



UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND JOB PROFILE

I. Post Information

Job Title:	Programme Specialist (Cholera Response Coordination)
Job Level:	P3
Supervisor Title/ Level:	Chief of Field Operations and Emergencies
Organizational Unit:	Programme
Post Location:	Maputo, Mozambique
Position type:	Temporary Appointment
Duration:	6 months

II. Strategic context and purpose for the job

Strategic context:

Cholera is endemic in Mozambique and outbreaks have been reported in the country nearly every year during the summer rainy season (October to April). However, an outbreak which started in September 2022 escalated quickly in 2023 following Cyclone Freddy's landfall (two times). The outbreak continued through 2024 and was declared over mid-year 2024. During these months, UNICEF intensified its preparedness by renewing multi-sector humanitarian programme documents, developing a cholera rapid response mechanism, and pre-positioning supplies with the government in high-risk areas of the country.

A new outbreak was declared in November 2024 in Mogovolas District of Cabo Delgado. Other provinces are reporting increasing rates of acute watery diarrhoea, some of which is suspected to be cholera.

A combination of factors contributes to the spread of cholera in the country: inadequate WASH conditions (low levels of access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities), compounded by a weak health system, weak surveillance with late and underreporting, lack of essential cholera commodities, including global shortages of the oral cholera vaccine (OCV), overstretched health workforce who are also responding to multiple disease emergencies (polio, measles, etc.), and high cross-border movements. There are high levels of cholera misinformation and mistrust towards government interventions have at times caused incidents of persecution and aggression against health workers and local leaders viewed as supporting cholera interventions.

UNICEF Mozambique is committed to supporting the Government of Mozambique through an integrated and equitable multisectoral approach to cholera preparedness and response including through our leadership roles in the WASH, Education, Nutrition and Child Protection clusters.

In WASH, UNICEF strengthens hygiene knowledge and practice, and access to safe water, including in healthcare facilities, schools, and communities to break the chains of transmission. In Health, UNICEF focuses on preventing cholera deaths, both in facilities and communities; and

ensuring continuity of essential health services during cholera outbreaks through capacity building of healthcare workers, raising communities' knowledge of home and community-based management of diarrhoea with oral rehydration salts (ORS), strengthening cholera referral pathways, procurement and delivery of essential cholera supplies including Oral Cholera Vaccines (OCV). This entails prepositioning and replenishing essential cholera supplies and mobilizing further technical support to the national response. UNICEF also engages at-risk communities in awareness-raising, readiness, and response activities through innovative approaches, such as the "case area targeted intervention" (CATI) approach or Oral Rehydration Points. Finally, UNICEF works in partnership with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and WHO to support disease surveillance, particularly at the community level.

Lessons learned from the response to the recent outbreaks have highlighted the importance of being prepared to respond early and quickly at the onset of a cholera outbreak to stop disease transmission chain and preventable deaths.

III. Key functions, accountabilities and related duties/tasks:

Under the overall guidance and supervision of the Chief of Field Operations and Emergencies, and in close collaboration with the Head of Sections (HoS) and cholera focal points for Health, Social and Behavioural Change (SBC) and WASH, the incumbent will be responsible for UNICEF Mozambique's cholera response portfolio, as follows:

Cholera response preparedness and coordination

1. Lead UNICEF's cholera preparedness activities internally, liaising with the Ministry of Health and other relevant sector/clusters such as Health, WASH and Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) coordination mechanisms. Priorities should be in line with the government's cholera planning and UNICEF/WHO/GTFCC guidance.
2. Document and manage knowledge of UNICEF Mozambique's response to cholera outbreaks, highlighting best practices and lessons learned to inform future responses.
3. Collaborate with other UNICEF sectors, particularly Health, WASH and SBC, Supply to ensure integration of activities for the cholera emergency response and ensure needs are identified and met. This entails (1) facilitating an internal cholera task force comprised of Emergency, Health, SBC, WASH and Supply, with participation of Education, Child Protection, Social protection and PSEA (2) managing internal and external cholera preparedness and response meetings, developing the agenda, presentations, scheduling, and sharing minutes/action points
4. Liaise with international and national partners, health and WASH cluster/sector and RCCE global and regional coordination platforms supporting the Government of Mozambique with emergency preparedness and response to cholera outbreaks.
5. Provide technical support to UNICEF and partners including the development/sharing of protocols, guidelines and training materials for surveillance, early warning and alert systems, case management for malnourished children and pregnant /breastfeeding women, establishment of cholera treatment facilities (CTCs/CTUs and ORPs), community-based interventions, communications, social mobilization, as well as forecasting, procuring and distribution of supplies.
6. Coordinate the development, implementation and reporting of sectoral and multisectoral partnerships (Humanitarian Program Documents) and institutional contracts with UNICEF partner and contractor engaged in the cholera prevention, preparedness and response
7. Track expenditure of available resources and gaps for the cholera response and identify priority needs; build on existing efforts to track deployment/administration of supplies, availability of financial resources (current/on the pipeline), human capacity etc.

8. Assess supply gaps in the main active/expected hotspot areas and coordinate the pre-positioning of cholera supplies from all programme sections (health, SBC and WASH) with the support of the Supply section.
9. Assess training needs in collaboration with Health, SBC and WASH sections and plan for refresher sessions about cholera outbreak management for partners and UNICEF staff.

On the onset a new outbreak declaration

10. Liaise with MoH, WHO, MSF and other relevant partners to verify alerts about suspected cases or AWD cases where laboratory test results are not yet published.
11. Maintain the internal Cholera Task Force to discuss preparedness/response actions.
12. Coordinate the deployment of UNICEF staff or partners per identified needs.
13. Update the UNICEF Mozambique cholera emergency response plan, including financial needs, supply requirements and staffing requirements (internal redeployment, external support, etc.).
14. Provide technical support for oral cholera vaccines (OCV) campaigns in close collaboration with the UNICEF health and SBC team, WHO, and other technical agencies.

During and after the cholera response

15. Participate actively in national outbreak task forces (some in Portuguese) and contribute to decision-making processes.
16. Coordinate and monitor the cholera response of implementing partners, ensure promptness and completeness of actions/approach and recommend/follow up on corrective actions when needed.
17. Provide technical support to the development of concept notes and proposals for cholera preparedness and response activities.
18. Share regular situation reports and summary of trends analysis with the Chief of Field Operations and Emergency and Country Office Emergency Management Team.
19. Provide inputs to all cholera response reports for management, donors, budget reviews, programme analysis, and annual reports.
20. Oversee project supply chain in coordination with UNICEF supply and operations staff to provide essential drugs and materials to government and NGO partners.
21. Participate in cholera monitoring and evaluation exercises, as well as in health, WASH and SBC sectoral reviews, as applicable. Identify, capture, synthesize, and share lessons learned for knowledge development and to build the capacity of country stakeholders and partners.

IV. Impact of Results

The effective technical and operational support provided by the Programme Specialist (Cholera Response Coordination) to the office and partners contributes to the successful planning and execution of the UNICEF emergency response plan that in turn results in improved delivery of country programmes and national programmes, towards more results for children. Working in partnership with the MoH, WHO and other partners the Programme Specialist provides leadership and direction for UNICEF's cholera response. This contributes to the predictability and accountability of humanitarian action, in line with the aims of UNICEF's Core Commitments to Children and UNICEF's 2022-2026 country programme. The coordinator ensures that the response is well-coordinated, strategic, adequate, coherent, and effective response and improves preparedness among at-risk/affected communities.

V. Values and Competencies and level of proficiency required

i) Core Values

- Care
- Respect
- Integrity
- Trust
- Accountability
- Sustainability

ii) Core Competencies

- Demonstrates Self Awareness and Ethical Awareness (1)
- Works Collaboratively with others (1)
- Builds and Maintains Partnerships (1)
- Innovates and Embraces Change (1)
- Thinks and Acts Strategically (1)
- Drive to achieve impactful results (1)
- Manages ambiguity and complexity (1)

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advanced university degree (Masters or equivalent) in Public Health, Health, WASH, Behaviour Change or another relevant field.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least 5 years of professional work experience at national and international levels in outbreak response, public health and other health, WASH and other development relevant programs.• Demonstrated experience in providing technical assistance to governments on the implementation of cholera outbreak responses.• Demonstrated experience in leading multidisciplinary teams and playing facilitating/coordination roles in a complex/multi-cultural context.• Familiarity with the UN system and international response to cholera outbreak (Global Task Force to Control Cholera) is an asset.• Knowledge of different aspects of the cholera outbreak preparedness and response in Mozambique (WHO guidance, international standards, national policies and strategies).• Excellent writing skills and demonstrable experience in qualitative and quantitative epidemiological data analysis, program monitoring and reporting.
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fluency in English is required. An intermediate or higher level of Portuguese/Spanish/Latin language is required.