

UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

ZMBR000230--Public Health Officer

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	Zambia
Host Institute	World Health Organization
Volunteer Category	International Specialist
Number of Volunteer	1
Duration	12 months
Expected Starting Date	01-10-2021
Duty Station	Lusaka [ZMB]
Assignment Place	Family Duty Station
Assignment Place Remark	

Living Conditions

Lusaka became the capital city of Zambia in May 1935. Lusaka's central position in Zambia and its extremely pleasant climate were two of the main reasons for its selection as the capital. It is a metropolis, which provides a home to about two and half million (2.5M) inhabitants of many different nationalities. It has grown to become the seat of the Government of the Republic of Zambia and as such all diplomatic missions, international organisations, industrial and commercial entities have set base. Its political, social, economic and cultural significance has also increased through the years. Lusaka has all amenities in place that would make a visitor stay comfortable. For more info, visit: <http://www.zambiatourism.com>.

Assignment Details

Assignment Title	Public Health Officer
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Organizational Context & Project Description

Zambia is experiencing a double burden of increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases and persisting communicable diseases. The country has continued to report outbreaks of communicable diseases over the past years, including cholera, measles, circulating Vaccine Derived Poliomyelitis type 2 (cVDP2), typhoid fever and anthrax. Since 1977 when the first outbreak was documented, Zambia has experienced 29 cholera outbreaks. Four outbreaks involving more than 10,000 cases occurred in 1991, 1992, 1999 and 2004. Generally, most cases are recorded in the peri-urban areas of Lusaka and Copperbelt Provinces and fishing camps. The most recent major outbreak that occurred from October 2017 to June 2018 resulted in 5,935 reported cases and 114 deaths (CFR 1.9%). About 92% of these cases occurred in Lusaka District within the capital city.

On 18th March 2020, Zambia reported its first two cases of COVID-19 following global spread of the disease. The outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30th January 2020 and a Pandemic on 11th March 2020.

By 24th March 2021, Zambia had reported 86,993 confirmed cases and 1,187 deaths.

Zambia also faces threats from public health events occurring in neighboring countries as well as the rest of the globe. The country was classified as being at very high risk of importation of Ebola virus from the 10th outbreak in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo that was reported on 2nd August 2018. In 2018 – 2019, the country also faced a public health threat from a listeriosis outbreak in South Africa. In 2019, the country reported two events of cVDP2 and an outbreak of measles that were associated with transmissions in neighboring countries.

The country hosts refugees from neighboring countries in camps in Northern, Luapula and North Western Provinces. Zambia's porous borders also experience a huge movement of travellers in and out of the country for trade, education and social-cultural reasons. The country has 16 designated Points of Entry (PoEs) which are not fully compliant with the International Health Regulations (2005).

Zambia adopted the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) strategy in 2001 and rolled it out in stages. The country adapted the 2nd strategy in 2012 and rolled it out. However, only indicator-based surveillance was implemented, with inadequate penetrance to health facilities. The sensitivity of the surveillance system is therefore still low, without Events Based Surveillance (EBS) and Community Based Surveillance. Zambia is in the process of rolling out the revised 3rd edition IDSR strategy country-wide with incorporation of EBS, CBS and use of technology for surveillance. Capacities for preparedness and emergency response are also undergoing development in line with the IHR (2005), Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) and the Sendai Framework of Disaster Risk Reduction.

As lead agency in health, WHO works closely with the Ministry of Health, other UN agencies and partners to improve the health outcomes for the people of Zambia. In its 2017 – 2021 Country Cooperation Strategy, WHO Zambia Country Office identified the following five broad strategic agendas of focus:

Achieving and sustaining Universal Health Coverage (UHC) through a revitalized Primary Health Care (PHC) approach and sustainable service delivery through strengthening of health systems;

Accelerating achievement of the unfinished MDGs and SDGs relating to reduction of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Mortality; and strengthening sexual and reproductive health;

Reducing further the burden of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, neglected tropical diseases, hepatitis, and other communicable diseases;

Strengthening and re-orienting health and health-related systems to address the prevention and control of NCDs, including disabilities, injuries and mental health disorders, and the underlying social determinants; and

Strengthening preparedness, integrated disease surveillance and effective response to public health events/emergencies and the effective management of health-related aspects of humanitarian disasters in order to improve health security.

Drawing from lessons learnt during the 2014-2015 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, Member States at the sixty-ninth World Health Assembly in May 2016 approved establishment of the WHO Health Emergencies (WHE) program at all the three levels of the organization. The mission of the Programme is to build the capacity of Member States to manage health emergency risks and, when national capacities are overwhelmed, to lead and coordinate the international health response to contain outbreaks and to provide effective relief and recovery to affected populations. Within the WHO's 13 General Programme of Work, the WHE Program specifically supports countries to:

Strengthen countries' health emergency preparedness and develop national plans to address critical capacity gaps;

Develop strategies and capacities to prevent and control high-threat infectious hazards; and

Detect and rapidly respond to health emergencies

In Zambia, the WHE cluster addresses the realization of the broad agenda number 5 of the WHO Country Cooperation Strategy through supporting actions to prevent, prepare for, detect, rapidly respond to, and recover from outbreaks and emergencies whether caused by conflict, disease outbreak or disasters.

Sustainable Development Goals

3. Good Health and Well-being

Task description

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Under the supervision of the WHO Country Representative, the UN Volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

Support to prevention, preparedness, early detection, response and recovery from COVID-19 outbreak;

Contribute to all aspects of prevention, preparedness, early detection, response and recovery from acute public health events;
Support to implementation of surveillance through the components of Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) that include Event-Based Surveillance (EBS) Indicator-based surveillance (IBS), Community Based Surveillance and Sentinel Surveillance;

To support verification, risk assessment, monitoring and information-sharing on diseases, conditions and events that may constitute a public health emergency of international concern;

When required, participate in Field Epidemiology activities, including rapid deployment to areas affected by emergencies and outbreaks to provide technical assistance to the local or national authorities and key partners and backstop field epidemiology teams in the gathering and analysis of information for public health action using state-of-the-art technologies and/or the identification and design of suitable surveillance systems in emergencies and implement the standardized WHO Early Warning Alert and Response System (EWARS) where necessary;

Perform tasks such as data entry, validation and analyses to assist in the formulation of briefing documents and other informational materials;

Support development of communication products such as situation reports, bulletins, alerts, and other ad-hoc reports using standard tools and templates, and achieve results based on a multi-disciplinary and cross-cutting approach;

Participate in activities development and implementation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), guidelines, tools and manuals;

Support capacity building and training of colleagues within WHO, partners and GRZ Ministries, Departments and Agencies;

Perform other related responsibilities as assigned, including replacing and backstopping for others as required.

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

Supported WHO in prevention, preparedness, early detection, response and recovery from COVID-19 outbreak;

Contributed to all aspects of prevention, preparedness, early detection, response and recovery from acute public health events;

Supported the implementation of surveillance through the components of IDSR that include EBS Indicator-based surveillance, Community Based Surveillance and Sentinel Surveillance;

Supported the verification, risk assessment, monitoring and information-sharing on diseases, conditions and events that may constitute a public health emergency of international concern;

Participate in Field Epidemiology activities;

Performed data entry, validation and analyses tasks and supported the formulation of briefing documents and other informational materials;

Supported the development of communication products and ad hoc reports;

Participated in the implementation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), guidelines, tools and manuals;

Supported capacity building and training of colleagues within WHO, partners and GRZ Ministries, Departments and Agencies;

- 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

Education - Additional Comments

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Master's degree or equivalent in medicine, pharmacy, veterinary science, midwifery, nursing, medical biology or a related medical discipline; Advanced degree in epidemiology, public health, international health; In-service training in field epidemiology such as field epidemiology (and laboratory).

Required experience 36 months

Experience Remark

At least three years' experience with successful track record in epidemiology, public health surveillance, control of outbreaks, information management, quantitative methods.

Desirable:

Field experience in epidemics or public health emergencies;

Experience in designing and implementing large databases, managing complex flows of information, implementation and interpretation of quantitative research activities;

Experience in responding to complex humanitarian crises;

Experience in WHO or UN, UN an asset.

Skills:

Demonstrated expertise in field epidemiology, quantitative methods, surveillance in the area of emerging/re-emerging diseases in a multi-disciplinary and cross-cutting environment, as well as of database management. Proven ability to link routine health information and epidemiology to project planning, service delivery and/or policy-decision making. Excellent organizational and analytical skills combined with ability to multi-task and produce accurate results under pressure. Excellent interpersonal skills complemented with ability to synthesize information in a clear and concise manner. Tact, diplomacy and courtesy.

Language

- English (Mandatory) , Level - Fluent
- AND - French (Optional) , Level - Working Knowledge

Area of Expertise

- Public health Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement

Need Driving Licence No

Competencies & Values

- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Client Orientation
- Commitment and Motivation
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Empowering Others
- Ethics and Values
- Integrity
- Judgement and Decision-making
- Knowledge Sharing
- 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](#)

Conditions of Service for International Specialist:

Note on novel coronavirus – COVID-19.

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>.

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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 Entity](#))

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 Code

ZMBR000230-9532

Application procedure

Prerequisites

This assignment is funded by JICA, therefore only former Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JICA-JOCV) who could get recommendation by JICA-JOCV Secretariat are eligible to apply. Please check your application eligibility here: [JICA website](#).

This is a UN Volunteer assignment and eligible candidates must be 25 years of age or older.

Selection process

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The selection will be done by the UN Host Entity at the level of the country of assignment, via competency-based interviews held via skype or telephone.

How to apply

Please apply via the link below. You can then either log in if you already have an account or register via '[Candidate Signup](#)'.

You may apply to a maximum of three assignments per advertisement and indicate your order of preference in the 'Additional Remarks' section of your profile.

Application deadline: 20 June 2021

doa.apply_url

<https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/show-doa/Wk1CUjAwMDIzMA==>

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.