

UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

PANR000205--HIV/Aids International 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

Country of Assignment	Panama
Host Institute	United Nations Population Fund
Volunteer Category	International Specialist
Number of Volunteer	1
Duration	6 months
Expected Starting Date	15-10-2020
Duty Station	Panama City [PAN]
Assignment Place	Family Duty Station
Assignment Place Remark	

Living Conditions

Panama is a family duty station and is considered to be a safe place to live, however, like in any city around the world, it is always good to be aware of your surroundings and to be alert. There is a wide range of goods available in Panama and many modern shopping complexes as well as department stores, designer stores, 24-hour grocery stores. There are suitable residential areas, accommodation options, good hospitals, schools, universities, banks and wide selection of restaurants and entertainment. Panama offers many options for interesting weekend activities. There are Beaches, Mountains and National Parks in the rainforest that it is said have the widest range of flora and fauna the world.

Panama does not have any serious health concerns to worry about, however it is important to note that in some areas such as the Darien province, it is recommended to take precautions for malaria. The Centers for Disease Control website also recommends the yellow fever vaccination for travel to Darien province and the San Blas islands.

Weather: Panama has two seasons, the dry season which is from January until late April or early May and the rainy season which is the rest of the year. The daytime temperature ranges between 80- and 90-degrees Fahrenheit with the evenings being cooler by 5 to

10 degrees. The average humidity is 70%.

Panama is a unique country and UNFPA is a unique (humanitarian) operation. 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

Assignment Title

HIV/Aids International Specialist

Organizational Context & Project Description

UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

UNFPA SUPPORT:

1. Reproductive health care for women and youth in more than 150 countries – which are home to more than 80 per cent of the world's population.
2. The health of pregnant women, especially the 1 million who face life-threatening complications each month.
3. Reliable access to modern contraceptives sufficient to benefit 20 million women a year.
4. Training of thousands of health workers to help ensure at least 90 per cent of all childbirths are supervised by skilled attendants.
5. Prevention of gender-based violence, which affects 1 in 3 women
6. Abandonment of female genital mutilation, which harms 3 million girls annually
7. Prevention of teen pregnancies, complications of which are the leading cause of death for girls 15-19 years old
8. Efforts to end child marriage, which could affect an estimated 70 million girls over the next 5 years
9. Delivery of safe birth supplies, dignity kits and other life-saving materials to survivors of conflict and natural disaster
10. Censuses, data collection and analyses, which are essential for development planning.

UNFPA is formally named the United Nations Population Fund. UNFPA calls for the realization of reproductive rights for all and supports access to a wide range of sexual and reproductive health services – including voluntary family planning, maternal health care and comprehensive sexuality education.

Since UNFPA started its work, the world has seen progress: The number and rate of women dying from complications of pregnancy or childbirth has been halved. Families are healthier. Young people are more connected and empowered than ever before.

But too many are still left behind. [More than 760 million people](#) are mired in extreme poverty. [Sexual and reproductive health](#) problems are a leading cause of death and disability for women in the developing world. Young people bear the highest risks of HIV infection and unintended pregnancy. Many millions of girls face the prospect of [child marriage](#) and other harmful practices, such as [female genital mutilation \(FGM\)](#).

Much more needs to be done to ensure a world in which all individuals can exercise their basic [human rights](#), including those that relate to the most intimate and fundamental aspects of life. In 2018, UNFPA launched efforts to achieve three transformative results, ambitions that promise to change the world for every man, woman and young person:

The global epidemic of COVID-19 is wreaking havoc on a wide array of health, economic, social and personal decisions. However, what may be lost in the chaos among other effects and dangers is the specific impact on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Policymakers, providers and advocates must be aware of the broad links between the global outbreak response and sexual and reproductive health and rights in order to prepare to mitigate the impact.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights underpin gender equality and are pivotal to good health. Evidence shows that when women are denied access to contraception, safe abortion and post-abortion care, maternal mortality rates rise. SRHR services are essential health care and must be accessible. A continued focus on the neglected areas of SRHR must also be part of the global response to COVID-19.

UNFPA is working to ensure an integrated response to the virus that includes SRHR, with a particular focus on the following areas: maternal and perinatal health care, family planning counselling/contraceptive services, STI and HIV, comprehensive contraceptive

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care, SRHR for adolescents and youth, including comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), and advocacy for SRHR.

This also includes the clinical response to sexual abuse, addressing SRHR in a humanitarian crisis, and gender-based violence.

Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean continue to grapple with political, cultural, social and programmatic barriers to eliminating new HIV infections, AIDS-related deaths and discrimination. Key issues such as stigma and discrimination, access to services and the protection of human rights persist. Gay men and other men who have sex with men and sex workers are among the most vulnerable key populations in the region that continue to suffer from systemic stigma, abject social exclusion and marginalization. COVID-19 affects the health systems response, which puts at risk people living with HIV/AIDS. UNFPA's approach to HIV is based around three strategies: promoting human rights and reducing inequalities, integrating HIV responses into sexual and reproductive health care, and preventing sexual transmission of HIV.

The purpose of this consultancy is to support the work on SRH including HIV/AIDS within the LAC region's response to COVID 19.

Sustainable Development Goals

3. Good Health and Well-being

Task description

Within the delegated authority and under the supervision of **Regional Technical Adviser in Sexual and Reproductive Health** or his/her designated mandated representative(s), the UN Volunteer on HIV/Aids will:

Overall Objective:

- Substantively contribute to the effective management of UNFPA's sexual and reproductive health activities including the work on HIV with a focus on the current COVID-19 pandemic in LAC through collaborative work with UNFPA, partners and COs.

Technical/programmatic activities:

- Analyze and assess relevant political, social economic and epidemiological trends in the field of sexual and reproductive health including HIV/AIDS, in response to priorities defined by the regional office.
- Support implementation of the SRH Strategy ensuring their linkages and applying the integrated SRHR approach and ensure that technical knowledge is updated, generated, collected and disseminated for effective technical and policy dialogues.
- Keep abreast of new policy developments and strategies analyzing policy papers, strategy documents, technical updates in the field, and prepare briefs and inputs for policy dialogue, development frameworks and preparation of reports.
- Support the development of training materials on the subject and participation in training spaces that are defined.
- Support the preparation of project summaries, conference papers, talking points as needed;
- Support project implementation establishing collaborative relationships with implementing partners (IPs), facilitating timely and efficient delivery of project inputs.
- Help create and document knowledge about current and emerging reproductive health trends by analyzing programme, projects, strategies, approaches and support documentation of best practices in the field and ongoing experience for lessons learned.
- Assist advocacy and resource mobilization efforts of LAC Regional Office by preparing relevant documentation, i.e. project summaries, conference papers, speeches, donor profiles, and participating in donor meetings and public information events.
- Provide technical assistance on issues of prevention, care and response to HIV/AIDS, within the UNFPA LACRO regional office, to UNFPA country offices, UN agencies and government, academic and civil society counterparts.
- Contribute to the development, implementation and monitoring of regional strategies on COVID 19 and HIV/AIDS;
- Coordinate programmatic activities according to the annual work plans and approved budget;
- Follow up with countries having received HIV UBRAF country envelopes and respond to critical issues.
- Assist in the preparation of reports as requested.
- Support the SRH Advisor in the implementation of the programmes under her/his responsibility.

Inter-agency coordination activities and strengthening of partnerships:

- Participate in the UNFPA technical network in the substantive area, maintaining communication and feedback loops on all substantive work;
- Support the work on substantive elements of the regional partnership UNAIDS Secretariat and with other UN agencies if needed, including UNFPA HQ SRH Branch/HIV AIDS
- Any other related tasks as may be required or assigned by the supervisor.

Furthermore, UN Volunteers are encouraged to integrate the UN Volunteers programme mandate within their assignment and promote

voluntary action through engagement with communities in the course of their work. As such, UN Volunteers should dedicate a part of their working time to some of the following suggested activities:

- 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 self- reports on UN Volunteer actions, results and opportunities.
- 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.

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

- As an active UNV International team member, efficient, timely, responsive, client-friendly and high-quality support rendered to UNFPA and its beneficiaries in the accomplishment of her/his functions, including:
 - Increased understanding of the UN system.
 - Understood the UNFPA SRHR mandate and policies and the situation of this in the LAC Region.
 - Learned the technical language and working procedures of an international development and Humanitarian Assistance Organization.
 - Documents and required reports including concept notes, technical documents, interagency technical products and others as needed to guide the work on SRH/HIV/AIDS and COVID 19 as requested by SRH Regional Adviser.
 - UNFPA LACRO's contributions to activities related to HIV/AIDS reports for the UNAIDS Regional Group as needed.
 - Monthly follow-up with CO HIV focal points on the implementation of Country envelopes/ programmatic and budgets expenditures including the reprogramming of 2020 core activity funds for COVID-19 as agreed by the UNAIDS Secretariat.
 - Preparation of UNFPA's LACRO contribution to the UNAIDS Global Report on global AIDS epidemic (the Global Report) following guidelines and agreed inter-agency deadlines.
 - Participation in virtual meetings with HQ, CO and SRO including Inter-agency work on SRH/HIV and COVID-19.
- 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.
- 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 dur-ing the assignment, such as reporting on the number of volunteers mobilized, activities participated in and capacities developed

Qualifications/Requirements

Required Degree Level Master degree or equivalent

Education - Additional Comments

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Education – Health related degree or social science degree. Master in the field of public health. Epidemiology, sexual and reproductive health including HIV, sociology, or other field directly related to the substantive area identified in the title of the post

Required experience

36 months

Experience Remark

- Experience at least of 3 years in Sexual and Reproductive health including HIV/AIDS through academic work, research or field experience.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively use a computer and software programs such as Microsoft Office Word, Excel, PowerPoint, SharePoint and Outlook. Prezi, ACCESS and others will be an asset.
- Experience with data analysis, statistical packages and other software will be an asset.
- Fluency in English and Spanish. Knowledge of French and Portuguese would be an asset
- Ability to write clearly and concisely in a professional manner.
- Experience in preparing project proposals
- Initiative, sound judgment and demonstrated ability to work harmoniously with staff members from different national and cultural backgrounds.
- Good organization skills.
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment.

Language

- English (Mandatory) , Level - Fluent
- AND - Spanish (Mandatory) , Level - Fluent

Area of Expertise

- HIV/AIDS support Mandatory

Area of Expertise Requirement

- Experience at least of 3 years in Sexual and Reproductive health including HIV/AIDS through academic work, research or field experience.

Need Driving Licence

No

Competencies & Values

- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Ethics and Values
- Integrity
- Planning and Organizing
- Professionalism
- Respect for Diversity
- Technological Awareness
- Working in Teams

Conditions of Service and other information

Condition of Service[Click here to view Conditions of Service](#)

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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\$ 1,651. 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 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

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.

Application Code

PANR000205-7411

Application procedure

*** Not yet registered in the UNV Talent Pool?**

Please first register your profile at <https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/signup>. Important: After creating your account, complete all sections of your profile and submit it. Then go to 'My Page' at <https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/mypage> and click on the 'Special Calls' hyperlink. Lastly, select the special call to which you would like to apply.

*** Already registered in the UNV Talent Pool?**

Please first update your profile at <https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/profile>. Then go to 'My Page' at <https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/mypage> and click on the 'Special Calls' hyperlink to select the special call to which you would like to apply.

Application deadline: 24 July 2020 at 23:59hrs, Germany time

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doa.apply_url

<https://vmam.unv.org/candidate/show-doa/UEFOUjAwMDIwNQ==>

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.

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