



UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (GENERIC) JOB PROFILE

I. Post Information

Job Title: **Nutrition Officer**
Supervisor Title/ Level: **Nutrition Specialist/
Level 3**
Organizational Unit: **Programme**
Post Location: **Field Offices**

- Southern Area Office (1 Damazine, 1 Kassala)
- Eastern Area office (1 Kassala, 1 Gadarif)
- Western Area office (3 Port Sudan)
- Central Area Office (1 Atbara)

Ref No: SUD24084

Job Level: **NOB**
Job Profile No.:
CCOG Code: **1102**
Functional Code: **TBD**
Job Classification Level: **Level 2**

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 programmes, 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 so all children have an opportunity to survive, develop and reach their full potential, without discrimination, bias or favoritism. There is growing evidence that investing in the health, nutrition, 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. This is why 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 nations. UNICEF has been in Sudan since 1952 and continues with a presence in 12 of Sudan's 18 states.

Sudan is among the top four countries in the world with the highest prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM), with an estimated 13.6 percent. The nutrition outlook is expected to deteriorate in 2024 due to ongoing conflict since mid of April, food security decline, compromised health and WASH services, and prolonged displacement. The estimated people in need for nutrition services is projected to rise further with the deteriorating nutrition determinants. Currently, the nutrition cluster estimate that 3.67 million children under five will suffer from acute malnutrition during 2024, out of which, 729,000 children will have severe acute malnutrition which put them at immediate risk of death if not treated on timely manner.

The micronutrient deficiencies in Sudan are widely spread and a concerning public health matter that contributes to morbidity and mortality and negatively impact human productivity and country economic growth. Most common micronutrient deficiencies in Sudan include iron deficiency anaemia, Vitamin A, iodine, calcium, and Vitamin D deficiencies that affect infant, children under

five years, adolescent, and pregnant and lactating women. The S3M survey of 2018 has shown situation of a poor micronutrient status among the most vulnerable groups of infants, children under five years, adolescent, pregnant and lactating women and more than 14 states out of 18 have significant prevalence rate for one or more of those micronutrient deficiency. The survey results estimated the prevalence of anemia among children under 5 and reproductive age non pregnant women in Sudan respectively at 48% and at 30% while 37% of pregnant women have anemia. The same survey has shown also 40% and 55% of preschool age children and non-pregnant women of reproductive age respectively have hypocalcemia and the prevalence of iodine deficiency was at 25.6% among non-pregnant reproductive age women.

Most of Infant and Young Child Feeding practices in Sudan are not optimal and that contributes to increased risks of morbidity and mortality among young children and put them at higher risk of chronic negative consequences in their future such as stunting and reduced productivity and cognitive capabilities. The S3M survey of 2018 has shown situation of a poor infant and young child feeding practices especially in the complementary feeding indicators. Minimum dietary diversity among under-fives is low at 25 per cent, and only 63 percent of under two children receive the age-appropriate meal frequency. While breastfeeding is common practice in Sudan, the level of exclusive breastfeeding stand at 62 percent, with only 73% of age-appropriate continued breastfeeding. The micronutrient malnutrition is prevalent, with 48 per cent of under-five children experiencing anaemia due to iron deficiency.

Job organizational context:

The Nutrition officer will report to the Nutrition Specialist/ Health and Nutrition Specialist who is at NOC level.

Purpose for the job:

The Nutrition Officer provides professional technical, operational and administrative assistance throughout the programming process for the nutrition programmes/projects within the Country Programme, from development planning to delivery of results. In doing so, the incumbent implements a variety of technical and administrative programme tasks to facilitate programme development, implementation, programme progress monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of results.

III. Key function, accountabilities and related duties/tasks

Summary of key functions/accountabilities:

- 1. Support to programme development and planning**
- 2. Programme management, monitoring and delivery of results**
- 3. Technical and operational support to programme implementation**
- 4. Networking and partnership building**
- 5. Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building**

1. Support to programme development and planning

- Conduct and update the situation analysis for the programme sector(s) for the development, design and management of nutrition related programmes/projects. Research and report on development trends (e.g. political social, economic, nutrition, health) for higher management use to enhance programme management, efficiency and

delivery of results.

- Contribute to the development and establishment of sectoral programme goals, objectives, strategies, and results-based planning, through analysis of nutrition needs and areas for intervention; and submission of recommendations for priority and goal setting.
- Provide technical and operational support throughout all stages of programming processes by executing and administering a variety of technical programme transactions; preparing materials and documentations, and complying with organizational processes and management systems, to support programme planning, results based planning (RBM), and monitoring and evaluation of results.
- Prepare required documentations and materials to facilitate the programme review and approval process.

2. Programme management, monitoring and delivery of results.

- Work closely and collaboratively with colleagues and partners to discuss operational and implementation issues. Provide solutions, recommendations and/or alert appropriate officials and stakeholders for higher-level intervention and/or decision-making. Keep record of reports and assessments for easy reference and/or to capture and institutionalize lessons learned.
- Participate in monitoring and evaluation exercises, programme reviews and annual reviews with the government and other counterparts to assess programmes/projects and to report on required action and interventions at the higher level of programme management.
- Monitor and report on the use of sectoral programme resources (financial, administrative and other assets), verifying compliance with approved allocation, goals, organizational rules, regulations/procedures, donor commitments, standards of accountability, and integrity. Report on issues identified to ensure timely resolution by management and stakeholders. Follow up on unresolved issues to ensure resolution.
- Prepare regular and mandated sectoral programme/project reports for management, donors and partners to keep them informed of programme progress.

3. Technical and operational support to programme implementation

- Conduct regular programme field visits and surveys, and exchange information with partners and stakeholders to assess progress and provide technical support. Take appropriate action to resolve issues and/or refer to relevant officials for resolution. Report on critical issues, bottlenecks and potential problems for timely action to achieve results.
- Provide technical and operational support to government counterparts, NGO partners, UN system partners, and other country office partners/donors on the application and understanding of UNICEF policies, strategies, processes, and best practices on nutrition-related issues to support programme implementation, operations and delivery of results.

4. Networking and partnership building

- Build and sustain effective close working partnerships with nutrition sector government counterparts and national stakeholders through active sharing of information and knowledge to facilitate programme implementation and build capacity of stakeholders to achieve programme goals on maternal and child rights as well as social justice and equity.

- Draft communication and information materials for CO programme advocacy to promote awareness, establish partnership/alliances and support fund raising for nutrition programmes.
- Participate in appropriate inter-agency (UNCT) meetings and events on programming to collaborate with inter-agency partners and colleagues on UNDAF operational planning and preparation of nutrition programmes/projects, and to integrate and harmonize UNICEF's position and strategies with the UNDAF development and planning process.
- Research information on potential donors and prepare resource mobilization materials and briefs for fund raising and partnership development purposes.

5. Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building

- Identify, capture, synthesize, and share lessons learned for knowledge development and to build the capacity of stakeholders.
- Apply innovative approaches and promote good practices to support the implementation and delivery of concrete and sustainable programme results.
- Research, benchmark and report on best and cutting edge practices for development planning of knowledge products and systems.
- Participate as a resource person in capacity building initiatives to enhance the competencies of clients and stakeholders.

IV. Impact of Results

The efficiency and efficacy of support provided by the Nutrition Officer to the preparation, planning and implementation of nutrition programmes/projects contributes to and accelerates the national development efforts to improve the nutritional status of mothers, infants and children in the country and this in turn contributes to maintaining and enhancing the credibility and ability of UNICEF to continue to provide programme services to mothers and children that promotes greater social equity in the country.

V. UNICEF values and competency Required (based on the updated Framework)

i) Core Values

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

ii) Core Competencies (For Staff with Supervisory Responsibilities) *

- Nurtures, Leads and Manages People (1)
- Demonstrates Self Awareness and Ethical Awareness (2)
- Works Collaboratively with others (2)
- Builds and Maintains Partnerships (2)
- Innovates and Embraces Change (2)
- Thinks and Acts Strategically (2)
- Drive to achieve impactful results (2)
- Manages ambiguity and complexity (2)

or

Core Competencies (For Staff without Supervisory Responsibilities) *

- 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)

*The 7 core competencies are applicable to all employees. However, the competency Nurtures, Leads and Managers people is only applicable to staff who supervise others.

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	A university degree in one of the following fields is required: nutrition, public health, nutritional epidemiology, global/international health and nutrition, health/nutrition research, policy and/or management, health sciences, nutritional epidemiology, or another health-related science field.
Experience:	A minimum of two years of professional experience in a developing country in one or more of the following areas is required: nutrition, public health, nutrition planning and management, or maternal, infant and child health/nutrition care. Experience in health/nutrition programme/project development in a UN system agency or organization is an asset

Language Requirements:	Fluency in English and Arabic is required. Knowledge of another official UN language (Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish) is an asset.