the goals of eliminating Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer agreed internationally. The population with access to safe water rose from 66.4% in 1991 to 86.1% in 2007, and the population with access to improved sanitation increased from 61.1% in 1991 to 82.7% in 2007.

However, levels of erosion and land degradation result of weaknesses in integrated watershed management and inappropriate use of agrochemicals by agriculture remain a challenge for sustainable management of land and water sources, while it is threatening the stability of ecosystems and productive activities in coastal areas.

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UN Volunteers is administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



Regarding forest cover, this is still not enough to prevent landslides, soil erosion and flooding caused by natural disasters in the island.

Even today more than 1.3 million Dominicans still lack basic drinking water and sanitation services should improve their quality and in many cases does not meet the requirements of internationally agreed health. As for the situation of national, over 85% of the electric power system is obtained from fossil fuels, and experience significant losses mainly in distribution. Registered consumption of fossil fuels, makes the electricity sector mainly responsible for emissions of greenhouse gases emitted in the country (31%). This situation makes it necessary to rethink future investments in the sector, so as to promote greater energy efficiency and less dependence on non-renewable fuels.

In the area of environment and energy, UNDP works keeping as central paradigm of human development and Goal 7, ensuring environmental sustainability, of the Millennium Development Goals. Within its strategy, UNDP focuses on the following: Contribute to the formulation and implementation of policies, instruments and measures to strengthen environmental sustainability. Contribute to incorporate environmental sustainability criteria in key sectors of national development. Promote access to sustainable energy for all, especially to isolated communities. Support the strengthening of national and local capacities to meet the growing threats of climate change.

10. Type of Assignment Place: Assignment without family

11. Description of tasks:

Under the direct supervision of the National Council Executive Vice-president and UNDP E&E Program Officer, the UNV volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

- To assist in the development of the activities related to the DR Climate Change Strategy.
- To support the National Council in following up the negotiation process with the UNFCCC
- To support the team in the design, implementation, and monitoring of policies and priorities related to climate change in the country
- To support the coordination of UN Agencies Climate Change Projects in the Dominican Republic and the National Climate Change Council.
- To support the development and monitoring of the annual work plans of the National Council
- To support the development of communication and information sharing strategies with key stakeholders, as required.
- To provide an effective monitoring of the National Council on climate change activities, as required.
- To assure that the objectives, results, and goals of the projects under his/her responsibility are met.
- To help prepare, supervise, and revise the Council reports, when required.
- To support the Council in the general activities.

Furthermore, UNV volunteers are encouraged to:

- Strengthening their knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and external publications and taking active part in UNV activities (for instance in events that mark IVD);
- Getting acquainted with and building on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host country;
- Reflecting on the type and quality of voluntary action that they are undertaking, including participation in ongoing reflection activities;
- Contributing articles/write-ups on field experiences and submitting them for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;

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- Assisting with the UNV Buddy Programme for newly-arrived UNV volunteers;
- Promoting or advising local groups in the use of online volunteering, or encouraging relevant local individuals and organizations to use the UNV Online Volunteering service whenever technically possible.

12. Results/Expected Output:

- Effective contribution to DR climate change Strategy
- Substantive contribution in the design of climate change policies.
- Improved Inter-institutional communication.
- Good quality reports, projects, and proposals on climate change developed.
- Effective monitoring of UNDP and UN projects and activities, and support to the coordination among related initiatives.
- A final statement of achievements towards volunteerism for development during your assignment such as specific quantification of mobilized volunteers, activities, capacities.

13. Qualifications/Requirements:

- Degree in the area international cooperation, with some expertise in climate change issues.
- Knowledge of project management, logical framework and results-oriented management.
- Good writing and producing written documents.
- Availability for interdisciplinary work in multicultural environments, with high flexibility and adaptability to changing situations.
- Basic computer tools (word processor, spreadsheet, electronic communication and internet).
- Fluent in English and Spanish.

Soft skills required:

- Motivated to contribute towards peace and development and to serve others;
- Good interpersonal, networking and communication skills;
- Willingness to contribute and work as part of a team;
- Flexible and open to learning and new experiences;
- Respect for diversity and adaptability to other cultures, environments and living conditions

14. Learning expectations

Learning and development are a central part of the UN Youth Volunteer's assignment and take place before, during and after his or her assignment in the field. Ideally, offering diverse opportunities for learning and development aim to strengthen the volunteer's skills and competences, improve the quality of the assignment and keep the volunteer's motivation high.

Learning elements for the UN Youth Volunteer include the development of:

- Professional skills: including specific competencies and reflection on assignment-related abilities; and on-the-job skills such as time management, problem solving, team building; and career preparedness such as interview skills, CV preparation, job searching.
- Inter-personal skills: including communication and listening skills; multi-cultural awareness and cultural competency; and conflict and stress management.
- Volunteering-related skills: including leadership; civic responsibility; and engagement and active participation.



Beyond the learning opportunities provided by UNV, UNDP will support knowledge and capacity development in the technical areas that are relevant to the UN Youth Volunteer's assignment. UNDP will provide, at its expense, UN Youth Volunteers with equal opportunity to participate in training courses and workshops offered to its personnel.

15. Living Conditions:

Quality housing and all goods, services and amenities are available in Santo Domingo. Living Conditions in field mission locations within the Dominican Republic are of an acceptable standard. Normal staff security and personal safety precautions in an urban environment apply (no UN security phase is in effect).

16. Conditions of Service (International CoS_2015)

A 12 - month contract; monthly living allowance (MLA) base intended to cover housing, basic needs and utilities, with a base rate of US\$ 1,243, which is adjusted monthly according to the movement (upwards or downwards) of the Post Adjustment Multiplier (PAM), which is established by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) to ensure that international UN Volunteers have comparable purchasing power at all duty stations despite varying costs of living. The applicable MLA is calculated as follows: $MLA = (MLA \text{ base rate} \times PAM) + \text{MLA base rate}$. See ICSC website <http://icsc.un.org> for more information on the applicable PAM rates.

In addition, UN Volunteers are provided a one-time settling-in-grant (if applicable); a family allowance (if applicable); Well-Being Differential (applicable only in hardship non-family duty stations) life, health, and permanent disability insurance; return airfares (if applicable); resettlement allowance for satisfactory service.

17. HOW TO APPLY

Eligible candidates, i.e. aged between 23 and 29 years throughout the entire duration of their service, i.e. born between 1 July 1987 and 28 February 1993, whose previous work experience in areas relevant for the assignment does not exceed two years, should do the following:

If you are not a candidate in the UNV database, please apply by registering your profile through the following link: http://ereta.unv.org/html/index.php?module=myprofile&ad=YTH15FFSPA_DOM.

The advertisement code **YTH15FFSPA_DOM** will appear automatically under the 'Special Recruitment' tab of your UNV profile and can be changed from there if needed.

If you already are a candidate in the UNV database, please update your profile through <http://MyProfile.unv.org> and select the code of the assignment you wish to apply for from the drop down list in the 'Special Recruitment' tab of 'MyProfile'.

Should you wish to be considered for more than one UN Youth Volunteer assignment, you can express your interest in other Description of Assignments in the 'Additional Remarks' section of your profile by entering the corresponding code. Please note however that your profile will be proposed to the host agency for only one UN Youth Volunteer assignment.

Closing date: You must be fully registered in the UNV database of candidates not later than 23 October 2015 (applications received after that date will not be taken into consideration).