CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Title: PhD Researcher
Reference: UNWTO/HHRR/CFE/35/SDTR/2017
Programme: Sustainable Development of Tourism
Contractual Status: Service Contract

Duty Station: Madrid, Spain
Start date: 1 December 2017
Duration: Twelve months
Deadline for Applications: 30 September 2017

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is the United Nations agency responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism. As the leading international organization in the field of tourism, the UNWTO promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability and offers leadership and support to the sector in advancing knowledge and tourism policies worldwide.

UNWTO is currently looking for two PhD Researchers for its Sustainable Development of Tourism Programme.

The Sustainable Development of Tourism Programme (SDT) builds its work upon the Plan of Implementation agreed upon at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, Johannesburg, 2002), in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals, the post 2015 Development Agenda and in the framework of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism. It covers the areas of policies and tools for SDT, their application to the different types of tourism destinations as well as their integration into global initiatives on sustainable development; and has the following objectives:

- To facilitate the integration of sustainability criteria in national, regional and local tourism policies and development plans;
- To enhance evidence-based decision making through the strengthening of the network of observatories of sustainable tourism, to allow for efficient and relevant reporting and through the collection and analysis of global case studies on resource management in tourism;
- To participate and contribute to the work related to accelerating the shift towards more sustainable consumption and production patterns;
- To continue to contribute to position tourism in the framework of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity (2011-2020);
- To deepen the knowledge of the contribution of tourism to the Sustainable Development Goals including to poverty alleviation and promote its application;
- To provide capacity-building tools for adaptation and mitigation to climate change and influence the international debate regarding mitigation strategies and measures;
- To advise on the sustainability aspects of all projects, studies and other initiatives by the UNWTO Secretariat;
- To contribute to the promotion of Safe and Seamless Travel;
- To define a set of UNWTO SDT products for Member States.

In 2017, UNWTO will continue the PhD Research Programme, successfully started in 2014, which will offer again two PhD students the opportunity to contribute to the UNWTO programme for Sustainable Development of Tourism (SDT). The main aim of this programme is to support research to advance the general knowledge and further broaden ones’ understanding about the importance of sustainable and resilient tourism at the international level.

The PhD Researchers will be located in Madrid, Spain, at UNWTO headquarters, working with the SDT Programme. Successful candidates will be sponsored for a period of 12 months and are expected to work under the supervision of the Director, Sustainable Development of Tourism and/or another staff member in the Programme. Appropriate logistics (i.e., first-hand access to meetings and UN processes; internal access to relevant UNWTO documents and databases, and other relevant
industry data and processes; own office space, computer and internet accessibility) will be made available.

Applicants are required to dedicate most of their time to the research at the UNWTO headquarters; however arrangements for field research are envisaged. PhD candidates are expected to prepare three research papers, for publishing or the equivalent, on their designated research subject. Successful candidates will conduct research in one of the following areas:

- Global Processes on sustainable development: biodiversity, sustainable consumption and production, sustainable tourism, 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP), post-2015 development agenda, Rio+20, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Paris Climate Change Agreement;
- Resilient tourism: transportation and tourism policies, travel facilitation, post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (HFA-2) - to foster growth and development;
- Measuring, monitoring and assessing tourism impacts in the destination level and to advance the agenda of sustainable and resilient tourism development.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

**Education**

- Applicants must be enrolled in doctoral studies, for at least one year at the time of their application, and be external collaborative PhD students, but should not be in their final year of study;
- Applicants must have an academic background in international affairs, sustainable development, international and/or development economics, aviation and transportation management, environmental affairs or related fields.

**Languages**

Excellent written and spoken English.

**Computer Skills**

- Computer literacy in Windows 7, Microsoft Office 2010 software, Internet and emerging Web tools;
- Ability to operate standard office equipment (e.g. scanner, photocopier, etc.);
- Experience with data management software is an asset.

**Other Skills and Competencies**

- Keen interest in the work of the United Nations;
- Ability to successfully interact with individuals of different cultural backgrounds and believes.

**Application Procedure**

All applications must include the following documents:

- Curriculum vitae that includes the applicant’s contact details;
- 1-2 page motivation letter;
- Linkages between PhD study and UNWTO research;
- Academic transcripts of their Bachelors and Masters degrees and if applicable PhD degrees, containing academic grades, rank in class, and grade-point average;
- Letter of support from PhD supervisor;
- All applications must be written in English.

Interested applicants are requested to submit their application via email to the following address: phdresearcher@unwto.org, clearly indicating the following reference in the subject of their message: PhD Researcher at the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Please note that UNWTO will only accept applications received via email to the aforementioned address. Applications sent by other means (e.g. post, etc.), received after the deadline indicated above, applications that are incomplete or not in line with the application requirements set above, will not be taken into consideration.

PhD research applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Linkages between original PhD study and UNWTO research subjects;
Scientific benefit of the PhD research project for UNWTO, conferences and official publications;
- Completeness of application;
- Fulfillment of general conditions.

**Remuneration and Other conditions**

The monthly remuneration of the selected candidate would be EUR 1,769.91. The Organization will contribute with 13% of this remuneration to the selected candidate’s pension scheme. This amount will be paid out directly to the selected candidate with their monthly remuneration.

- The successful PhD candidate shall conduct himself/herself at all times in a manner befitting his/her status as a holder of a UNWTO research grant. Any serious infringement of this general rule may lead, after consultation with the authorities concerned, to the termination of the research;
- Applicants must possess a medical certificate indicating that he/she is in good health and able to undertake the research programme;
- The researcher shall be in possession of a major global medical insurance coverage to be paid by him/her;
- The researcher shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to his/her stay in Madrid.

- Candidates who do not receive any feedback within three months of the deadline should consider their application as unsuccessful;
- Short-listed candidates may be asked to take a competitive exam as part of the final phase of the selection process. These candidates will be contacted directly for this purpose;
- **The contract is not subject to renewal and no career appointment within UNWTO will subsequently be offered.**