



UN 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:** Child Protection Officer
- 2. Type of Assignment:** International UN Volunteer
- 3. Project Title:** Restoration of Child Protection Systems & Services in the Northern & Eastern Provinces
- 4. Duration:** 12 months
- 5. Location, Country:** Vavuniya upto End December 2012. Thereafter Killinochchi
- 6. Expected Starting Date:** November 2012

7. Brief Project Description: The Mid Term Review of the Country Programme Action Plan 2008-2012 conducted in 2010 reaffirmed the commitment of the child protection programme to move into a system building approach. The end of the conflict has allowed the programme to dedicate more time and resources to build child protection systems including engaging with government partners in the area of social protection. The areas involved are family tracing and reunification, social transfers to vulnerable families, community-based child protection, social work, case management and awareness raising programmes. Documentation, organizational learning, research and networking are an essential element in promoting policy and system changes in Sri Lanka. All these elements will be part of this project that aims at filling the current gaps and meeting the needs of the programme.

The purpose of this project will be to support the recovery of protection systems and services for vulnerable and marginalized children and their families, and utilize the experience for evidence based advocacy to influence governmental policy and practice change. The focus will be on technical and managerial support to the governmental partners and the analysis of existing interventions particularly in relation to the impact, gender and age parameters. Data analysis and documentation of best practices and lessons learnt will be achieved through monitoring, field visits, which will contribute to generating knowledge, informing programme implementation and influencing policies and practices.

8. Host Agency/Host Institute: UNICEF

9. Organizational Context: During 2008-2012, the Country Programme is expected to contribute to achievement of the following expected key results : (1) children's rights are reflected by national legislation according to commitments made under United Nations conventions and treaties; (2) children's and women's access to social and legal justice is improved through preventive and protective mechanisms; (3) children are better protected from under-age recruitment and other grave child rights violations related to

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inspiration in action

conflict; (4) the capacity of national institutions, at the central and local levels, to collect, update, analyse and manage appropriate socioeconomic data is strengthened, and data are effectively utilized to inform sector interventions; and (5) effective strategies to advance peaceful coexistence, social cohesion and reconciliation are built into all UNICEF programmes.

The child protection program aims to strengthen and update the focus on child protection in the Government's National Plan of Action for Children (2008 -2012), which highlights the gap between domestic law and Sri Lanka's legal obligations due to its ratification of the CRC and its Optional Protocols. The program promotes the principles of the Millennium Declaration to protect the human rights of all persons and work towards an improved environment for sustainable peace anchored in social justice and reconciliation. In 2011 and 2012, Child Protection will focus on achieving the following specific results: National legislation and protection policies and practices reflect full commitment to children's rights and are consistent with international standards for the welfare and protection of children; and restored and strengthened legal and social protection systems for children are in place in 11 districts with special focus on service provision to disadvantaged communities.

The key partner UNICEF supports to provide leadership on child protection is the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Empowerment (MCDWE) with its affiliated bodies of the National Child Protection Authority (NCPA) and the Department of Probation and Child Care Services (DPCCS). Strong partnerships are also established with the Ministries of Social Welfare, Justice, Education, Economic Development and Youth Affairs, to achieve the full set of results foreseen in the program period. UNICEF also supports UNHCR as the overall cluster lead for protection by coordinating and providing leadership on child protection in emergencies. To manage the scope of its targeted results, UNICEF links technically and operationally, in consultation with GOSL and UN partners including UNFPA, UNDP, and ILO, and a broad range of NGOs.

The UNV will be dealing with most of the above-mentioned partners mostly through/with the child protection specialist or officer in charge of the project and partnership, and in some instances directly, with the aim of providing technical support and analysing data gathered through the projects and generating knowledge.

10. Type of Assignment Place: Assignment without family

11. Description of tasks:

Under the direct supervision of Chief of Northern Province Field Office, the UNV volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

1. Programme technical support

- Provide technical support to the different partners and teams with regard family tracing and reunification, social transfers to vulnerable families, community-based child protection, social work, case management, community mobilisation and awareness raising

2. Project monitoring, documentation and reporting

- Conduct regular field visits with the purpose of monitoring the programme interventions, documenting best practices, lessons learnt and issues to be addressed for an improved provision of protection services to children.
- Analyse collected data and information and prepare progress reports, with a specific focus on how programmes are differently reaching children with regard to gender, age and vulnerability situation
- Ensure accuracy and relevance of data collection
- Organize and document project review meetings

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3. Communication and Networking

- Ensure the effective communication and networking developed and maintained through partnership and collaboration
- Collaborate with Operations staff to implement internal controls systems and resolve day-to-day issues or discrepancies in financial or supply management
- Team with local Government counterparts to exchange information on Child Protection project implementation and status as well as movement and distribution of supplies
- Coordinate with members of the development community, including NGOs, UN and bilateral agencies in the exchange of information relating to Child Protection sector

Furthermore, UN Volunteers are encouraged 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 IVD);
- Be acquainted with and build on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host 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 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.

12. Results/Expected Output:

- Technical guidance to improve interventions related to family tracing and reunification, social transfers to vulnerable families, community-based child protection, social work, case management, community mobilisation and awareness raising
- Technical inputs for the development of a holistic strategy to support vulnerable families are developed and relevant programmes intervention are designed and rolled out in close collaboration with relevant project specialist/officer
- Regular monitoring of projects in the field (at least one visit per month) - visits with key focus on the beneficiary perspective
- Appropriate monitoring system to measure project interventions (self-employment grants, cash grants, case management, family reunification etc.) is in place, including data collection aspects disaggregated by age and gender parameters in particular
- Knowledge sharing with partners and colleagues is systematised
- Effective communication and networking achieved through partnership and collaboration
- 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:

1. Education

University degree in the social sciences, social work, law or child development.

2. Work Experience

Minimum of two years of relevant professional work experience.
International work experience.

3. Language Proficiency

Fluency in English and a second UN language

4. Competency Profile

- i) Core Values: Commitment, Diversity and Inclusion, Integrity
- ii) Core Competencies: Communication, Working with People, Drive for Results
- iii) Functional Competencies: Technical knowledge, Formulating Strategies and Concepts, Analyzing, Applying Technical Expertise, Learning and Researching, Planning and Organizing.

14. Living Conditions:

Post is based in the Northern Province with frequent travel in the field under difficult circumstances. The Northern Province duty station is non-family.

Vavuniya is situated in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. It has an area of 1,967 square kilometres. Vavuniya District's population was 164,852 in 2011. The population of the district is mostly Sri Lankan Tamil.

Killinochchi is the main town of Killinochchi District in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. It is situated at the A9 road some 100 km south-east of Jaffna. Most people living in Killinochchi are Sri Lankan Tamils.

15. Conditions of Service.

A 12 - month contract; monthly volunteer living allowance (VLA) intended to cover housing, basic needs and utilities, equivalent to US\$ 1,885 for single person, US\$ 2,135 for person with one dependent or US\$ 2,335 for person with two or more dependents; settling-in-grant (if applicable); life, health, and permanent disability insurance; return airfares (if applicable); resettlement allowance for satisfactory service.

Description of Assignment prepared by the UNV Field Unit/UN Agency:

Caroline Bakker, Chief, Child Protection
UNICEF, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Date: 26 January 2012

Description of Assignment approved by UNDP/RR/CD or UNV Field Unit:

Natal Donnalioia
Programme Officer
UNV
Sri Lanka

Sharmalee Jayasinghe
Programme Associate
UNV
Sri Lanka

Date: 26 January 2012

Date: 2 October 2012

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