Humanitarian Mapping Volunteer (Caribbean)

MapAction is a leading humanitarian mapping charity registered in the UK. It deploys skilled volunteers to international humanitarian emergencies to map priority needs. This mapped information helps responders target their response effectively, contributing to saving lives and minimising suffering. MapAction also helps response teams and governments around the world prepare for disasters and build their own capacity to respond.

Since MapAction's beginnings in 2003, our team of skilled and dedicated volunteers has helped coordinate the response to over 80 humanitarian crises including earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, epidemics and conflict-related crises, as well as supporting many more responses remotely.

We are now seeking volunteers to join our small team based within the Caribbean region to support ongoing disaster response and preparedness work.

About volunteering for MapAction

Being a MapAction volunteer gives you the opportunity to expand and enhance your professional skills and use them to help people in danger and save lives. You will become part of a dynamic community of like-minded people - an international network of GIS and data experts. The work is both demanding and extremely rewarding and our volunteers tend to stay with the organisation for a long time. (You can find out more about what it's like to volunteer for us in this short video).

Volunteering with MapAction is a significant commitment. Our humanitarian mapping volunteers support organisations with all aspects of preparedness for and response to humanitarian events. This includes information management support in the form of software and database development, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), data management, advice and the production of maps and visualisations to support response coordination. MapAction volunteers also support training courses and simulation exercises staged by the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) and other MapAction partners.

A proven record of work experience in data processing, mapping and/or providing software solutions to clients is needed. However, a willingness to learn and really get involved in delivering the work of the organisation are the most important requirements. You will receive a comprehensive package of training to equip you with all the skills you need to apply your knowledge in a humanitarian context and work within disaster zones.

Profile

Required
- Availability and commitment to deploy at short notice for at least two weeks once every two years, as well as supporting responses remotely and attending periodic training and meetings
- Proficiency and/or professional experience in GIS or related subject
- Experience of both open source software and ESRI products
- Strong data editing, analysis and processing skills including the use of spreadsheets
- Good information management skills

- Experience in understanding partner (customer) needs and requirements, in particular working with non-technical users
- Self-motivated and organised
- Adaptable, resilient and solution-oriented
- Good team player, preferably with leadership experience
- Excellent communication skills; listening, speaking and writing

Desirable
- Humanitarian knowledge/experience
- Languages (particularly French and Spanish)
- Proficiency in Google Earth
- GPS expertise
- Project management experience
- IT and systems administration skills
- Adventure or professional travel experience
- Graphic design/visualisation skills
- Cartographic skills
- Teaching, training or capacity building experience
- Relevant international work experience
- Experience of web mapping – particularly with relevant ESRI products
- Software development skills

Other useful skills
- Website design and management
- Radio and satellite communications
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Medical training / advanced first aid

How do I apply?

Please send us the following by 10th March 2019

1. A covering letter.
2. Your CV - this should include:
   a. Current work
   b. GIS/geospatial skills and experience
   c. Relevant IT/technical skill and experience
   d. Educational details
   e. Where you live
   f. Languages spoken (we are currently seeking French and Spanish speakers)
   g. Contact details
   h. References.
3. A map/web-map you have made that demonstrates your technical skills.

Please email this to recruiting@mapaction.org by 10th March 2019.

Interviews will take place on 10th-11th April 2019 via Google Hangouts. Candidates will need to be available for most of these two days.

If you are unsure if you meet the required skills and qualifications, please don't hesitate to contact us. We can connect you to a staff or volunteer member to answer your questions.

If you have not heard back by the 29th March, please assume your application has not been progressed at this time. Unfortunately, as a small organisation, we are unable to contact all applicants directly.