Call for Expression of Interest

**Post Title:** Senior Research and Data Specialist  
**Duty Station:** Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
**Reference:** UNWTO/HHRR/CFE/13/INNO/2021  
**Start Date:** As soon as possible  
**Duration:** 12 months  
**Deadline for Applications:** 07 April 2021

**Area/Type:** II / 5B  
**Department:** Innovation, Education and Investments  
**Contractual Status:** Service Contract

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is the United Nations agency responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.

UNWTO is currently looking for a Senior Research and Data Specialist for its Innovation, Education and Investments Department in its future Regional Office in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Department aims to drive the digitalization of tourism and to create an Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem that will maximize the potential of the sector in terms of economic growth, job creation and sustainable development.

Under the overall supervision of the Director, Innovation, Education and Investments and the day-to-day guidance of the Coordinator, Innovation, Education and Investments, the incumbent performs the following duties:

1. Contributes to the development and effective communication of the innovation, education and digital transformation strategy that will allow UNWTO to boost the innovation ecosystem and foster digital transformation into the global tourism industry;

2. Coordinates the development of the Regional Office’s Data Collection Strategy, by working closely with key colleagues at national, regional and global level;

3. Assists in managing the Regional Office’s Tourism Observatory;

4. Develops compilations, assessments, visualizations, analysis and publications on areas of interest to the regional office including, but not limited to Innovation, Education, Investments and Rural Development;

5. Provides technical assistance to Innovation Network Members in terms of mentorship and support in terms of Research, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence;

6. Works closely with key colleagues to identify key learning resources from external sources to share with our members;

7. Provides technical assistance to the development of the digital transformation roadmap in collaboration with experts in business analysis and enterprise architecture and provides indicators and research therein;

8. Develops sound Information architecture for the Regional Office (Data architecture including production, analysis, information accessibility and use, application architecture including software models);

9. Provides overall support in the day-to-day operations of the department;
10. Performs other duties as required.

### REQUIREMENTS

**Academic**
Advanced university degree (Master’s degree or equivalent) in a field related to the activities of the department; an advanced university degree in another discipline may be accepted in lieu if it is pertinent to the requirements of the post and in combination with relevant professional experience.

**Experience**
- Minimum of five years of professional experience in a field related to the activities of the department;
- Minimum of two years of professional experience in Data Analysis/Software Engineering.

**Languages**
- Fluency in English is essential;
- Good working knowledge of Arabic is a strong asset;
- Good working knowledge of another of the official languages of the Organization (Chinese, French, Spanish or Russian) is an asset.

**Computer Skills**
- Computer literacy in Microsoft Office software and Windows 10;
- Experience with Big Data Analytics (NLP, Network Analysis) and applying these to solving real-world problems;
- Experience with professional software engineering practices and best practices for the full software development lifecycle;
- Experience with coding in Python or R and Data Science libraries (e.g. scipy, pandas, igraph);
- Experience with analytics and visualization tools (open viz libraries e.g. Shiny, flexdashboard or equivalent for R or Dash, Panel or equivalent for Python);
- Experience with open source software development tools;
- Experience with cloud computing platforms.

**Other Skills and Competencies**
- Ability to work in a multicultural, multiethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity;
- Ability to work independently within assigned areas, showing initiative and judgment;
- Sense of responsibility and commitment;
- Excellent writing and communication skills;
- Ability to work under pressure and meet tight deadlines;
- Previous experience in the United Nations or another international organization would be an asset.

**Remuneration and Other Conditions**
The monthly remuneration of the selected candidate would be in the base range of SAR 18,000 – SAR 24,000, depending on previous professional experience, skills and competencies. The Service Contract holder will be affiliated to the UNWTO health insurance plan (co-shared scheme in conformity with the Organization’s procedures). The Organization will contribute 13% of the aforementioned monthly remuneration to the individual’s pension scheme.

**Application Procedure**
Interested applicants are requested to complete the [Online UNWTO Personal History Form](#). Please note that UNWTO will only accept applications received through our web-based system. Applications sent by other means (e.g. post, email, etc.) or received after the deadline indicated above, will not be taken into consideration.

- As per UNWTO’s policy on contractual mechanisms, the maximum length of service for Service Contracts shall be limited to three years, extendable on an exceptional basis up to a total of four years;
- 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 and/or interview as part of the final phase of the selection process. These candidates will be contacted directly for this purpose;
▪ There is no guarantee either that the initial contract will be renewed or that a career appointment within UNWTO will subsequently be offered. Any extension beyond the advertised duration is subject to the availability of funds and necessities of service.