



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

New York, USA

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Research Product Manager - Global Knowledge Platform on Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking, Forced Labour and Child Labour (Personnel Service Agreement - PSA)

Organisation Unit : United Nations University - Office at the United Nations in New York
(UNU-ONY)

Reference No : 2017/UNU/ONY/PSA/RPM/74

Application to : A87KP_RM@unu.edu

Closing Date : 27 October 2017

OVERVIEW

The Research Product Manager will play a central role in a fully funded, multimillion dollar project to rapidly accelerate the global creation, exchange and uptake of knowledge about modern slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and child labour – and how to fight them successfully.

Working within a small team of knowledge professionals, data scientists and communicators, the Research Product Manager will drive the generation and dissemination of research findings for the [Alliance 8.7](#) Knowledge Platform. This will involve identifying and addressing the needs of both scholars and policy practitioners alike, relating to what works in the fight to achieve [SDG 8.7](#). A key responsibility of the position is to ensure the platform serves relevant academic networks and policy communities. The Research Product Manager will therefore help to transform data, evidence and research into the content, features and functionality of the Knowledge Platform.

Background

UN University (UNU) is a global thinktank with a mandate to help global policy-makers access the best available evidence to fight global problems. UNU has recently received funding from the UK government's Modern Slavery Innovation Fund and the International Labour Organization to build a Knowledge Platform to support efforts to end forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour by 2030. The Knowledge Platform aims to rapidly accelerate and scale up the global scientific knowledge and evidence base on modern slavery risk and vulnerability factors, and on factors in the effectiveness of prevention and response interventions, while also facilitating global uptake of the resulting insights by policy-makers, business and other practitioners. The two-year project will lead to the development of an online Knowledge Platform, which will be designed as a global public good and will generate research, policy and practice impact related to modern slavery.

About UN University

The United Nations University (UNU) is a formal UN agency with a mandate from the UN General Assembly to contribute, through research and capacity building, to solutions to the pressing global problems that are the concern of the United Nations and its Member States. The UNU Office at the United Nations in New York is a thinktank charged with conveying research-based policy ideas from UNU and beyond to key policymakers at the United Nations. Led by Dr James Cockayne, it has established a global profile in recent years on research and policy development on modern slavery, human trafficking and SDG 8.7, for example through input into the first ever UN Security Council Resolution on human trafficking in conflict.

About you

You are an experienced and creative research product manager with a track record of managing knowledge creation, exchange and uptake products for both academics and policymakers. You are comfortable working with data scientists, creatives, policy wonks and government officials alike. You have superior written and visual communication skills. You have a demonstrated track record of effective personnel management, including working in dispersed creative and multicultural teams. You apply a “customer-centric” approach by keeping the needs of key stakeholders in mind, understanding who they are, and what research and policy challenges they face. You apply these insights to drive knowledge generation and the creation of knowledge products.

Responsibilities

Working with the Project Director and Project Manager, the Research Product Manager will lead the development of research products for the Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform.

The responsibilities of the successful candidate will include:

- Collaborating with the Editor to curate research content and analyses for the Knowledge Platform;
- Developing research partnerships to promote the generation and uptake of relevant knowledge
- Engaging in outreach with a global network of external academic and research partners, including with regard to the platform’s content and functionality;
- Identifying appropriate dissemination products including academic / refereed journals, policy briefs, online learning, workshops and in-person events;
- Collaborating with the Project Team to develop a long-term sustainability plan for the Knowledge Hub, including by developing a strategic roadmap

Required qualifications and experience

- Advanced university degree in social science, public policy, international relations or a related field;
- Minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, including three (3) years of research management experience;
- Demonstrated ability to create marketable research products and knowledge solutions;
- Basic knowledge of research product development involving interactive media and digital publishing
- Superior English-language oral and written communication skills. Professional experience working in one of the UN's other official languages is an advantage;
- Strong ability to establish priorities, multi-task and work within tight timelines;
- Solid interpersonal and problem-solving skills demonstrated by the ability to work in a multi-cultural environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity;
- Genuine interest in and understanding of modern slavery.

Remuneration

Remuneration will be commensurate with qualifications and experience of the successful candidate.

Duration of Contract

The successful candidate shall be hired as a fixed-term contractual personnel for a fixed period of fifteen (15) months. The successful candidate will not hold international civil servant status nor be a "staff member" as defined in the United Nations Staff Rules and Regulations.

Applications from suitably qualified woman candidates and those from developing countries are particularly encouraged.

Starting Date: January 2018

Application Procedure

Interested applicants should submit their applications by email to A87KP_RM@unu.edu and must include the following:

- A cover letter setting out how the qualifications and experience match the requirements of the position;
- A curriculum vitae and a completed and signed [UNU Personal History \(P.11\)](#) downloadable from the UNU website at <http://unu.edu/about/hr>. Please avoid using similar forms provided by other United Nations organizations;
- Full contact information of three (3) referees; and
- An indication of the reference number of the vacancy announcement (2017/UNU/ONY/PSA/RPM/74).

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.