

Job Title: Project Officer - Education Statistics (Arab States)

Post Number : 5LBUIS0002PA

Grade : P-3

Parent Sector : UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)

Duty Station: Beirut

Job Family: Education

Type of contract : Project Appointment

Duration of contract : 2 years with possibility of renewal

Recruitment open to : Internal and external candidates

Application Deadline (Midnight Paris Time) : 14-OCT-2022

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

Duration of contract: initially 2 years, with possibility of extension subject to availability of funds and satisfactory performance.

OVERVIEW OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE POST

Background

Established in 1999, the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) serves as UNESCO's statistical agency for its 193 member states (MS) and 12 associated members. The UIS agenda is focused on the delivery of cross-national comparable data for global, regional and development agendas, covering the fields of education, science, culture, and communication and information. The UIS delivers the technical support for MS to produce transformative data based on the 3 pillars (Standards and methodologies; Data production; Brokering and outreach). The UIS' vision, described in its 2022-2029 Medium Term strategy, is to ensure that countries' policies and decision-making are informed by sound statistical information; that they can benchmark progress towards national and international goals and learn from the experience of others. The UIS is seeking to build a management team that will lead the successful implementation of that vision.

The UIS provides the data and technical inputs for global, regional, and funding mechanisms for education work, such as the UN Transforming Education Summit, the Global Education Cooperation Mechanism (GCM), G7, G20 and the GPE results framework. The UIS meets data needs for emerging priorities, for example through its work with UNICEF, World Bank, OECD and the GEMR on the Joint Survey of national education responses to COVID 19. Within the mandate of strengthening reporting, the UIS in partnership with the Global Education Monitoring report (GEMR) achieved consensus on the adoption of an SDG 4 benchmarking process and supports countries in setting and monitoring targets for 2025 and 2030 as co-leaders of the data and monitoring function of the GCM.

Purpose

Under the overall authority of the Director of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), the direct supervision of the Head of Research and Innovation for Monitoring Education UIS and the administrative supervision of the Director of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in the Arab States in Beirut (UNESCO Beirut), the incumbent's key role is focused on improving the coverage for the UIS core set of indicators through working with member states in the region on responses to the UIS data collections and strengthening their capacity to monitor SDGs including securing national commitments to SDG4 benchmarks.

Main responsibilities and tasks

1. Data Collection

- Develop and implement a workplan to improve the quality, timeliness and completeness of data and indicators collected against the UIS Core System of Education Indicators.
- Monitor the response rates and the quality of data reported by countries to the UIS and coordinate the needed actions to increase these. Obtain country validation of indicators to be reported by the UIS.
- Support the development of and conduct activities for effective implementation UIS regional programmes

supporting the follow up and review of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Education 2030 Agenda, advocating for alignment of monitoring frameworks and promoting data driven policy making.

- Conduct activities required for the implementation of UIS programmes in the fields of education, literacy skills measurement, and assessment of learning outcomes, science, technology & innovation, culture, and communication & information statistics.

2. Capacity Development

- In collaboration with the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in the Arab States,
 - o develop regional UIS medium term plans outlining the priorities for the region to strengthen reporting and monitoring of the SDG4 Agenda by Member States;
 - o conduct mapping of key stakeholders in the region and enhance the UIS's network of partnerships involved in data quality and collection at national and regional levels;
 - o articulate and implement a regional resource mobilization plan to support capacity development.
- Within the framework of UIS medium term strategy and agreed allocation of resources, support the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education for the Arab States to
 - o develop policy briefs and prepare regional and national studies and reports on SDG4
 - o contribute to building the capacity of Member States in the region to collect and disseminate education data

3. Contribution to UIS Core work

- Contribute to UIS reporting, including the preparation of technical documents, documents for UIS and UNESCO governing bodies as well as for other internal and external stakeholder including donors and development partners.
 - Liaise with the Regional Bureau for Education, UNESCO national and cluster offices as well as Regional Bureau of Science and Culture (for specific projects) for the effective implementation of UIS activities in the region.
 - Perform any additional activities that may be required in support of the mandate of the UIS and to ensure the success of the work.

COMPETENCIES (Core / Managerial)

Communication (C)
 Accountability (C)
 Innovation (C)
 Knowledge sharing and continuous improvement (C)
 Planning and organizing (C)
 Results focus (C)
 Teamwork (C)
 Professionalism (C)

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

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education

- Advanced university degree (master's degree or equivalent) in statistics, economics, demography, education or social sciences with a substantial applied statistics / data sciences component.

Work Experience

- A minimum 4 years of progressively responsible relevant professional experience as a statistician working with administrative, finance, survey, and/or assessment data relating to education of which preferably at least 2 years acquired at regional / international level strengthening education data capacity.
- Experience working in developing countries with National Statistical Offices or Planning Units.
- Experience with partnership development and resource mobilisation.

Skills and competencies

- Ability to explore innovative options to deliver education data, including understanding how to leverage on emerging methodological and technology opportunities.

- Experience with relevant coding languages (e.g., Python, R), data visualisation tools (e.g., Power BI, Tableau) and database management (SQL).
- Technical competence in the use of standard office and data processing/analysis software (i.e., MS Excel, MS Word, SPSS, Stata or SAS)
- Proven ability to provide advice to national statisticians on statistical and methodological issues related to data collection, analysis and reporting.
- Ability to develop and analyse project proposals and monitor project implementation.
- Knowledge of the Arab region.

Languages

- Excellent knowledge of English.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Education

- Advanced university degree (PhD degree or equivalent) in statistics, economics, demography, mathematics, education, social sciences or related areas.
- An advanced degree in applied statistics / data science is highly desirable.

Work Experience

- Experience in applied research, education data analysis and statistical modelling.
- Experience with modernization of official statistics.
- Experience of working with learning assessments
- Experience in the UN system or a similar agency.

Languages

- Working knowledge of French
- Working knowledge of Arabic.
- Knowledge of another official language of UNESCO (Chinese, Russian, Spanish)

BENEFITS AND ENTITLEMENTS

UNESCO's salaries consist of a basic salary and other benefits which may include if applicable: 30 days annual leave, family allowance, medical insurance, pension plan etc.

The approximate annual starting salary for this post is 131,214 US \$.

For full information on benefits and entitlements, please consult our Guide to Staff Benefits.

SELECTION AND RECRUITMENT PROCESS

Please note that all candidates must complete an on-line application and provide complete and accurate information. To apply, please visit the UNESCO careers website. No modifications can be made to the application submitted.

The evaluation of candidates is based on the criteria in the vacancy notice, and may include tests and/or assessments, as well as a competency-based interview.

UNESCO uses communication technologies such as video or teleconference, e-mail correspondence, etc. for the assessment and evaluation of candidates.

Please note that only selected candidates will be further contacted and candidates in the final selection step will be subject to reference checks based on the information provided.

UNESCO recalls that paramount consideration in the appointment of staff members shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, technical competence and integrity. UNESCO applies a zero-tolerance policy against all forms of harassment. UNESCO is committed to achieving and sustaining equitable and diverse geographical distribution, as well as gender parity among its staff members in all categories and at all grades. Furthermore, UNESCO is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Candidates from non- and under-represented Member States (last update here) are particularly welcome and strongly encouraged to apply. Individuals from minority groups and indigenous groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with the highest level of confidentiality. Worldwide mobility is required for staff members appointed to international posts. UNESCO does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process.

