



UN YOUTH 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 Youth 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 Youth 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 Youth Volunteers even more rewarding and productive.

1. **UNV Assignment Title:** UN Youth Volunteer in Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

UNV Strategic Framework: Outcome 1 - UN entities are more effective in delivering their results by integrating high quality and well-supported UN Volunteers and volunteerism in their programs; Outcome 1.2 - Volunteer engagement is strengthened in four priority areas: (a) basic social services;

2. **Type of Assignment:** International UN Youth Volunteer
3. **Project Title:** Accelerating Progress towards Meeting Sanitation MDG Targets in Zambia by 2015
4. **Duration:** 12 months
5. **Location, Country:** Lusaka, Zambia
6. **Expected Starting Date:** February/March 2016
7. **Brief Project Description:** Rural improved sanitation coverage in Zambia is estimated to be only 33% and improved water coverage 50% (JMP Update 2013). Zambia remains well off track to meet the MDG target to halve the proportion of the population without sustainable access to basic sanitation by 2015, particularly in relation to sanitation.

The result of this is a massive health burden, especially to children under 5 and women. After neonatal causes (23%), the largest causes of under-5 mortality in Zambia are acute respiratory infections and diarrhea. Both diseases are hygiene and sanitation related and together they account for about 40% of under-5 deaths. In addition, 46% of Zambian children are stunted and a significant proportion of childhood malnutrition is attributed to diarrhea and worm infections caused by poor sanitation.

Despite the potential gains from and cost effectiveness of improved sanitation and hygiene, until the sanitation and hygiene programme started there was remarkably little investment from either government (GRZ) or it's cooperating partners (CPs).



The Project is being implemented by UNICEF working in partnership with Government at National, Provincial and District level, as well as a number of collaborating NGOs. The Programme is a major element of the National Water Supply and Sanitation programme of the Government of Zambia. The project is intended to fill this important gap and raise the profile of sanitation and hygiene with GRZ and other CPs as well as directly implementing sanitation and hygiene promotion in rural Zambia.

8. **Host Agency/Host Institute:** United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF) – Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Unit
9. **Organizational Context:** 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 guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and strives to establish children's rights as enduring ethical principles and international standards of behavior towards children. We believe that nurturing and caring for children are the cornerstones of human progress. UNICEF was created with this purpose in mind – to work with others to overcome the obstacles that poverty, violence, disease and discrimination place in a child's path. UNICEF is on the ground in over 150 countries and territories to help children survive and thrive, from early childhood through adolescence. The world's largest provider of vaccines for developing countries, UNICEF supports child health and nutrition, good water and sanitation, quality basic education for all boys and girls, and the protection of children from violence, exploitation, and AIDS. UNICEF is funded entirely by the voluntary contributions of individuals, businesses, foundations and governments.

Further, **UNICEF's** WASH UNIT in collaboration with Ministry of Local Government and Housing (MoLGH) and other key line ministries is supporting Zambia implement the following interventions:

- **Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS):** The approach focuses on convincing communities to end open defecation through generating a sense of disgust and shame, and mobilizing collective action to build and use toilets. The approach adopted by UNICEF is to train and use voluntary, community-based facilitators ('Sanitation Champions') to engage with communities, reporting to a District Technical Team (with four Government staff from different departments) and District Councils.
- **Legal Enforcement (LE):** In towns and peri-urban areas within the project area, CLTS is complemented with the legal enforcement of Public Health Legislation, as it applies to public premises and the commercial sector. The legislation obliges the owner or responsible organization to provide appropriate toilets and hand-washing facilities.
- **Sanitation Marketing:** Building the capacity of the private sector to respond to increasing demand for sanitation can help households to improve the quality of their latrines, something that can further reduce the risk of disease transmission.
- **School sanitation and hygiene:** To establish appropriate, gender sensitive and child friendly sanitation facilities in 1,000 rural schools, complemented by a hygiene promotion component and the school-based management
- **National hygiene promotion campaign:** Involves inter-personal communication and mass media focusing on hand washing with soap or ash after visiting the toilet, before handling or consuming food, and after cleaning an infant.
- **Performance Monitoring:** To track project performance and inform reporting. This aspect of the programme includes the introduction of mobile phone based technology to support the monitoring system.



10. Type of Assignment Place: Assignment without family

11. Description of tasks:

In order to strengthen quality and sustainability of results of the in the interventions highlighted above, the UN Youth Volunteer will work with and support UNICEF, WASH Unit as follows:

- Contribute to technical support to government: MoLGH and other key line ministries for the planning and monitoring of both rural and urban water supply and sanitation programmes with focus on prioritizing pro-poor interventions.
- Participate in capacity building activities for district teams to support programme implementation, monitoring and reporting.
- Support roll-out of M&E mechanisms and procedures in the area of water supply and sanitation including waste management.
- Participate in advocacy activities designed to influence Government of Zambia prioritize sanitation and waste management in the development agenda and secure government's leadership.
- Participate in the promotion of innovative, cost effective and affordable model for water supply, sanitation and waste management in Zambia.
- Support UNICEF WASH team in designing the appropriate Operation and Maintenance Mechanism (OMM) for rural WASH facilities and to sustain behavior changes.
- Contribute to building knowledge management within national WASH stakeholders.
- Participate in advocacy activities towards influencing the private sector to contribute and deliver affordable Water and Sanitation services to the rural poor communities.

12. Results/Expected Output:

- Review, planning, reporting processes led by the Government of Zambia (Water Supply and Sanitation Sector) are strengthened both at central and decentralized level resulting in increased accountability to deliver improved WASH services to most vulnerable communities.
- Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms of the National Water Supply and sanitation Programmes are strengthened and well established/adopted at all levels with constant attention to keep things simple and well aligned with the priorities of the government.
- Advocacy action plan with focus on prioritization of hygiene, sanitation and waste management in the agenda of the government and WASH partners is rolled out and reviewed/updated on a regular basis.
- Under the leadership of the government, innovative cost effective models – for facilities as well as for approaches (M&E, hygiene promotion...) - are piloted, documented, disseminated and scaled-up.
- Sustainability of Water and Sanitation services is strengthened through improved Operation and Capacities of WASH stakeholders to capture and document key lessons learned, impacts (especially on health and education outcomes - including nutrition related indicators) as well as human interest stories are strengthened; as a result, knowledge management of the Water Supply and Sanitation is improved contributing to strengthen the efficiency and sustainability of WASH interventions

Furthermore, the UN Youth Volunteer is encouraged to:

- Strengthen the knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and external publications and taking active part in UNV events.
- Be acquainted with and build on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the 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 volunteering experiences and submit them to the team at UNVHQs for consideration (beyond other communications responsibilities), and input to the UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
- Assist with the UNV Buddy Programme for newly-arrived UN Youth 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.

13. Qualifications/Requirements:

- University degree or its equivalent in one of the disciplines relevant to the following areas: Public Health, Sanitation/Water Supply/Civil Engineering, social sciences, development planning, monitoring and evaluation,
- Demonstrated interest and/or experience in Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) interventions/approaches;
- Computer proficiency (all MS Office), knowledge management tools and systems; and social media
- Strong written and spoken English;
- Good interpersonal, networking and communication skills;
- Willingness to contribute and work as part of a team;
- Flexible and open to learning and new experiences;
- Respect for diversity and adaptability to other cultures, environments and living conditions;
- Previous experience as a volunteer and/or experience of another culture, (i.e. studies, volunteer work, internship) would be highly regarded;

14. Learning expectations:

Learning and development are a central part of the UN Youth Volunteer's assignment and take place before, during and after his or her assignment in the field. Ideally, offering diverse opportunities for learning and development aim to strengthen the volunteer's skills and competences, improve the quality of the assignment and keep the volunteer's motivation high.

Learning elements for the UN Youth Volunteer include the development of:

- Professional skills: including specific competencies and reflection on assignment-related abilities; and on-the-job skills such as time management, problem solving, team building; and career preparedness such as interview skills, CV preparation, job searching.
- Inter-personal skills: including communication and listening skills; multi-cultural awareness and cultural competency; and conflict and stress management.
- Volunteering-related skills: including leadership; civic responsibility; and engagement and active participation.

Beyond the learning opportunities provided by UNV, host agencies are expected to support knowledge and capacity development in the technical areas that are relevant to the UN Youth Volunteer's assignment. Host agencies are also expected to provide, at their expense, UN Youth Volunteers with equal opportunity to participate in training courses and workshops offered to the host agency's personnel.

15. Living Conditions:

Lusaka became the capital city of Zambia in May 1935. Lusaka's central position in Zambia and its extremely pleasant climate were two of the main reasons for its selection as the capital. It is a metropolis,



which provides a home to about two and half million (2.5M) inhabitants of many different nationalities. It has grown to become the seat of the Government of the Republic of Zambia and as such all diplomatic missions, international organizations, industrial and commercial entities have set base. Its political, social, economic and cultural significance has also increased through the years. Lusaka has all amenities in place that would make a visitors stay comfortable. For more info, visit: <http://www.zambiatourism.com>.

16. Conditions of Service

A 12 months contract; monthly living allowance (MLA) intended to cover housing, basic needs and utilities, with a base rate of USD 1,243, which is adjusted monthly according to the movement (upwards or downwards) of the Post Adjustment Multiplier (PAM), which is established by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) to ensure that international Youth UN Volunteers have comparable purchasing power at all duty stations despite varying costs of living. The applicable MLA is calculated as follows: $MLA = (MLA \text{ base rate} \times PAM) + \text{MLA base rate}$. See ICSC website <http://icsc.un.org> for more information on the applicable PAM rates.

In addition, UN Youth Volunteers are provided a one-time settling-in-grant (if applicable); well-Being Differential (applicable only in hardship non-family duty stations); a life, health and permanent disability insurance, return airfares (if applicable); resettlement allowance for satisfactory service.

17. How to Apply:

If you are not a candidate in the UNV database, please apply by registering your profile through the following link:

<http://ereta.unv.org/html/index.php?module=myprofile&ad=YTH15IRE013>

Important: Once you have created your UNV account and validated your email address, please complete all sections of your profile and make sure the correct advertisement code **YTH15IRE013** is selected in the 'Special Recruitment' tab of MyProfile. Your application can only be considered once you have clicked on the green 'Submit My Profile' button. As a confirmation of your successful registration, you will receive an email with your UNV roster number.

If you already are a candidate in the UNV database, please update your profile through <http://MyProfile.unv.org> and select the code **YTH15IRE013** from the drop down list in the 'Special Recruitment' tab.

Closing date: Profiles of interested applicants must be fully registered in the UNV database of candidates not later than **18 October 2015** (applications received after that date will not be taken into consideration). Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted