JOB DESCRIPTION

Project Communication Associate

Job title: Project Communication Associate
Level: SB 3.3
Position Number: 00152235
Location: Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
Full/Part time: Full-time
Fixed term/Temporary: Service Contract
Rotational/Non Rotational: Non Rotational
Duration: 1 year (with possibility of extension until 30 November 2022)

The Position:

Project Communication Associate is responsible for developing and implementing communication and advocacy activities of the project “Develop life skills and healthy behaviours of students in Vocational Education & Training for their development and job readiness” funded by the Austrian Development Agency and implemented by UNFPA Moldova Country Office.

The project aims to support VET students (boys and girls, including vulnerable and with disabilities) to practice safe reproductive health behaviours and adopt a healthy lifestyle. The specific objectives are threefold: 1. VET institutions are enabled to sustainably deliver the Decisions for a Healthy Lifestyle course, based on available materials, teacher preparation and friendly learning infrastructure; 2. VET institutions and business companies have capacities to support young people in their healthy development and safe behaviours; 3. VET staff, students, parents and business companies understand and promote the youth right to life skills based health education and reproductive health services. Project is targeting 12 VET institutions in Chisinau and in other regions of the country: from South region – Cahul; from Center region – Nisporeni, Rezina, Orhei; from North region – Edinet, Riscani, Balti and with 9 business companies who work with the selected VET institutions within dual education.

In implementing this project, the Communication Associate will work in close coordination with the Project Officer, UNFPA Communications Analyst, representatives of Austrian Development Agency in Moldova and VET Department of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research.

You will report directly to the UNFPA Communications Analyst.

How you can make a difference:

UNFPA is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA’s new strategic plan (2018-2021), focuses on three transformative results: to end preventable maternal deaths; end unmet need for family planning; and end gender-based violence and harmful practices.

In a world where fundamental human rights are at risk, we need principled and ethical staff, who embody these international norms and standards, and who will defend them courageously and with full conviction.
UNFPA is seeking candidates that transform, inspire and deliver high impact and sustained results; we need staff who are transparent, exceptional in how they manage the resources entrusted to them and who commit to deliver excellence in programme results.

**Job Purpose:**

The Communication Associate will play an important role in increasing awareness of VET staff, business companies, parents, decision makers, etc. on youth right to life skills based health education and reproductive health services. You will analyze relevant political, social and economic developments when planning, implementing projects’ communication, and advocacy activities. You will work under the guidance of the Project Officer and UNFPA Communications Analyst to harmonies the communication and advocacy with messages and campaigns promoted by UNFPA and other national programmes in the project area.

You will apply and promote the principles of result-based management (RBM), as well as a client-oriented approach consistent with UNFPA rules and regulations. It is expected that you maintain collaborative relationships with all programme and project staff from UNFPA CO. This project will engage both VET institutions and business companies at the national level so VET students, in particular girls, know how to avoid health related risks in adolescence, including sexual violence, harassment, unintended pregnancies, and have more opportunities to successfully graduate and integrate in the labour market.

Specifically, the project will focus on the following three areas: 1) enable VET institutions to sustainably deliver the Decisions for a Healthy Lifestyle course by developing edutainment materials, training teachers and creating friendly learning infrastructure; 2) capacitate VET institutions and business companies to support young people adopt a healthy lifestyle in schools, dormitories and at the workplace; 3) work with VET staff, students, parents and business companies to raise their understanding about the youth rights and needs for life skills based education and reproductive health services.

You would be responsible for:

**A. Ensure efficient projects’ internal and external communication:**

- Pro-actively manage internal and external communication activities, aimed at informing and engaging relevant target groups around project’ goals and objectives;
- Ensures the development and coordination of the projects’ communication strategy, action plans, and public awareness campaigns, in collaboration with project’s team and UNFPA programme staff, under overall guidance and supervision of the UNFPA Communications Analyst;
- Develops and maintains active communication with targeted VET institutions, Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, donor, business companies, traditional and social media networks, as well as with civil society groups and organizations essential to achieving projects’ objectives;
- Assist, when necessary, project-implementing partners with communication and advocacy messages related to the projects’ goal;
- Assists the projects’ team to report on project results in a visually appealing and interesting way.

**B. Develop and implement projects’ advocacy activities:**
• Drafts and edits articles, press releases, human interest stories, social media content and other advocacy/information materials of the project (fact-sheets, video materials, infographics, leaflets, etc.);
• Identifies success stories of young people, VET institutions, business companies, parents and promotes them in traditional media and social media, to inspire and boost positive behavior change at the community and national level;
• Organizes media field trips to targeted VET institutions and business companies, communities to document good practices and seeks the involvement of decision makers and donors for greater visibility, advocacy and positioning of project’s agenda;
• Organizes public events involving main stakeholders and beneficiaries to generate awareness about the project’s objectives and facilitate the overall implementation;
• Create innovative partnerships at the national and local levels by involving relevant influencers, celebrities, key public figures, to support the project and promote a rights-based education in VET.

Carry out any other duties as may be required by UNFPA leadership, which contributes to the project efficient implementation.

Qualifications and Experience

Education:
University Degree in communications, journalism, public relations or related field.

Knowledge and Experience:

• At least 7 (seven) years of experience in the field of communication, journalism, public relations;
• Experience in managing the communication activities of development projects, preferably on social issues/youth topics and / or VET;
• Strong communication, interpersonal and organizational skills;
• Good understanding and use of new media tools, including social media.

Languages:

• Fluency in Romanian and English is required.
• Working knowledge of one or more additional languages relevant for Moldova, including Russian, Bulgarian, Gagauzian, Romani, Ukrainian or sign language would be an asset.

Required Competencies

Values:
• Exemplifying integrity,
• Demonstrating commitment to UNFPA and the UN system,
• Embracing cultural diversity,
• Embracing change.

Functional Competencies:
• Advocacy/ Advancing a policy-oriented agenda,
• Leveraging the resources of national governments and partners/ building strategic alliances and partnerships,
• Delivering results-based programmes,
• Internal and external communication and advocacy for results mobilization.
Core Competencies:
- Achieving results,
- Being accountable,
- Developing and applying professional expertise/business acumen,
- Thinking analytically and strategically,
- Working in teams/managing ourselves and our relationships,
- Communicating for impact.

Compensation and Benefits

This position offers an attractive remuneration package including a competitive net salary plus health insurance and other benefits as applicable.

This is a local position, therefore only citizens of the Republic of Moldova or others legally authorized to work in the country are eligible to apply.

Disclaimer

UNFPA does not charge any application, processing, training, interviewing, testing or other fee in connection with the application or recruitment process. Fraudulent notices, letters or offers may be submitted to the UNFPA fraud hotline http://www.unfpa.org/help/hotline.cfm