

UN ENVIRONMENT JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICER REQUEST

General Information

Post Title	JPO – Climate Security Mechanism
Office/division/MEA	Ecosystems/Disasters & Conflicts and NY Office
Unit	Policy and Analysis
Location	New York
Duration	2 or 3 years

Background information on UN Environment and the requesting Unit

The United Nations Environment Programme is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of the sustainable development agenda within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. UN Environment implements legislative mandates of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), the United Nations General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF), ensuring coherent delivery of its programme of work. Its mandate is to, among others, coordinate the development of environmental policy consensus by keeping the global environment under review and bringing emerging issues to the attention of the governments and the international community for action.

This position is located in the UN Environment Programme New York Office at UN Headquarters and is part of UNEP's Disasters and Conflicts Branch, Ecosystems Division.

Through the Climate Security Mechanism (CSM), UNEP is partnering with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the Department of Peace Operations and the UN Development Programme to enhance the information base for climate-related security risks and to strengthen the UN's capacity to address such risks. The Climate Security Mechanism was established in October 2018 and it currently consists of one professional staff each in DPPA, DPO, UNDP and UNEP based at NY Headquarters, CSM Secretariat and Junior Professional Officers (DPPA, DPO, UNDP).

The goal of the Mechanism is to strengthen UN capacity to address the linkages between climate change and peace and security through better risk assessments, the development of risk prevention and management strategies, and targeted advocacy. In practice, this contains a range of ongoing activities at the policy and operational levels, carried out in collaboration and coordination with experts from across and beyond the UN system.

The global functions of the CSM, as articulated in the Joint Programme, consist of: 1) advocacy, partnerships and convening, 2) knowledge co-generation and management and 3) capacity building. In addition, the CSM supports analysis and action in various field contexts, including in support of regional organisations, UN Country Teams and UN Special Political Missions and Peacekeeping Operations, to help develop integrated risk

assessments and risk management strategies and plans in locations highly affected by climate-related security risks. UNEP assures backstopping support to Climate, Peace and Security Advisors that are deployed in selected Peace Operations.

Why is the Junior Professional Officer requested/needed?

Demand for UN's climate, peace and security advice is growing as awareness has increased. Junior Professional Officer is needed to assist in connecting UNEP expertise to the global and the context specific work of the CSM. As an entity financed through extrabudgetary grants, all CSM entities have benefitted from Junior Professional Officers. UNEP wants to respond in particular to the demand of better tailored environmental data and analysis for backstopping purposes as well as bespoke training – the fields in which the Junior Professional Officer support is requested.

Such a dynamically evolving policy field is a good opportunity for those in early career, offering to combine technical environmental expertise with political analysis skills across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. Two years offers the possibility to learn the CSM approach and support field colleagues in specific contexts.

Supervision

UNEP Coordination Officer, Climate Security Mechanism, will be the Junior Professional Officer's supervisor and work in daily collaboration. An annual workplan is established together and the UNEP staff E-Performance system used for appraising performance.

Content and methodology of the supervision

The Junior Professional Officer will receive an introduction to UN Environment, the Climate Security Mechanism and the New York context as well as orientation on the overall work, deliverables and future plans of the Climate Security Mechanism.

The Junior Professional Officer will carry out regular discussion and evaluation with the supervisor in light of a previously established workplan. This will include the frequency and nature of assessments of accomplishments, review of problems, discussions on job-satisfaction; discussion of development plan and learning objectives, guidance to be provided in development of the workplan and project implementation.

Guidance will be provided through interaction with the supervisor on a regular basis, through the work with other senior staff in the office and through regular engagement with the colleagues in the Climate Security Mechanism. The overall context of management and guidance includes discussion of general objectives, desired results and anticipated challenges. Regular feedback on the progress of activities is obtained by the supervisor through review of work in process. The incumbent is expected to carry out the duties under general supervision and to consult with the supervisor on issues of policy or other sensitive matter. Final results of each set of activities are reviewed for attainment of

objectives and quality of work. In addition, guidance will be provided to the Junior Professional Officer through a supporting team structure.

First appraising officer: Mr. Matti Lehtonen
Title first appraising officer: Coordination Officer, Climate Security Mechanism
Unit first appraising officer: Policy and Analysis/Disaster and Conflicts
Location first appraising officer: New York

Second appraising officer: Ms. Elizabeth Sellwood
Title second appraising officer: Head of Policy and Analysis Unit
Unit second appraising officer: Policy and Analysis/Disaster and Conflicts
Location second appraising officer: Athens

Duties, responsibilities and output expectations

Terms of reference

The CSM UNEP Junior Professional Officer will support the implementation of the Phase III Joint Programme and daily work of the Climate Security Mechanism, in particular:

- Contribute to the CSM core team tasks according to the CSM Joint Programme Phase III, planning and operationalising related activities and building on UNEP corporate priorities.
- As UNEP-CSM training focal point, ensure UNEP contributions to the development of training initiatives and events that raise awareness on climate security.
- Explore opportunities for surge support to field needs for climate security analysis and training.
- Assist CSM field support and UNEP's backstopping functions globally, including in the Horn of Africa, Western Africa/Mali and Northern Central America.
- Collaborate with practitioners and researchers around the world in creating and managing knowledge for a global evidence base of good practices regarding risk prevention and management strategies while assuring the inclusion of UNEP expertise in CSM products.
- Prepare policy briefing documents on linkages between climate change and peace and security and sustainable development related to relevant intergovernmental and interagency processes, as appropriate.
- Support the UN Community of Practice on climate, peace and security.

Output expectations

Tailored UNEP backstopping planned and supported in consultation with New York based stakeholders.

Climate, Peace and Security training delivered to UN field missions, RC Offices and other practitioners.

Evidence base consolidated and applied to context specific support.

Travel

Missions and costs of travel envisaged during first year of assignment: 5000USD

Missions and costs of travel envisaged during second year of assignment: 5000USD

Missions and costs of travel envisaged during third year of assignment (if applicable)

Training and Learning Elements**Training**

On the job training: The Junior Professional Officer will receive unique experience and training within the New York Office of a UN organisation, including the functioning of intergovernmental negotiations and inter-agency coordination mechanisms. The successful candidate will receive an overview of the range of environmental sustainability issues within UN Environment's work programme, the role of UN Environment in setting the global environmental agenda and its coordination role within the UN system. The Junior Professional Officer will receive exposure to the functioning of intergovernmental bodies and will obtain an in-depth understanding of the UN system organisations working on sustainable development.

UN training courses: The Junior Professional Officer will be required to take several training courses that are mandatory for UN staff. He/she will also be invited to take other training courses developed by the UN system or by UN Environment to enhance his/her performance.

Learning elements:

After one year the Junior Professional Officer is able to: Draft reports and briefing documents according to standards required by the New York Office and consistent with UN style format and protocol. Prepare high-quality correspondence consistent with UN style and format and protocol. Have a clear understanding of climate related security risks and how the UN can analyse such risks or design policy options for addressing them. Understanding the Member State dynamics regarding climate, peace and security in the Security Council.

After two years the Junior Professional Officer is able to: Use the Climate Security Mechanism's toolbox in trainings and connect the conceptual framework to specific contexts. Facilitate trainings for field colleagues across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. Prepare and lead Community of Practice meetings. Prepare Terms of References for individual consultants and supervise their work.

Qualifications and experience***Qualifications***

Advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in a field related to the environment, sustainable development, economics, law, international relations, or political science.

A first-level university degree in combination with additional qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

A keen interest in the work of the United Nations in general and of UN Environment Programme in particular, and a personal commitment to UN Environment's mission and to the ideals of the UN Charter.

Skills

Languages: English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. For the position advertised, fluency in English (oral and written) is required; knowledge of French is highly desirable.

Working experience

At least 2 years of relevant work experience in sustainable development and implementation of environmental related programmes, projects and activities is required. Prior experience at the international level is advantageous and a development-oriented employment history or previous experience in development is desirable.

Competencies

Professionalism: Knowledge of policies/procedures in the area of climate change, risk assessment and sustainable development; good research, analytical and problem-solving skills, including the ability to identify and contribute to the solution of problems/issues; familiarity with and in the use of various research methodologies and sources; and sound judgement.

Planning and organising: Strong organisational skills, including proven ability to effectively plan and coordinate own work as well as that of others; allocating appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work.

Teamwork: Good interpersonal skills and ability to establish and maintain effective partnership and working relations in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity and gender in organisation and management of meetings and in project implementation.

Living conditions at duty station

Normal living conditions.