INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT
Bonn, Germany

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Academic Officer
(Head of EVES Section)
(P-3)

Organizational Unit : United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)

Reference Number : 2017/UNU/EHS/FTA/AO/47

Applications to : hrbonn@vie.unu.edu

Closing Date : 10 August 2017

United Nations University Objectives:

The United Nations University (UNU) is an international community of scholars, engaged in research, postgraduate teaching and capacity development and dissemination of knowledge in furthering the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The mission of UNU is to contribute, through research and capacity building, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems that are the concern of the United Nations and its Member States. For more information, please visit http://unu.edu.

United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS):

UNU-EHS, established in December 2003, is part of the UNU system, a worldwide network of Research and Training Institutes. Its mission is to advance human security through knowledge-based approaches to reducing vulnerability and environmental risks. For more information, please visit www.ehs.unu.edu.

Environmental Vulnerability and Ecosystems Services (EVES) Section:

The EVES section at UNU-EHS conducts original, policy relevant research addressing the vulnerability and resilience of social-ecological systems. Specifically, EVES aims to understand how social ecological systems are affected by environmental hazards of diverse nature such as water and land degradation, floods, droughts, and other hazards. EVES not only considers the impacts of single hazards, but also investigates multiple hazard situations, identifying cumulating or cascading impacts and feedbacks between hazards of contrasting nature such as floods and droughts. The concept of ecosystem services is of central importance in most of the research conducted by EVES researchers.

For detailed information please visit: https://ehs.unu.edu/about/sections/eves#overview
Responsibilities:
Under the authority of the Director of UNU-EHS / Vice-Rector in Europe the successful candidate shall be responsible for the following tasks:

- Successfully manage the EVES programme with respect to its scientific profile, human resources and budget;
- Further develop the strategic programming of the EVES Programme, particularly with a focus on ecosystem valuation and decision support tools, by taking into account both natural and social science aspects;
- Fundraising with German as well as international donors for policy relevant topics that also open-up research possibilities for PhD students;
- Publish research results, together with other researchers at UNU-EHS and beyond in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters;
- Maintain and further develop existing cooperation with UN agencies, the University of Bonn, and other external partners, e.g. the Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR);
- Contribute to the Joint Master Programme “The Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security” with the University of Bonn by developing and implementing ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation modules;
- Supervise MSc and PhD students;
- Represent UNU-EHS at major conferences;
- Advise the Director of UNU-EHS in institute wide strategic programming as well as day-to-day management;
- Provide scientific, technical and logistical support to the EVES section at UNU-EHS.

Qualifications and Experience Requirements:

- PhD in a relevant academic discipline, including geography, ecology, soil or forest science, agricultural sciences, or environmental economics;
- At least five years of professional experience in research and academia, some of which preferably in an international setting;
- Excellent leadership and team spirit;
- Familiarity with UN and/or other international institutions and mechanisms;
- Strong publication background in the areas related to the EVES programme;
- Good track record in securing third party funding;
- Superior communication and didactic skills;
- Excellent team player with strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity;
- Fluency in English; German or additional UN working languages are desirable;
- Experience in supervising PhD and MSc students;
- Experience in organizing seminars, workshops, and conferences.

Remuneration:
We offer competitive net salary (tax-exempted) at P-3 level commensurate to level of experience and allowances including post adjustment. Post adjustment is subject to change.

The post carries the standard set of United Nations benefits and entitlements for international positions in the UN Common System, including participation in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, the
possibility of participation in a health insurance programme, education grant, removal expenses and home leave.


UNU Rector reserves the right to appoint a suitable candidate at a lower level than advertised.

Duration of Contract:

This is a full time fixed-term appointment and an internationally recruited post. The initial appointment will be for a period of one (1) year with the possibility of renewal on a rolling fixed-term appointment basis, subject to satisfactory work performance. The combined duration of fixed-term appointments shall not exceed six (6) years. The mandatory age of retirement for United Nations staff is 65 years old.

Staff members of the United Nations University are international civil servants subject to the authority of the Rector and may be assigned to any of the activities or offices of the United Nations University.

Starting date: As soon as possible

Application Procedure:

Interested applicants should submit their applications by e-mail to (hrbonn@vie.unu.edu), and must include the following:

- a cover letter setting out how the qualifications and experience match the requirements of the position;
- a completed and signed UNU Personal History (P.11) form downloadable from UNU website. Please avoid using similar forms provided by other United Nations organizations
- Full contact information of three referees; and the application must also indicate the reference number of the vacancy announcement (2017/UNU/EHS/FTA/AO/47)

Applications from suitably qualified women candidates are particularly encouraged.