



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, Children with disabilities**
- For promoting the rights of children with disabilities and enhancing basic service delivery -
- 2. Type of Assignment:** **International UN Volunteer**
- 3. Project Title:** **Child Protection, Social services for children with disabilities**
- 4. Duration:** **24 months**
- 5. Location, Country:** **Dushanbe, Tajikistan**
- 6. Expected Starting Date:** **ASAP**
- 7. Brief Project Description:**

In line with the equity agenda, in 2012-2013, the child protection program focuses on the most vulnerable children: children without parental care (especially those below 3 years of age), children with disabilities, children affected by violence and children in conflict with the law. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) will focus on strengthening sector reform for social protection and justice for these most vulnerable groups of children through supporting the government in three main ways: 1) policy reform; 2) service delivery; 3) capacity building. The institutional and human capacity of the relevant sectors are strengthened for stronger coordination, adoption of common strategies, data collection and analysis, development of a continuum of integrated services and effective communication for social change. The program is implemented in partnership with relevant government counterparts at the national and district level, donors and other key players under the coordination of the National Commission on Child Rights (NCCR). Support is provided to boost the institutional and human capacity of the NCCR. Service delivery is strengthened through decentralised implementation in the priority districts.

In the area of the Child Care System Reform, UNICEF supports the Government in developing a national policy framework and in planning for its implementation, with a focus on prevention of placement of children under 3 in institutions, and promotion of community based rehabilitation services for children with disabilities. Priority is given to building capacity of child protection/social protection staff in data collection, coordination, detection, assessment, referral, and follow up of placement of children. Capacity building focuses on emphasising early intervention services for prevention of institutionalisation whenever possible and ensuring that children stay in institutions for the shortest possible time if this is the only option. Guidelines are developed and trainings provided to facilitate development of a monitoring system and to promote proactive collaboration in case management among social protection, health, education and child protection bodies in the selected priority districts.

United Nations Volunteers

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



As part of a joint UN programme, UNICEF supported the Ombudsman's Office to establish a child rights department for better monitoring of the rights of children in Tajikistan, especially children in institutions, as well as conduct sensitive research for informed policy development. UNICEF's Child Protection Programme continues to encourage stronger coordination and adoption of common strategies among key national and international partners especially with the European Union (EU), Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ: "Society for International Cooperation" in German), and Soros Foundation. Furthermore, UNICEF advocates for inclusion of children's issues in all relevant rule of law initiatives.

8. Host Agency/Host Institute: UNICEF Tajikistan Country Office

9. Organizational Context:

UNICEF aims to contribute to protecting children's rights to survival, development, protection and participation, with a particular emphasis on the most vulnerable. The current UNICEF Tajikistan Country Programme spans across 2010-2015 and consists of four programme components and a fifth component focused on support. The four programme components are Child Survival and Development, Basic Education and Gender Equality, Child Protection, and Policy and Planning. The latter programme also supports the three sectoral programmes and consists of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), Social and Economic Policy, and Communication and Partnerships.

The UNV will be working with the UNICEF Child Protection Section which is responsible for implementing the Child Care System Reform Project among others, working in close cooperation with the Health, Education, Communication, Social Policy and the Monitoring and Evaluation sections within UNICEF..

To implement planned activities under Child Protection Program, especially for the Child Care Reform Project, UNICEF Tajikistan works primarily with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan and its affiliated institutions, such as the Scientific Research Centre for Social Protection, Innovation Centre, Agency for Social Protection, and others. The programme also collaborates with the district level partners. Development partners such as UN Agencies (UNDP, UNWomen, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs(UNDESA), etc) and GIZ, EU, and others are also involved. UNICEF also collaborates with international NGOs such as the Handicap International and Operation Mercy, as well as local NGOs such as the Association of Parents with Children with Disabilities (CWD). Qualified specialists will also be hired to undertake actual assignments and will be supervised by the Chief of Child Protection Section. The UNV will closely work with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP), development partners and UNICEF staff as well as the other partners as needed in carrying out the required tasks.

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 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.

10. Type of Assignment Place: Assignment with family

11. Description of tasks:

Under the direct supervision of the Chief of Child Protection, UNV will undertake the following tasks:

Enhance UNICEF work related to child care reform and especially to children with disabilities by:

- Disseminating information about and carrying out awareness raising campaign related to UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) using readily available tools such as Its about ability;



- Overseeing development of informational materials related to rights of CWD working in collaboration with MLSP, local NGOs, and Association of Parents with CWD;
- Supporting the Child Protection Section in drafting backgrounds documents, good practices and other documents needed in preparation of the 4th Child Protection Forum on Disabilities;
- Supporting enhanced delivery and use of basic services for CWD at the local/district level in collaboration with the priority districts, and relevant NGOs within the Community Based Rehabilitation Framework;
- Supporting work with the Association of Parents with Children with Disabilities and establishment of new ones at the jamoat level to promote their voluntary participation in rehabilitation of CWD and involvement in local decision-making at the priority district;
- Undertaking monitoring visits to the districts and writing monitoring reports and human interest stories;
- Providing inputs into the work related to Ombudsman's Office as it relates to protection of the rights of children especially CWD.

Furthermore, in accordance with UNV's policy & programmes and UNV regional Programme Strategy, UNV volunteers are encouraged to:

- Work closely with UNV Field Unit (FU), in order to contribute to development of youth policy and promotion of volunteerism of GoRT;
- 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 (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;
- Work with UNV FU for contributing to the UNV Country Team's knowledge management through organising workshops on successful articles writing;
- Collaborate with UNV FU to organize events and formulate small projects for promoting volunteerism and youth participation into projects and/or activities;
- Promote or advise national civil societies 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:

Upon completion of the assignment, the UN Volunteer will demonstrate that:

- Information about UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) is disseminated and awareness raised for its ratification and implementation;
- Informational materials related to rights of CWD are developed, printed, disseminated;
- Backgrounds documents, good practices and other documents needed in preparation of the 4th Child Protection Forum on Disabilities are drafted;
- Delivery and use of **basic services** for CWD at the local/district level are enhanced in collaboration with the priority districts, and other relevant partners;



- Role of Association of Parents with Children with Disabilities is enhanced and they are empowered to be involved in national and local level decision making processes and rehabilitation activities for their children on a voluntary basis;
- Monitoring reports and human interest stories are written;
- Environment for youth volunteerism especially for children and youth with disabilities is enhanced;
- Inputs into the work related to Ombudsman's Office are provided as needed (on issues related to protection of the rights of children especially CWD);

13. Qualifications/Requirements:

- University degree in international human rights;
- At least 2-3 years of experience in child protection, child rights areas with a focus on rights of people with disabilities, and general child protection issues;
- Experience working in other countries in child protection issues;
- Demonstrated ability in assisting research and documentation of good practices;
- Excellent communication skills and ability to work effectively in a multicultural team;
- Ability to perform and deliver results under tight deadlines;
- Knowledge of Word, Internet, E-mail, etc.;
- Excellent knowledge of English, knowledge of Tajik/Dari/Persian would be a strong asset.

14. Living Conditions:

The UN Volunteer will be based in Dushanbe with travel from time to time to project areas. Dushanbe has a population of around 1 million (total population in Tajikistan being around 8 million). The official language is Tajik, although there are some other languages spoken by various ethnic groups. English is not spoken by many in the Dushanbe-area, However, Russian is also useful, especially with the older generation, population outside the capital and in normal interaction with taxi drivers, shopkeepers etc. Houses or apartments are available for rent. Living conditions are considered quite good, and improving rapidly. There are good hotels and restaurants which offer various types of food and supermarket chains which offer most things needed by internationals living in Dushanbe. Dushanbe has many economic and social facilities at a reasonable price but occasionally influenced by commodity prices in Moscow. Security is recently relatively calm. There is no immediate threat of violence but security environment could be volatile, depending on security situation in northern Afghanistan due to influx of militant groups to the eastern border. As a mountainous area, occasional slight earthquakes can be felt. Summers, between May and September, are very hot ranging from 30 to 40C, while winters, from November to March, are relatively cold and dry with little snow; spring time (March, April) is usually rainy. International UNV for this position is expected to be flexible with volunteer spirit sufficient to survive and enjoy the life in the country where availability of electricity and water is occasionaly limited.

15. Conditions of Service

A 12 - monthly contract; monthly volunteer living allowance (VLA) intended to cover housing, basic needs and utilities, equivalent to US\$ 1,777 (for a single volunteer), US\$ 2,027 (for a volunteer with one dependant) or US\$ 2,227 (for a volunteer with 2 or more dependants); 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 Project Manager/UN Agency:

Siyma Barkin Kuzmin; Chief, Child Protection UNICEF Tajikistan

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Approved by: Laylee Moshiri, Representative, UNICEF Tajikistan Country Office

Date: 8 February 2013

Description of Assignment approved by UNV Country Office Teams/Support Office:

Keiichi Sato, UNV PO

Date: 30 May, 2013

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.