**Externally funded internship/FELLOWSHIP**

**TERMS oF reference**

**I. Identification of the post**

Title: **Research and Data Analyst** **Intern**

Sector of assignment: Economic Diversification, Sustainable Development Goals

Organizational unit: Economic Policy Analysis Unit

Country and Duty Station: Mozambique, Maputo

Expected duration: 6 months, with possibility of extension to 9 months.

Expected starting date: UNDP Mozambique is flexible.

Supervisor’s name: Luca Monge Roffarello

Supervisor’s title: Senior Economist and Head of the Economic Policy Analysis Unit

**II. CORPORATE BACKGROUND:**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) operates in approximately 170 countries and territories, working to eliminate poverty, reduce inequalities, and enhance resilience. As the UN's main development agency, UNDP plays a crucial role in helping countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It fosters cooperation between nations, advocates for meaningful change, and connects countries to the knowledge, experience, and resources needed to improve the quality of life for their people. UNDP offers expert advice, training, and grants, with a particular focus on supporting the Least Developed Countries. By collaborating with governments, UNDP helps nations create their own solutions to global and local development challenges, while building local capacity with the support of its diverse network of partners.

UNDP has been active in Mozambique since 1976, following an agreement with the government shortly after the country gained independence. Their mission focuses on accelerating structural transformation, promoting inclusive growth, and addressing systemic risks, ensuring that no one is left behind. The program aligns with the UNDP’s 2022-2025 Strategic Plan, which emphasizes green and digital transitions, equitable access to opportunities, and building resilience.

The program's priorities include supporting sustainable economic recovery, strengthening climate resilience, and promoting inclusive governance and social cohesion. It focuses on three main pillars: economic diversification and sustainable livelihoods, climate resilience, and inclusive governance. The strategy prioritizes reducing poverty and inequality, advancing gender equality, and creating opportunities for marginalized groups, particularly women and youth. It also aims to reduce Mozambique's vulnerability to climate hazards and ensure the sustainable management of natural resources.

**III. RECEIVING OFFICE BACKGROUND:**

The Research and Data Analyst Intern will be assigned to the Economic Policy Analysis Unit (EPAU), which plays a critical role in advancing Mozambique’s sustainable development initiatives. Operating under the leadership of the Senior Economist and reporting to the UNDP Resident Representative, EPAU is central to the office's policy and analytical efforts. The Unit focuses on integrating key international goals, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Agenda 2063 for Africa’s Development, and other regional development frameworks, into national development priorities and UNDP's programs in Mozambique. To that end, EPAU is currently leading several major initiatives, including:

* Catalyzing Action for SDG Acceleration in Mozambique (SDG Project, Phase II)
* Supporting Informal Enterprises' Transition to Sustainable Growth and Formalization in the African, Caribbean, and Pacific Regions (Informal Economy Project)
* Economic Diversification Portfolio

Additionally, EPAU contributes to strategic thinking in areas such as Resilience Infrastructure and Youth Empowerment. The Unit is also in the process of establishing a new Inclusive Growth Unit to further expand its impact. A key function of EPAU is its role in resource mobilization for UNDP Mozambique, which involves both the conceptualization and creation of new projects. Furthermore, EPAU provides valuable cross-cutting advice on a wide range of economic issues in Mozambique to other units, including but not limited to international trade, informality, environmental challenges, and public finance.

EPAU works closely with a wide array of national and provincial stakeholders, including the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Finance and the National Institute of Statistics, as well as academia, civil society, the private sector, and other development partners. This collaborative approach strengthens the analytical foundations of UNDP's programs and ensures that strategic advice on sustainable development challenges is well-informed and relevant to senior management.

Recognizing the transformative potential of AI and machine learning, EPAU is in the process of incorporating these technologies into its substantive work. This includes training government officials to leverage AI for improved data collection, analysis, and related decision-making and service delivery. Additionally, EPAU is actively engaged in resource mobilization efforts to introduce new technologies that can enhance human development, improve government efficiency, and foster innovation in service delivery. The Research and Data Analyst Intern will be expected to contribute to initiatives around AI and machine learning, with the opportunity to explore other development opportunities in line with personal interests. As a highly cross-cutting unit, EPAU provides a wealth of opportunities to gain experience in socio-economic analysis, partnership building, resource mobilization, and program and project design, offering to the intern the opportunity to holistically understand the complexity of sustainable development and the functioning of UNDP and the UN more broadly.

Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, offers an exciting and dynamic environment for international professionals. It combines a rich cultural heritage with modern infrastructure. The city is typically stable in terms of security, though adherence to UN protocols is advised.

The climate is tropical, with hot summers and mild winters. Maputo has a relatively high cost of living, but there are various accommodation options ranging from modern apartments to serviced residences. While essential services such as food, water, and electricity are generally reliable, occasional disruptions may occur. Medical facilities are suitable for everyday needs, but specialized care might necessitate regional or international travel. The city is well-equipped with banking and communication infrastructure to support daily life.

Living and working in Mozambique offers a rare opportunity to directly contribute to the country's development while immersing oneself in its rich cultural fabric. However, working in Maputo also requires cultural sensitivity, adaptability, and resilience, given the country’s unique context.

**III. DUTIES:**

The Intern will assist in the following duties and responsibilities:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Duties and responsibilities** | **% of time** |
| 1 | **Provide Data-Driven Research and Analysis on Development Trends**   * Contribute and analyze large datasets, both qualitative and quantitative, using AI and machine learning models to extract insights and trends. * Assist in AI-driven tools to identify and assess key drivers of socio-economic development in Mozambique * Support research on economic diversification, the impact of AI, and machine learning applications in government processes. * Help in monitoring and evaluation of ongoing projects in innovative ways to measure their effectiveness and impact. * Contribute to drafting specific sections of AI-enhanced reports, briefs, and policy notes. * Help with collaboration efforts with the supervisor and team using AI-powered dashboards and tools to visualize data for decision-making on national development challenges. | **40%** |
| 2 | **Support the UNDP's Strategic Support and Collaboration**   * Help in resource mobilization by supporting AI-based project proposals and identifying funding opportunities. * Support in collaboration efforts with national and international stakeholders to share research findings and inform strategic decisions. * Support in evidence-based advice on economic growth, trade, and public finance, and contribute to the design and implementation of new programs. | **10%** |
| 3 | **Support Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing in AI and Data Science**   * Support in contributions to knowledge-sharing initiatives by providing training and support to UN/UNDP colleagues, in adopting AI and data analysis tools. * Assist in organizing workshops and seminars focused on the use of AI, data science, and machine learning for policy analysis and development in Mozambique. * Help with collaboration with UNDP’s global AI and data science teams to share best practices and lessons learned. | **40%** |
| 4 | **Learning**   * Undertake all the UNDP compulsory courses; * Deepen the knowledge on a specific area of interest through courses, seminars, tutorials, and other learning tools. | **10%** |

**IV. REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

**Education:**

Candidates must meet one of the following educational requirements:

* currently in the final year of a Bachelor’s degree; or
* currently enrolled in a postgraduate programme (such as a Master’s programme or higher); or
* have graduated no longer than 1 year ago from a university degree or equivalent studies.

Field of study: **Artificial Intelligence, Computer Sciences, Data Analytics, Data Science, Development Studies, Economics, Public Policy, Statistics** or equivalent.

**IT skills:**

* Knowledge and a proficient user of Microsoft Office productivity tools;
* Experience with artificial intelligence tools and technologies, including OpenAI, CoPilot, DeepSeek, and other AI-driven solutions for data analysis, automation, and optimization.
* Experience with statistical software (e.g., R, Python, Stata).
* Familiarity with data analysis and visualization software (e.g., Excel, Tableau, Power BI).

**Language skills:**

* English is required;
* Knowledge of Portuguese is an asset, but not mandatory.

**Other competencies and attitude:**

* Interest and motivation in working in an international organization;
* Good analytical skills in gathering and consolidating data and research for practical implementation;
* Outgoing and initiative-taking person with a goal-oriented mind-set;
* Communicates effectively when working in teams and independently;
* Good in organizing and structuring various tasks and responsibilities;
* Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability;
* Responds positively to feedback and differing points of view;
* Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude.