

David Combs
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Executive Summary

The United Nations (UN) is an International Government Organization that is made up of governments from all over the world. The purpose of the United Nations is to promote peace and security, good governance, poverty reduction, and human rights around the world. To accomplish this mission the UN has established a home base in developing countries to assist and work with that country's government to ensure development, human rights, good governance, and peace are fulfilled in those countries. I interned for the United Nations in Cambodia under the Resident Coordinator in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from July 9, 2011 to September 9, 2011. The Resident Coordinator is the highest-ranking UN official in the country, directly representing the Secretary General of the UN in Cambodia. His job is to coordinate all twenty-four functioning UN agencies (WHO, WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, UNAIDS, ILO, etc.) in Cambodia to work together.

My responsibilities as the intern to the Resident Coordinator (RC) consisted of many things. First, I was responsible for going to meetings with the RC and writing a summary report of the meeting or presentation if needed. Second, I was responsible for the write up and release of the daily media report. The report was a compilation of local and international news that pertained to the UN in Cambodia. Along with those daily responsibilities, it was my responsibility to work on projects that were taking place in the RC office. I worked on the UNDAF Costing Report in many ways, but my main role was to help coordinate the launch of the report to the Country Team. Another project I worked with was the Joint Programme for Children, Food Security and Nutrition. With this project I helped coordinate the international consultant's schedule for the mid-term review. Finally, I worked on the International Youth Day forum to help coordinate the involvement of the UN, NGOs, and youth organizations in forums to educate youth on their involvement in the development of their country.