

## UN VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

LKAR000335--Gender and Protection Support Assistant

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

<b>Country of Assignment</b>	Sri Lanka
<b>Host Institute</b>	World Food Programme
<b>Volunteer Category</b>	International University
<b>Number of Volunteer</b>	1
<b>Duration</b>	6 months
<b>Possibility of Extension</b>	Yes
<b>Expected Starting Date</b>	01-09-2021
<b>Duty Station</b>	Colombo [LKA]
<b>Assignment Place</b>	Family Duty Station

### Assignment Place Remark

UN University Volunteers have to be 29 years old throughout the entire period of service, i.e. born on or after 1 September 1992.

### Living Conditions

Colombo (the commercial capital and largest city of Sri Lanka) is located on the west coast of the island and adjacent to the administrative capital, Sri Jayewardenepura, Kotte. The climate is fairly temperate all throughout the year, but humidity is usually high. From March to April the temperature averages around 31.8 degrees Celsius. The only major change in the Colombo weather occurs during the monsoon seasons from May to August and October to January when heavy rainfalls occur.

## Assignment Details

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## Organizational Context & Project Description

The United Nations World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. The mission of WFP is to help the world achieve Zero Hunger (SDG 2) in our lifetimes. Every day, WFP works worldwide to ensure that no child goes to bed hungry and that the poorest and most vulnerable, particularly women and children, can access the nutritious food they need.

WFP has been present in Sri Lanka since 1968 and provided assistance to the country in emergency response and protracted recovery interventions in the aftermath of man-made disasters such as the 27-year conflict and recurrent natural disasters (droughts and floods/landslides). Following the end of nearly three decades of armed conflict in 2009, Sri Lanka attained lower-middle-income-country status in January 2010, and then was elevated to upper-middle-income status in 2019. Exactly one year after (2020), the World Bank has reclassified again the country in the low-income category. Despite social-economic progresses, scope remains for progress in strengthening food security and nutrition given Sri Lanka's continued alarming status on nutrition, especially wasting levels, realizing gender equality and eliminating geographic and socio-economic disparities.

A five-year Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2018-2022), developed in consultation with the Government and other stakeholders and informed by contextual, gender and gap analyses, and recommendations from the 2017 National Strategic Review of Food Security and Nutrition towards Zero Hunger, frames WFP's engagement in supporting Sri Lanka's national development vision.

The CSP has four major Strategic Outcomes:

- Strategic outcome 1: Crisis-affected people have access to food all year round;
- Strategic outcome 2: School-age children in food-insecure areas have access to food all year round;
- Strategic outcome 3: Children under 5, adolescent girls and women of reproductive age have improved nutrition by 2025; and
- Strategic outcome 4: Vulnerable communities and smallholder farmers have strengthened livelihoods and resilience to shocks and stresses all year round.

In the CSP, WFP and government have agreed that WFP shifts its focus from direct delivering to enabling role with more emphasis on technical and capacity support in emergency preparedness and response, food fortification, social and behavior change communication, nutrition policy formulation, home grown school feeding, early warning and shock monitoring using remote sensing and real-time technology, shock responsive safety net and resilience building for climate shock-affected communities through an integrated nutrition sensitive and climate adaptive approaches.

Gender has been systematically integrated into all the CSP outcomes mentioned above and WFP mandates gender and age integration and uses a Gender and Age marker as a design and monitoring tool. It is pertinent that WFP Sri Lanka builds gender responsive and gender transformative approaches through regular gender and age analysis. WFP also has several additional cross cutting themes such as social protection, disability, and social cohesion. Which requires coordination and integrated analysis. The disability road map that has been developed by WFP globally will be piloted and rolled out in countries including Sri Lanka in the year 2021. UN Country team also conducted Gender and Disability Scorecard exercises with action plans to improve UN wide improvements on these areas. In addition, WFP Sri Lanka conducted internal Social Cohesion and peace contribution analysis of the WFP programmes which also has recommendation for conflict sensitive data gathering and analysis.

## Sustainable Development Goals

### 2. Zero Hunger

## Task description

Within the delegated authority and under the supervision of Gender and Protection Officer, under the RAM Unit or his/her designated mandated representative(s), the UNV Gender and Protection support Assistant will undertake the following tasks:

- WFP Sri Lanka engages internally in diverse platforms on gender and other cross cutting areas; internally a Gender Results Network through staff engagement, externally UN Gender Theme Group, National Forum to address gender-based violence, UN Disability Inclusion Group, UN Social Cohesions Results group etc. UNV should support gender and protection officer to understand important points that are relevant to WFP in these discussion and support follow up actions where necessary
- During the UNV work period the main event under Gender equality is 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence, the UNV would require to work with WFP Sri Lanka Communications teams to design events for internal staff and coordinate Gender Officer to support joint UN, Civil Society Campaigns
- WFP has conducted a Social Cohesion analysis of the programmes of WFP which has short term and long-term

recommendations. The UNV will work with Gender and Protection officer to coordinate with Social Cohesion Results Group, and HQ Peace building officers to arrange capacity building avenues on peace and conflict prevention for staff groups (online and external/internal trainings)

- Support and assist in providing input to develop social cohesion questions and tools to include into monitoring tools
- The Disability Road Map will be piloted in Sri Lanka, UNV is expected to assist the gender and protection officer to coordinate with disability organizations to schedule consultation meetings and gather collate information. Specially support on analysis of disability and youth engagement issues and potential innovative actions for social inclusion of disabled youth. Any other related tasks as may be required or assigned by the supervisor.

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 team member; efficient, timely, responsive, client-friendly and high-quality support rendered to World Food Programme Sri Lanka, and its beneficiaries in the accomplishment of her/his functions, including:

- Support the development of activities such as brown bag/lunch time programmes for staff on Gender and other Cross cutting issues or other creative activities
- Assist in doing the Collaborated design for 16 days Activity Plan for WFP internally and external engagement with UN and civil society organizations, social media posts developed, and design other innovative tools identified for staff engagements
- Prepare the final report on 16 days of activism and presentation designed
- Database on disability organizations mapped with contact details and assist in designing 2 pagers on important issues and potential solutions identified by the consultations together with Head Quarters (HQ) and Regional Bureau support input
- Mapping document of potential online and offline trainings available on Social Cohesion and Peace Building for staff with support of HQ.
- Draft 2 to 5-page report on potential joint action that WFP can deliver within the Social Cohesion Results groups with mapping steps that has been taken within the from Feb 2021 to November 2021 post Social Cohesion Analysis report.
- Assist in systematically applying, integrating and documenting the Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) perspective in all activities throughout the assignment

• 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 during the assignment, such as reporting on the number of volunteers mobilized, activities participated in and capacities developed

### Required Degree Level

Secondary education

### Education - Additional Comments

Currently studying towards a degree or recently graduated (no longer than 12 months prior to application) International Development Studies, Environment Studies, Disaster Management, or Social Sciences or other relevant field.

### Required experience

0 months

### Experience Remark

- Demonstrated interest and/or experience (up to 2 years) in building gender justice, women's empowerment, disability inclusion and social cohesion and integrations of protection issues.
- Previous experience as a volunteer and/or experience of another culture, (i.e. studies, volunteer work, internship) would be highly

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#### Language

- English (Mandatory) , Level - Fluent

#### Area of Expertise

- Other development programme/project experience Optional

#### Area of Expertise Requirement

#### Learning Expectations

Learning and development are a central part of the UN University 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 University 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, the host agency will support knowledge and capacity development in the technical areas that are relevant to the UN Youth Volunteer's assignment. The host agency will provide, at its expense, UN University Volunteers with equal opportunity to participate in training courses and workshops offered to its personnel.

#### Need Driving Licence

No

#### Competencies & Values

- Accountability
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Commitment and Motivation
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Creativity
- Ethics and Values
- Integrity
- Knowledge Sharing
- Planning and Organizing
- Professionalism
- Self-Management
- Technological Awareness

## Conditions of Service and other information

#### Condition of Service

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

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**Conditions of Service:**

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) per month and 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 (choose from the drop down menu the appropriate rate here): US\$1,009 The VLA base rate is a global rate, while the PAM is 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 UN Volunteer did not reside in the duty station for at least 6 months prior to taking up the assignment) and also 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

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framework (including residential security reimbursements). UN Volunteers are paid Daily Subsistence Allowance at the UN rate for official travels, flight tickets for the final repatriation travel (if applicable). 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** ([Roles and Responsibilities of Host Entities](#))

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;
- Investigate misconduct: sharing reports with the UNV;
- Provide emergency assistance, e.g. the death of volunteer or medical evacuation, in collaboration with UNV. Accept letters of guarantees or potential liabilities for covering medical costs not claimable under medical insurance in extraordinary situations (e.g. isolation facilities` services during pandemics)

#### **Application Code**

LKAR000335-9050

#### **Application procedure**

This assignment is funded by KOICA, therefore only Korean nationals are eligible to apply.

UN University Volunteers must be 29 years old throughout the entire period of service. Eligible candidates must therefore be born on or after 1 September 1992.

**Please apply via the link below. You can then either log in if you already have an account or register via 'Candidate Signup'.**

You may apply to a maximum of three assignments per advertisement and indicate your order of preference in the 'Additional Remarks' section of your profile.

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**Application deadline: 11 April 2021**

**Selection process**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The selection will be done by the UN Host Entity at the level of the country of assignment. Interviews will be conducted by the UN Host Entity between 28 April and 21 May.

**COVID-19: The assignment start date may be postponed due to COVID19.**

**doa.apply\_url**

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

**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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