



University volunteer TERMS OF REFERENCE. ToR 35

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, University 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, University 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 University volunteers even more rewarding and productive.

The “**University Volunteer Network**” provides human resources and knowledge resources, through the recruitment of students from partner universities. These volunteers serve for six months in developing countries.

The Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM) acts as the coordinating university of the Spanish University Volunteer Network currently comprising 27 Spanish universities. To date, 155 assignments have been carried out. This year, it is envisaged to field 45 volunteers to work towards achieving the MDGs in selected areas of education, health, environment and Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICT4D). The volunteers are to primarily support host institutions supported by UNV’s MDG Facility as well as UN Projects and Programmes engaged in MDGs-related activities. The focus of these assignments will be on capacity building.

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- 1. UNV Assignment Title:** International Social Worker Volunteer
- 2. Type of assignment (International University volunteer):** Spanish University Volunteer
- 3. Project Title:** Social worker specialised in drug addiction and HIV/AIDS
- 4. Duration:** 6 months
- 5. Location, Country:** 37 Usenbaeva str., appt. 23, Bishkek 720000, the Kyrgyz Republic
- 6:Expected starting date:** October 2009
- 7. Brief Project Description:**

The volunteer will actively participate in the projects implemented jointly with Association; the experience that he/she has will also contribute to the work by means of helping to develop new projects addressing harm reduction. The volunteer will also help to establish contacts with international partners and assist the Association staff in improvement of their English language skills to maintain the contacts in the future.
- 8. Host Agency/Host Institute:** “Harm Reduction Network” Association

¹ **Instructions for completing this form**

- The form should be completed as detailed as possible bearing in mind that the Terms of Reference are aimed at student volunteers and not professionals.
- Host organizations should retain a copy of the form.
- The goal of this form is to provide pertinent information on the qualifications requested in order to recruit the best possible candidate for this student volunteer assignment.



9. Organizational Context:

The Association “Harm Reduction Network” is a non-governmental not-for-profit organization that consists of several member organizations actively working with injecting drug users (IDUs) in the Kyrgyz Republic, founded in 2004 with an objective to unite the initiatives of several organizations in harm reduction projects’ implementation (needles’ exchange, provision with condoms, substitute methadone therapy, ARV therapy) as well as humanization of drug policy and commitment to human rights-based approach in treating IDUs.

The driving force of HIV epidemic spread in Kyrgyzstan was and is still injecting drug use. The experiences of other countries show that stigmatization and discrimination of the injecting drug users does not contribute to the resolution of the HIV spread. In contrast, it only makes the situation worse. Therefore, Association “Harm Reduction Network” takes the right-based approach in its work with injecting drug users. It also promotes harm reduction projects such as needles/syringes exchange, outreach work, ARV therapy, and substitute methadone therapy, which are more effective instruments in preventing the spread of HIV.

Member-organizations of the Association work directly with their target communities. These organizations have been created by the representatives of the respective communities, which contributes to a more efficient work, as the members of the NGOs know well the needs of the target populations as well as the problems that they face.

The projects of these NGOs are supported by such organizations as HIVOS, Public Health Program/Open Society Institute, Public Health Program/The Soros Foundation – Kyrgyzstan, CARHAP (GRM, DFID). The Association partners with the government agencies of the Kyrgyz Republic – Ministry of Justice, Agency on the Drugs Control and the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

10. Description of Duties:

Volunteers in education can provide assistance in teaching and tutoring. Typically, volunteers in ICT4D can help to develop and set-up websites and networks as well as databases, e.g. through the provision of training. In Panama, volunteers have helped to promote capacity building activities in the area of disaster-related education activities. University volunteers in health have helped to educate and raise awareness among Cape Verdian mothers in HIV/AIDS. In the area of environment, they have developed information material in disaster-related management.

The volunteer will be supporting the following area(s) of the MDGs.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger | <input type="checkbox"/> Improve maternal health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Achieve universal primary education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Combat HIV/AIDS malaria and other diseases |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Promote gender equality and empower women | <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure environmental sustainability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce child mortality | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a global partnership for development |

Under the direct supervision of **Ms. Madina Tokombaeva**, Director of the Association, the University volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

- Assist the partners and members of the projects in development of activities based on international practices
- Development of international contacts, share international experience, capacity building
Providing training/classes in English language for the employees of the Association and beneficiaries;
- Perform other duties as required and instructed by the core team of the project.

In addition University volunteers are encouraged to further promote volunteerism and engage in volunteering activities:

- Strengthening their knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and external publications and taking active part in UNV activities (for instance in events that mark IVD);



- Getting acquainted with and building on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host country;
- Reflecting on the type and quality of voluntary action that they are undertaking, including participation in ongoing reflection activities;
- Assisting with the UNV Buddy Programme for newly-arrived University volunteers;
- Promoting or advising local groups in the use of online volunteering, or encouraging relevant local individuals and organizations to use the UNV Online Volunteering service whenever technically possible.
- Contributing articles/write-ups on field experiences and submitting them for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;

11. Results/Expected Output:

- Experience exchange in the area of methadone therapy, etc
- Establishment of international contacts with partners and donors that actually helps to improve the existing programs, to create new projects and to increase fundraising.
- Assist the project staff to improve their English language skills that is important in maintenance of the established contacts with foreign partners and donors.
- A final statement of achievements towards volunteerism for development during your assignment such as specific quantification of mobilized volunteers, activities, capacities.

12. Qualifications/Requirements:

- **Education:** Social worker
- **Language:** High level of English and basic level of Russian language
- **Specific skills in requested area (e.g. related to education, health, environment or ICT4D):**
 1. At least 2 years of experience in drug addiction and HIV/AIDS
 2. Trainer skills
- **Computer/software skills:** Advanced, (Microsoft Office)

Additional skills:

Good communication skills, capacity building, service spirit, commitment, positive attitude, collaborative team approach and result focus.

13: Other information:

A) Visa

Please specify type of visa needed for nationals from Spain to enter your country:

- Tourist visa (if yes, return ticket needed)**
- No visa or visa upon arrival at airport**
- Visa before departure**

B) Accommodation

Location of assignment: 37 Usenbaeva str., appt. 23, Bishkek 720000

- **Nearest airport:** Manas



- **Type of accommodation:** Apartment
- **Address:** to be identified
- **Approximate monthly cost of accommodation:** USD 450
- **What other facilities will be offered to the University volunteer(s)?**

C) Local transportation

- **Means of local transportation for the volunteer:** Mini bus, Taxi
- **Approximate monthly cost:** USD 30

D) Security provision

- **Security provision and approximate costs:** None

14. Conditions of Service

Monthly volunteer stipend (intended to cover housing, basic needs and local transport), equivalent to EUR 683 per University volunteer; visa fees, life and health insurance; return airfares.

Date: 4 April 2009