



# Internship led to job at UNESCO

**Annami Löfving received Sida's travel scholarship for an internship with UNESCO in Indonesia. The organisation then offered her temporary employment.**

Annami Löfving has a Master's Degree in Human Rights Practice from the University of Gothenburg. In spring 2006, she received Sida's travel scholarship for a 6-month internship with UN agency UNESCO in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia. She heard about the travel scholarship when she was studying.

"The scholarship was a condition for accepting an unpaid internship like this. It covered about 50 percent of my expenses, and I paid for the rest with my own savings."

As an intern with UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), Annami worked with gender issues and HIV/AIDS prevention in the education system with the international programme for school health. She organised conferences and workshops, prepared reports, wrote articles and maintained contact with various organisations, other UN agencies and the Indonesian Ministry of Education. She had to work hard - she was responsible for four different programmes from the very first day.

"I was overwhelmed in the beginning – I thought interns would at least receive some kind of introduction. But I just had to roll up my sleeves and start working!"

*What did you enjoy most?*

"That I was working in a multicultural environment with people from all over the world. I learnt how the UN



*During her internship with UNESCO, Annami Löfving learnt how the UN works with governments at both central and local levels.*

works with governments at both central and local levels. And because I was based in the capital – Jakarta, I could see how the Indonesian Ministry of Education worked.

*Did you like living in Indonesia?*

"It was great! Jakarta has a population of around 20 million and is very polluted. But I enjoyed living there and people are friendly. I made a lot of Indonesian friends, which I hadn't really expected."

*You were offered another position at UNESCO after your internship. Was this because you had been an intern?*

"I applied for the position externally but obviously because I was there, people knew who I was and what I could do. I probably wouldn't have had the same chance otherwise."

## More information

Sida's travel scholarships are funded by Sida (Swedish International Development Agency) and administrated by the International Programme Office.

This also applies for the Linnaeus-Palme programme (exchanges with developing countries for students and lecturers at universities and colleges) and Minor Field Studies (MFS), a scholarship programme that offers university students an opportunity to conduct field studies in developing countries and gather material for their bachelor or master's thesis.

The International Programme Office is a government

agency under the Ministry of Education and Research. We help schools, universities, businesses, organisations and individuals take part in international cooperation programmes within education.

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