Advertisement

Junior Professional Officer

Technical Officer Mental Health and Substance Abuse

World Health Organization

Closing date:

5th July 2015



I General information	
Title:	Technical Officer
Sector of Assignment:	Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Country:	Switzerland
Location (City):	Geneva
Agency:	World Health Organization
Duration of Assignment:	Initially one year with the possibility to extend up to 3 years
Grade:	P1 step 1 or P2 step 1 in the first year, depending on the level

Note: this post is opened in the context of the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) scheme sponsored by the Government of the Netherlands and is addressed exclusively to **people with the Dutch nationality.** For criteria see the website of Nedworc Foundation:

of education and relevant working experience

 $\underline{http://www.nedworcfoundation.nl/Index.htm?hoofdpath=/NL/JPO/General\%20Information.htm\&hoofdhash}$

Please read the criteria and FAQ section carefully before considering applying

II Duties, responsibilities and Output Expectations

General

The Junior Professional Officer will support the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse in its work with Governments, NGOs and academic partners to promote psychosocial well-being and prevent and treat mental disorder in populations exposed to conflict, displacement, natural disaster or other adverse events involving trauma and/or loss.

The focus of the work will be on developing and testing low-intensity psychological interventions among people exposed to adversity.

Responsibility 1

Summary of duties

- Supporting the Department's work on developing innovative face-to-face and e-methods to
 improve the availability of basic but evidence-based psychological care for people exposed to
 conflict, natural disaster or other adverse events, including sexual violence, with the aim to
 reduce a range of mental health problems, including depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress
 as well as client-generated outcomes
- Supporting the Department's work on research on the effectiveness of psychological

interventions for people exposed to sexual violence and/or other adversity

Expected output:

 A report on the development and testing of innovative WHO tools to support people exposed to adversity

Responsibility 2

Summary of duties

- Supporting the Department's work on promoting the implementation of existing WHO and IASC policies on mental health and psychosocial support in emergencies
- Carrying out activities related to mental health and the Department's mhGAP programme applied in communities affected by violence and other adversity

Expected output:

• A report on the implementation of (a) relevant WHO and IASC policies and (b) mhGAP program in communities affected by violence and other adversity

III Training component: Learning elements and expectations

Upon completion of the assignment the JPO will have/ will be able to:

- Knowledge and skills on how to develop and test new models of psychological care for people affected by emergencies and adversity
- Knowledge and skills on how to build capacity for mental health and psychosocial support in emergency settings

The JPO training programme includes the following learning elements:

- To participate in a one-week training on "Mental health in complex emergencies": within 1 year after commencement of position
- To gain experience by supporting the development and testing of innovative methods for psychological support
- To participate in a 1-week participatory training on how conduct Trainers of Trainers: within 2 years after commencement of position
- To gain experience by developing and testing learning tools
- The JPO position includes a Duty travel and training allowance (DTTA) of \$4000 per year which may be used for learning activities related to the assignment and career development.

IV Supervision

Title of supervisor: Public Mental Health Adviser, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Content and methodology of supervision

The progress towards achieving the objectives will be evaluated annually by the JPO together with the first and second level supervisors. Achievement will be against WHO's Performance Management and Development System (ePMDS+).

V Required Qualifications and Experience

Education:

Master degree or equivalent in public health or mental health (e.g psychology, psychiatry, social work)

Desirable: (a) a PhD in clinical psychology, (b) training in public health and in mental health, (c) training in cognitive-behavioural therapy.

A first-level university degree (Bachelor's degree or equivalent) in combination with qualifying experience (4 years of relevant working experience, but not more than 5 years) may be accepted in lieu of an advanced university degree".

Working experience:

Two to a maximum of 4 years relevant working experience.

Desirable: Experience in a psychosocial or mental health project or activity, including (a) experience in conducting and publishing research on psychological interventions and (b) field experience in low or middle income countries affected by emergencies.

Languages:

Minimum: Fluent/Proficiency in English (reading, writing, speaking)

Desirable: good knowledge of a second UN language

Key competencies

- Expresses oneself clearly in conversations and interactions with others; listens actively. Produces effective written communications. Ensures that information is shared.
- Produces and delivers quality results. Is action oriented and committed to achieving outcomes.
- Is open to and proposes new approaches and ideas. Adapts and responds positively to change.
- Demonstrates the ability to work constructively with people of all backgrounds and orientations. Respects differences and ensures that all can contribute.

VI Background information on Agency/Department/Section

About WHO: Please see our website http://www.who.int/about/en/.

The goal of the department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse in WHO is to strengthen and promote mental health and reduce the burden associated with mental, neurological and substance use disorders. WHO is working with governments to integrate the effective strategies and interventions into national policies and plans. The department's objectives are to promote effective strategies and interventions, increase the commitment of governments, international organizations and other appropriate stakeholders to implement effective mental health promotion, prevention and treatment interventions and to achieve significantly higher coverage with key interventions in resource-poor countries.

VII Information on living conditions at Duty Station

Geneva is a historic European city and well-established international centre for a variety of issues requiring multilateral cooperation and global governance. Living conditions in Geneva, once settled, are easy. It should be noted that, at the moment, there is a great demand for housing and therefore finding appropriate housing may take some time. Just under half of the UN staff in Geneva live across the border in France where rents are somewhat lower.

In terms of schooling, children of UN staff attend school in either the Swiss public or private school system, the (bilingual) International School of Geneva or the International Lycée in Ferney Voltaire (France), which follows the French school curriculum and in addition offers a number of language options (including English, Arabic, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, etc).

Medical services are readily available. Geneva is centrally located and has excellent road, rail and air connections to the rest of Europe and a direct daily flight to New York (other intercontinental flights

connect via Zurich).

VIII How to apply

Please complete the P11 form

http://sas.undp.org/Documents/P11 Personal history form.docx and attach it with a cover letter to your online application at this link https://jobs.undp.org/cj_view_job.cfm?cur_job_id=57272

For more details about this vacancy and the JPO Programme, please visit http://www.jposc.undp.org

Applicants will receive acknowledgement of receipt of their submission. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.