



Request for a Volunteer from a university

The “**University Volunteer Network**” provides human resources and knowledge resources, through qualified and experienced volunteers 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 24 Spanish universities. To date, 198 assignments have been carried out. This year, it is envisaged to field 45 volunteers to work towards achieving the MDGs in selected areas of Youth, education, health, environment and Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICT4D) **with a relevant youth component**. 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.

Requesting Organization

Name: UNDP Honduras, Environment Energy and Disasters Risk Reduction Unit

Describe the role/mandate of the organization: UNDP in Honduras promotes and supports policies, dialogues, consensus and inclusive processes which strengthen democratic governance in order to achieve sustainable human development and the Millennium Development Goals MDGs from a perspective of equity and participatory democracy.

Year of establishment: 1971

Size of organization: 89 persons

Number of staff: 10 (Environment, Energy and Disasters Risk Reduction Unit)

Other pertinent information: The E,E & DRR Unit have 4 programs, Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Land Use, Energy and Climate Change Mitigation, Disasters Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation; and Contamination. The University Volunteer work in the project Conservation of biodiversity in the indigenous productive landscapes of the Moskitia, implemented by UNDP with GEF funds.

Field of activity: Democratic Governance; Poverty Reduction Crisis Prevention and Recovery; and Environment and Energy for Sustainable Development

Terms of Reference

Assignment title: Ecology Advisor

Expected starting date: October 2010

United Nations Volunteers

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



Preamble:

As a United Nations Volunteers (UNV) assignment, this post is based on the values of free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity, which are the foundations of volunteerism. Volunteering brings benefit to the individual volunteer. It makes important contributions, economically, as well as socially. It contributes to creating social cohesion and capital, through helping to build trust and reciprocity among citizens.

The United Nations Volunteers is the UN Organization that supports sustainable human development globally through the promotion of volunteerism and mobilization of volunteers. It serves the causes of peace and development through enhancing opportunities for participation by all peoples. It is universal, inclusive and embraces volunteer actions in all its diversity.

Volunteerism is diverse and is embedded in all cultures and traditions. In this context, as a United Nations Volunteer you are encouraged and expected to relate to local volunteerism and to be identified with the concept. You are expected to regard your national colleagues as peers and together uphold trust as volunteers among yourselves and within the communities and the organization you are assigned to.

Detailed Terms of Reference:

The University Volunteer will be assigned to the GEF project Conservation of biodiversity in the indigenous productive landscapes of the Moskitia. This project will conserve globally important biodiversity in production landscapes in the remote and extensive Moskitia region of Honduras, by developing capacities of indigenous communities and cooperatives to carry out sustainable forest management and thereby assert their rights over land which is under threat from encroachment and deforestation by outsiders; strengthening community-based and Government regulation and enforcement of resource use; supporting joint planning of development and conservation initiatives between local communities, municipal Governments and central Government; and ensuring that investments by outside agencies are subject to adequate safeguards to ensure their compatibility with and contribution to BD conservation.

The objective of the present assignment is support to project team to develop studies of ecosystems and biodiversity assessments in the project area.

Support is requested in the following fields:

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

Detailed description of the tasks to be carried out by the University Volunteer:

Under the direct supervision of the Project Coordinator „Conservation of biodiversity in the indigenous productive landscapes of the Moskitia”, the UNV volunteer will assume duties for the following:



- Support the study and characterization of ecosystems
- Propose maps of ecosystems
- Development and / or application of models for biodiversity assessment

Assignment target (i.e. capacity building impact):

- Ecosystems maps to the project area

Required Volunteer qualifications:

- Education: Biologist or Ecologist u others related sciences
- Language: Spanish
- Specific skills in requested area: Knowledge of ecosystems evaluation and mapping is desirable
- Computer/software skills: MS Office, ArcGIS
- Additional skills: Sensitive to work with indigenous people and to live in remote areas

Other Information: All below fields are mandatory prior to clearance

A) Visa

- Please specify type of visa needed for nationals from Spain to enter your country:
X No visa or visa upon arrival at airport

B) Accommodation

- Location of assignment: Puerto Lempira, Honduras,
- Nearest airport: Puerto Lempira
- Type of accommodation¹: Apartment. Coved by applicant
- Address: Apartment. 2 blocks south to the catholic church
- Approximate monthly cost of accommodation: \$ 150
- Security provision and approximate costs: None
- Means of local transport for the volunteer: No needed
- What other facilities will be offered to the university volunteer(s)? A plane ticket round-Tegucigalpa Moskitia.

C) Local transportation

- Means of local transportation for the volunteer: Project Vehicles
- Approximate monthly cost: free

D) Security provision

¹ The accommodation for university volunteers has to be compliant with the Minimum Operating Residential Security Standards (MORSS). It needs to be cleared by the UN Field Security Officer **prior** to the fielding of the volunteers.



- Security provision and approximate costs: None

Signature on behalf of requesting Organization

Juan José Ferrando

(Signature)

25/04/2010

(Date)

General Assignment Criteria

Capacity Building and Sustainability

The assignment(s) must clearly focus on capacity building (of local beneficiaries) e.g. on the application of ICT. An assignment which concentrates on e.g. ICT product delivery, like set up of a network or creation of a website, without close collaboration with local staff does not qualify. The target group of a particular assignment should be able to independently apply e.g. ICT for their purposes after the university volunteer leaves. Ensuring sustainability, further promoting volunteerism, as well as raising awareness about the Millennium Development Goals in the country of assignment are key criteria, which are common to all assignments.

Host Organization and Living Conditions

The host organization needs to demonstrate that it will provide a necessary enabling environment for the university volunteers so they can be productive from the start and sustain a positive performance throughout their assignment. This includes the provision of necessary (e.g. computing) equipment and if need be, connectivity. It also includes the identification of a direct supervisor for the volunteer.

After completion, please return this questionnaire to your UNV Country Office by fax, mail or email. Thank you!