



## 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 Poverty reduction (Coordination Unit)
2. **Type of Assignment:** International UN Youth Volunteer
3. **Project Title:** UNDP Honduras – Coordination Unit
4. **Duration:** 12 months
5. **Location, Country:** Tegucigalpa – Honduras
6. **Expected Starting Date:** February/ March 2016
7. **Brief Project Description:** One of the main outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference was the agreement by member States to launch a process to develop a set of *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs), which will build upon the Millennium Development Goals and converge with the post 2015 development agenda.

Under this framework, new goals will be established and many of them will be focused on building resilient societies able to enhance inclusive development models by eradicating poverty in all its forms, fostering sustainable economic growth and promoting peaceful societies.

Given the peculiarities of the Honduran context, a medium – low income Country, occupying the second lowest HDI index of the Latin American region (0,617) and facing several development and human rights challenges with more than two thirds of the population living in conditions of extreme poverty, there is a huge need, inside the Honduran United Nations System (UNS), of integrating the new recommendations of the SDGs by designing and implementing new interventions models that integrate a human rights protection, as well as a “multi-dimensional” poverty approach as a base for future development actions.

In this regard, the Coordination office of the UNS of Honduras is aiming to dedicate more efforts in supporting *Agencies and Programs of the United Nations* in integrating these approaches within their model of interventions and measuring their contribution to the achievement of the SDGs through the application of the indicators set established by the *United Nations Statistical Commission*.

### United Nations Volunteers

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



**8. Host Agency/Host Institute: UNDP/UN Resident Coordination Office**

- 9. Organizational Context:** UNDP Honduras is immersed in a deep process of internal reconfiguration. As a result of this process, it is expected to develop new model of interventions able to integrate new approaches when it comes to poverty reduction and human rights protection taking into account the recommendations of the Post 2015 Agenda and the new implementation of SDGs.

With regards to the poverty area, UNDP Honduras aims to increase productivity and incorporate issues such as employability and competitiveness, the development of the rural sector as a way to increase income generation for the poorest part of the population and capacity building in the development of managerial skills.

Specifically UNDP supports policies, programs and projects that contribute to rural community economic development; it provides advices, technical assistance and management training to micro, small and medium enterprise.

**10. Type of Assignment Place: Assignment without family**

**11. Description of tasks:**

Under the direct supervision of the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations of Honduras, the UN Volunteer will perform the following tasks:

- In conjunction with UNDP experts, contribute to the development of a “Multi – dimensional poverty” approach to be used in future United Nations interventions.
- Assist Agencies and Programs of the UN System in Honduras in integrating a “multi – dimensional poverty” approach in the implementation of their projects/initiatives.
- Support monitoring work to assess the impact of the efforts dedicated to the eradication of poverty of the SUN of Honduras by implementing the set of indicators established by the United Nations Statistical Commission to measure the achievements of the SDGs.
- Assist in follow-up the advances of the POST 2015 Agenda and its implementation within the SUN.
- Assist in the preparation of project proposals related to poverty reduction and supporting the SUN of Honduras in designing project proposals that integrate the “multi – dimensional poverty” approach.
- Support UN Agencies in the design of new Joint Programmes initiatives, ensuring that new Joint Programmes properly cross cut “multi – dimensional poverty” approach within their framework of activities.
- Assist unit in the definition of the new Honduras UNDAF, by ensuring a proper appropriation within UN intervention of the “multi – dimensional poverty” approach.
- Support the RC and UNCT in the conduction of UNCT monthly meetings.
- Assist UNV in promoting the inclusion of volunteerism for development within the interagency work.
- Assist the UNCT in the implementation of the UN Reform Agenda and the Resident Coordinator System.
- Follow-up of “inter agential” working group’s activities
- Support in the timely production and delivery of reports on the contribution of the UN System to poverty eradication
- Support the Coordination Unit in establishing alliances and partnerships with organization (public, NGOs, private) interested in eradicating poverty in Honduras.



- Collect information related to poverty and development from a variety of sources and data to provide up to date information.
- Support the UNV Program of Honduras in developing poverty reduction related initiatives and campaigns.

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.

## 12. Results/Expected Output:

- Contributed to the integration of a “Multi- Dimensional Poverty” approach within United Nations interventions
- Timely delivered high quality reports on the status of the eradication of poverty in Honduras.
- Successfully applied the recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission on the use of indicator to measures the achievement of the SDGs.
- Delivered analytical and statistical reports on the contribution of the SNU of Honduras with regards to the achievement of the SDGs.
- 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:

- Bachelor of Social Science or Economics
- A Master in development related studies will be an asset
- Previous working experience in the field of poverty eradication
- Previous experience in project management.
- A strong profile in statistic will be highly appreciated
- Strong computer skills (apart from Office, a good knowledge of Statistical programs such as R or STATA would be highly considered)
- Fluency in Spanish and English
- Knowledge of the POST 2015 Agenda and SDGs framework will be highly appreciated
- Motivated to contribute towards peace and development and to serve others
- Excellent interpersonal, networking and communication skills
- Flexible and open to learning and new experiences
- Respect for diversity and adaptability to other cultures, environments and living conditions
- Previous experience as a volunteer and/or experience of another culture, (i.e. studies, volunteer work, internship) would be highly regarded



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

Honduras is a tropical country in the middle of Central America, bordered to the north with to Caribbean Sea, to the south with El Salvador, to the west with Guatemala and to the East with Nicaragua. Climate varies significantly depending on altitude. Mid-altitude temperatures are fairly moderate with regular sunshine making temperatures climb from 15-20° C (59-68° F) to up around 28°C (low 82° F) during the middle of the day. Rainfall is quite low to moderate with a patchy wet season from May to October. Low-land and coastal regions experience less of a temperature range with warmer nights and slightly less rainfall.

The threat against UN system staff members from political activity is considered low. The threat from common criminal elements is considered highly critical in certain areas of the country. Violent crime is a serious and growing problem, especially in certain zones of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula, and to a less degree throughout the country. Pickpockets and purse-snatchers are prevalent in major cities at tourist sites, especially in parts of Comayagua and the central market surroundings of Tegucigalpa. Visits to these areas should be avoided, especially after dark. Highway, road and street robberies, carjacking and assaults of pedestrians by armed thieves are still high. Roadblocks and demonstrations on the main highways and border countries customs offices have decreased. In the past, demonstrations have ended in street violence, requiring intervention by national police for which precaution is requested. Threats against the public transportation system by gangs have been reported in San Pedro Sula, supposedly related to Organized Crime, for which caution should be maintained at all times on the street.

Visitors are specially advised to protect against mosquitoes bites in affected areas, due to insect – borne diseases such as Malaria and Dengue Fever (both serious, potentially fatal diseases). In general mosquitoes in Honduras are most bothersome from dusk to dawn, especially in the countryside. Other infectious diseases are common such as Diarrhea, Amoebic and food. Some specific health cares must be considered especially hygienic practices avoid eating in places where cleaning is not ensured and pay special attention to the hygiene of fruits and vegetables, wash fruits and vegetables carefully if you eat them raw or peel them before eating.



## 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:  $MLA = (MLA \text{ base rate} \times PAM) + \text{MLA base rate}$ . 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); 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\\_HON](http://ereta.unv.org/html/index.php?module=myprofile&ad=YTH15FFSPA_HON). The advertisement code **YTH15FFSPA\_HON** 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).