New York, USA

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Research Consultant – Development Spending
Global Knowledge Platform on Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking, Forced Labour and Child Labour
(Consultancy Contract - CTC)


Reference Number : 2017/UNU/ONY/CTC/RC/96

Application to : A87KP_DSC@unu.edu

Closing date: : 20 November 2017

OVERVIEW

The Development Spending Consultant will join 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 closely with the project Data Science Lead and Project Director, the Development Spending Project Consultant will be part of a small team of knowledge professionals, data scientists and communicators working to build an online Knowledge Platform, supporting and engaging with Alliance 8.7 and stakeholders from around the world, and contribute to the establishment of an online knowledge hub engaging both scholars and policy makers; the creation of learning and training tools; and targeted policy outreach.

Background

UN University (UNU) has 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 (ILO) 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 policymakers, 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 conveys 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 deeply committed to fighting modern slavery, human trafficking, and forced and child labour. You are committed to evidence-based analysis of development programmes and willing to undertake a deep dive of incomplete data from a variety of sources. You appreciate working in high-paced, multicultural environments. You enjoy flexible working arrangements and are comfortable working within ambitious timelines.

Scope of Work

Under the supervision of the Project Director, and working closely with the Project Data Science Lead, the Development Spending Consultant will be primarily responsible for:

- Leading data collection for the purposes of replicating and extending a study on development donor spending on anti-slavery, anti-human trafficking, anti-forced labour and anti-child labour initiatives.
- Analysing primary and secondary source material, both qualitative and quantitative, obtained from government reports, NGOs, and UN agencies, that address the question of how much money donor governments are spending on programs designed to facilitate the eradication of modern slavery.
- Serving as the primary contact responsible for reaching out to government departments in donor governments and others to acquire information on program spending.
- Standardizing spending figures to currency and financing periods.
- Estimating yearly spending where information is missing by replicating, or further developing, methodology employed in original study.

Expected Outputs

- Phase 1 (November 2017 – January 2018) – literature review and development of research plan:
  o Project work plan developed in cooperation with Project Director and Data Science Lead;
  o Archive of National Action Plans and spending reports gathered (mid-December);
  o Detailed progress report-readout of data gathered (late December):
    ▪ Full database covering countries/sources from original 2013 report, extended to cover 2012-2017;
    ▪ Comprehensive list of new data sources on modern slavery program spending;
    ▪ Evaluation/analysis of data quality (including comparison of program spending data received from multiple sources);
    ▪ Strategic plan to increase country coverage.
Phase 2 (January-February 2018) – consultation and quality assurance:
- Presentation of and consultation on a populated archive of source materials with quality assurance report with the Project Director and Data Science Lead) (mid January).
- Presentation of and consultation on a database of quantitative spending variables by program/country/area of modern slavery research (e.g. CVS file);
- Collection of data, including:
  - Dyadic dataset of spending flows between countries;
  - Database of qualitative content extracted from published reports;
  - Content review of government, NGO, and UN agency reports to produce an archive of quality content, with links to sources (if available).

Required qualifications and experience
- University degree in statistics, development studies, economics, international relations, political science, or a related field, and graduate level is an advantage;
- Minimum of seven (7) years of relevant work experience;
- Excellent English-language oral and written communication skills;
- Prior research and/or data collection experience is a must;
- Experience working with Official Development Assistance (ODA) data is an advantage;
- Ability to work independently and report to project team in a timely manner;
- Strong organizational skills and 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;
- Prior experience working with governments and donors is an advantage;
- Prior experience working in evidence-based policy analysis is an advantage;
- Genuine interest in and understanding of modern slavery.

Duration of Contract
The successful candidate shall be hired as a fixed-term consultancy contract (CTC) for a period to be agreed with the Project Director. The consultant should be available for a total of 40 days of work to be performed between the implementing periods of November 2017 to February 2018.

Remuneration
The successful candidate will be remunerated a monthly sum commensurate with qualifications and experience, contingent on satisfactory completion of deliverables, plus expenses (to be decided in consultation with the Project Data Science Lead and approved by the Project Director).

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.

Location
The Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform team is based in New York. The consultant is expected to work with closely with the team, with a possibility for flexible or remote work.

Starting Date: As soon as possible – ideally mid-November 2017.
Application Procedure

Interested applicants should submit their applications by email to A87KP_DSC@unu.edu 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

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.