

PROGRAMME SPECIALIST (NATURAL SCIENCES)

Post Number : 6SNSC0006RP (Amended)

Grade : P-4

Parent Sector : Natural Sciences Sector (SC)

Duty Station: Dakar

Job Family: Natural Sciences

Type of contract : Fixed Term

Duration of contract : 2 years, renewable

Recruitment open to : Internal and external candidates

Application Deadline (Midnight Paris Time) : 21-JUN-2023 (Readvertised)

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

Language requirements amended.

Please note that all candidates who have already applied will continue to be considered.

OVERVIEW OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE POST

Under the overall authority of the Assistant Director-General of the Natural Sciences Sector (ADG/SC), and the direct supervision of the Director of the UNESCO Multi-Sectoral Regional Office in Dakar, the incumbent is responsible for ensuring the development, coordination and implementation and management of programmes, projects and activities related to Basic Sciences, Engineering Sciences, Science Technology and Innovation policy, Open Science, STEM, Disaster Risk Reduction and Local Indigenous Knowledge in the sub-region. S/he will coordinate and ensure to strengthen collaborative relationships with National Commissions and Member States' relevant ministries, promoting Science for Sustainable Development within the IBSP PROGRAMME and strengthen the cooperation with ICTP, TWAS, CERN and Scientific Unions and Institutions, with the UNESCO-affiliated centres and Chairs. S/he will contribute to the intersectoral collaboration for Sciences Sector.

In line with the frameworks of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy (C/4), the approved Programme and Budget (C/5), and global development plans such as the Agenda Africa 2063, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) strategy in relation to Science and Technology, 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the incumbent will deliver visible and high-quality results to Member States by defining priorities, designing relevant strategies and policies as well as mobilising partnerships and extrabudgetary resources.

In particular, the incumbent will:

- Design, coordinate, implement and monitor programme and project activities in the areas of natural sciences focusing on the fields of Basic and Engineering Sciences, Science Technology and Innovation Policy development and Open Sciences.
- Build human and institutional capacities in science, technology and innovation institutions and programmes and contribute to the strengthening and extension of scientific networks and developing training opportunities for young scientists for the promotion of scientific capacity, in particular through UNESCO-affiliated Centers, Chairs and Institutes.
- Provide support in the implementation of the International Basic Science Programme (IBSP) and in collaboration with the relevant programme specialists at Headquarters, and implement and coordinate events and other undertakings including basic and engineering sciences, science policy, open sciences, disaster risk reduction and local indigenous knowledge and STEM in the region.

- Contribute to the coordination and monitoring of the development of a natural science programme and strategy for the sub-region and prepares inputs for the UNESCO Medium-Term Strategy (C/4) and the Programme and Budget document (C/5) and related workplans and draft relevant contributions to the Report of the Director General on the activities of the Organization (C/3), as well as for other periodic reports.
- Working with the Natural Sciences Sector Focal Point for the UNESCO Dakar office, provide advice and expertise in supporting Member states to identify, formulate and implement Natural Sciences related initiatives.
- Build and maintain strategic partnerships with other United Nations Agencies, Multilateral and Bilateral Development Agencies particularly such as the World Bank, regional funds and development banks (African Development Bank), the European Commission, IGOs, NGOs in order to foster opportunities for joint programming activities related to Natural Sciences, for the sub-region within the context of the UN Reform, "Delivering as One" approach, and the United Nations Common Country Analysis and Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CCA/UNSDCF) processes.
- Initiate, coordinate and mobilise and raise extrabudgetary resources to support regular programme activities for natural sciences program in the region.

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)

Building partnerships (M)

Making quality decisions (M)

Leading and empowering others (M)

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

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education

- Advanced University degree (Masters or equivalent) in the field of basic and/or engineering sciences or related fields in Natural Sciences.

Work Experience

- A minimum of 7 years of progressively responsible relevant professional experience in the field of basic sciences, science and technology, and innovation or engineering, of which at least of which at least 3 years acquired at the international level, in particularly in a multicultural environment.
- Work experience in capacity building in science, and or engineering technology and innovation.
- Experience in programmes/projects development and fundraising experience.
- Experience in resource mobilization, support for programme implementation, budget management and programme reporting.
- Experience in research, teaching and/or training in STEM disciplines or engineering research and innovation.

Skills and Competencies

- Good conceptual, analytical, research and organizational skills.
- Strong analytical, negotiating, communication and advocacy skills.
- Ability to interact with a wide range of high-level partners.
- Proven ability in planning and setting up training courses, projects, workshops on basic sciences, or science and technology/engineering.
- Demonstrated professional experience with project management skill and proposal writing and resource mobilization.
- Excellent drafting skills: ability to produce reports and papers on scientific, technical, and strategic issues.
- High degree of independence, as well as well-developed capacities for teamwork in multicultural environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity
- Ability to communicate (written and oral) and negotiate effectively and persuasively with various stakeholders, within and outside the organization.

Languages

- Excellent knowledge (written and spoken) of English and working knowledge of French.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Education

- Advanced University degree (PhD) in the field of field of basic and/or engineering sciences.

Work Experience

- Working experience in or with developing countries in the national or regional implementation of natural sciences programmes.
- Experiences in UN agencies/programmes and or international organizations.

Skills and Competencies

- Solid understanding of basic sciences and engineering, science technology and innovation policy.
- Ability to work under pressure in a complex and changing environment.
- Ability to work in close partnership with a wide range of national, regional and international scientific organizations, professional organization
- Good knowledge of UNESCO – IBSP

Languages

- Knowledge of other official UNESCO languages (Arabic, Chinese, Russian or 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 107 174 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.