Programme Officer

Advertised on behalf of:

Location: Yumbe, UGANDA
Application Deadline: 09-Jun-17 (Midnight New York, USA)
Time left: 11d 22h 26m
Additional Category: Gender Equality
Type of Contract: Service Contract
Post Level: SB-3
Languages Required: English
Starting Date: 01-Jul-2017
Expected Duration of Assignment: 1 Year

Background

UN Women, grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. Placing women’s rights at the center of all its efforts, UN Women leads and coordinates United Nations system efforts to ensure that commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming translate into action throughout the world. It provides strong and coherent leadership in support of Member States’ priorities and efforts, building effective partnerships with civil society and other relevant actors.

Uganda has continued to accommodate refugees fleeing from surrounding regions. Inflows of refugees from the conflict-ridden areas of South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo continued as of April 2017. A total of 901,755 South Sudanese arrived in Uganda (as per 17th April 2017, UNHCR) due to violence or persecution, 86% of whom are women and children.

As the refugee population grows in Uganda, it is also critical to ensure host populations can adequately support the new influx. The Government of Uganda has made refugee-hosting areas a national priority through the Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA), which is aligned to the NDP II 2015/16 - 2019/20. The STA is supported by the UN Country Team through the Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHoPE) strategy. The ReHoPE focuses on progressively enhancing social service delivery in refugee-hosting areas (including life-saving interventions in Protection, Health & Nutrition, WASH, and Education), with a view to integrating services within local government systems, and on emergency livelihoods within refugee hosting areas. As per Government policy and in order to promote peaceful co-existence with host populations, all refugee interventions in Uganda must include 30 percent host community support (e.g., for every 100 refugees, some 30 members of the host community should also benefit).
Gender perspective in humanitarian action is vital to understanding the different needs of women, girls, boys and men in order to generate positive and sustainable outcomes. In times of crisis gender roles and dynamics change, women often resort to negative coping mechanisms and SGBV becomes more prevalent. High levels of violence including sexual abuse, harmful traditional practices, and assault, characterize the life of women refugees who fled the conflict in South Sudan. In addition, in refugee settlements the rule of law is weak and perpetrators of SGBV are rarely held accountable for their actions. It is essential to capture these issues in Uganda's humanitarian response, both at the individual programming level in project design and in programme analysis and development.

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Policy on gender emphasizes the importance of humanitarian assistance on meeting the needs of the most vulnerable women. Providing targeted livelihood and protection support to women in refugee settlements also has a ripple effect on the wellbeing of their families and communities.

Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action (WPSHA) is one of five thematic areas of UN Women Uganda’s strategic plan, and an area in which UN Women coordinates and leads the UN system. The WPSHA section, is responsible for knowledge functions, technical support, programme inception, interagency coordination, monitoring and accountability of the UN system to key frameworks and intergovernmental support on the full WPSHA agenda.

In 2017-2018 UN Women Uganda is supporting the Government of Uganda to: Design and develop the next NAP1325; Draft the National Peace Policy; support the implementation of the 3rd Peace, Recovery and Development Plan for Northern Uganda and to train OPM departments on gender responsive early warning, disaster management and refugee response.

In addition, since 2014, UN Women, along with humanitarian partners, has been supporting a gender mainstreaming response to South Sudanese refugee emergency in Uganda aligned to the UN ReHoPE strategy and the UN Women global LEAP flagship programme. Also in line with its global humanitarian strategy and peace and security interventions in Uganda, UN Women’s support has aimed to: mainstream gender equality and women’s rights in UN and government of Uganda’s humanitarian responses; capacity building of OPM and other humanitarian actors; review of policy and legislative frameworks; protection from violence against refugee women and girls, including, psycho-social and legal aid support for refugee women, promotion of peaceful coexistence among refugees and host communities; and supporting increased collection and use of gender statistics and analysis in the emergency response.

Under the direct supervision of the Coordination Specialist, the Gender and Humanitarian Officer analyzes political, social and economic trends and supports formulation, management, operation, humanitarian partner support and evaluation of program activities within his/her portfolio and provides advisory services to partners in local government, UN and CSOs in West Nile and Northern Uganda. Through the Coordination Specialist, provides analysis for formulation of strategies and briefings to senior management while being based in Yumbe with regular travel to the Refugee settlements in Northern Uganda.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

**Summary of Key Functions:**

- Administration and implementation of humanitarian programmes, processes and procedures;
- Finance, administrative and monitoring and evaluation support to Humanitarian programmes;
Advocacy support and facilitation of knowledge building and management.