

Research assistant/Intern UNDP Regional Centre Bangkok

Emmanuelle Poncin gave us some feedback on his successful interview for the above programme in October 2006.

"I am very happy to share some good news I received this morning. I got the internship with the UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok! Great feeling of relief and happiness as you can imagine...Well, as promised, here is a brief description of my phone interview with the UNDP. I did not have to answer any tricky technical questions, or anything out of the blue. It was quite laid back, and actually sounded more like a nice chat than like an interview. Basically, I first had to explain my interest in the UNDP. Then they wanted to make sure that I was able to commit for a long-term (5-6 months) although the internship description states that the duration will be between 3 and 6 months, this type of internship requires a consequent training, which makes it irrelevant for them to take on interns for only few months. After that, they stressed the importance to be able to work under a great deal of pressure, with deadlines, and to take initiative as well as being fairly independent. They were also quite clear on the fact that confidence in writing English was absolutely essential. Moreover, from what I understood, they liked the fact that I could speak Japanese and basic Thai, as well as my international experience (academic + small jobs). Quite honestly, I don't think that they were interviewing lots of people, and it sounded like they wanted to make sure that everything about the internship was clear, that I was fully aware of what I would have to do and enthusiastic. As I said, they did not test me or challenge me, and nothing was stressful about it. As you saw, I am not at all used to interviews but everything went fine, so there's nothing to worry about!....

And thanks again for your help, it was great to have some advice!"

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