

UNHCR SPAIN VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Date of advertisement: 19/07/2017

Application deadline: 26/07/2017

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

Title: Protection Assistant

Type of contract: UNOPS Local Individual Contractor Agreement – Level 4

Location: Algeciras (Spain)

Duration: until 31/12/2017

General background

In the context of the Syria crisis and expected displacement and onward movements in the region and other countries in conflict in Africa, the number of persons of concern to UNHCR arriving to Spain is likely to continue to rise, both by sea and land. By 31 May 2017, a total of 6,819 refugees and migrants entered Spain representing a 75% of increase compared to the same period last year. The majority of arrivals in 2017 have reached the country by sea (4,161 or 61%), double the arrivals by sea during the same period in 2016. In 2017, as in 2016, most sea arrivals disembarked at the Spanish mainland, after being rescued in the Mediterranean or the Strait of Gibraltar. 3,709 disembarked on the Andalusian shores, 138% more than in the same period last year. All land arrivals entered either through Melilla (1,496) or Ceuta (1,162) and represent an increase of 50% compared to same period in 2016.

Purpose and scope of assignment

The Protection Assistant will assist to the Protection Advisor based in Algeciras to:

- Monitor and provide feedback to Country Office in Madrid on access to territory and access to the asylum procedure, with focus on advocacy for the establishment of and participation in an identification and referral mechanism for land and sea arrivals.
- Document practices carried out at entry points as regards registration, interviews and assessment of profiles, identification of special needs and available responses to each group.
- Advocate for prevention of detention in Aliens Internment Centres, from the outset, for those who express their intention to apply for asylum.
- Support local authorities' practice with regard to formalization of asylum applications and the implementation of the asylum procedure in Ceuta and Cádiz province (Algeciras/Tarifa) feeding into development of recommendations done by Country Office 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 enclaves, to better plan and prepare response activities. Keep record of arrivals applying an AGD focus in fact sheets.
- Support Country Office in Madrid to develop a specific protection strategy for Ceuta, including the establishment of adequate procedures for identification of persons with specific needs and swift transfers to the mainland.

- Monitor standards and practice in reception facilities in Ceuta and the impact of increased arrivals on the reception system in the mainland applying AGD and community based analyses. Feed into development of recommendations by Country Office in Madrid for improvement of reception conditions jointly with women, men and children of concern.
- Prepare inputs for and support the development and implementation of an AGDM and SGBV standard operating procedures (SOP) for the CETI.
- Carry out monthly participatory assessment exercises with groups of women, children and men, on issues pertaining to access to protection, living conditions, specific needs.
- Identify protection needs as well as specific needs and AGD implications among arrivals and channel them to adequate response mechanisms, and promote adequate referrals to specific channels.
- Provide relevant information on asylum to persons of concern as required and complementing other legal sources.
- Build and enhance capacity of local actors involved in identification and reception of asylum seekers at the border and work with local civil society organizations with the aim to strengthen partnerships and their role in protection activities in Ceuta/Cádiz province (Algeciras/Tarifa).
- Organise meetings and public events with stakeholders as required.
- Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities as required.
- Promote use of legal international instruments such as the ECHR and the EU legislation and identify possible cases for litigation on access to territory, access to asylum and non-refoulement.
- Support Country Office in Madrid with participation in relevant fora and in meetings as required.
- Prepare relevant inputs for Country Office in Madrid's communication strategy on access to territory and protection in the enclaves and Andalusian coast.
- Travel: frequent trips to Cádiz, Tarifa, Barbate and Ceuta, and other cities in the region as required for operational reasons; meetings in Country Office in Madrid for coordination and reporting purposes, if applicable.
- Perform other tasks as required.

Qualifications and experience

a. Education

- Completion of secondary school. Additional training courses in protection related issues (required).
- University Degree in Law or related field (desirable).
- Excellent command of Spanish and very good English and French (required); and Arabic (desirable).
- Computer literacy (required).

b. Work experience

- Relevant to the function job experience (minimum 2 years required).

- Experience in the Spanish asylum/migration system (desirable).
- Experience in border monitoring projects (desirable).
- Experience in refugee status determination procedures and quality assurance mechanisms (desirable).
- Experience in capacity building to external partners (desirable).

c. 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).
- Excellent drafting skills in Spanish and very good English drafting (required).
- Valid driving licence (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 (desirable).
- Good knowledge of AGDM methodologies (desirable).

How to apply - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

Please submit your **signed Personal History Form (P.11)** and **Motivation Letter** both in English by e-mail with the vacancy title “Algeciras, Protection Assistant” in the subject line to spamavac@unhcr.org no later than 26/07/2017.

Please be aware that it will be a local contract for which having a valid working permit in Spain is required.

Only complete applications submitted by e-mail with a signed P.11 form will be considered.

E-mails without vacancy title “Algeciras, Protection Assistant” in the subject line will not be considered.

No late applications will be considered.

Only applications from candidates who are short-listed will be acknowledged.

Short-listed candidates will be required to sit a written test.