



UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND JOB PROFILE

I. Post Information

Job Title: Nutrition Officer (*with WASH focus*)

Job Classification Level: P2

Post Location: New York

Organizational Unit: Programme

Supervisor Title/ Level: Nutrition Specialist

Duration: 2 to 3-year assignment (one-year fixed-term appointment renewable up to 3 years subject to satisfactory performance, recommendation by respective office and partner country agreement).

II. Organizational Context and Purpose for the job

The fundamental mission of UNICEF is to promote the rights of every child, everywhere, in everything the organization does — in programs, in advocacy and in operations. The equity strategy, emphasizing the most disadvantaged and excluded children and families, translates this commitment to children's rights into action. For UNICEF, equity means that all children have an opportunity to survive, develop and reach their full potential, without discrimination, bias or favoritism. To the degree that any child has an unequal chance in life — in its social, political, economic, civic and cultural dimensions — her or his rights are violated. There is growing evidence that investing in the health, nutrition, water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), education and protection of a society's most disadvantaged citizens — addressing inequity — not only will give all children the opportunity to fulfill their potential but also will lead to sustained growth and stability of countries. It will accelerate progress towards realizing the human rights of all children, which is the universal mandate of UNICEF, as outlined by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, while also supporting the equitable development of nations.

Given malnutrition's multifactorial etiology, addressing it optimally requires coordination across multiple sectors. UNICEF's Systems Approach to Nutrition seeks to make five systems – the food, health, WASH, education and social protection systems – more accountable for nutrition results. Improving the quality of children's diets requires leveraging these systems to improve access to and consumption of nutritious, affordable for young children in all contexts.

The WASH System is critical to promoting improved access to and use of safe complementary food, water sanitation, hygiene and clean household environment for young children. As the evidence-base on Nutrition and WASH linkages continues to grow, there is need to accelerate our joint policy, programmatic and advocacy work to fully harness these synergies to reduce stunting and other forms of malnutrition among children. UNICEF, as a multidisciplinary agency, has been working to

integrate its nutrition and WASH programming and has published a series of programming guidance's to maximize impacts for children of its actions, including the Complementary Feeding Action Framework to improve the quality of children's diets.

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, investment to support implementation of this integrated Nutrition and WASH approach has become even more critical. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the access to essential nutrition and WASH services for children, women and families. Urban poor, migrant and forcibly- displaced families are especially at risk as they tend to live in overcrowded settings, without adequate nutrition and WASH services and the possibility to practice physical distancing. Many routine programmes to protect, promote and support adequate nutrition in young children are disrupted or suspended as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, which is resulting in an immediate negative impact on the quality of diets and nutrition practices. The disruption of food markets reduces access to and the affordability of healthy diets, which translates into poorer, less frequent, and less diverse meals particularly among young children from poorer households, thereby driving undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and obesity rates upwards. While the pandemic is ongoing, it is likely that its impact will extend far beyond 2020 increasing the risk to slow or reverse progress on improving child malnutrition.

Job organizational context

At Headquarters level, under the guidance and direct supervision of the Nutrition Specialist in the Early Childhood Nutrition Unit, the Nutrition-WASH Officer works closely with the WASH Specialist in UNICEF's WASH section. The Nutrition-WASH Officer works in close collaboration with all units of the Nutrition and WASH sections, and with other sections in Programme Division, Analysis, Planning and Monitoring Division and Public Partnerships Division. Furthermore, the Nutrition-WASH Officer will occasionally interact with other key partners and donors.

At country level, the Nutrition-WASH Officer works under the guidance and direct supervision of the Nutrition specialist and in close coordination with the WASH specialist and other team members of UNICEF nutrition, WASH and health teams as well as with the national government and external partners.

Purpose for the job

The Nutrition-WASH Officer provides technical and operational support the implementation of the complementary feeding action framework, in both development and emergency settings, leveraging synergies between nutrition-WASH programmes both at UNICEF Headquarters and at country level. The incumbent will be based in the Nutrition Section, Programme Division, UNICEF Headquarters for the first 2 years of his/her time. For the remaining time (1 year), the incumbent will be based in one of the high malnutrition burden countries in Africa.

Both in headquarters and at country level, the incumbent provides support ranging from planning and designing to monitoring results and improving knowledge management for improving children's diets in both development and emergency settings, including Nutrition-WASH integration. In doing so, the incumbent implements a variety of technical and operational programmes tasks to facilitate programme development, implementation, programme progress monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of results.

III. Key functions, accountabilities and related duties/tasks

1. Technical support for implementing a multisectoral systems approach to improving the diets of children, with a focus on Nutrition-WASH linkages in priority countries with high malnutrition burden or significantly impacted by COVID-19

Working closely with Nutrition, WASH and other technical specialists,

- Provides support to the regional and country offices in rolling out UNICEF's Complementary Feeding Action Framework using a systems approach to improve access to and

consumption of nutritious, safe and affordable diets for young children in all contexts, with a focus on the WASH behaviours, supplies and services.

- Provides technical support and guidance to the UNICEF country offices on design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of integrated interventions and actions. This will involve documenting and sharing best practice examples on what has worked across both development and humanitarian programming contexts.
- Collects and maintains an up-to-date database on evolving evidence in the field of Nutrition-WASH programming (including hand hygiene, household water treatment, safe storage and handling, management of children's fecal waste and animal fecal waste, clean play spaces and food hygiene) and synthesizes key programmatic recommendations and actions for both development and emergency programming contexts.

2. Intensive direct country support for implementing a multisectoral systems approach to improving the diets of children, focusing on Nutrition-WASH linkages in one priority country in Africa which is implementing nutrition and WASH programmes

- Provides onsite and remote technical and operational support to government counterparts, NGO partners, UN system partners and other partners on the application and understanding of UNICEF policies, strategies, processes and best practices on systems approach to nutrition, with a focus on Nutrition-WASH linkages.
- Participates in regular programme field visits and/or exchange information with partners/stakeholders to identify bottlenecks, monitor progress and identify solutions. Provides technical support, takes appropriate action to resolve issues and/or refer to relevant officials for resolution.
- Coordinates with UNICEF country and field offices to monitor and report progress on implementation of complementary feeding action framework including Nutrition-WASH programme actions.

3. Innovation, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Knowledge management

- Applies and documents innovative approaches and promote good practices in the roll out of UNICEF's Complementary Feeding Action Framework.
- Working closely with Nutrition, WASH and other programme specialists, designs and tests indicators for monitoring and evaluation of integrated programmes.
- Identifies, captures, synthesizes, and shares lessons learned from integrated programming for young children across various regions and global thematic fund countries for knowledge management, to contribute to Annual Results Report and Field Reports.

4. Partnership engagement and coordination within and outside UNICEF

- Participates and contributes to working groups and other partnership platforms on Nutrition-WASH programmes, where relevant.
- Prepares regular programme/project updates and briefing notes for management, donors and partners to keep them informed of programme progress.
- Supports development or adaptation of advocacy and communication tools (advocacy or policy briefs, PowerPoint presentations, etc.) on integrated nutrition programming including Nutrition-WASH programming to facilitate advocacy actions at country, regional and global level.

IV. Impact of Results

The efficiency and efficacy of support provided by the Nutrition-WASH Officer to the planning, implementation and documentation of integrated nutrition-WASH programmes contributes to and accelerates UNICEF's global efforts to improve the nutritional status of children, adolescents and women. The funding of this position will provide much-needed support for the organization's strengthened commitment to prevention of stunting and other forms of malnutrition by delivering through multiple systems including WASH system. The work at UNICEF Headquarters and in country office will also provide a rich exposure and experience to the incumbent and will in turn contribute to building his/her capacity around designing, implementing and monitoring integrated nutrition programmes.

V. Competencies and level of proficiency required

Core Values

- Commitment
- Diversity and inclusion
- Integrity

Core competencies

- Communication (II)
- Working with people (I)
- Drive for results (I)

Functional Competencies:

- Formulating strategies and concepts (I)
- Analyzing (II)
- Applying Technical Expertise (II)
- Learning and Researching (II)
- Planning and Organizing (I)

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:

- A master's degree in nutrition, public health, development studies, epidemiology, social science or any other relevant field.

Experience:

- Two years', preferably 3 years', professional experience in nutrition and one or more of the following areas is required:
 - public health
 - nutrition planning and management or
 - maternal, infant and child health/nutrition care, sanitation and hygiene promotion
- Experience in nutrition in a developing country is highly desirable.
- Skills with data, quantitative analysis and planning are preferred.
- Experience in both Nutrition and WASH and programming would be preferred.
- Experience in health/nutrition/WASH programme/project development in a UN system agency or organization is an asset.

Language Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fluency in English is required.• Knowledge of French desired.• Knowledge of another official UN language or local language of the duty station is considered as an asset.
Other:	Women are encouraged to apply