

EMPORARY APPOINTMENT: Innovation and T4D Specialist –P3	
UNICEF Malawi is seeking to engage a temporary appointment to provide technical support and leadership of innovation through supporting the development and scaling of new and promising solutions including but not limited to application of new technologies and products, to the most pressing problems facing children, in line with UNICEF programming priorities and Government efforts to strengthen national systems and improve results for children across the key social sectors.	
Engagement contract	Temporary Appointment
Post Level	P3
Location	Lilongwe, Malawi
Duration	364 Days
Supervisor	Deputy Representative - Programme
Funding details	SC210019
	2690/A0/06/880/006/002 valid 2023/12/31

## 1. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

The fundamental mission of UNICEF is to promote the rights of every child, everywhere, in everything the organization does — in programs, 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 favouritism. 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, education, and protection of a society's most disadvantaged citizens — addressing inequity — not only will give all children the opportunity to fulfil their potential but also will lead to sustained growth and stability of countries. Therefore, the focus on equity is so vital. It accelerates 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 a nation.

**Strategic office context:** The overall goal of the UNICEF Malawi Country Programme of Cooperation, 2019-2023, is to contribute to the Government of Malawi's efforts to implement and decentralize policies related to children, focusing on the most disadvantaged and deprived, to have their rights progressively respected and fulfilled so they can survive, grow and develop to their full potential in an inclusive and protective society. The country programme is aligned with country and UNICEF regional

and global priorities and expected to contribute to the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III, 2018-2022, and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), 2019-2023, while concurrently working toward the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNICEF Malawi Country Office (MCO) identified innovation as an important strategy to deliver results for children. In view of the current and emerging programming environment, MCO has committed to streamlining innovation to support ongoing UNICEF and Government efforts to strengthen national systems and improve results for children across the key social sectors. MCO is enhancing technology and non-technology-enabled programming, ranging from planning, deploying and providing quality assurance, to the assessment of Technology for Development (T4D) gaps, opportunities and scale-up strategies that may be required in support of the MCO Country Programme Document (CPD) priorities. New programming approaches, innovative financing, digital and product innovations are all core components that will drive programme results.

MCO also wants to strengthen social innovations that will address some of the key challenges faced by adolescents and young people at the community level. There is also a need to reinforce adolescent participation and engagement and empower adolescents and young people to come up with solutions that affect their lives and connect them to a range of partners from the government, to the UN, the private sector, academia, and research organizations. Currently, MCO engages young people through the U-Report platform, designed to empower young people to speak out on issues that they care about in their communities, is also used to encourage citizen-led development and create positive change in polio and cholera responses at the country level.

## **2. PURPOSE OF THE JOB**

Under the supervision of the Deputy Representative - Programme, the incumbent is responsible for managing and coordinating the innovations portfolio including social innovation with adolescent/youth engagement, digital development, and technology innovation in the UNICEF Malawi Country Office. The incumbent will coordinate and provide ongoing technical support to programme teams in the design and implementation of their respective innovation initiatives for early childhood, school-age adolescents, Child-friendly, inclusive and resilient communities results, in coordination with the Office of Innovation Unit at NYHQ and the Regional Office where applicable.

## **3. KEY FUNCTIONS, ACCOUNTABILITIES AND RELATED DUTIES/TASKS**

Summary of key functions/accountabilities:

### **a) Strategy Development:**

- Work closely with programme teams to assess gaps, and opportunities and co-create strategies on how innovation and technology can support the country programme.

- Oversee development and quality assurance during planning and deployment of T4D and innovation including establishing and maintaining standards, documentation and support mechanisms for T4D.
- Contribute to monitoring and evaluation for youth innovation and T4D projects including baseline and first phase data collection and analysis and ongoing monitoring.

**b) Technical support to programme:**

**i. Youth Innovation and Social Innovation**

- Provide technical guidance in the design and implementation of adolescent/youth-led innovations and entrepreneurship including Generation Unlimited in partnership with other stakeholders including other UN agencies.
- Strategize innovative ways of strengthening adolescent and youth development and participation and encourage adolescents and youth to address issues they face.
- Assist programme sections to identify and assess new youth innovation and social innovation initiatives to improve UNICEF programming.
- Proactively scout for new innovative ideas and opportunities, develop the space to nurture and test new and innovative ideas together with universities, youth networks and local entrepreneurs towards solving development challenges specific to UNICEF's areas of work.
- Support human/user-centred design methods to enable user-acceptance testing, evaluation, documentation and analysis.

**ii. Technology for Development**

- Lead deployment of enterprise technologies prioritized for UNICEF programming (eg. Global Goods and Accelerators).
- Provide support and technical assistance to the programme teams and government and other partners in collaboration with information and communication technology (ICT) team in the identification, selection, concept design, deployment, standard setting, and sustainability of T4D interventions to address bottlenecks towards the achievement of programme results.
- Assist the review of technical solutions to ensure UNICEF standards are followed; contribute to project management processes, generation, and review of terms of reference and vendor selection, technical oversight, troubleshooting and the documentation of challenges and resolutions.
- Provide support for the development of a real-time monitoring system for both development programmes and humanitarian assistance, including developing the tools, analyzing the findings, and defining governance structure.
- Coordinate with stakeholders to develop total cost of ownership to develop, deploy and run technology for development solutions at pilot, scale and sustain phases of the initiative
- Coordinate with stakeholder to identify risks and mitigation measures associated with governance, management, development, deployment and operations of T4D initiative

iii) **Capacity Building:**

- Build capacity of programme staff and partners on innovative programming approaches, innovative financing, digital development, appropriate use of frontier technology and innovations such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), wearables, Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence, mobile technologies and services, blockchain etc., and on use of data visualization techniques and analytics tools.
- Build and sustain effective close working partnerships with government counterparts and national stakeholders through active sharing and transfer of knowledge, skills, and tools to foster and facilitate technology-enabled programming.

c) **Partnerships and Resource Mobilization:**

- Help develop partnerships and networks with local solution providers, technology specialists, innovators, NGOs, cultural and religious organisations, other UN agencies, the private sector, local media and academia to build and provide a space to nurture and test new and innovative technologies and build local capacity.
- Identify opportunities for resource mobilisation and new partnerships in close collaboration with the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office and the Office of Innovation/NYHQ, where applicable.

d) **Knowledge Management:**

- Identify, capture, document, synthesize and share lessons learned from youth innovations and T4D for integration into broader knowledge development planning and management efforts including from other countries via the global and regional networks available within UNICEF.
- Facilitate production of web stories and multi-media products for UNICEF Malawi and global platforms to illustrate innovation results across sectors.
- Maintain an inventory of Digital Development and Technology Innovation interventions, assets, resources and networks.

**4. IMPACT OF RESULTS**

- a) Digital development, technology innovation and social innovation strategy for UNICEF Malawi in place, accompanied by actionable work plans.
- b) Support and coordination of the implementation of the digital development, technology innovation and social innovation strategy and work plan, including the formation of partnerships, engagement of service contractors, and management of in-house activities and tasks required for effective implementation.
- c) Comprehensive documentation of all innovation initiatives.
- d) Oversight, coordination, and capacity building provided to all UNICEF sections and, where relevant, implementing partners.

## 5. QUALIFICATIONS

### Education:

- Advanced University degree in Social Sciences, International Relations, Social Policy, Social Development, Community Development, entrepreneurship, innovation, Information Technology, or other relevant disciplines.
- Training and/or familiarity with information systems and communication technologies.

### Experience:

- At least five years of progressively responsible professional work experience at national and international levels in programme management
- Experience supporting government and/or non-governmental organization's programming, including training and capacity building on social innovation as well as digital innovation in the context of Technology for Development (T4D) such as RapidPro, ODK, and others
- Proven experience in working with adolescents and/or on youth engagement programmes like U-Report, Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge, etc.
- A strong understanding of UNICEF's mission and vision as well as its programmes through direct or indirect work experience with UNICEF would be an advantage
- Experience in project management and rolling out of large-scale innovation and T4D projects, especially in hard-to-reach areas in developing countries is highly desirable.

### Expected technical knowledge and skills:

- Effective presenter including ability to adapt the message and visual aids for multiple audiences to deliver concise, impactful presentations.
- Knowledge of supply chain management and operations.
- Excellent analysis skills.
- Proven capacity to work with and lead collaborative teams across different locations and with different technical skills.
- Proven ability to manage relationships with partners, including government ministries, youth coalitions, universities, intellectual leaders, UN organizations, NGOs and the private sector.
- Aptitude to handle competing messages and priorities with multiple audiences.

### Language:

Fluency in English is required, coupled with strong writing and communication skills

## 6. COMPETENCIES

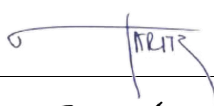
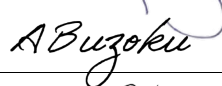

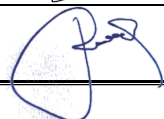
### Core Values

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

### 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)
- Drives to achieve impactful results (1)
- Manages ambiguity and complexity (1)

### 7. ENDORSEMENT OF TERMS OF REFERENCE:

Function	Name	Signature	Date
Prepared by	Gerrit Maritz Deputy Representative Programme		15.08.2022
Reviewed by	Ardiana Buzoku Deputy Representative Operations		15.08.2022
Reviewed by	Ronelle Sasser Human Resource Specialist		15 Aug 22
Approved by	Rudolf Schwenk Representative		15 August 2022