

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 (UN Environment) 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 New York, under the line management of UNEP Ecosystems division and linked to the UNEP New York Office at UN Headquarters.

UN Environment is partnering with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and 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 joint DPPA, DPO, UNDP and UNEP Climate Security Mechanism (CSM) was established in October 2018. The Mechanism currently consists of one professional staff each in DPPA, DPO, UNDP and UNEP based at NY Headquarters, CSM Secretariat and Junior Professional Officers (DPPA, UNDP and DPO).

The goal of the CSM 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. The global workstreams include advocacy, knowledge co-creation and training. In addition, the CSM is also providing support to 12 field contexts: through Climate, Peace and Security Advisors in Peace Operations, experts in Regional Organisations as well as to Resident Coordinator Offices.

The future outlook is to continue support to different regions/countries to analyse, articulate and respond to climate-related security risks. This will also provide an opportunity to collect evidence and build up an evidence base for policy options for

climate-related security risk prevention and management strategies. The Climate Security Mechanism aims to build on the expertise of DPPA, UNDP, UNEP and DPO but also to enhance coordination across the UN system as the issue cuts across many institutional mandates. Partnerships with researchers and practitioners outside the UN will further strengthen the collective understanding of the risks and responses. Internal and external communication and sensitization around the climate-related security risks is also an ongoing task.

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 savvy 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: Environmental Security Unit/Disaster and Conflicts

Location first appraising officer: New York

Second appraising officer: Ms. Sagal Abshir

Title second appraising officer: Head of Policy and Analysis Unit

Unit second appraising officer: Environmental Security Unit /Disaster and Conflicts

Location second appraising officer: Nairobi

Duties, responsibilities and output expectations

Terms of reference

The Environmental Sustainability and Climate Peace and Security Junior Professional Officer will support the daily work of the Climate Security Mechanism, contributing to the implementation of the Phase III Joint Programme, 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.
- Identify opportunities to connect climate, peace and security to global policy priorities, including the SG's New Agenda for Peace policy brief, futures thinking or food systems.
- As UNEP-CSM training focal point, ensure UNEP contributions to the development of training initiatives and events that raise awareness on climate peace and security.
- Provide surge support to field needs for climate peace and security analysis and training.
- Assist CSM field support and UNEP's backstopping functions globally, in particular 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, 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.
- Assist in project management related to CSM initiatives.
- Assist in preparing and organising meetings with Member States, including the Joint Steering Committee, Partnership Dialogues and ad hoc meetings.

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

Travel will be based on requirements/needs that will arise and availability of funds

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 is required. Knowledge of other UN languages would be an asset.

Working experience

At least 2 years of relevant work experience in sustainable development and environmental activities or climate, peace and security related work 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.