



## **United Nations Environment Programme - UNEP**

### **Junior Professional Officer Programme (JPO) Chiffre Nr. 2022-2-50**

#### **I. General Information**

**Title:** JPO Associate Programme Officer

**Organization:** UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme

**Office/division/MEA:** Biodiversity & Land Branch

**Unit:** Wildlife Unit

**Country and Duty Station:** Headquarters Office in Nairobi, Kenya

**Duration of assignment:** 2 years with possibility of extension for another year. The extension of appointment is subject to yearly review concerning priorities, availability of funds and satisfactory performance.

**Please note that for participants of the JPO-Programme two years work experience are mandatory!** Relevant work experience can be counted. In order to assess the eligibility of the candidates, we review the relevant experience acquired after obtaining the first university degree (usually bachelor's degree).

#### **II. Background Information on UN Environment and requesting Unit**

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. Its mandate is to coordinate the development of environmental policy consensus by keeping the global environment under review and bringing emerging issues to the attention of governments and the international community for action. UNEP's Ecosystems Division engages with governments and other partners to develop and promote ecosystem-based solutions for sustainable development. This assignment is in the Biodiversity and Land Branch, Ecosystems Division.

Under UNEP's approved Mid-Term Strategy 2022-2025 and Programme of Work (POW), the MTS calls specifically for mainstreaming of nature and health. Under outcome 2 "Sustainable management of nature is adopted and implemented in development frameworks" UNEP will collaborate with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to support Member States in strengthening biodiversity and health linkages". UNEP's mandate to work on these issues is also articulated in UN Environment Assembly resolution 3.4 Environment and Health,

which specifically references biodiversity, climate change, chemicals and waste, anti-microbial resistance and sustainable consumption and production aspects. In Spring 2022, UNEP the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), The World Animal Health Organization (OIE), and the World Health Organisation (WHO) formed the Quadripartite Alliance for One Health between and strengthens the environment dimensions of the joint work. Considerable engagements are underway, including mutual support for the German-supported One Health High Level Expert Panel, collaboration on G7 and G20 health initiatives and many other areas. The recognition of previously under-developed environment aspects of one health approaches offers a unique opportunity for impact for UNEP and partners. A UNEP-wide technical working group for One Health has been established to enhance results and synergy across multiple pillars of the POW.

The JPO will support emerging initiatives on the integration of human, animal and environmental health, including aspects of zoonotic disease, pandemic prevention and other areas. This includes the preparation of evidence-based reports and proposals promoting sustainable policies that balance biodiversity conservation and economic development.

### **III. Why is the Junior Professional Officer requested/ needed?**

The Biodiversity and Land Branch, and specifically the wildlife unit had two JPOs whose terms have ended. The Unit is tasked with developing flagship initiatives to address the 2022-2025 Medium-Term Strategy, including a UNEP-wide portfolio on One Health and responses to the COVID 19 crisis and the development of a programme dedicated to the interlinkage between biodiversity and pandemic prevention (potentially supported by the IKI/BMU) in addition to the continued implementation of existing projects, such as the GEF 7 Congo Basin Impact Programme, the IKI Congo Peatlands Project, the Landscapes, Wildlife and People Framework Project, the EU-funded Africa's Coexistence Landscapes Project, and Convention on Biological Diversity enabling activities supporting 97 countries. The additional capacity provided by a JPO to focus on biodiversity within the One Health approach will be instrumental in the successful delivery of all these commitments and ambitions, supporting broader outward engagement with the Quadripartite and other partners and enabling mainstreaming of health aspects within UNEP programming. UNEP also leads the new German supported consortium on Biodiversity & Health, which implements the Nature for Health Trust Fund for Pandemic Prevention, and JPO would assist with this activity.

The JPO would be required for at least two years, ideally three, in which case the Branch would seek to mobilize resources to secure a fourth year.

The Branch offers excellent opportunities for learning, and skills development and exposure in a dynamic team that focuses on delivering results and finding feasible solutions to some of the most complex challenges facing biodiversity, wildlife, ecosystems and the livelihoods of the people. The JPO will be exposed to science-based and multidisciplinary approaches in policy development and programme implementation in a multi-national and multi-cultural environment.

### **III. Supervision**

The JPO will be directly supervised by Julian Blanc as first reporting officer. The Branch Chief, Doreen Robinson, who is also UNEP's primary focal point for One Health will be the second reporting officer. Additional reporting officers may be considered to ensure synergy across programs as needed.

## **Content and methodology of the supervision**

The JPO will be fully briefed on the portfolio of the Branch and Wildlife Unit and given guided access to important programme and substantive documents to read. Annual work plans will be developed in accordance with programmatic needs as well as the JPO's strengths and interests. The JPO will engage in weekly unit meetings to review ongoing work and address any challenges encountered. In addition to regular appraisal meetings as required by the UN appraisal system, day to day supervision will be provided through regular meetings and interactions, review of deliverables and constructive feedback. While the JPO will be expected to take responsibility on delivering on commitments, the supervisory team has an open door policy for any support needed, be it of a technical, substantive or personal nature.

## **IV. Duties, Responsibilities and output Expectations**

### **Terms of reference**

- Participate in the development, implementation and evaluation of programmes and projects, with specific focus on one health initiatives; monitor and analyze specific aspects of programme/project development and implementation; review relevant documents and reports; identify problems and issues to be addressed and recommend corrective actions; liaise with partners and stakeholders; identify and track follow-up actions.
- Serve as technical liaison to Quadripartite and other One Health Structures at global, regional and/or national levels to support delivery of results including enhanced partnership and resource mobilization.
- Assist in the coordination of activities related to budget funding (programme/project document preparation and funding proposals, progress reports, etc.) and preparation of related documents/reports (work programme, programme budget, etc.) on biodiversity and health and related topics.
- Carry out basic research on assigned aspects of programmes and other activities, etc., including the collection, analysis and presentation of data and information gathered from the scientific literature and other sources.  
Contribute to the preparation of various written outputs, e.g. draft background papers, briefing notes, analytical notes, sections of reports and studies, publications, etc.  
Produce specific technical and policy documents related to the environment aspects of one health to support member states and other relevant partners to operationalize one health approaches.
- Engage in technical meetings, exchange and site visits and represent UNEP as needed to advance programmatic results at the science-policy interface.
- Provide administrative and substantive support to meetings, workshops, and other interactive sessions.
- Participate in outreach and awareness activities; participate in the development of training workshops, seminars, etc.; participate in and make presentations on assigned topics/activities.

### **Output expectations**

- Grow and strengthen programmes, policy interventions and relevant institutional structures to advance operationalization of One Health approaches at international, regional and national levels.
- Deliver well-researched and sound analysis and thorough, well reasoned written outputs on conservation and health.

- Effectively, and in a timely manner, liaise and interact with colleagues and concerned parties internally and externally.
- Contribute to technical discussions that improve policy guidance in reconciling issues of conservation, sustainable development and health.
- Contribute to the successful delivery of existing projects and development and inception of new projects and programmes.
- Deliver high-quality outreach and communication materials.
- Enhance information sharing and knowledge management through communications products, and dissemination of lessons learned from projects.
- Improve communication, coordination and collaboration with other UNEP Units and with partners outside the organization.
- Support enhanced UN systems delivery of integrated environment and health programmes.

## **V. Travel**

The Branch's projects often require international travel to project sites and meetings. The JPO will be expected to participate in several such missions, and funding for the JPOs travel is already secured under existing projects. However, the current coronavirus pandemic makes it difficult to predict when international travel missions may become safe and feasible again.

## **VI. Training and Learning Elements**

### **Training**

The successful candidate will be exposed to the international environmental governance policy-making arena and will gain experience in the design and implementation of complex, multi-stakeholder programmes in a range of regions and countries.

In addition to induction training and a variety of mandatory and optional professional training modules provided by the United Nations – both online and in person – ample opportunities for on-the-job training, mentoring and learning by doing will be provided, including on project and programme management. Opportunities to participate in external meetings, workshops and webinars will also be provided. In addition, the JPO will be supported in identifying and undertaking more formal training courses to expand on relevant technical and management skills. The branch has partnerships with a number of international universities and international organizations that offer both formal and informal training opportunities. These include numerous universities, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and Specialist Groups, UN agencies among others.

Language training in UN languages and Swahili is available at the UN complex.

### **Learning elements:**

After one year the Junior Professional Officer is able to:

- work effectively with colleagues and partners in diverse, multi-cultural teams;
- interact appropriately with officers and technical staff in relevant UN Secretariat units, UN funds, programs and other UN specialized agencies, representatives and officials in national governments, international organizations and consultants;

- deliver well-written and well-researched technical documents and policy briefs based on the best available evidence;
- understand the international environmental governance and policymaking arena;
- operate management and monitoring information systems.

After two years the Junior Professional Officer is able to:

- plan and organize international meetings and workshops independently;
- develop project proposals and results-based budgets according to UN standards;
- understand funding mechanisms and relationship management with donors;
- understand the project management cycle, design and plan projects using a results-based management approach;
- understand and apply financial accountability, integrity and other UN rules and regulations.

After three years (if applicable) the Junior Professional Officer is able to:

- integrate scientific evidence into sound policy proposals;
- implement and monitor complex projects, coordinating activities with multiple stakeholders;
- make technical and policy-related presentations to large audiences;
- facilitate technical working group meetings;
- deliver high quality outreach and awareness materials.

## **VII. Qualifications and Experience**

### **Education:**

Master's degree in biodiversity, ecology, environmental science, natural resource management or a related discipline. Exposure to interdisciplinary subjects, specifically health, is preferred.

### **Skills:**

Computer literacy in the use of standard office software is required. Skills in data management and analysis are desirable.

### **Working Experience:**

At least 4 years of experience at the national level, or 2 years at the international level in sustainable development and implementation of environmental related programmes, projects and activities is required. Interdisciplinary experience working across sectors of environment, animal and human health is a plus.

### **Language:**

English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. For the position advertised, fluency in English (oral and written ) is required. A working knowledge of French, Spanish or other UN languages is an advantage.

## **VIII. Competencies**

### **Core Values**

- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Respect for diversity

### **Core competencies**

- **Teamwork:** Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals; solicits input by genuinely valuing others' ideas and expertise; is willing to learn from others; places team agenda before personal agenda; supports and acts in accordance with final group decision, even when such decisions may not entirely reflect own position; shares credit for team accomplishments and accepts joint responsibility for team shortcomings.
- **Communication:** Speaks and writes clearly and effectively; listens to others, correctly interprets messages from others and responds appropriately; asks questions to clarify, and exhibits interest in having two-way communication; tailors language, tone, style and format to match audience; demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.
- **Planning & Organizing:** Develops clear goals that are consistent with agreed strategies; identifies priority activities and assignments; adjusts priorities as required; allocates appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work; foresees risks and allows for contingencies when planning; monitors and adjusts plans and actions as necessary; uses time efficiently.

### **Living conditions at duty station**

The normal living conditions of a developing country in Africa can be expected in Nairobi.

**Bitte senden Sie Ihre JPO-Bewerbung direkt an das  
Büro Führungskräfte zu Internationalen Organisationen (BFIO)  
unter Angabe der Chiffre Nr. 2022-2-50 auf dem Bewerbungsbogen**

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