

# UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

## ETHR001217--Nutrition Specialist

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

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Country of Assignment</b>   | Ethiopia  |
| <b>Host Institute</b>          | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| <b>Volunteer Category</b>      | International Specialist                                |
| <b>Number of Volunteer</b>     | 1   |
| <b>Duration</b>                | 24 months   |
| <b>Expected Starting Date</b>  | 01-10-2021  |
| <b>Duty Station</b>            | Addis Ababa [ETH]                                       |
| <b>Assignment Place</b>        | Family Duty Station                                     |
| <b>Assignment Place Remark</b> |   |

### Living Conditions

Addis Ababa (meaning New flower) the capital and largest city of Ethiopia is the duty station of the assignment. With a population of about 4.8 million, it is situated at 2,355m above sea level (it is advisable to take precautionary measures to avoid some health problems that might occur because of high altitude). With an average high-temperature of 20°C (68°F) and an average low-temperature of 10°C (53.6°F), days are mild to warm year-round with cooler nights (Warm dressing including cardigans/warm jackets is advised). March-April is the small rainy season while mid-June to September is the peak rainy season. The time zone in Ethiopia is East Africa Time (EAT) (UTC+03). Getting to Addis Ababa is easy as Ethiopia has the oldest Ethiopian Airlines (Ethiopian) which is the flag carrier of Ethiopia. During the past seventy plus years, Ethiopian has become one of the continent's leading carriers, unrivalled in Africa for efficiency and operational success, turning profits for almost all the years of its existence. Ethiopian currently serves 100 international and 21 domestic destinations operating the newest and youngest fleet.

Addis Ababa is often referred to as the diplomatic city as it is the seat of the Head Quarters for both the African Union (previously the Organisation of African Unity) and the UNECA (including other programmes and agencies of the UN) as well as various Continental and International organisations and Embassies. While searching for a home, visitors have many options for temporary

accommodations such as high to mid-end hotels, luxury apartments and guest houses. The city has many International and national hotels and restaurants boasting a wide variety of cuisines, several museums and recreational parks and malls. Depending on family needs, there about 10 international schools. Over 12 National banks cater to local and expatriate residents. The commercial bank in ECA caters for banking services for international staff.

Ethiopian culture is conservative with a majority of Orthodox Christians, followed by Muslims and Protestants. It is important to be polite and respectful. Dress code should be on the formal side in the city during work hours and moderately conservative after work hours. Alcohol is allowed in the country.

There are recurrent cases of water borne diseases (Typhoid, Amoeba, Acute Watery Diarrhea) among others that occur from time to time, but this is very much dependent on personal hygiene. Malaria is present in the country but limited to the low land areas of the south where the altitude is below 2000m. This is not the case with Addis Ababa. Infectious diseases like measles, hepatitis A, B, and C, meningitis, HIV are also common and depend on the risky behaviour practiced without adequate protection for some of the diseases. Health care facilities in Addis Ababa are reasonable for basic care of minor health problems, elsewhere health care facilities are extremely poor. The United Nations Health Care Center is an outpatient health care facility located in the UNECA compound for staff and their dependents. Visitors to Ethiopia should be in possession of a valid health certificate for yellow fever. Vaccination against cholera is also required for any person who has visited or transited a cholera-infected area within six days prior to arrival in the country.

Ethiopian currency is denominated in "Birr" and "centimes". The exchange rate fluctuates. The official exchange rate was USD 1.00 = ETB 38.10 (approx.) as of 02 November 2020. Banking service is provided There are numerous supermarkets catering to both local and expatriate residents in addition to local fruit and vegetable stalls available throughout the city. Utilities such as electricity, communications (internet, mobile service packages) and water are provided by the government although fluctuations and outages are recurrent (it is advisable to have backup generators and water tanker). In terms of cost of living, monthly rent costs range from \$1,500 in suburban locations to \$2,500 in central locations, cost of groceries range from \$500-\$800, another \$400 for incidentals and utilities. In terms of security, while generally safe petty theft and mugging are on the rise as such vigilance during the day and especially in the night-time is advised.

Ethiopia is a culturally diverse and unique country. It provides for an interesting and enriching environment, but also requires a mature level of cultural awareness, as well as more stamina and commitment than elsewhere to make life comfortable and affordable. Therefore, flexibility and the ability and willingness to live and work in harsh and potentially hazardous conditions, involving physical hardship and little comfort, are essential.

## Assignment Details

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### Assignment Title

Nutrition Specialist

### Organizational Context & Project Description

The UN Volunteer will be assigned at the Subregional Office for Eastern Africa and Representation to the AU and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) (SFE) based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The FAO subregional office for Eastern Africa (SFE) was officially established in February 2007 following the signing of a hosting agreement between the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and FAO on 31 January 2007. SFE covers nine countries namely Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda. It is the FAO representation to the AU & UNECA and plays a liaison role to two Regional Economic Commissions (RECs) including the Eastern Africa Community (EAC) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and to a large number of important development partners based in Ethiopia and within the sub-region.

SFE is the FAO technical hub in Eastern Africa that is responsible for developing, promoting, overseeing and implementing agreed strategies for addressing sub-regional food security, nutrition, agriculture and rural development priorities. The UN Volunteer will be assigned within the multidisciplinary team (MDT) of SFE, which is a core team of professional staff as well as several project based consultants with multi-disciplinary expertise. The MDT is in charge of programming, project formulation, operations monitoring, information management related to regional projects. It also provides policy and technical backstopping to the FAO Representation in the nine countries, including on critical national issues pertaining to food and nutrition security. The MDT also represents FAO, upon instruction and guidance of the Subregional Coordinator, in various inter UN agency undertakings and task forces, as well as in regional discussions related to food and nutrition security, food systems, agriculture, among others.

T. +49 (0) 228-815 2000

A. PO Box 260111, 53113 Bonn, Germany

F. +49 (0) 228-815 2001

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The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Within the multidisciplinary team work, nutrition is both a core technical thematic and a cross-cutting issue, and is therefore a key priority for the office. Current projects are related to nutrition mainstreaming in agriculture policies and investment plans at county and regional level; school food and nutrition; nutrition education; food based dietary guidelines; nutrition sensitive value chain; nutrition sensitive social protection; etc. The office also provide support to IFNA countries in the implementation of their IFNA **Framework** and Action Plan. SFE Nutrition Team supports capacity building and is facilitating policy dialogue and advocacy initiatives with Parliamentarians and other relevant stakeholders to advance food security and nutrition agenda in the region.

## Sustainable Development Goals

### 2. Zero Hunger

#### Task description

Under the under the overall guidance of the FAO Representative to AU & UNECA and Subregional coordination for Eastern Africa (SRC SFE), the direct supervision of the SFE Nutrition Officer and in collaboration with the SFE MDT technical specialists, the UN Volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

- Support JICA IFNA focused countries in the Eastern Africa sub region (Ethiopia and Kenya) in implementing their IFNA country strategy;
- Support documentation and dissemination of good practices and lessons learnt on implementing IFNA country framework and action plan;
- Contribute to active fundraising for projects on integrated food security and nutrition programming under the IFNA;
- Provide technical and policy support to the Government and relevant stakeholders for improved food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture which can support IFNA strategy and action plan ;
- Analyse relevant food systems and nutrition related technical social, economic and environmental information, data and/or statistics for input in various documents to inform policy and programming
- Facilitate partner dialogue, to explore and develop potential areas of collaboration in the area of food and nutrition security
- Provide technical support to FAO country Offices on food systems and nutrition programming
- Plan, organize and participate in capacity development activities related to food systems and nutrition, and oversee the development of related materials and tools;
- Participate in and follow-up recommendations of meetings, consultations and conferences, the production of required materials and the provision of information and assistance to partners
- Perform other related duties, 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

- Quarterly reports
- Analytical work to support programming and decision making
- Coherent, integrated and effective policy and program assistance and governance work supporting IFNA focused countries
- Policy reviews, concept notes, proposals and reports

SFE will provide diverse learning and development opportunities to strengthen the volunteer's skills and competences, improve the quality of the assignment and keep the volunteer's motivation high. FAO will support knowledge and capacity development in food security/safety and nutrition by providing equal opportunity to participate in training courses and workshops offered to its personnel. Learning elements for the UN Volunteer will include i) technical competencies in food security and nutrition; ii) functional skills - time management, problem solving, team building; communication and listening skills; multi-cultural awareness and cultural competency; and conflict management.

- 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

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**Required Degree Level** Bachelor degree or equivalent

**Education - Additional Comments**

Nutrition/Dietetics, Food sciences, public health, agricultural economics, development economics or related area

**Required experience** 24 months

**Experience Remark**

Two to Five years of relevant experience in international nutrition programming, policy assistance related to food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture and food systems

**Language**

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

**Area of Expertise**

- Food safety and nutrition Mandatory

**Area of Expertise Requirement**

Nutrition

Food systems (not mandatory)

Additional Requirements for Area of Expertise: Food security, food safety, public health, international development

**Need Driving Licence** No

**Competencies & Values**

- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Commitment and Motivation
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Creativity
- Ethics and Values
- Judgement and Decision-making
- Knowledge Sharing
- Leadership
- Planning and Organizing
- Professionalism
- Respect for Diversity
- Self-Management
- Vision

# Conditions of Service and other information

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**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

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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>.

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 Entities)**

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**

ETHR001217-9525

**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/RVRIUjAwMTIxNw==>

**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.*