



Careers in international development

careers@bath.ac.uk



Sectors within international development

- Sustainability and the environment
- Gender
- Poverty
- Humanitarian conflict
- Refugees and Immigration
- Economics and Trade
- Healthcare
- Emergency relief +++++



Career Options in International Development Studies

This list is not exhaustive but provides an idea of the options graduates have and what they have gone on to do. Some options are more directly associated with a International Development Studies degree than others.

- Activist
- Author
- Community Worker
- Consumer Advocate
- Editor
- Event Coordinator
- Foreign Correspondent
- Foreign Service Officer
- Fundraiser
- Government Administrator
- Health Policy Planner
- Historical Researcher
- Human Rights Advocate
- Immigration Officer
- Institutional Researcher
- Journalist
- Labour Relations Specialist
- Labour Union Representative
- Lawyer
- Legal Secretary
- Legislative Aid
- Lobbyist
- Media Correspondent
- Mediator
- NGO Director
- Non-profit Administrator
- Policy Researcher
- Politician
- Population Studies Analyst
- Public Affairs Consultant
- Public Policy Analyst
- Speech Writer
- Translator

Jobs in international development

- **Practitioner** – project management and implementation in the field
- **Policy / Advisory** – research, evaluation, lessons learned and developing policy recommendations to use within the organization and to advocate with outside of the organisation
- **Advocacy / Outreach** – campaigning, lobbying, fundraising, media and communications
- **Support** – human resources, finance, logistics, IT, etc.



Graduate programmes

- [United Nations](#) – Young Professionals Programme + other UN programmes and internships
- [World Bank](#) – internship programme
- [WHO](#) – internship programme
- [Asian Development Bank](#) – graduate programme
- [Civil Service Fast Stream](#) – Diplomatic Service

- More in our [Careers in International Development](#) helpsheet...



Typical career pathways in international development

- There are **no typical career pathways, there is no single pathway**
- Generally you need one or more years' volunteering experience to get a paid role
- A Master's degree is especially useful for policy & research roles and entry to graduate schemes/programmes
- If you want to work overseas, you may need overseas experience in that part of the world
- Many start doing work in NGOs in the UK
- Some travel overseas and then find work in NGOs





Top Tips (from professionals)

- **Network**, talk to people in roles you are interested in and attend any relevant events and conferences, both in the UK and overseas.
- **Teaching English** as a Foreign Language may be a good way in with regards to finding relevant internships in international development organisations overseas.
- Advertised jobs are hard to find so research employers and **approach them directly**.
- Take a role in an organisation you really want to work for, even if it's **not your ideal role. It may open doors to other opportunities**.
- **Tailor ALL your applications** to the role. It is a very competitive field and organisations need people with skills that match their competencies.



Careers in international development [helpsheet](#)

Careers in International Development, Organisations & Relations



Introduction

You could get the impression that the Careers Service is only concerned with business careers and graduate schemes if you look at the events on campus and our vacancy advertising service [MyFuture](#). The fact is that areas of work in the not-for-profit or public sector tend not to have big budgets to promote themselves, so you'll need to work a little harder to seek out information and opportunities. The Careers Service can support you if you are interested in

Examples include Oxfam, Médecins Sans Frontières and Care International. Funding for them comes from various sources including government, public donations and private corporations. Some will use the money directly; others will supply money to on-the-ground organisations or a third way is to be sub-contractors to larger international organisations.

- **Governmental organisations** which in the





Questions

- Email us on careers@bath.ac.uk
- [Further resources](#) on MyFuture
- Looking for general careers (final year/PGT) support? [See induction here.](#)

