UN Data Vacancy Announcement
Data Engineer

The Statistics Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNSD) is responsible for integrating official statistics from multiple international agencies and national statistical systems. In response to the Secretary General's "Data Strategy for Action by Everyone, Everywhere", UNSD is leading the modernization of its UN Data platform, which aims to provide a single entry-point for official data and statistics from across the UN System. As part of this initiative, UNSD is focusing on the development of UN Data and related tools to help users find, access, visualize, and explore data from across the UN System in an integrated manner.

In this context, UNSD, via the United Nations Foundation (UNF), is hiring a **data engineer** to join a team responsible for expanding and growing the scope of UN Data. This project is powered by close collaboration with Data Commons and funded by Google.org.

Please submit your application via this form (UN Data Vacancy Announcement). Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis.

Logistics

- Full-time, temporary contract
- Start Date: ASAP
- Duration: 4 months, possibility for extension
- Location: Remote; ability to work during US West Coast and East Coast time zones

Core Responsibilities

- Maintain and enhance data pipelines processing statistical data from multiple UN entities
- Perform detailed analysis of raw data from partner organizations (i.e., determine the structure, content, and quality of the data through examination of source systems and data samples)
- Understand and transform technical specifications into a common data model and data architecture deliverables.
- Ensure that the data infrastructure and pipelines are scalable, secure, and efficient
- Collect and organize large sets of data from various sources
- Clean and preprocess data to ensure accuracy and consistency
- Solve complex data engineering problems and lead system design and development activities including understanding the business processes/requirements while adhering to the data quality control framework
- Develop and maintain the tools and frameworks necessary for data engineering and machine learning operations
- Design and implement API endpoints to support the UN Data platform, enabling seamless access to datasets and ensuring proper authentication, data standardization, and documentation for public and internal use.
- Develop and deploy cloud-based data engineering pipelines including automation, infrastructure as code

Expected Qualifications

- **Proven expertise in Python:** Extensive experience in Python, particularly for data processing and analysis using libraries such as Pandas, NumPy, and similar tools.
- **Additional programming languages:** Familiarity with other programming languages (e.g., Java, Javascript) is a plus.
- **Infrastructure as code (IaC):** Hands-on experience with tools like Terraform and CloudFormation to manage and automate infrastructure.
- **Data pipeline optimization:** Proven ability to design, build, and maintain large-scale data pipelines, with a focus on optimizing performance, scalability, and reliability.
- **Data pipeline automation:** Experience working with data pipeline orchestration frameworks such as Apache Airflow to automate and streamline workflows.
- **CI/CD expertise:** Strong understanding of Continuous Integration and Continuous Deployment practices and tools (e.g., Jenkins, GitLab, CircleCI) to support automated testing and delivery.
- **Cloud platforms:** Experience working with major cloud platforms like AWS and GCP, including services related to storage, compute, and data processing.
- **Data-driven insights:** Strong analytical skills, with a track record of working with business teams to drive actionable business insights and decisions.
- **Excellent communication skills:** Strong written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to effectively communicate technical concepts to non-technical stakeholders.
- **Problem-solving & adaptability:** Resourceful and proactive in solving complex problems, with a comfort level navigating ambiguity and evolving requirements.
- **Cross-functional collaboration:** Demonstrated ability to work effectively in an agile, collaborative, team-oriented environment, engaging with different functions (engineering, product) to achieve shared goals.

Other information

- Please note that this role is on a temporary contract basis and is not eligible for benefits.