

Title: Project Officer

(Only candidates resident in France with a valid work permit, or nationals from the European Union, may apply for this post)

Domain: Water Sciences –

Grade: Level SC 4C , 100%

Organizational Unit: Groundwater Systems and Settlements SC/HYD/GSS

Duty Station: UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

Duration: 6 months

Type of contract: Service Contract

Monthly salary: 3503 euros (gross) ⁱ

Deadline (midnight, Paris time): 25 November 2019

UNESCO Core Values: Commitment to the Organization, Integrity, Respect for Diversity, Professionalism

OVERVIEW OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE POST

Background

Within the framework of the GEF International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW:LEARN) project the UNESCO Division of Water Sciences is responsible to contribute to the development of a “global groundwater communities of practice” that will support Member States capacity in strengthening strategic and emerging groundwater resources related issues.

Interest in groundwater has rapidly increased across regions, in particular in the semi-arid areas. Recent release of new information on transboundary aquifers has prompted attention to the transboundary aspects of groundwater management. But much work remains to be done at the national and sub-national levels to enable countries and basins to deal with groundwater challenges. Sharing and utilization of information remain hurdles in planning and management. Institutions for aquifers and conjunctive management are still work in progress. Basin institutions need substantial support in advancing the groundwater agenda within an IWRM framework. There is hence a need for raising the awareness of Member States and other funding agencies as well as water leaders and build their capacity to target opportunities for assistance and investments in the field of groundwater resources.

Insufficient attention has been given to the role of groundwater in mitigating the impacts of climatic variability and change, sustaining freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity, providing a source of renewable energy, and combating land degradation, fostering multi-country cooperation in the management and protection of transboundary aquifers, supporting implementation of conjunctive surface and groundwater management in transboundary contexts. The project will take care to set up tools for sharing of knowledge about groundwater resources also informing about existing UNESCO education tools, project results and best practices.

Overview of the function of the post

Within the framework of implementing the International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW:LEARN) project, acting under the supervision of the Director of the SC/HYD and the direct supervision of the Chief of Section, the incumbent will contribute to setting up tools for sharing knowledge about groundwater resources, and also informing about existing UNESCO education tools, project results and best practices. She/he will be also responsible for providing technical and scientific guidance and in particular contribute to:

- Disseminate information, case studies, and best practices on groundwater resources through blogs, webinars and videos.
 - Organize events using most advanced distance learning tools that will enhance the capacity of Member States in groundwater resources issues, and in particular in conjunctive surface and groundwater management.
 - Raise awareness on the threats and opportunities linked to groundwater and subsurface space.
 - Share the best practices formulated in the recently completed UNESCO groundwater projects and expand to new entries the access to information exchange tools and events.
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- Organize a webinar on the provisions contained in the Draft Articles of the “Law of Transboundary Aquifers” that should be further highlighted as guiding principles for the transboundary aquifers management and to be considered when preparing groundwater resources national and regional plans.
- Contribute, within the framework of the IW:LEARN project, to manage the day to day implementation of the groundwater activities aiming at “Expanding the global groundwater Communities of Practice” and coordinate with partners.
- Monitor and evaluate work plans, ensure the continuous optimization of resources and contribute to secure links between on-going IW:LEARN project and the international waters strategy.
- Support the management and implementation of training activities component of the project.
- Provide different technical inputs to the projects, including data collection and mapping, preparation of statistics of groundwater resources in the world and submit them to the WINS coordinator.
- Disseminate the results, through the drafting of reports and policy briefs.
- Contribute to the development of methodological guidelines.
- Contribute to the development and/or revision of learning materials for the distance groundwater resources training courses
- Preparation of materials such as PowerPoint presentations.
- Guiding group work during the webinar and workshops.

During the assignment period, the Associate Project officer shall work full-time at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.

Competencies

A successful candidate will be required to demonstrate the following competencies:

Core Competencies

Accountability

Communication

Teamwork

Innovation

Results focus

Planning and organizing

Knowledge sharing and continuous improvement

For detailed information please consult the [UNESCO Competency Framework](#)

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

EDUCATION:

Advanced university degree (Masters or equivalent) in the relevant fields :

Master’s in Geohydrology, Hydrogeology, Civil or Environmental, Engineering or in a similar thematic area

WORK EXPERIENCE

At least five years of experience at national or international level.

Previous experience in the UN system is desirable.

SKILLS/COMPETENCIES

Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written;

- **Strong analytical skills and attention to detail;**
- **Experience in budget monitoring and facility with figures;**
- **Ability to work as part of an international team in a multi-cultural environment;**
- **Excellent interpersonal skills;**

*UNESCO is committed to promoting gender equality within its Secretariat. Therefore, women candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. Persons with disabilities equally are encouraged to apply.
UNESCO applies a zero tolerance policy against all forms of harassment.*

UNESCO DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE OF THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS.

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- Discretion, tact, and diplomacy in dealing with various international and country organizations as well as the general public;
 - Solid computer and other IT skills.
 - Familiar with Microsoft Office and GIS based software such as QGIS (Geographic Information System)

LANGUAGES

Excellent knowledge of English and good knowledge of French.

ASSESSMENT

An assessment exercise may be used in the evaluation of candidates

How to apply

Please send your application letter in English or French, together with your CV on UNESCO CV form, as well as copies of relevant degrees/certificates, and the contact details of 3 references directly to the following e-mail address to Job-IHP@unesco.org before **25 November 2019** (midnight, Paris time).

Please note that only pre-selected candidates will be contacted.

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Please note that UNESCO is a no-smoking Organization.

^{i 1} The remuneration paid to the service contract (SC) holder is not exempt from any income taxes which may be levied by the French tax authorities. The SC Holder is affiliated to the French social security scheme (*Régime général de la sécurité sociale et des prestations familiales*). Consequently, the employees' social contributions to this scheme will be deducted from the gross remuneration paid by the Organization. UNESCO is not subject to the French unemployment scheme (UNEDIC – *Pôle Emploi*) and complementary retirement schemes (Retraite complémentaire Agirc/Arrco).

² Gross amount.