Economist at the UNCTAD Virtual Institute (Vi)

**Job description**

The position is located within the Virtual Institute, a programme established by UNCTAD to help academic institutions in developing and transition countries strengthen their teaching and research of international trade and development issues and to increase the policy relevance of their work. For more details, see [http://vi.unctad.org](http://vi.unctad.org).

The incumbent will substantively and administratively backstop Vi technical cooperation services for academic institutions in these countries. In particular, he/she will undertake the following tasks:

- Review research papers on trade and gender developed by academics from sub-Saharan Africa, provide comments and assist in the finalization of these papers. For the methodologies used, see the Virtual Institute teaching material on trade and gender, Volume 2: Empirical analysis of the trade and gender links, available at [http://vi.unctad.org/tag/vol2.html](http://vi.unctad.org/tag/vol2.html); the researchers will use Stata to conduct the analysis;
- Review the generic Vi teaching material on structural transformation and industrial policy developed by outside consultants, provide comments and assist in the finalization of this material;
- (Subject to the availability of funding), review local adaptations ("localizations") of generic Vi teaching materials developed by academics from universities in the Least Developed Countries and/or sub-Saharan Africa, provide comments and assist in the finalization of these localizations;
- (Subject to the availability of funding), provide mentoring to academics participating in the Vi fellowship programme developing research papers or academic courses and programmes on trade and development issues;
- (Subject to the availability of funding) assist in the development of a Vi online course on economic analysis of non-tariff measures by reviewing the content of the course and providing comments on individual lectures;
- (Depending on the incumbent's specific skills), deliver specific workshops for academics in developing countries;
- Assist in the selection of proposals from academic institutions in LDCs/sub-Saharan Africa seeking financial support for Vi activities (research projects, workshops, etc.);
- Assist in the selection of participants of Vi online courses and workshops for academics;
- Assist with project management tasks in relation to Vi technical cooperation activities;
- Draft contributions for Vi reports, website and the newsletter;
- Perform other tasks as required.

**Duty station:** Geneva; possibility to travel to deliver specific workshops in LDCs/sub-Saharan Africa

**Qualifications**

- **Education and work experience:** Master in international or development economics, with at least 2 years of relevant teaching and research experience; a completed PhD or an advanced stage of PhD studies would be an asset.
- **Languages:** Very good drafting and oral skills in English; good knowledge of French.
- **Other skills:** Strong background in econometrics; knowledge of econometric software, in particular Stata.

**Duration of the assignment:** 3 months (January-March 2016), with a possibility of extension for another 3 months (April-June 2016); a part-time assignment may be considered.
**Status of the position:** The incumbent will have the status of consultant.

**Remuneration:** Subject to qualifications and work experience. In general terms, candidates with at least 3 years of relevant experience receive a monthly fee of USD 5'000 (payable in two instalments - one in the middle of the assignment, and one at the end of the assignment). Candidates with 5 years of relevant experience receive a monthly fee of USD 6'000. An economy class round-trip air ticket to travel to Geneva for the beginning of the contract and back to the home country at the end of the contract may be provided if needed.

**Applications:** Please submit your CV and a brief motivation letter to vlasta.macku@unctad.org; selected applicants will be interviewed as they apply; it is intended to complete the interview/selection process by 30 September 2015. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.