



## 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: Peacebuilding & Youth Participation Advisor**

*UNV PRSF, Outcome 4 ' Volunteer contributions towards crisis prevention and recovery in UNV programme countries strengthened and recognised*

**2. Type of Assignment: International UN Volunteer**

**3. Project Title: Peacebuilding and Youth Participation**

**4. Duration: 1 year**

**5. Location, Country: Osh, Kyrgyzstan**

**6. Expected Starting Date: March 2013**

**7. Brief Project Description:**

In June 2010 a wave of deadly violence began in the multiethnic cities of Osh and Jalal-Abad in southern Kyrgyzstan, internally displacing around 300,000 people and making 75,000 seek refuge in Uzbekistan. The conflict had acute and pressing humanitarian consequences for as many as 1.1 million people, of which 400,000 were estimated to be children. By end-June 2010 the situation changed unexpectedly as practically all refugees from Uzbekistan returned to Kyrgyzstan and at the same time the IDPs from temporary locations within Kyrgyzstan returned back to their homes in large numbers. However, with more than 2,000 houses and thousands of other buildings, mainly businesses, destroyed, many returnees are still living with host families or relatives or in general under very difficult living conditions.

Although it lasted intensively only a few days, a with lower intensity only over a few weeks, the fierce outbreak of ethnic violence that hit southern Kyrgyzstan in June 2010 has had a devastating impact on hundreds of thousands of people of both Uzbek and Kyrgyz ethnicity. Its repercussions are far from settled. In this conflict, as with most others, young people, women and children are among the most vulnerable groups. While tensions and lack of trust between the two ethnic groups continue, many of those who have lost their homes and livelihoods lack the support they need from local authorities and state service providers to seek justice and rebuild their lives. Often the lack of support and misuse of power and authority originate from ethnic bias, thus fuelling the cycle of hatred and animosity. While widespread violence is not being reported at the current time, there are continuing sporadic incidences of ethnically motivated incidents. The risk of relapse into violence and armed conflict remains high, with cross-border implications.

Given that the country is highly divided in its political transition process towards a parliamentary democracy, the UN system needs to play a key role in facilitating a process of national reconciliation, foster consensus around key development challenges and contribute to the creation of a culture in which

**United Nations Volunteers**

PO Box 260 111 53153 Bonn Germany Telephone +49.228.815-2000 Fax +49.228.815-2001

Email [information@unvolunteers.org](mailto:information@unvolunteers.org) <http://www.unvolunteers.org>

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



disagreements around political change process and development priorities are handled in a constructive and peaceful way. The October 2010 elections were peaceful and credible, but there is an uncertain period in terms of future government's stability and ability to lead the country out of the current compound crisis.

Various UN organizations and the UN Country Team (UNCT) have responded effectively to the crisis which began in June 2010. All UN organizations operational in Kyrgyzstan were involved in humanitarian response and early recovery activities. UNICEF promptly responded to the humanitarian crisis with its life-saving and other critical multi-sectorial interventions focusing on women and children as per its Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action. Toward the end of the year, humanitarian crisis has become much less acute. Nevertheless, in the south of the country, there are persisting humanitarian as well as early recovery needs. Furthermore, a number of surveys and assessments in the aftermath of the June 2010 crisis have brought to light huge shortcomings and systemic problems related to access to key social services. Failure to address these issues now would lead to deterioration of the public health status and overall well-being of the most vulnerable children and communities in Kyrgyzstan.

The situation, overall, is assessed to be unpredictable, with possibility of renewed violence and deterioration of the humanitarian situation. Kyrgyzstan is widely believed to face a period of political instability, and difficult socio-economic situation, which is compounded by the global food, energy and financial crisis. As the situation remains tense in the South and in other parts of the country, it will be crucial for the UN system to deliver its programming in a conflict-sensitive manner and mainstream conflict prevention and peace-building into ongoing and future programming to address the root causes of conflict.

Based upon the specific situation of adolescents and youth and the role they played in the 2010 events, UNICEF supports the development of national capacities to promote civic engagement and participation of adolescents in activities promoting social cohesion, peacebuilding and reconciliation, while increasing their access to social services and opportunities.

In light of the above, UNICEF is looking for a volunteer to serve as the Peacebuilding & Youth Participation Advisor. The role of this advisor is to research, validate, implement, monitor and report on peacebuilding and civic participation across various sectors and programmes, particularly how it relates to youth and adolescents. The goal of his or her work is to align UNICEF programming as it relates to peacebuilding and civic participation and create a comprehensive and strategic framework across the organization.

## **8. Host Agency/Host Institute: UNICEF**

## **9. Organizational Context:**

UNICEF wishes to promote the concept of an equity-based approach to humanitarian assistance; this requires focusing on the most vulnerable groups. The Peacebuilding & Youth Participation Advisor will report directly to the Head of the UNICEF Osh Zone Office with technical advice and support coming from Bishkek. In coordinating peacebuilding activities, the volunteer will be expected to work with each of the programme sections. Programme sections include education and early childhood development, health and nutrition, youth, social policy, child protection, disaster risk reduction, WASH, M&E and communications.

## **10. Type of Assignment Place: Non-family duty station**

## **11. Description of tasks:**

Under the direct supervision of Head of UNICEF Osh Zone Office, with technical advice and support from Youth and Adolescent Development Officer the UN Volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

### **United Nations Volunteers**

PO Box 260 111 53153 Bonn Germany Telephone +49.228.815-2000 Fax +49.228.815-2001

Email [information@unvolunteers.org](mailto:information@unvolunteers.org) <http://www.unvolunteers.org>

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



- Contribute at field level all UNICEF activities related peacebuilding and youth empowerment and ensure their timely execution and achieving key results;
- Monitor and support the work of implementing partners through regular communication, review of partners' periodic reports, timely identification of risks and initiating needed changes, and provision of technical guidance and support for capacity development;
- Promote close cooperation, communication and involvement with all main stakeholders (Government at the province/district levels, UN agencies and implementing partners at the field level);
- Extensive research and study of key sources of relevant information and data, including studies, situation analysis, sector updates and local media updates;
- Regular and systematic field visits to key project sites;
- Assist in maintaining Youth focal point inside the key stakeholders, such as the relevant government ministries at central and province levels, NGOs and community-based organizations;
- Assist in organizing and conducting learning seminars/workshops on the methodology of peace and tolerance;
- Monitoring and quality evaluation of the seminars/workshops/events conducted, providing consultancy to trainers and reporting to UNICEF;
- At the field level, provide technical and methodological assistance in development/ implementing UNICEF actions/events to partners, specialists and experts participating in the projects;
- Preparation and support to official and regular meetings, visits, round tables, press-conferences, etc.;
- At the field level, monitor and report on the projects budgets, funds and resources;
- Prepare regular monthly and ad hoc narrative reports to supervisor as well as inputs to UN and donor reports;
- Contribute to UNICEF fundraising initiatives;
- Networking and building relationships with local organizations, groups or individuals and supporting and/or participating in local volunteering initiatives;
- Encouraging, mobilizing and supporting co-workers, fellow UN Volunteers and members of the local community to play an active part in development on a voluntary basis;
- Initiating and/or participating in local volunteer groups, including assisting them in submitting stories and experiences to the World Volunteer Web site;
- Discussing with supervisors on how volunteerism for development can be mainstreamed through the assignment and integrating activities that promote volunteerism for development into work plans;
- Building on this DOA template will ensure further advocacy through the promotion of volunteerism within the programme/project and within the context of the assignment. Including in DOA gives greater recognition and legitimacy to this commitment with concerned host organizations and partners;
- Any other tasks as requested by the supervisor.

### **Promotion of the United Nations Volunteers Programme mandate<sup>1</sup>**

*UN volunteers are expected to integrate the UN Volunteers Programme mandate within their assignment as well as promote voluntary action through engagement with communities (urban & rural) during the course of their work. As such UN volunteers should dedicate a proportion of their working week to the following in support of and in synergy with his/her primary role as UNV Peacebuilding and Youth Participation Adviser:*

- Strengthen knowledge and understanding of the influence and impact of voluntary action by communities through the following:
  - research of the subject matter,

---

<sup>1</sup>The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme was created by the General Assembly (GA) in 1970 through GA resolution [26/59](#). Since then, UNV's mandate has been expanded by GA resolution [31/131](#) in 1976, GA resolution [56/38](#) in 2001 and others in the follow-up to the International Year of Volunteers in 2001.



- develop knowledge of non-profit community based organizations developing new or applying traditional methods in engaging with communities,
  - undertake awareness-raising (promotion) activities for increased community participation and action,
  - encourage local people to volunteer thought and action to enhancing their community.
- Build relationships with a wide range (private/public) local organizations, groups or individuals and support and/or participate in community driven voluntary activities and assist them to tell their stories to the World Volunteer Web site;
  - Encourage, mobilize and support co-workers and fellow UN volunteers to better understand the connections between community participation and voluntarism;
  - Monitor on a continual basis the impact of policy reform on voluntary action at the community level;
  - Contribute to articles/write-ups on the findings from the monitoring process and experiences from the above outlined activities and submit them to UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
  - Promote and/or advise local groups in the use of OV (online volunteering), and encourage relevant local individuals and groups to use OV whenever technically possible.

## **12. Results/Expected Output:**

- Regular reports on progress and shortcomings in the fields of peacebuilding and youth participation.
- Inputs for key planning, strategic documents, donor reports, joint UN reports, etc.
- Provided contextualized advice on community-based peacebuilding mechanisms and instruments to measure impact of peacebuilding activities.
- Assist in developing tools/programmes that foster youth participation.
- Project proposals for funding are developed and submitted to the potential donors.
- 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:**

- Master's Degree (or equivalent work experience) in social sciences, conflict resolution/peace-building, international relations, political science, development studies or related fields, preferably with a focus on youth issues and conflict prevention.
- At least three years of progressive professional international work experience in the area of youth development and conflict prevention.
- Ability to effectively communicate with partners and beneficiaries at the community level.
- Extensive field experience.
- Strong programme management, capacity development, communication and advocacy skills.
- Ability to convey difficult issues and positions, and sensitivity to local cultures.
- Ability to work in a high-pressure environment and to handle politically sensitive issues.
- Analytical and conceptual ability; communication skills; training skill.
- Planning and monitoring skills; ability to organize work and projects.
- Computer skills, including internet navigation, and various office applications.
- Knowledge of the political, economic and social dynamics of the Central Asia region is an asset.
- Fluency in English language required. Knowledge of local language of the duty station, i.e. Russian, Kyrgyz or Uzbek, is an asset.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a multi-cultural environment and establish harmonious and effective working relationships, both within and outside the organization.



#### **14. Living Conditions:**

Kyrgyzstan is considered to be a developing country, and UNICEF duty station in Osh is under security Phase 3.

The economy is primarily cash-based. Exchange facilities in Osh are limited and accept primarily US Dollars and Euros. There are few ATMs in Osh.

Air travel is limited. International flights to the capital (Bishkek) are available with Turkish, British, and Russian airlines. Travelers should avoid public transportation, as it is unsafe and unreliable. Roads are poorly maintained and inadequately lit, and traffic regulations are often ignored. Visitors are strongly urged to use drivers provided by the UN or UN Travel Agent.

Internet connection is available in major hotels in Bishkek. Internet/land-line connections are less reliable outside the Capital.

#### **15. Conditions of Service**

A 12-months contract; monthly volunteer living allowance (VLA) intended to cover housing, basic needs and utilities, equivalent to US\$ 1,845.00 for a single volunteer; US\$2,095 for a volunteer with one dependent or US\$2,295 for a volunteer with 2 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 UN Agency: Raoul de Torcy, UNICEF Deputy representative (Representative a.i.)**

**Date: 7/02/2012**

**Description of Assignment approved by UNV Field Unit: Gemma Marie Carnacete, UNV Programme Officer**

**Date: 07 February 2013**