



**UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY**

**INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT
Bonn, Germany**

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**PROJECT ASSOCIATE
(Personnel Service Agreement - PSA)**

Organizational Unit	:	United Nations University - Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)
Reference Number	:	2012/UNU/EHS/PSA/PA/07
Applications to	:	hrbonn@vie.unu.edu
Closing Date	:	17 September 2012

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 www.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.

The Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII):

The Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII) was launched in April 2005 in response to the growing realization that insurance-related solutions can play a role in adaptation to climate change, as advocated in the Framework Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. This initiative brings together insurers, experts on climate change and adaptation, NGOs and policy researchers who intend finding solutions to the risks posed by climate change.

MCII provides a forum and gathering point for insurance-related expertise on climate change impact issues. MCII is hosted at UNU-EHS in Bonn, Germany.

Innovative insurance solutions for adaptation to climate change project:

Many developing countries and emerging economies are exposed to extreme weather events due to their geographical location and climate change. In general, these countries do not have sufficient financial

resources to implement prevention measures or mitigate damage caused by extreme weather events by providing efficient disaster assistance after a catastrophe or rebuilding destroyed infrastructure. Extreme weather events might have a critical impact on a country's economic dynamics by causing crop losses and destroying infrastructure and means of production, leading to temporary production deficits.

Integrated risk management systems can sustainably reduce the vulnerability of economies in developing and emerging countries in the event of extreme weather events (and other natural disasters). In addition to prevention measures, risk transfer – such as insurance solutions in the context of natural disasters, weather and/or agricultural risk – can also contribute to managing risks and reducing the vulnerability of economies at international, national and regional level. A comprehensive data and information basis is required to help countries decide whether to apply prevention measures and/or risk transfer solutions. Information, risk prevention and risk transfer constitute an integrated risk management system. The government, private sector and civil society should work together to develop and implement such systems.

Responsibilities:

Under the authority of the Director of UNU-EHS and the Head of the Environmental Migration, Social Vulnerability & Adaptation section (EMSA), the successful candidate will be entrusted with the following tasks:

Project work in partnership with GIZ (50%)

- Responsible for a new cooperation between the MCII and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ);
- Maintain a bridge function between policy makers (such as delegates of UNFCCC) and insurance in practice of development cooperation and climate adaptation;
- Collect experiences and lessons learnt of existing insurance projects, to systematically advance the development of evidence based, strategic concepts that provide the foundation for insurance solutions in the context of climate risk management in developing countries.

Opportunity to combine with doing a PhD (50%) funded by Munich Re

- Carry out a PhD related to adaptation and insurance solutions in a developing country context.

Qualifications and Experience Requirements:

- Masters degree with a background in Economics, Social Sciences, Business or other relevant field;
- Desire to pursue a PhD;
- Minimum of five (5) years of internationally recognized scientific working experience related to climate impacts and adaptation, and/or risk management and risk transfer;
- Proven experience on the application of insurance, microfinance tools and disaster risk management in development cooperation;
- Proven background and strong skills in managing projects, preferably related to climate change impacts, disaster risk management, micro insurance or other forms of risk transfer, and adaptation;
- Strong ability to carry out work independently;
- Advanced computer skills (Microsoft Office), statistical packages (SPSS, etc.);
- Proven knowledge in networking and collaborative projects and research;
- Excellent communication skills with fluency in oral and written English and German. Knowledge of French would be an asset;
- Willingness to travel as necessary and/or required by the Head of Section for conferences, workshops, etc;
- Good team player with strong interpersonal skills demonstrated by the ability to work in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity.

Desirable Experience and Competencies:

- Familiarity with UNFCCC climate negotiations; GIZ; BMU; partner organizations in the project countries and wider network in development cooperation, adaptation, and insurance;
- Practical experience in managing public-private partnerships;
- Strong network in disaster risk reduction and management and climate sciences;
- As a pre-requisite for doing the PhD research, the candidate should have a research topic in place that is related to the MCII work area and should be registered in a university that will grant them the degree.

Alternatively, if the research topic and/or university are not in place, the candidate should show a plan with the intention of doing a PhD.

Remuneration:

Remuneration will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Duration of Contract:

This is a part-time (50%) employment on a two (2) year Personnel Service Agreement (PSA) contract with UNU-EHS in conjunction with doing a part-time (50%) PhD dissertation with a possibility for contract renewal.

The successful candidate will be employed under UNU's Personnel Service Agreement (PSA) and 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 women and candidates originating from developing countries are particularly encouraged to apply.

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 United Nations University website at <http://www.bonn.unu.edu/article/read/job-vacancies>. Please avoid using similar forms provided by other United Nations organizations;
- full contact information of three (3) referees; and
- the application must also indicate the reference number of the vacancy announcement (2012/UNU/EHS/PSA/PA/07).