



**UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY**

**INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT  
Hamilton, Canada**

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**EXTERN: WASH Disease Index Construction**

- Organizational Unit** : United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH)
- Reference Number** : 2020/UNU/INWEH/EXTERN/WAVES/70
- Applications to** : [lina.taing@unu.edu](mailto:lina.taing@unu.edu)
- Closing Date** : 21 September 2020

**United Nations University:**

For the past four decades, UNU has been a go-to think tank for impartial research on the pressing global problems of human survival, conflict prevention, development, and welfare. With more than 400 researchers in 13 countries, UNU's work spans the full breadth of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, generating policy-relevant knowledge to effect positive global change. UNU maintains more than 200 collaborations with UN agencies and leading universities and research institutions across the globe. For more information please visit <http://unu.edu>

**United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH):**

The UNU Institute for Water, Environment and Health (<http://inweh.unu.edu/>) is a member of the UNU family of organizations. Its vision is a world free of water problems where sustainable human development and environmental health and security are assured for all. Its mission is to help resolve pressing water challenges that are of concern to the United Nations, its Member States, and their people. UNU-INWEH pursues its mission through critical analysis and synthesis of existing bodies of scientific discovery; targeted research that identifies emerging policy issues; application of on-the-ground scalable science-based solutions to water issues; and global outreach. UNU-INWEH is the only entirely-water focused Institute within the UNU System, and the only entirely water-related UN entity in Canada. UNU-INWEH is supported by the Government of Canada and hosted by McMaster University.

UNU-INWEH works on four broadly defined, interconnected thematic areas: i) accelerating the implementation of water-related SDGs ii) activating a technology revolution for water security in the Global South; iii) advancing gender equality for effective water management and iv) managing water- and climate-related risks for improved water security [UNU-INWEH-Strategic-Plan](#) The institute focuses primarily on global water issues and their implications for developing countries.

**Background:**

We are developing a digital health tool (WAVES: WASH disease Vulnerability and Surveillance) that can measure, map and inform mitigation and adaptation of WASH interventions. We are looking for externs who can assist in index construction; and prototype development.

**Responsibilities** (*List of Tasks that potentially can be divided or shared amongst interns*):

- Identify climate, behavior and response indicators affecting the distribution (frequency and pattern), determinants (causes and risk factors) and control of cholera (infectious disease) and dengue (vectorborne disease) globally.
- Conduct a meta-data review of spatiotemporal data that can be utilised in the WAVES prototype.
- Undertake additional tasks as assigned by the supervisor.

**Qualifications and Requirements:**

- Eligibility requirements as available at: [externship-programme](#)
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent degree in an area relevant to UNU-INWEH's field of work.
- Excellent writing and research skills, including ability to conduct searches in academic databases
- Skills in GIS and statistics are an advantage
- Ability to prioritize work and multi-task; focus on delivery; self-motivation.
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity.
- Fluency in oral and written English; knowledge of any other UN official languages is an advantage.

**Expected Products** (*Outputs*):

- As part of a collective effort, a finalized global WASH Disease Index and meta-data review.
- An externship report, as per UNU-INWEH externship programme requirement.

UNU is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages all candidates, irrespective of gender, nationality, religious and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities to apply and become part of the organization.

UNU has a zero-tolerance policy on conduct that is incompatible with the aims and objectives of the United Nations and UNU, including sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination.

**Duration and Start Date:**

The duration of externship is between 3 and 6 months with an expected start date of 1 October 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter.

In case of substantial time difference between the extern and UNU-INWEH's location (Hamilton, Canada), the extern and supervisor will discuss and agree upon the extern's daily schedule for the extern to ensure regular access and consistent support between both parties.

**Application Procedure:**

Interested applicants should apply before 21 September 2020 by e-mail in the form of an Adobe Acrobat PDF file to [lina.taing@unu.edu](mailto:lina.taing@unu.edu) following the application procedure available under [application form](#)

Applications **must** include the following to be considered:

**An indication of the reference number of the vacancy announcement (2020/UNU/INWEH/EXTERN/WAVES/70)**

**Only short-listed candidates will be notified.**

**Applications that do not include all the requested information will not be considered.**