

UNIDIR is currently accepting applications for a non-remunerated intern/research assistant position for its Security Needs Assessment project. Only candidates fully qualified need apply.

Deadline for application: 1st January 2006.

THE PROJECT

The Security Needs Assessment project aims to a) generate community-level knowledge about actual security needs as stakeholders understand them; b) create a transparent means of interpreting local findings for the benefit of project design and planning connected to the Joint Assessment Missions by the United Nations and World Bank to assist communities in security and development matters; and c) integrate findings into standing agency practices and mandates to support the creation of post-conflict security-building projects.

THE POSITION

1. Assist the project manager and the lead researcher, bring the project to the attention of key United Nations agencies (especially UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP and UNDG, as well as the World Bank), donor governments, and field-level managers working in conflict zones or "post-conflict" zones.
2. Provide research assistance in the form of literature reviews, inquiries into past attempts to conduct similar activities in the United Nations and elsewhere, interviews with United Nations and government officials, and the preparation of background papers to assist with meetings and presentations.
3. Assist with unexpected matters as they arise.
4. Position is for 3 months starting in February 2006 (date flexible), with the possibility of a brief extension.

QUALIFICATIONS

Required

1. MA/Ph.D student or recent graduate with strong background and interest in qualitative research methods and interpretive analysis. Especially sought are candidates with experience in anthropology, ethnography, cultural research, and comparative studies in cultural systems (not comparative government). Political science, IR or sociology students may be considered if they possess the requisite knowledge.
2. Fluent spoken and written English. Knowledge of French is a plus, but not required.
3. Experience in a professional work environment in the public or private sector.

Preferred

1. Interest in social violence (especially armed conflict), and empirical research experience in this area.
2. Interest or experience with the United Nations system or the World Bank.
3. Professional field experience, academic or operational.

Other

1. Able to work independently and flexible and willing to handle a variety of duties ranging from actively participating in high-level meetings to helping with office work.
2. Knowledge of small arms issues, and experience or interest in development studies or humanitarian affairs.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please follow [UNIDIR's application guidelines](#) for its internship/research assistant programme, and comply with the following additional points. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

1. Applications should be sent directly to Derek Miller at derekbmiller@Gmail.com.
2. The subject heading must include the following elements: internship /research assistant application, Security Assessments, your family name.
3. Please include a writing sample of no more than ten pages (even if this is only an excerpt) of work relevant to this application. Focus should be on cultural research: case studies, literature reviews, or pieces on research design/methodology. The subject area, time period and geographic location are open to choice, though security-related studies are preferred. Your written material will not be used or cited without your permission.
4. Deadline for applications is 1st January 2006. A decision will be made very soon after.