



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 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: Thailand
Agency Name: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

General Description

Volunteer Category: International Specialist
Number of Volunteers: 1
Duty Station: Bangkok, Thailand
Duration: 24 months
Expected Starting Date: 1st October 2021

Living Conditions:

Located in Southeast Asia, Thailand is bordered by Malaysia and the Gulf of Thailand to the south, Myanmar and the Andaman Sea to the west, Cambodia to the east and the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the north and north-east. Thailand covers about 513,000 square kilometres, stretching approximately 1,715 kilometres from north to south and 915 kilometres at its widest point from east to west. As of April 2000 it had a population of 60.6 million, one of the most homogeneous in South-East Asia with a sprinkling of ethnic Chinese, Malays, Cambodians, Vietnamese, Burmese, Indians, non-Thai hill tribes and others. In terms of population it is the fourth largest state in South-East Asia. The country can be divided into four natural regions: the mountainous north, where temperatures are cool enough for the cultivation of lychees and strawberries; the north-east, a rolling semi-arid plateau bounded on the north and east by the Mekong River; the isthmus of the south with its hilly rubber plantations, fruit orchards, coves and bays; and the central region, the basin of the Chao Phraya River and a most fertile rice-growing area. This region has become the administrative, political and commercial centre of the country. Bangkok has a tropical monsoonal climate with high humidity, but it is located outside the typhoon belt. Most of the country experiences three seasons, the cool season from November to

January, the hot season from February to April and the rainy season from May to October. The average rainfall (mostly in the form of heavy showers in the rainy season) is 142 centimetres and the annual mean temperature is 28 degrees Celsius, ranging from a night minimum of 20 degrees Celsius in the cool season to a maximum day temperature of 38 degrees Celsius in the hot season. With the high humidity the weather can be oppressive, but the widespread use of air-conditioners alleviates the heat and humidity.

Bangkok, known as Krung Thep (City of Angels) in Thai, has been the capital since 1782. It has grown rapidly in recent years as the percentage of urban residents in Thailand has increased to 40 percent in 1999 from only 13 per cent in 1970. Bangkok's official population figures are 8.2 million, making it the predominant urban area in Thailand. Unofficially the total could reach 10 million. Almost all major domestic and foreign companies are located in the capital, as are all government ministries and most of the country's leading educational and medical facilities, and sporting and cultural activities. Bangkok, with its huge and diverse population, its shopping centres and high-rise office buildings, its many Western-style apartment buildings, and its cosmopolitan sophistication, is truly an international city, but it still retains temple compounds, Chinese shophouses and a vibrant street life. The rapid growth of Bangkok has severely strained its facilities, causing a number of serious problems. The city now has over a million registered motor vehicles and because of the limited road surface, traffic congestion is heavy in downtown areas. Traffic, construction work and industries located in the suburbs all contribute to an increasing pollution problem, with dangerously high levels of suspended particulate matter from diesel and two-stroke vehicle engines. Western influence and the predominance of the young have created a taste for new fashions and new lifestyles, reflected in the growing popularity of tennis and golf, delicatessens and boutiques, music and drama, architecture and interior decoration. Fast foods from the West, such as hamburgers, fried chicken and pizzas, have become popular with young and old alike.

Religion

Buddhism is the national religion of Thailand but there is total religious freedom and all major religions can be found in practice. Many of the Thai festivals are linked not only to Buddhist, but also to Brahman rituals. There is absolute freedom of religion – Islam, Christianity, Hinduism and other faiths are practiced and protected by the constitution. Buddhism is the faith of 95 per cent of the population, 4 per cent are Muslims, 0.5 percent are Christians, and the remainder Hindus, Sikhs and other religion.

Culture

The Thai people are traditionally noted for their politeness, tolerance, peaceful way of life and love of freedom. Although Thailand has suffered periodic invasions, and was occupied by Japan in the Second World War, the strong desire for freedom has not been dampened. Bloodless coups and the absence of civil wars are evidence of the strong desire for a peaceful way of life. It is a society of relationships, not one of law. To understand Thai culture, knowledge of Buddhist philosophy is helpful. The Thais have a genius for absorbing outside influences while retaining their own identity. There are certain recognizable Thai cultural markers that, if ignored, could make life in the office a little difficult. Well over 90 per cent of the ESCAP General Service staff are Thai nationals. Some of these markers will be familiar to other Asian peoples:

Comportment

Thailand is a relatively formal country where looks and behaviour are important and can determine how foreigners are perceived and treated. A neat and clean appearance, discreet relations with the opposite sex, and subtle, quiet modes of expression are respected. Thus, casual leisure wear is not seen in the office and displays of impatience and temper are very much frowned upon. Skimpy beach wear, loud behaviour and an unkempt appearance are offensive to Thai people.

Respect for the monarchy and religion

It is taboo to speak disrespectfully of the royal family and of Buddhism. Not to stand for the royal anthem or to enter a temple wearing shorts and a singlet is considered very disrespectful. Any derogatory act that can be construed as lèse-majesté is a criminal offence. In addition there are certain social norms, such as the "wai" (the placing together of both hands and raising

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We are inspiration in action

them to the chest or face) rather than the handshake. Some social taboos are as follows:

Do not:

- Touch another person's head
- Point with the feet (be careful when sitting with one leg crossed over the other)
- Wear shoes in the house or in a temple
- Touch a monk, however inadvertently, if you are a woman
- Make public displays of affection between the sexes

Language

Thai is the official language of the country, taught in all the schools, with four distinct dialects in the different regions. It is a tonal language with five tones: rising, falling, mid, high and low. This means that one letter may have several different sounds and one sound may be represented by different letters. Mostly monosyllabic, Thai has few tenses, but a great abundance of pronouns that are used to reflect status. The literacy rate is 93.8 per cent. The English transliteration of Thai words may vary considerably, for example, the street on which the United Nations Building stands can be written as: Rajdamnoen, Rajdamnern, Rajadamnern, Rajadamnoen or Ratchadamnoen.

Accommodation and prices

Prices are generally higher in the central business area (Sukhumvit and Sathorn Roads, Ploenchit, Rajadamri), but lower across the river to the west and in the eastern and northern suburbs, with the exception of Nichada Park which surrounds the American international school well to the north of Bangkok. Bangrak, Petchburi, Prakanong, Phya Thai, Phaholyothin, Samsen and Dusit are intermediate price areas for accommodation. House rents do not include electricity, gas or water, whereas some apartments do.

It is preferable to go to an established agency. Recently there have been a number of unqualified people setting up as estate agents. The estate agency fee is paid by the property owner. It is also useful to check the notice board on the fourth floor of the Service Building (near the cafeteria) and the bulletin board, Personal Ads, on Lotus Notes which will be installed on your office computer. One can also walk into the rental office in apartment buildings (not applicable to condominiums) to look at available apartments and negotiate directly with the building management. The followings are websites of real estate agencies that may be useful to you:

- <http://www.bangkokhomequality.com>
- <http://www.housecondobangkok.com>
- <http://www.propertytosearch.com>
- <http://www.condobangkok.com>
- <http://www.bkkcitismart.com>
- <http://www.bangkok-homes.com>
- <http://www.centrepont.com>

Thailand is a unique country. It provides for an interesting and enriching environment, but also requires a mature level of cultural awareness and commitment to make for a comfortable and affordable life. Therefore, flexibility and adaptability is a key component.

Sustainable Development Goals: 16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

UNV Focus Area: Community resilience environment & disaster reduction

Need Driving License: No

Assignment Type: Family Duty Station

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.

Assignment Details

Assignment Title: Communication and Research Specialist

Education

Required Degree Level: Master's degree

Education - Additional Comments: Political Science, Global Studies, International Development, International Law, Law, Psychology, Philosophy or other related fields.

Required Experience: 2 years

Experience Description:

- At least 2 years of professional work experience at the national and/or international level in programme implementation, policy or legal advice, or research and analysis, is required.
- Experience with one or more of the fields of UNODC mandates (*transnational organized crime, criminal justice, anti-corruption, drugs and health, sustainable livelihoods*) or other human security issues is an asset, as is experience working in the UN or other international development organization;
- Excellent English oral and written skills; excellent drafting, formulation, reporting skills;
- Accuracy and professionalism in document production and editing;
- Excellent interpersonal skills; culturally and socially sensitive; ability to work inclusively and collaboratively with a range of partners, including grassroots community members, religious and youth organizations, and authorities at different levels; familiarity with tools and approaches of communications for development;

- Solid overall computer literacy, including proficiency in various MS Office applications (Excel, Word, etc.) and email/internet; familiarity with database management; and office technology equipment;
- Self-motivated, ability to work with minimum supervision; ability to work with tight deadlines

Language Skills: Fluency in spoken and written English is required. Working knowledge of a Southeast or East Asian language is an advantage.

Areas of Expertise:

Expertise	Mandatory yes/no
Development programme management	Yes
Criminal Law	No
Public information and reporting	No

Competencies and Values:

- Integrity and professionalism: demonstrated expertise in area of specialty and ability to apply good judgment; high degree of autonomy, personal initiative and ability to take ownership; willingness to accept wide responsibilities and ability to work independently under established procedures in a politically sensitive environment, while exercising discretion, impartiality and neutrality; ability to manage information objectively, accurately and confidentially; responsive and client-oriented.
- Teamwork and respect for diversity: ability to operate effectively across organizational boundaries; ability to establish and maintain effective partnerships and harmonious working relations in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity and gender;
- Communication: proven interpersonal skills; good spoken and written communication skills, including ability to prepare clear and concise reports; ability to conduct presentations, articulate options and positions concisely; ability to make and defend recommendations; ability to communicate and empathize with staff (including national staff), military personnel, volunteers, counterparts and local interlocutors coming from very diverse backgrounds; ability to maintain composure and remain helpful towards the staff, but objective, without showing personal interest; capacity to transfer information and knowledge to a wide range of different target groups;

Task descriptions

Under the direct supervision of the Southeast Asia Programme Coordinator of the ROSEAP Environmental Crime team, the UN Volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

- Support the Environmental Crime team of ROSEAP in the design, implementation, monitoring and reporting of technical assistance and capacity building activities aimed at preventing and combating environmental crime (workshops / conferences, engagement of relevant counterparts, etc.) in Southeast Asia and the Pacific;

- Support the team's efforts to integrate innovative investigation techniques, international cooperation, anti-money laundering and anti-corruption standards as integral dimensions of countering environmental crime;
- Support the identification of technical assistance needs, undertake needs assessments and technical assistance missions in the region;
- Participate in events, workshops and conferences, and network as required;
- Draft written outputs and documents, such as progress reports, inputs to briefing notes and talking points, presentations, concept papers, press releases, mission reports and research documents;
- Support increased synergies between capacity building through UNODC's regional and global programmes and initiatives relevant to countering environmental crime from other stakeholders, such as ICCWC partners, fellow UNODC programmes, UN agencies and international NGOs;
- Contribute to strengthening UNODC's regional strategy;
- Support the monitoring and evaluation, including indicators, baselines, keeping monitoring records and evaluations of project activities in support of capacity building in the area of environmental crime;
- Provide administrative, organizational and substantive support to the team's missions in the region for the implementation of planned activities.
- Support the development and implementation of a communication strategy for the Environmental Crime team of ROSEAP to increase visibility and raise awareness on the seriousness of these crimes among Government counterparts, partners and civil society;
- Conduct baseline surveys and policy research reports, and keep abreast with policy developments related to area of environmental crimes, (e.g. wildlife trafficking, illegal timber trade, waste smuggling, crimes in the fishery sector, illicit exploitation of mineral resources, etc.) to inform future UNODC programming (e.g. new project proposals) and to provide a Southeast Asia-specific context to global UNODC research efforts on environmental crime;
- Contribute to the dissemination to Southeast Asian and Pacific countries of UNODC knowledge products, including (legal) guidelines, toolkits, assessment methods, etc.
- Contribute to the work of the ROSEAP Working Group on sustainable operations, to promote the application of "*green practices*" by UNODC programmes in the region. This includes the monitoring of CO2 emissions generated by different UNODC programmes and the coordination work associated with the implementation of the programmes' green strategies (including data collection and analysis);
- Perform other work-related duties as required.

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;
- Reflect on the type and quality of voluntary action that they are undertaking, including participation in ongoing reflection activities;
- 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

The UN Volunteer will be involved in the implementation of UNODC activities on countering environmental crimes in the SEAP region, and s/he will receive guidance, supervision and on the job-training on an ongoing basis. Additional training opportunities may become available through participation in specialized courses in the area of work and attendance to substantive events in UNODC mandate areas, including field missions, seminars, workshops, etc. Through the assignment, the UN Volunteer will have:

- Gained improved substantive knowledge on all UNODC mandate areas, but particularly on transnational organised crime, and illicit trafficking in natural resources and/or illicit waste;
- Gained exposure to the overall work of the United Nations, as well as improved skills in research and analysis, communication and in the preparation of reports and projects;
- Gained exposure to the overall work of the United Nations in the field of programme development, cooperation and technical assistance;
- Gained experience in programme monitoring and management;
- Improved skills in research and analysis, in preparing programme documents and in carrying out technical assistance activities in response to requests made by countries.

UNODC expects the UN Volunteer to deliver:

- Substantial contribution to strengthening UNODC's portfolio in the thematic area of environmental crime as a key pillar of UNODC's strategic presence in Southeast Asia and the Pacific;
- Contribution to the implementation of UNODC technical assistance on countering environmental crime in the region;
- Contribution to enhanced monitoring, evaluation and programme reporting for the technical assistance and capacity-building projects implemented by the Environmental Crime team;
- Production of high quality written outputs (e.g. background documentation, analysis, reports, inputs to publication, press releases, donor reporting) related to environmental crime;
- Contributions to research reports fully compliant with UNODC and UN quality standards;
- Contributions to needs assessments in line with interactions and views expressed by the national counterparts;
- Project proposals in UNODC formats and reflecting latest UN values, especially with regards to gender equality and to women, peace and security.

In addition, the UN Volunteer will have achieved:

- The development of capacity through coaching, mentoring and formal on-the-job training, when working with (including supervising) national staff or (non-) governmental counterparts, 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

Agency Details

Host Institute: UNODC Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand

Organizational Context & Project Description:

This UNV assignment is part of the Environmental Crime Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (ROSEAP) in Bangkok, Thailand.

As the guardian of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), the three International Drug Control Conventions and the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), UNODC is mandated to support Member States in the implementation of measures to comply with the Conventions, as well as to coordinate regional and international actions transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism. To this end, ROSEAP hosts a number of specialized programme aiming to assist Member States in areas such as anti-corruption, cybercrime, drug control, anti-money laundering, human trafficking, migrants smuggling, international legal cooperation, border control and environmental crimes.

In 2014, UNODC launched its Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, which has set an important component of its operation in Southeast Asia, through the Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific. In 2019-2020, activities related to combating wildlife and forest crime were conducted in over 15 Countries and territories in Asia.

In the implementation of its projects in the field of environmental crimes, especially those related to wildlife trafficking, prevention of zoonotic diseases, waste smuggling and crimes in the fishery sector, UNODC cooperates with several partners, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization, the World Bank and several non-governmental organizations.

Conditions of Service and other information

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 US\$1,682. 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 example, kindly enter the link [Calculator](#)

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 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 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). A 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.

Disclaimer

The United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) is an equal opportunity programme which welcomes applications from qualified professionals. We are committed to achieving diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture.