

UNHCR VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Ref. SPA/2020/01

Date of advertisement: 17/01/2020

Application deadline: 05/02/2020

This is a UNOPS Local Individual Contractor Agreement (LICA) position.

Title: **Senior Protection Assistant (Community based)**

Type of contract: **UNOPS LICA 5**

Location: **Melilla (Spain)**

Duration: **Until 31/12/2020. Subject to subsequent extensions**

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Spain's strategic geographical position in Europe along with its long coastline and two land borders in Northern Africa places it as a key EU destination country on two main routes to Europe: the Western Mediterranean route from North Africa to Spain and the Western African route between Senegal, Mauritania and Morocco and the Spanish Canary Islands.

Some risk their lives crossing the Strait of Gibraltar, the Mediterranean Sea or the Atlantic Ocean in inflatable boats from Morocco or Algeria, others cross into the two autonomous cities of Melilla and Ceuta, either by climbing the high surrounding border fences, passing undetected through border crossing points or in small boats.

By 1 December 2019 more than 24,400 migrants and refugees had reached Spain in 2019 throughout the Southern Coast by sea. In the autonomous city of Melilla alone, arrivals between January and 1 December amount to 5,200 including both 4,500 persons arriving by land (87%) and 700 (13%) by sea. The border crossing between Nador and Melilla is, together with Madrid airport, the border post with most asylum claims in Spain.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF ASSIGNMENT

Under the functional guidance of the Senior Protection Associate (Field Coordinator) based in Madrid, and the supervision of the Senior Protection Officer based in Madrid, the Senior Protection Assistant (Community based), will:

- Ensure that AGD sensitive analysis of community risks and capacities provides the essential basis for all of UNHCR's work.
- Promote the participation of persons of concern through continuous assessment and evaluation using participatory, rights and community-based approaches, which inform protection and assistance programming and ensure that UNHCR meets its commitments to accountability to persons of concern.
- Through relationships with persons of concern and network of partners stay abreast of political, social, economic and cultural developments that have an impact on access to territory and the asylum procedure, the identification and referral mechanism for land and sea arrivals and provide advice to the protection team. Understand the perspectives, capacities, needs and resources of the persons of concern and advise the protection team accordingly, highlighting the specific protection needs of women and men, children, youth and older persons, LGBTI population and persons with disabilities.

- Advise and support implementing and operational partners as well as displaced and local communities to develop community-owned activities to address, where applicable, the social, educational, psycho-social, cultural, health, organisational and livelihood concerns as well as child protection and prevention and response to SGBV.
- Work with host communities to involve national civil society groups in improving the protection of persons of concern. Analyse and identify the capacities of communities of concern and risks they face.
- Monitor and support local authorities' practice with regard to access to territory, registration, access to asylum, interviews, formalization of asylum applications, assessment of profiles, identification of special needs and available responses to each group in Melilla, identifying and reporting on good and bad practices and, feeding into development of recommendations done by MCO in Madrid.
- Conduct interviews and relevant data gathering on protection needs/gaps, AGD implications and ways to address them, trends, routes and, most importantly evolving profiles of arrivals of persons of concern transferred from the autonomous cities, to better plan and prepare response activities. Keep record of arrivals applying an AGD focus in fact sheets.
- Provide relevant information on asylum to persons of concern, complementing as relevant the activities of UNHCR's implementing partner.
- Organise meetings and public events with stakeholders as required.
- Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities as required.
- Travel: possibility of occasional travel to other cities in Spain as required for operational reasons; meetings in Country Office in Madrid for coordination and reporting purposes, if applicable.
- Collect and process data for monitoring of programmes and budgets from an AGD perspective.
- Provide functional guidance to the Protection Assistant (Community-based) posted in Melilla.
- Perform other related tasks as required.

QUALIFICATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Education

- Completion of Secondary education; Training in International Development, Cultural Studies, Human Rights, International Social Work, Social Science, Political Science, Anthropology, International Law or other clearly related disciplines (required).
- Knowledge of international human rights law and refugee law, including EU asylum law and institutions, Spanish asylum and migration legal framework, trafficking in human beings legal framework and protection mechanisms and child protection mechanisms including BID procedures (desirable).
- Computer skills (MS Office, including Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Access) (required).
- Excellent knowledge of Spanish and fluency in English (required).

Work experience

- Job Experience: Minimum of 5 years previous relevant job experience, including experience working with persons of concern to UNHCR (required).
- Solid knowledge and experience with gender, age and diversity mainstreaming (required).
- Good Knowledge of international human rights law and refugee law, including EU asylum law

and institutions, Spanish asylum and migration legal framework, trafficking in human beings legal framework and protection mechanisms and child protection mechanisms including BID procedures (required).

- Experience in capacity building to external partners (desirable).
- Experience in border monitoring projects (desirable).

Key competencies

- Excellent skills to manage relations with external partners (required).
- Strong interpersonal and cross cultural skills and flexibility (required).
- Capability for change and to adapt to different situations (required).
- Good drafting skills both in Spanish and in English (required).
- Valid driving licence (desirable).

How to apply - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

Please note that this is a local position for which having a valid working permit in Spain and being a resident in Spain at the time of applying is required.

To apply, please download the Personal History Form (PHF) and Supplementary Sheet at <http://spain.unhcr.io/land.php> Then sign-up or login and complete the online application form before the **deadline on 05/02/2020 23:59 CET**.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for the assessment phase.

No late applications will be considered.

Shortlisted candidates will be assessed through a written test and an oral interview.