



Serving with Purpose

**Careers at ADRA
for Young
Professionals**

BECAUSE SERVING ISN'T JUST A JOB

You want to do something meaningful with your life — not just clock in and out?

But finding a career that reflects your values and uses your skills can feel overwhelming.

That's where ADRA comes in.

Working with ADRA is more than a job – it's a calling. As the global humanitarian arm of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, ADRA offers a wide range of career paths for young professionals who want to combine meaningful professional work with living their faith through action.



Faith in Action, Profession with Purpose

Why Choose ADRA?

ADRA is present in more than 120 countries, responding to emergencies, driving long-term development, and advocating for systemic change. We are both local and global, professional and faith-rooted.

Working at ADRA means:

- Joining a global movement with purpose.
- Working alongside professionals in humanitarian and development fields.
- Being part of an organisation that values integrity, compassion, and service.
- Using your skills to uplift communities and promote justice.

Career Paths at ADRA

There's no one-size-fits-all way to work with ADRA. Whether you're into logistics, finance, business, education, marketing, advocacy, engineering, fieldwork or general management, there's a role that fits.

Here are some of the key areas where you could make a difference:

A place for all kinds of talents

Humanitarian Response and Emergency Management

- Roles: Emergency Response Coordinator, Field Officer, Shelter/WASH Specialist, Psychologist
- Skills: Crisis management, rapid needs assessments, coordination with agencies, psychosocial support

Development Programming

- Roles: Project and Programs Manager, Technical Advisor (Health, Education, Livelihoods, social projects in Europe), Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, Environmental Engineer
- Skills: Proposal writing, community-based project design, data analysis, programme implementation, monitoring evaluation and learning

Advocacy or Marketing/Fundraising

- Roles: Advocacy Officer, Fundraising Manager, Digital Marketing Specialist, Donor Relations Officer
- Skills: Policy analysis, campaign strategy and messaging, donor engagement, digital & social media marketing & fundraising, storytelling, graphics & design

Operations and Logistics

- Roles: Procurement Officer, Logistics Manager, Office Manager
- Skills: Contracting, fleet management, distribution planning, office management

Finance, HR, Administration, IT

- Roles: Country Director, Finance Manager, Grant Accountant, HR Officer, IT manager
- Skills: Business Management, budgeting, donor compliance, auditing, recruitment, IT systems and digitization

Global and Regional Coordination

- Roles: Regional Technical Specialist, Network Coordinator, Global Programmes Officer
- Skills: Strategic planning, inter-office coordination, cross-cultural facilitation and capacity building

Preparing for a Career with ADRA

To serve with ADRA, it helps to be both professionally prepared and spiritually grounded. Here's how you can start getting ready:

- **Education:** Degrees in international development, public health, engineering, social sciences, social work, logistics, business and economics, marketing/communications, or finance are great starting points.
- **Internships & Volunteering:** Look for opportunities to volunteer at your national ADRA office or get involved in local church-led projects. Many offices offer internships, both in the field and at headquarters.
- **Soft Skills:** Besides technical skills, we value teamwork, empathy, intercultural sensitivity, and problem-solving.
- **Language Skills:** Fluency in English is important. Other languages like French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, or Portuguese are a big plus.
- **Faith Commitment:** You don't have to be an Adventist to work with ADRA, but you should be committed to values of justice, compassion, and service.
- **Global Mindset & Flexibility:** Humanitarian work often means adapting to different cultures, working in complex situations, and staying grounded in your purpose.



Picture: ADRA Finland



Picture: ADRA Poland



Picture: ADRA Czech



Picture: ADRA Czech

What makes ADRA unique?



Picture: ADRA Syria

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- We're part of a global church network, with grassroots connections and deep community trust.
- ADRA combines faith-based service with technical excellence—a combination that earns respect from both communities and major global donors.
- You can build your career in different ways: some roles are based in the field, while others are based in Europe or national offices with limited or periodic travel. Whether you're called to serve abroad or support from home, there's a path for you.
- You'll be part of a network that values learning, leadership through service, and putting love into action.

Myth Buster: "Do I get to travel the world with ADRA?"

🌍 Many young people dream of working internationally — and ADRA's global reach does make that possible. But here's what it really looks like: ADRA is committed to localisation. That means most of our country programmes are led and staffed by local professionals who know their communities best.

If you work abroad with ADRA, it's usually in a technical expert role — like helping train national teams, improving programme design, or supporting compliance and quality standards. Or you might serve in a director-level position after building experience.

✈️ When ADRA staff from Europe travel to the field, it's not tourism or a short-term mission. It's about capacity building, monitoring effectiveness, and supporting our national offices — not replacing them.

Why? Because empowering local professionals is how we create real, lasting impact. That's our model — and it's what makes ADRA different.

So yes, there's opportunity to serve globally. But it starts with preparation, professionalism, and the heart to lift others up.

How to get started with ADRA

Don't Miss Your Moment. Too many passionate young people settle for jobs that don't reflect who they really are. You don't have to. There's a place where your skills and your values can meet.

If you're still in school or just starting out — there are ways to begin right now:



Picture: ADRA Slovenia

Reach out and learn - prepare

- Volunteer with your local ADRA office or join a service project
- Apply for an internship (check www.adra.eu or your country office site)
- Reach out to an ADRA staff member to hear about their journey
- Sign up for ADRA's newsletter or youth updates and follow us on social media to stay informed

Did you know?

01

Many ADRA leaders began as volunteers or interns.

02

Some ADRA roles are international and travel-based; others are home-based.

03

ADRA staff come from all kinds of academic and professional backgrounds.

Once you are ready ...

If you're ready to turn your faith and values into meaningful action, ADRA might be the right place for you. This is more than a job — it's a way to live out what you believe.

Ready to explore what a career at ADRA could look like?

Visit www.adra.eu today and connect with your national ADRA office to learn more.

A portrait of Izla Bethdavid, a woman with long dark hair, smiling. She is wearing a white top. The background is a blurred, light-colored wall. A small green circle is positioned above the text box.

‘Returning to ADRA Sweden as Director feels like coming home.

ADRA has been a common thread throughout my career, and I look forward to continuing to develop the organisation's work at a time when the need for long-term solutions and effective humanitarian aid is greater than ever.’

Izla Bethdavid,
Country Director ADRA Sweden

Study with purpose – start your ADRA journey at FAU

ADRA Europe and Friedensau Adventist University (FAU) have a long-standing partnership to prepare future professionals for humanitarian and development work. Through joint initiatives such as student internships, practical field projects, and academic collaboration, the partnership connects classroom learning with real-world impact. With English-language programs like the B.A. International Social Work and the M.A. Development Studies, Friedensau offers a unique pathway into ADRA's global mission of service.



Picture: FAU

B.A. International Social Work (ISW)

The ISW Bachelor's program is a full-time, campus-based degree that equips students to address social issues like migration, sustainability, and human rights. With a global perspective and local relevance, it prepares graduates to support and empower communities across borders.

Why study at Friedensau?

- 01 Long tradition in studying and teaching (founded in 1899)
- 02 Variety of scholarships and sponsored programs
- 03 Students and lecturers from over 40 different countries
- 04 Lecturers that offer personal coaching and mentoring
- 05 Various religious and spiritual activities offered on campus

M.A. Development Studies

The M.A. Development Studies is a flexible program—offered full-time on campus or online for professionals—preparing for academic or applied careers in development. Key topics include project planning, disaster management, sustainability, and global power relations, empowering students to create impactful solutions.

Ready to start your ADRA career at Friedensau?

Visit thh-friedensau.de today and connect with our admissions office to learn more.



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WWW.ADRA.EU