



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Internal/External Vacancy Announcement

Vacancy Notice No.: LBR/ZWE/17/04

Title of Position: Durable Solutions Associate
Level: GL6
Position Number: 10017450
Duty Station: SO Zwedru
Date of Entry: As soon as possible
Type of Contract: Fixed Term Appointment
Date of Issues: 15 December 2017
Closing Date: 29 December 2017

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly. The agency is mandated by the UN to lead and co-ordinate international action for the worldwide protection of refugees and the resolution of refugee problems. UNHCR is one of the world's foremost humanitarian organizations present in 128 countries, with more than 10,800 employees working in 541 offices providing protection and durable solutions for 65.3 million persons of concern (refugees, returnees, asylum seekers, Internally Displacements Person/IDPs, Stateless, etc.).

UNHCR primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. In its effort to achieve this objective, the Office strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, and to return home voluntarily. By assisting refugees to return to their own country or to settle permanently in another country, UNHCR also seeks lasting solutions to their plight.

UNHCR Liberia is currently operating with three (3) offices including a Representation Office in Monrovia; one Sub Office in Zwedru and one Field Office in Harper. Sub-Office Zwedru covers FO Harper.

The population of refugees as of 30 November 2017 is 11,967 refugees and 27 asylum seekers. The largest groups are the Ivorians (11,904). Refugees of various nationalities (63), 76% of Ivorian refugees are living in 3 camps: Bahn camp/Nimba (1,756, PTP camp/Grand Gedeh (6,061) and Little Wlebo camp/Maryland (1,255). 24% of Ivorian refugees are living in the communities: Nimba (194); Grand Gedeh (1,424), Maryland (499), River Gee (569); 1% are urban and living in Monrovia/Montserrado (146).

UNHCR Liberia provides international protection and humanitarian assistance (health care, education, self-reliance through vocational training, crop production and livelihood) to refugees and asylum seekers in collaboration with the Government of Liberia represented by the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC). The main operational priorities of UNHCR Liberia is finding durable solutions for refugees which primarily is voluntary repatriation to the country of origin or local integration in the country of asylum for the remaining population opting to stay to Liberia for protection reasons.

Most Ivorian refugees are expected to seek Voluntary Repatriation in 2017. UNHCR is mindful that for protection reasons and other concerns some refugees will choose not to return to Cote d'Ivoire. Local integration will be proposed for these refugees who will opt to remain in Liberia.

The overall local integration strategy is the handover of the education and health facilities constructed by UNHCR to the relevant ministries and incorporated in the national service delivery system. UNHCR will adopt the Alternatives to Camps (ATC) policy using a community based approach to promote social cohesion among refugees and the host community. Refugee camps will be transformed into settlement villages, for which durable shelter and WASH infrastructures will be put in place. This way, both refugees and Liberians will share all resources and infrastructure. In addition, livelihood activities will benefit both groups and enable integrated persons of concern to become self-reliant.

The Durable Solutions Associate reports to the Durable Solutions Officer and to the Assistant Durable Solutions Officer.

The Durable Solutions Associate is relied upon to contribute to the implementation of the local integration strategy. She/He works closely with protection, programme and field staff. Contributing to fostering an environment to enhance partnerships is a critical element of the work, as are activities designed to strength the involvement of refugee communities and their hosts in the design and implementation of solutions strategies.

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

Accountability

- Available durable solutions are implemented, in a manner which benefits the maximum number of persons of concern.
- Durable solutions strategies, policies and related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are applied in a consistent, effective and transparent manner.

Responsibility

- Interview candidates for local integration and prepare the appropriate documentation for onward the submission to Durable Solutions Officer and to the Assistant Durable Solutions Office, in line with Local Integration SOPs.
- Assist in updating the electronic databases for local integration, in line with Standard Operating Procedures.
- Process documentation to ensure that persons of concern receive the documents required for their durable solutions in a timely manner.
- Implement local integration activities against established goals, objectives and agreed activities in the field of employment and self-reliance.
- Conduct regular outreach activities with refugees and ensure that they are informed of their rights and responsibilities; available initiatives to support their local integration and procedures to follow for their involvement in projects activities.
- Plan and coordinate the sensitizations campaigns, information and explain to refugees and the host community the contours of local integration process in Liberia
- Ensure that integrated refugees are documented and seek advice from protection unit
- Monitor the implementation of the Local Integration programme and report the key findings to the Durable Solutions Section, while recommending actions for improvement, and address proactively potential problems as necessary.
- Implementing Partners agreements regularly monitored and reported on in compliance with established guidelines and procedures
- Implement standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for all local integration activities.
- Participate in UNHCR's operation's planning; provide all information on all activities in field to meet basic needs and improve the socio-economic self-reliance of person of concern.
- Contribute to capacity-building for communities and individuals to reinforce their self-reliance and promote peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.
- Facilitate effective information management through the provision of disaggregated data on populations of concern and their problems.
- Perform other duties as required

Authority

- Provide inputs for the country operations plan (including budgets) as well as prepare inputs for funding submissions, appeals and reports.
- Enforce compliance with UNHCR's global strategies, protocols and guidelines.
- Represent UNHCR in physical monitoring of projects.

Required competencies

- Strong interpersonal skills and communication skills in a multi-cultural setting
- Good political sensitivity and organisational awareness.
- Good writing and analytical skills;
- Ability to complete tasks within a set time frame
- Able to work in a rural environment.
- Negotiation and conflict resolution
- Flexibility;
- Team player;
- Change capability and adaptability.

ESSENTIAL MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE REQUESTED

- Education: University degree in Community Development studies, Agriculture or Marketing
- Previous exposure and experience with humanitarian/local integration projects with the emphasis on development work and livelihoods interventions
- Previous experience working in partnership with Government Institutions or inside the UN, particularly in relation to inter-agency collaboration.
- Minimum 5 years of professional job experience in programmes related to local integration, self-reliance/livelihood development;
- Have a good knowledge and understanding of community-based and Right based approaches to development.
- In-depth knowledge of approaches in community development and participation; urban and rural small business development; agriculture/livestock; integrated rural development planning; in both rural and urban contexts.
- very good reporting and writing skills
- High computer skills (MS office excel, word). Knowledge of mobile data collection is an advantage

- Excellent knowledge of English and working knowledge in other UN language. French language will be an asset.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS & COMPETENCIES.

- Diverse field experience desirable in Peace building, local integration and livelihood.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Interested candidates should complete and attach a UN Personal History Form (P11) to their written application (including contact details) and send it via email ONLY to lbrmohr@unhcr.org quoting in the subject line the above vacancy notice number. Envelopes can be dropped in the HR box at UNHCR office reception.

General Information for all candidates:

Please submit the following documents

- ✓ Application Letter
- ✓ Motivation Letter
- ✓ Personal History Form (P11)
- ✓ Academic credentials
- ✓ Latest passport size photo
- Equally qualified women candidates are encouraged to apply.
- Only Short-listed candidates will be contacted for written test and Competency Based interview.
- Applications received after the closing date will not be considered.

NB: UNHCR does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process.

Refugees – who cares? We Do.