



**UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY**

**INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT
HAMILTON, CANADA**

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW (FRESHWATER) (P-4)

- Organizational Unit** : United Nations University – International Network on Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH)
- Reference Number** : 2009/UNU/INWEH/SRF/FW/FTA/33
- Applications to** : *contact@inweh.unu.edu*
- Closing Date** : 22 January 2010
(Please note that applications received after the closing date will not be considered and only short-listed candidates will be notified)

UNU's Mission:

The United Nations University (UNU) is an international community of scholars, engaged in research, postgraduate training and dissemination of knowledge in furthering the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The mission of the UNU is to contribute, through research and capacity building, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems that are the concern of the United Nations and its Member States. Key goals are to serve as an international community of scholars; a bridge between the United Nations and the international academic community; and as a think-tank for the United Nations system; to contribute to capacity building, particularly in developing countries; and to serve as a platform for new and creative ideas. For more information, please visit www.unu.edu.

UNU-INWEH's Objectives:

The International Network on Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH) is a unit of the United Nations University based in Canada (www.inweh.unu.edu). It was created in 1996 with its core funding provided by the Government of Canada, and is hosted at the McMaster University, Hamilton. Its core concern is the global water crisis. It aims to contribute, through capacity development and directed research, to efforts to resolve pressing global water problems that are of concern to the United Nations, its member states and their peoples. Activities are undertaken with minimal overhead and flexible teams are assembled from different disciplines and countries with the precise skills and expertise required to meet a given need.

UNU-INWEH's programme structure represents a proactive, selective and longer-term strategy to programme development, reflecting the water-environment-health mission, while ensuring progressively greater coherence in the programme of work. Three core functions are: (a) capacity development through the strengthening of scientific, managerial, educational and institutional capacity in developing countries; (b) enhancing and mobilizing knowledge to address policy issues and to fill critical knowledge gaps; and (c) directed science and policy bridging – achieved through application of research and focused on water policy and governance innovations. These core functions are applied to four thematic areas, each representing a critical aspect of the global water challenge:

- Freshwater Ecosystems
- Coastal Ecosystems
- Dryland Ecosystems
- Water-Health Nexus

The UNU-INWEH Freshwater Programme aims to better manage the freshwater ecosystems – including rivers and lakes, their watersheds, and freshwater deltas and wetlands – by addressing shortcoming in the scientific knowledge on water quality and quantity, and ecology and ecosystem services, and by facilitating policy formulation to better manage freshwater ecosystems in an integrated and holistic fashion. This programme incorporates the following two broad areas of interest in all of its activities: (a) Advanced education and capacity development, directed towards adult education for current water professionals; and (b) Knowledge and information management including the evaluation and dissemination of good practices in water management, and methods to assist sharing of the knowledge and information that has been generated in water-related projects.

Responsibilities:

We are looking for an outstanding individual with strong commitment for international service to serve as a lead scientist and the chief manager of UNU-INWEH’s Freshwater Ecosystems programme. The Senior Research Fellow (SRF) will also support the UNU-INWEH Director in his role as the Chair of UN-Water (www.unwater.org). The SRF will be working under the direct supervision of the Assistant Director (Freshwater and IT), and be responsible for the following:

- Manage and oversee the existing policy-relevant research and capacity building activities of the programme
- Facilitate the development of and lead a dynamic portfolio addressing freshwater issues
- Liaise with UN-Water members, as needed
- Communicate research and project accomplishments at scientific meetings and international fora, and through publications

Required qualifications:

- Ph.D. in the field of Hydrology, Environmental Sciences or Engineering, or Geography, or a related science
- At least 7 years of post-Ph.D. work experience related to management of water resources.
- Strong background in applied research and international capacity development
- A prominent profile in the relevant academic community
- Demonstrated leadership in creating networks focused on freshwater issues
- Management experience in an academic/research institution
- Experience in knowledge management systems is considered be an advantage
- A proven track record of fundraising for international programmes is essential
- Proven track record of high-quality academic and policy publications
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment and a deep commitment to human development and welfare
- Proficiency in English is required; knowledge of other official UN languages is an asset.

Remuneration:

Approximate net salary of US\$ 104,782 p.a. (single status)/ US\$ 112,525 p.a. (with dependants) including post adjustment. Post adjustment is subject to change. The post carries the standard set of UN entitlements/benefits, including participation in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, the possibility of participation in a health insurance programme, education grant for eligible children, removal expenses and home leave. The salary is also exempted from income taxes in Canada. For more information about UN entitlement/benefits please visit:

http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries_allowances/salary.htm.

Staff members of the United Nations University are international civil servants subject to the authority of the Rector and may be assigned to any of the activities or offices of the United Nations University. The Rector reserves the right to appoint suitable candidates at a lower category. Applications from suitably qualified women are particularly encouraged.

Duration of contract: This is a fixed term appointment where period of initial contract would be for a two-year term with the possibility of renewal on the basis of excellent performance.

Starting date: It is expected that the appointee will take up the position by April to May 2010.

Application Process:

Interested applicants must submit their application electronically; this **must include** the following:

- (a) a letter of application setting out how the qualifications and experience match the requirements of the position;
- (b) a completed and signed UNU Personal History form, downloadable from the UNU-INWEH website (<http://www.inweh.unu.edu/vacancies.htm>). Please **do not submit your curriculum vitae**, and avoid using similar forms provided by other UN organizations;
- (c) a list of publications and recent writing sample; and
- (d) full contact information of three referees.

The application package should be attached to an e-mail and sent to: contact@inweh.unu.edu; preferably, it should be prepared as Adobe Acrobat (pdf) file(s). Incomplete applications that do not include all four requested documents will not be considered.