

Vacancy Announcement – Engineer

I. Position Information

Job Code Title:	Engineer
No of positions:	1
Supervisor:	National Project Manager
Duty Stations:	Vavuniya
Duration:	12 months
Salary Scale:	In compliance with UN rules & regulations

II. UN-HABITAT

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) is the United Nations agency responsible for human settlements, mandated to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities, with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all; within overall objective of the United Nations to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development. The details of the Habitat Agenda, Global Programmes and the Mandate are available in the main web site at www.unhabitat.org and the local web site at www.unhabitat.lk.

UN-HABITAT operations in Asia include activities in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka, under supervision of the Regional Office for Asia and Pacific in Fukuoka Japan.

Since its inception in 1978, UN-HABITAT has helped the development of human settlements policies in Sri Lanka and some of the major activities implemented include Sustainable Cities Programme / Urban Governance Support Project, Lunawa Lake Improvement Project, Rebuilding Communities in the North and East, Rebuilding Community Infrastructure and Shelter in Tsunami Affected Areas, Slum Upgrading Facility (Under-served Settlements Upgrading Programme).

UN-HABITAT was the largest post-tsunami housing reconstruction Implementing Agency, and similarly in this post-conflict environment, UN-HABITAT anticipates a significant requirement for its specialist knowledge, expertise and local experience dating back to the 1970s.

UN-HABITAT firmly believes professional & highly competent staff is integral to the success of implementation for all its programmes.

III. Shelter Support to Conflict Affected IDPs in the North of Sri Lanka

The recently concluded ethnic conflict in northern Sri Lanka has left 200,000 to 230,000 war-destroyed and damaged homes. The affected families have suffered from loss of permanent shelter, family assets and livelihoods and have been forced into poverty. Further they have suffered immense psychological trauma due to the conflict that has lasted over 2 decades.

Permanent shelter is not only a family's most valuable asset, but also their main source of safety, security & dignity. It is vital that families are resettled urgently, & empowered, using a community based methodology.

UN-HABITAT with financial assistance from the Government of Australia (AusAid) has formulated this project aimed at reaching over 1,000 beneficiary families in its first phase.

IV. Description of Duties (TOR)

Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager, the Engineer will be the senior most representative & supervise the administration of the District based project team. He / she will guide the support team in the reconstruction process and be responsible for the technical aspect of assisting communities and their members in the selection, design and implementation of housing repairs & reconstruction.

In particular, he / she will undertake the following tasks:

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- Assess housing requirement and prioritize based on work programme
- Assess quality of houses for upgrading / repairs and finalize estimates
- Adopt appropriate standards for the construction of houses
- Liaise with agencies with similar mandate and advocate standard procedures
- Advise Project team & communities on appropriate standards and location of required services and facilities;
- Oversee the preparation of technical designs and Bill of Quantities;
- Supervise & guide technical officers
- Develop a training plan for the communities in construction techniques and building process management;
- Supervise and monitor construction activities
- Facilitate NPM in convening District Steering Committee / Coordination Meeting
- Provide inputs to the Project Inception Report, including the detailed project work plan;
- Organize and identify settlements and Community Action Plans (CAP); Assist community in preparation of submission of Community Action Plans and Community Contract Proposals for approval by project authorities
- Monitor the flow of funds and utilization of the shelter Grants and Community Contract Schemes;
- Supervise the compliance of the project activities with the objectives and strategy of the project and ensure timely delivery of activities at the field level;
- Prepare inputs to the required progress reports, project performance reports, and the project terminal report;
- Undertake any additional tasks, which are deemed appropriate in carrying out the above, in assisting the Project Manager.

V. Requirements / Qualifications

Education: Candidates will have a basic degree in civil engineering or equivalent qualification.

Experience: At least 8 years experience in development work in or with the public sector, local governments, Non-Governmental sector or International Organizations. Candidates should have a solid exposure in community-based development initiatives and interventions. Experience in a senior engineers role where project management a

key responsibility is vital for this role.

Preference will be given to candidates with UN experience.

He / She must have demonstrated a strong commitment to the participatory process, transfer of knowledge skills, willingness to work in a team, and possess excellent coordination and communication skills.

**Competencies &
Skills Required:**

Excellent communication and proven leadership skills as a team leader and excellent mediating and facilitating skills are a must.

Experience in community centred development programmes

Fluency in English & Tamil and excellent linguistic & presentation skills are a must.
Local knowledge of areas assigned will be advantageous.

In addition a high level of computer literacy is required.

Qualified Sri Lankan Nationals are requested to submit their resumes with names of two unrelated referees and a contact telephone number to employment@unhabitat.lk by 30th January 2010.

UN-HABITAT will only respond to shortlisted candidates. Qualified female candidates are encouraged to apply.