

Internship: Researcher in solid waste management and recovery in developing countries



Are you finishing your studies at an engineering school and looking for an internship?

Are you looking to develop your skills and knowledge in the field of official development assistance? Are solid waste management and recovery issues, particularly in developing countries, topics you would like to work on? [Join us now](#) and contribute to the development of our expertise as a research assistant in solid waste management and recovery starting in February 2026.

Who are we?

We are Global Development, an engineering group comprising six entities:

Hydroconseil, **Urbaconsulting**, **Nexsom**, **Kattan**, **Humanov** and **Ekoya**.

We are engineers, economists, institutional experts and architects/urban planners who work hand in hand to provide access to essential services (water, sanitation, waste, energy, irrigation, etc.) and improved living conditions for people in developing and emerging countries. We also work on aspects related to climate change adaptation: urban resilience, water conservation, efficient network management, impact on water resources, etc.

Since our creation in 1995, we have carried out nearly 1,000 missions and projects in 90 countries around the world; our teams are also permanently present in half a dozen countries: Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Lebanon, Madagascar, Colombia, Ecuador and Cameroon.

Our clients include multilateral institutions (World Bank, European Union, etc.), cooperation agencies (e.g. Agence Française de Développement), international organisations (UNICEF, UNDP, FAO, etc.), NGOs and private operators.

We are a completely independent group (our employees are the sole shareholders) with strong ethical values, fully committed to improving the living conditions of the most vulnerable populations in emerging and developing countries.

Your challenge?

Currently, the group's expertise in the solid waste sector focuses mainly on improving the management of household and similar waste in southern countries (pre-collection, collection, transfer and treatment), structuring the sector and conducting characterisation studies. The primary objective of the internship is to stimulate reflection on aspects of solid waste recovery to help position the group for the future, while participating in the group's usual activities in the solid waste sector.

Supported by Lise-Ella, socio-economist and solid waste specialist, you will join the Operations team. You will work closely with the group's entire team, particularly those responsible for improving solid waste management.



Your tasks will focus on three main activities:

Participation in projects (depending on the projects underway during the internship period):

- Study to characterise and quantify waste and develop recommendations focused on possible recovery options
- Sectoral diagnosis of waste management: estimation of quantities produced and projections, collection channels, costs of the sector, mapping of stakeholders and understanding of cross-cutting issues, recommendations for improving future services
- Feasibility study of solid waste management and recovery projects
- Technical assistance for solid waste management and recovery projects and programmes
- **Support for commercial activity:** response to expressions of interest and calls for tenders, core methodological expertise in consulting:
 - Support for **the development of** relevant **methodologies** to propose these approaches in our responses to calls for tenders
 - **Search for reliable and complementary partners**
 - Support for the **formatting, drafting and technical feasibility** of proposals
- **Support for the** group's ongoing **capitalisation process** on the topic
 - Overview of existing solid waste recovery options and their characteristics, and their adaptability to our contexts of intervention
 - Capitalisation of services already provided by the group incorporating aspects related to recovery (Guinea, Haiti, Ecuador, etc.): benchmarking of good practices, gaps and bottlenecks, replicability, etc.

We invite you to discuss and **define together your activities and the main theme of your internship**, based on your skills and interests and our current projects.

You are the person we need if:

- You are in your final year of engineering school (general, civil, environmental, etc.), Master's degree or equivalent, with a specialisation in environment/solid waste
- You have a strong interest in development projects. Prior knowledge of issues related to essential services and the institutional aspects of their deployment will be considered an advantage
- You have very good analytical and writing skills
- You have one or more previous experiences in developing countries. These would be a significant asset in the consideration of your application
- You have a very good command of French and English, both written and spoken; proficiency in another language (Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic) will be considered an asset
- You have an appetite for innovation and skills transfer



- You have a sense of organisation and attention to detail to work in a team on a variety of tasks in a small organisation
- You have a cheerful disposition and a sense of humour, which makes teamwork enjoyable
- You are willing, if necessary, to carry out assignments in the countries where we operate, as part of the projects you would be involved in

Why Global Development?

With us:

- You have real freedom to decide on the strategy to adopt to carry out your activities, and you are supported with professionalism and kindness
- You will be in direct contact with numerous decision-makers: executives and shareholders, division managers, support functions, etc.
- You will be part of a young, multidisciplinary and committed team.
- You will find meaning in your work, in a company whose mission is to contribute to the achievement of the 2030 sustainable development goals.

Conditions and location

- Six-month internship based in Avignon or Paris, including two weeks of paid holiday
- Financial aspects: statutory gratuity and housing allowance
- Desired start date: depending on the internship period defined by your school or university, possible start date from February 2026

Does this sound like you?

Send your CV and cover letter, references and samples of recent written work to Audrey Crocker at the following address: emploi@hydroconseil.com with the reference "Waste recovery internship application".

Feel free to include examples of your recent written work and contact details for references.

We also invite you to visit <https://www.globaldevelopment.fr> to learn more about our spirit and values.

