

Next steps

info aimed to compile as much information as possible about selected UN and IFI organisations. Consultancy opportunities also exist in other UN organisations, IFIs, government bodies, and NGOs.

This brochure has showcased opportunities for individual consultants but many companies are hired as part of procurement and working as a consultant or employee for one of these companies can be another way to use and build expertise.

Having seen these options, do you think a consultancy is a way forward for you? It is an exciting world but also comes with uncertainty regarding next assignments. It is recommended to cultivate a mix of clients (international/home country, public/private) and specialities so you can offer various services. Diversifying sources of income is important to make a living from consulting.

Networking and information gathering are key to getting a consultancy position with an MO. Evaluation and consultancy reports are available on organisations' websites to see what is required. Many senior MO staff have a social media presence where you can see which topics are currently driving them. This is a way to establish informal contact with MO staff working in your field of expertise.

If you think a consultancy position is your next step, info recommends that you:

1. Ensure your expertise fits what the UN/IFI is looking for.
2. Build your network and set goals regarding where and for whom you would like to work.
3. Register on rosters that fit your profile. Be as precise as possible to maximise your chances.
4. Look for concrete assignments; get tips from your network; use LinkedIn and other social media; and stay updated on ongoing tenders.
5. Consider an appropriate daily rate and your minimum for accepting work.
6. In the contract negotiation process, it is useful to know the remuneration levels of the MO and to benchmark financial proposals by checking the honorarium of other successful consultancy bids.
7. Make sure that you clearly understand health, social security and tax issues.
8. Give yourself time to clarify whether you just want to work as a consultant or whether you consider it a step towards fixed employment.
9. Review your goals regularly and be prepared to look at other options if you see that consultancies are not for you or if you cannot find a way in.
10. If things don't work out, don't give up. There are other ways to start working in international cooperation!

cinfo support and services

cinfo can help you reflect on and develop strategies for consultancies or employment in international cooperation.

Stay up to date on the latest developments and recruitment initiatives by subscribing to our newsletter and following us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).

If you are interested in joining one of these organisations, cinfo can support you as follows:

Networking

Networking is crucial for a successful career. Through cinfo you can:

- Meet other Swiss professionals and representatives of the Swiss Government at networking events during our annual missions to New York and Geneva.
- Exchange ideas with HR representatives from the UN and IFIs at our regular virtual and in-person [networking events](#).

Career advice and orientation

Have you reached a crossroad, need to take a quick decision, or face personal challenges related to your UN or IFI career?

Register for an [individual coaching session](#) or participate in a [career orientation workshop](#) to reflect on:

- Becoming a consultant and finding a good mix of clients
- Your professional and personal situation (including deciding on job offers, relocation, repatriation, dual careers, etc.)
- Your skills and potential
- Your career goals and strategies

Application and interview support

Have you applied or do you intend to apply for a new position?

We provide support at every stage of the recruitment process for fixed term contracts. Consultancy contracts are currently not covered by this service.

- Make your application stand out by registering for [Job Application Support](#).
- If you apply to one of cinfo's 12 focus organisations, [send us a copy](#) of your application with details of the vacancy so we can inform our partners from the respective organisation and the Swiss Government.
- If you are invited for a job interview, increase your chances of success by registering for [Interview Preparation](#) training. This service is offered free of charge to Swiss nationals who interview with one of cinfo's 12 focus organisations.

Courses and training

Develop your competences through our various [training programmes and courses](#) and overcome work related difficulties, including:

- Intercultural challenges
- Leadership issues
- Safety, security and stress
- Health and safety

