



Internship Assignment

Adaptation Programme
Management and Coordination subprogramme

Application deadline	Announcement number	Duration of assignment
22 September 2019	19/Intern52/Adaptation- Management and Coordination	3 months or longer

Background

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the focus of the political process to address Climate Change. The UNFCCC secretariat supports the Convention, its Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement by a range of activities, including substantive and organizational support to meetings of the Parties and the implementation of commitments. It is a dynamic organization working in a politically challenging environment to help resolve one of the defining environmental issues of our time.

Within the UNFCCC secretariat, the Adaptation Programme supports the part of the intergovernmental process that addresses the adverse effects of climate change. The Adaptation Programme undertakes activities related to national adaptation plans, the Nairobi work programme, the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage and its Executive Committee, the Adaptation Committee, research and systematic observation, adaptation communications and the adaptation registry. The Adaptation programme also engages Parties and stakeholders, including national, regional, multilateral and international organizations, across public and private sectors, civil society and other relevant stakeholders. Further, the Adaptation programme supports the process of reviewing the adequacy of the long term global goal, the global stocktake and the consideration of various matters related to climate science.

Following the *IPCC special report on Global Warming of 1.5°C*, the Management and Coordination Unit of the Adaptation programme leads a reflection on “transformational adaptation”, which is defined in the report as “actions aiming at adapting to climate change resulting in significant changes in structure or function that go beyond adjusting existing practices, including approaches that enable new ways of decision-making on adaptation”. “Transformational adaptation at 1.5°C and beyond remains largely unexplored” according to the report.

Objectives of the internship

The intern will work with the Management and Coordination team on exploring transformational adaptation and innovative approaches to the achievement of long-term resilience. This reflection entails the use of strategic foresight methods, and the consideration of the whole spectrum of future challenges and opportunities, including in relation to the fourth



industrial revolution (e.g. artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, satellite technology, biotechnology) and to emerging social practices powered by a sustainability ethos (e.g. local and organic consumption and production practices, recognition of traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems.

The particular functions are:

The intern will perform a range of functions, including but not limited to:

- Researching, analysing and synthesizing data and information, and assisting in the production of knowledge and communications products;
- Updating relevant sections of websites, and assisting with social media communication and outreach, including with featured articles, Tweets, and Instagram posts;
- Assisting in organizing various meetings and events, including in relation to Resilience Frontiers¹;
- Contributing towards the organization and delivery of the Adaptation programme's activities, including actively participating in relevant meetings and events, with a view to gaining understanding of issues under other adaptation work streams, the workings of the UNFCCC and its organizational culture;
- Supporting activities requested by the Adaptation Programme Director and others, as needed.

Timeframe

The internship is for three months or longer, within the period between 01 October 2019 and 29 May 2020. The exact period will be determined based on the availability of the intern and the exact tasks will be determined by any emerging mandates and needs of the two workstreams. There is the possibility of a two to three-month extension, subject to the intern's university enrolment and performance.

Minimum requirements

Candidates must be enrolled in the final academic year of a first university degree (minimum bachelor's degree or equivalent) or be enrolled in a Master's programme at a recognized university at the time of application and for the duration of the internship. Candidates in the field of **social, environmental or natural sciences** or a related discipline, with a good understanding of climate change adaptation, and knowledge of frontier technologies are preferred. Skills in social media communication is an asset. Candidates must be fluent in English (both oral and written) and have strong writing and communication skills. The candidate should be able to work in a multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary environment.

¹ The [Resilience Frontiers Initiative](#) is an interagency effort on transformative and regenerative resilience, and a joint action pledge under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation.



Internship conditions

UNFCCC secretariat internships are not remunerated. The selected intern will be responsible for all costs before, during and after the internship assignment. Interns of the UNFCCC secretariat are not considered to be staff members. The selected intern will work on a full-time basis (40 hours per week) at the UNFCCC premises in Bonn, Germany. For more detailed information about UNFCCC Internship programme please visit the internship section on our recruitment [webpage](#).

Application procedure

Candidates who are interested in this assignment and meet the minimum requirements must use the [on-line application system](#) and include a cover letter. Due to the high number of applications, only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted for a telephone interview.