



## Secondment as

# Peace and Development Specialist

## The UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Colombo, Sri Lanka

Since its establishment in 2004, the *Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention* (the Joint Programme or JP) has been engaged in bridging the gap between political engagement and development assistance in pursuit of sustainable peace.

The Joint Programme started a new phase (2024-2028) in a global context of new and protracted conflicts, intersecting crises, and multiple adverse impacts on progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Against this background, in his policy brief on A New Agenda for Peace, the United Nations Secretary-General is calling for prevention to be elevated as a political priority and proposed a shift in paradigm whereby all States agree to tackle the drivers of violence within their societies.

The Joint Programme contributes to joint UN action to help national stakeholders enhance their capacities and structures for conflict prevention, primarily through the deployment of international and national Peace and Development Advisors (PDAs) to UN Resident Coordinators Offices (RCOs) working in complex settings. PDAs provide analytical, advisory, and capacity-development assistance to national stakeholders to enhance capacities for dialogue, develop prevention policies and strategies, strengthen national infrastructures for peace and help foster the engagement of women and youth in these efforts. Through the PDAs' role in advising UN leadership (particularly the Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative and DPPA Regional Division) and providing technical support on programme design, the Joint Programme will strengthen the capacities of the UN in the areas of integrated conflict analysis, conflict-sensitive development, conflict prevention, peacebuilding and preventive diplomacy, and contribute to system-wide thought leadership and learning. The past 5-year period witnessed growing demand for the Joint Programme's support, with an expanding cadre of 128 PDAs now based in over 73 countries and 6 Regional Specialists based in 6 regional hubs (henceforth, the term "PDAs" will be used to refer to all deployments).

In an effort to ensure that PDAs are better equipped and empowered to deliver on their mandates, the Joint Programme has established in a number of contexts small 'Peace and Development teams' where a *Peace and Development Specialist* provides reinforced capacity to the PDA's engagement in support of the RCOs, UNDP and the broader UNCTs, as well as DPPA in the area of conflict prevention and sustaining peace. In the context of Sri Lanka, and in partnership with the Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding, a position will be established. The Specialist will report to the PDA and work alongside the Peace and Development Team.

In Sri Lanka, the Peace and Development team will work on

- (i) supporting and promoting peacebuilding and conflict prevention initiatives conceptualized, and strategized by the RCO,
- (ii) liaising with the government and other key stakeholders to facilitate inclusive and conflict sensitive approaches to build relevant national capacities for conflict prevention and
- (iii) providing technical support for coordination, partnership building and identify entry points to strengthen conflict prevention and social cohesion in Sri Lanka.

## Tasks and responsibilities:

Under the direct supervision of the Peace and Development Advisor, the main duties and responsibilities of the Specialist include:

1. Research, information-gathering and analysis;
  - o Gather and process data and information relevant to the UN's role and activities in country, with specific focus on promoting peacebuilding, social cohesion and sustainable development;
  - o Undertake political and conflict analysis, monitor the situation in the country and region, and report issues related to peace and security, as well as carry out research on particular issues and thematic areas, including through analysis of local sources;

- Prepare reports and analysis in areas including conflict analysis, political economy analysis and peace and security.
2. Identifying entry-points and propose inclusive and conflict-sensitive approaches in efforts to build national capacities for conflict prevention;
- Identify areas of programmatic engagement with national stakeholders related to social cohesion, dialogue, conflict prevention and consensus building; HDP nexus; and contribute to the development of conflict-sensitive approaches;
  - Work closely with UNDP's early warning, peace building and conflict prevention/social protection pillar of the SDG 16 portfolio to help translate analysis into programmatic responses and actions;
  - Explore entry points with key national counterparts including the Government and civil society;
  - Train and advise UNCT members to ensure that the UNCT programme portfolio is conflict sensitive;
  - Undertake mappings and analysis with civil society actors (including youth, women, and marginalized groups) on capacities for conflict prevention / peacebuilding at local and national level, in order to give strategic advice for the programs provided by the PDA and UNCT;
  - Engage with national and local stakeholders, focusing particularly on engaging with civil society actors at local level and academia, link local initiatives to national-level institutions, structures and processes, as well as reinforcing dialogue between government and civil society and/or people-to-people dialogues.
3. Provide technical advice for coordination, partnerships and M&E.
- Coordinate existing partnerships between stakeholders (government, civil society, private sector and the international community, including the UN system).
  - Perform monitoring and evaluation function, including collecting, processing and analyzing data in the framework of peace and development team workplan;
  - Provide knowledge management and share good practices on conflict prevention and peacebuilding; ensure that stories and lessons learned are shared with the Joint Programme Secretariat at UN Headquarter New York;
  - Perform an array of duties that support UN coordination and effective Peace and Development Team program implementation. These include organizing and implementing consultation processes with national and international partners.

### **Qualification and Experience:**

- Master's degree, in lieu of an Advanced degree, a Bachelor university degree with additional years of experience.
- Minimum of 5 years (with Master's degree) or 7 years (with bachelor's degree) of progressively responsible experience in conflict analysis, policy, and strategy development, development and/or conflict prevention in a governmental, multilateral or civil society organization;
- Experience in research and project development/management;
- A proven policy, advisory and advocacy experience and track record of engagement with senior levels of government, United Nations, and donors;
- Experience in national and community-level conflict prevention and peacebuilding initiatives and programming;
- Sound knowledge of and extensive experience in Sri Lanka/South Asia, including in dialogue and conflict prevention initiatives, is an advantage.
- Fluent written and spoken English and passive knowledge of two Swiss official languages is required.
- Physical and mental fitness to work in this context, (Assignments are subject to successfully meeting the medical standards);
- Possession of a valid automobile driving license and the ability to drive a 4x4 vehicle using manual transmission;
- Swiss nationality (Dual citizenship with country of assignment not possible).

Duty station:	Colombo, Sri Lanka
Travel advise:	<a href="https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/de/home/vertretungen-und-reisehinweise/sri-lanka/reisehinweise-fuersrilanka.html">https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/de/home/vertretungen-und-reisehinweise/sri-lanka/reisehinweise-fuersrilanka.html</a>
Start of assignment:	June 2024
Duration of contract:	1 year, with the possibility of extension.
Deadline for applications	25 February 2024
Interviews are scheduled to take place on:	12 and 15 March 2024
Family:	accompaniment by family is possible

Click here to learn more about the organisation: <https://srilanka.un.org/en/about/about-the-resident-coordinator-office>

For further information, please contact:

- Mr Nassim Awad, Program Manager (nassim.awad@eda.admin.ch, +41 58 48 20069) for questions related to the mission or
- Ms Janine Misteli, Swiss Expert Pool (janine.misteli@eda.admin.ch, + 41 58 462 63 39) for questions on requirements and on the selection process.

### Assignment:

The assignments take place within the framework of the Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding. The seconded expert receives a contract from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs for the duration of their deployment [PVFMH](#) (D) / [OPers-PDHH](#) (F) / [OPers-PRA](#) (I).

Please apply through the Swiss Federal Administration recruitment system <https://www.stelle.admin.ch/stelle/it/home/stellen/stellenangebot.html>

A complete application contains:

- an application letter in English;
- a CV English;
- diplomas and work certificates;
- the completed Personal History Form PEP (see: <http://bitly.ws/dTMd>)<sup>1</sup>

### <sup>1</sup> Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding

The deployment of civilian experts within the scope of Switzerland's policy on peace, human rights, and humanitarian issues is a long-standing tradition. Depending on specific needs, civilian experts are made available for temporary civilian peace projects as election monitors, police advisers or specialists in fields such as constitutional law and practice, mediation, the rule of law, human rights and humanitarian law ([www.eda.admin.ch/expertenpool](http://www.eda.admin.ch/expertenpool)).