



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 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.

- 1. UNV Assignment Title:** UN Youth Volunteer Emergency and Disaster Risk Reduction
- 2. Type of Assignment:** International UN Youth Volunteer
- 3. Project Title:** Support UNICEF and HCT emergency and DRR preparedness and response
- 4. Duration:** 12 months
- 5. Location, Country:** Quito, Ecuador
- 6. Expected Starting Date:** February / March 2016

7. Brief Project Description:

The project will be an effective contribution to building vulnerability reduction against emergency events, at national, local and community levels in Ecuador, through the development and implementation of emergency preparedness and response (EPR) plans (UNICEF, HCT and UNICEF-related sectors), to develop official EPR mechanisms and protocols, and creating capacity building in the UNICEF Ecuador CO, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and in the country, aimed to train professionals (from national and local governments, professional associations and chambers, practitioners) and workers involved in the humanitarian sector, academia members and community members for achieving efficient and effective emergency preparedness and response (EPR) in a sustainable way.

Ecuador is highly exposed to multiple natural and man-made hazards, from floods to landslides,

volcanic and seismic events and tsunamis. Along with this, the Northern Border area (Administrative "Zone 1": Esmeraldas, Carchi, Sucumbios and Imbabura) is also affected by the spillover of the Colombian situation alike. In light of this, the Government developed a National Decentralized System for Risk Management (NDRMS) which defines key DRM responsibilities to local governments too, as an essential part of the system. Despite significant progress at national policy level, particularly in the education sector, there still remain crucial gaps in other sectors of DRM, and local governments and communities are still lacking the necessary knowledge, capacity and mechanisms to assume their responsibilities in DRR/DRM. This requires the implementation of policies, strategies and tools to minimize the impact of such events and mitigate the vulnerability of the population. In this line, there is a need to develop methodologies for local governments to increase their response capacities, improve resilience and reduce risks through locally developed agendas and their inclusion

United Nations Volunteers

PO Box 260 111 53153 Bonn Germany Telephone +49.228.815-2000 Fax +49.228.815-2001

Email information@unvolunteers.org <http://www.unvolunteers.org>

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



into local policy planning and budgets. This initiative will improve coverage and ensure sustainable resilience among the different DRR/DRM actors. Six DRR Municipal Units and Local Committees of two Northern border provinces (Esmeraldas and Sucumbios) have been selected for this Action. In particular, this project will be a complement to the ongoing activities to consolidate the scaling-up of the Education in Emergency situations (EiE) management and expand and replicate the process experience with a stronger local approach in order to fill the gaps in other key humanitarian/DRR sectors of UNICEF and partners concern, as WASH, Nutrition and Protection, according with the Ecuador CO Country Programme Document and CPAP 2015-2018

This information shows the urgency to promote actions that help to improve, in first instance, the resilience and the reduction of seismic and flood risk, considering the development of internal and institutional capabilities as well as those of the communities.

At the local level, the project aims to strengthen the capacities of 6 municipalities and regional authorities in two provinces of the northern border region to enable and support their elaboration of local agendas for EPR, DRM/DRR in order to prepare and respond to possible emergency situations. This also includes, besides UNICEF staff trainings in CCCs and EPR-related issues, trainings on public advocacy to local officials and communities to promote the inclusion of DRR/DRM activities into local budget plans for the year 2016.

Gender and age approach will be taken into account and different groups and sectors will be addressed with an adapted assistance. It is expected that most of the project component will be aimed at women, specifically because of their prevalence in local communities and their increasing participation in community activities. Statistics of households composition in Ecuador demonstrated that the number of single-parent nuclear families with female heads of household is around 40%. In Ecuador, poverty affects women more than men by a cumulative situation: they have lower participation in the labor market, lower wages, their life is more affected in case of teenage pregnancy and in many cases they must raise their children without the help of their colleagues, husbands or boyfriends or family. In addition, as female heads of households have got 55% of the government assistance for getting new houses, women are the household members most concerned to provide housing or to improve it for family welfare. Therefore, women are considered key players for the outcome of the project related to seismic and climate change-related vulnerability actions at community level. Even more, women will be also key actors from a sustainability perspective, thinking on the SGR police to increase government assistance for EPR and DRR activities improvement.

8. Host Agency/Host Institute: UNICEF Ecuador

9. Organizational Context:

UNICEF is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.

UNICEF is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and strives to establish children's rights as enduring ethical principles and international standards of behaviour towards children.

UNICEF insists that the survival, protection and development of children are universal development imperatives that are integral to human progress.

UNICEF mobilizes political will and material resources to help countries, particularly developing countries, ensure a "first call for children" and to build their capacity to form appropriate policies and deliver services for children and their families.

UNICEF is committed to ensuring special protection for the most disadvantaged children - victims of war, disasters, extreme poverty, all forms of violence and exploitation and those with disabilities.

UNICEF responds in emergencies to protect the rights of children. In coordination with United Nations partners and humanitarian agencies, UNICEF makes its unique facilities for rapid response available to its partners to relieve the suffering of children and those who provide their care.

United Nations Volunteers

PO Box 260 111 53153 Bonn Germany Telephone +49.228.815-2000 Fax +49.228.815-2001

Email information@unvolunteers.org <http://www.unvolunteers.org>

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



UNICEF is non-partisan and its cooperation is free of discrimination. In everything it does, the most disadvantaged children and the countries in greatest need have priority.

UNICEF aims, through its country programmes, to promote the equal rights of women and girls and to support their full participation in the political, social, and economic development of their communities.

UNICEF works with all its partners towards the attainment of the sustainable human development goals adopted by the world community and the realization of the vision of peace and social progress enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations

UNICEF Ecuador has 4 areas: Representation, Programme, Communications, Fundraising and Communications. All these areas work together to fulfill the mandate given to UNICEF by the countries in a relevant, efficient and effective manner. Its current cooperation programme is for the period 2015-2018.

10. Type of Assignment Place: Assignment without family

11. Description of tasks:

Under the supervision of the National Coordinator for Disaster Risk Reduction the UN Youth Volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

- Contributes to assist particularly subjects in the Ecuador CO, the HCT and in the field as well, especially working at community level in workshops for EPR/DRR subjects.
- Assist the Emergency Focal Point in some administrative tasks including arranging of meetings, organizing trainings and follow up of liquidation and narrative reports with partners.
- Assist the Emergency Focal Point in preparation of office and donor reports.
- Participates with the Emergency Focal Point in technical aspects to implementing partners particularly in the field of child and adolescent organising and participation.
- Support the HCT national coordinator with regular monitoring of UNICEF projects being implemented to ensure timely implementation according to schedules execution of each one.
- Manage physical and digital system correspondence as needed
- Support in the training of Ecuador Country Office staff, national leaders in emergencies issues in order to replicate trainings and sensitization activities in their own districts;
- Support in the activities with academy and civil society to promote local initiative for supporting EPR/DRR
- Support in the technical assistance to Government for improving the integration of volunteering in DRR area
- Support in the initiatives for improving south-south and regional cooperation in the EPR/DRR area initiatives

Furthermore, the UN Youth Volunteer is encouraged to:

- Strengthen the knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and external publications and taking active part in UNV events.
- Be acquainted with and build on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the 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 volunteering experiences and submit them to the team at UNVHQs for consideration (beyond other communications responsibilities), and input to the UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
- Assist with the UNV Buddy Programme for newly-arrived UN Youth 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.

United Nations Volunteers

PO Box 260 111 53153 Bonn Germany Telephone +49.228.815-2000 Fax +49.228.815-2001

Email information@unvolunteers.org <http://www.unvolunteers.org>

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



12. Results/Expected Output:

- The integration of volunteerism into a DRR strategy is recognized and enhanced.
- Together with the Ecuador CO Emergency Focal Point National and the national/local counterparts, develop strategies to work at community level on EPR/DRR with CSOs, VIOs, academy among others stakeholders.
- Identifying at least one initiative of regional and/or south-south cooperation in EPR/DRR's area
- Supported a photographs slideshow with all the activities related to the EPR/DRR process in Ecuador.
- A final statement of achievements towards volunteerism for development during the assignment, such as reporting on the number of volunteers mobilized, activities participated in and capacities developed.

13. Qualifications/Requirements:

- Up to 2 years of relevant work experience including internship and practicum; experience in working under pressure, working in different aspects at the same time.
- Demonstrated interest and/or experience in Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) and/or Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) or technical subject on UNICEF core sectors of business (Protection, Education, Health and Nutrition, WASH...).
- 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;
- Fluency in spoken and written Spanish is required, and knowledge of English is an asset;
- Previous experience as a volunteer and/or experience of another culture, (i.e. studies, volunteer work, internship) would be highly regarded;
- Computer skills (i.e. Word, Excel, PowerPoint, social media, and others).

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, UNICEF will support knowledge and capacity development in the technical areas that are relevant to the UN Youth Volunteer's assignment. UNICEF 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:

Quito, the capital of Ecuador, has a population of near two million people. Sitting high in the Andean mountains, its climate alternates between the rainy season and the dry season. It is often called the city of "perpetual spring." Although its elevation is 2800 meter, it receives no snow due to its location on the equator. Quito has an international airport as well as extensive bus transportation to all parts of the country. Good medical and dental cares are available. The country is noted for its geographic diversity, progressing from the Galápagos Islands in the east, to the coastal plain (The Costa Region) and inter-Andean central highlands (The Sierra Region) and finally to the rolling eastern jungles (The Oriente Region).

16. Conditions of Service

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: $MLA = (MLA \text{ base rate} \times PAM) + MLA \text{ base rate}$. 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); Well-Being Differential (applicable only in hardship non-family duty stations); a 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_DRR.

The advertisement code **YTH15FFSPA_DRR** 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).