

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: Social Policy Specialist (Public Finance for Children – PF4C)		
UNICEF Malawi is seeking to engage a temporary appointment tasked with providing technical and programmatic support and assistance in all stages of Public Finance for Children (PF4C) programming and related advocacy from strategic planning and formulation to delivery of concrete and sustainable results for the children of Malawi. This includes programmes aimed at (i) improving social sector financing; (ii) strengthening transparency, accountability and oversight of public finances at national and sub-national level; (iii) supporting the reform of Malawi's decentralized systems; and (iv) increasing the understanding of child poverty in the country.		
Engagement contract	Temporary Appointment	
Post Level	NOC	
Location	Lilongwe – Malawi	
Duration	364 days	
Supervisor	Social Policy and Economic Specialist	
Funding details	WBS	SC220401 – 2690/A0/06/023/004/007 SC189908 – 2690/A0/06/023/004/007
	Validity date	SC220401 – 31/12/2022 SC189908 – 31/12/2023

## 1. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

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 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. 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.

**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).

The Social Policy Specialist (PF4C) contributes to Malawi Country Office's (MCO) efforts to leverage greater, more effective, and equitable public investments in the social sectors (health, education, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), social protection, nutrition and child protection). These efforts are aligned to MCO's PF4C Strategy as well as UNICEF's global and regional strategies on Public Finance for Children (PF4C) and Local Governance.

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

The Social Policy Specialist (PF4C) is part of the Social Policy team. Under the general guidance and supervision of the Social Policy and Economics Specialist, the Social Policy Specialist (PF4C) is responsible for providing technical and programmatic support and assistance in all stages of Public Finance for Children (PF4C) programming and related advocacy from strategic planning and formulation to delivery of concrete and sustainable results for children. This includes programmes aimed at (i) improving social sector financing; (ii) strengthening transparency, accountability and oversight of public finances at national and sub-national level; (iii) supporting the reform of Malawi's decentralized systems; and (iv) increasing the understanding of child poverty in the country.

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

The Section pursues these objectives by:

- Providing technical assistance, supporting evidence generation and providing capacity building for Government and CSOs in the areas of (a) child poverty; (b) social sector financing; (c) budget transparency, accountability, and oversight; and (d) fiscal decentralization and sub-national PFM.
- Ensuring effective collaboration with Government, including the Ministry of Finance (MoF), National Local Government Finance Committee (NLGFC), the National Planning Commission (NPC) social sector ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs), Local Government Authorities (LGAs), Parliamentary Committees, international financial institutions (IFIs), Donors, other UN Agencies and civil Society Organizations (CSOs) as well as UNICEF programme staff.

The Social Policy Specialist (PF4C) is specifically responsible for:

- Strategic planning, policy influencing and monitoring and evaluation activities for Child Protection and Social Protection financing interventions with the Ministry of Gender, Child Development and Social Welfare.

- Modelling for policy impact analysis and costing as well as preparation of investment cases and advocacy materials for Child Protection and Social Protection, with a specific focus on the Social Cash Transfers Programme.

The Social Policy Specialist (PF4C) supports in:

- Identifying and implementing system strengthening activities in the area of upstream PFM at national and sub-national level.
- Generating and analyzing evidence on child poverty and vulnerability to inform Government and UNICEF programming.
- Advocating for more efficient, effective and sustainable financing for social sector service delivery with Government, Parliament and other relevant stakeholders.

#### **4. QUALIFICATIONS**

##### **Education:**

- An advanced university degree in one of the following fields is required: Economics, Public Policy, Public Finance, International Relations, Political Science, or another relevant technical field.

##### **Experience:**

- A minimum of five years of relevant professional work experience is required.
- Proven experience in upstream Public Finance Management is required, more specifically having worked in planning and budget preparation within line ministries (in the social sectors) or Ministry of Finance.
- Proven experience in working within a Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF)/Programme-Based Budget (PBB) system (selection and monitoring of inputs, outputs and outcomes) is required.
- Proven experience in the preparation of costing models, investment cases, surveys or other evidence generation activities to support improved investments in Child Protection and Social Protection is required.
- Proven knowledge of the Social Cash Transfers Programme and of other social protection interventions within Malawi's National Social Support Programme II is required.
- Experience working on programme or project evaluation is considered as a strong asset.
- Experience in management consultancy is considered a strong asset.
- Experience working in a developing country is considered a strong asset.

##### **Expected technical knowledge and skills:**

- Knowledge of Public Finance Management procedures, processes and standards is required, specifically for upstream PFM (planning and budgeting) in MTEF/PBB settings.
- Knowledge of Child Protection and Social Protection policies, programmes and interventions in Malawi is required.
- Knowledge of Government sectoral financing and management processes and procedures is required.
- Knowledge of STATA or other statistical analysis programmes is required.

- Strong analytical and critical thinking skills are required, particularly in the area of macroeconomics, public finance management and financing of social sectors.
- Strong drafting skills are required. The person will be requested to draft clearly and concisely to support the production of UNICEF's own products (Budget briefs, etc.) as well to support quality assurance and improvements to reports produced for UNICEF or with UNICEF's financial support.
- The capacity to work in an international team, with different profiles and in a multi-cultural setting is a required.

**Language:**

- Fluency in English, both strong verbal and written skills, is essential.
- Fluency in Chichewa is a strong asset.

## 5. COMPETENCIES

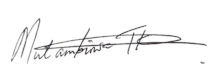


**Core Values**

- Care, Respect, Integrity, Trust, Accountability and 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)

## 6. ENDORSEMENT OF TERMS OF REFERENCE:

Function	Name	Signature	Date
Prepared by	Tapiwa Kelvin Mutambirwa Social Policy Officer		01/08/2022
Reviewed by	George Juwawo OiC Section Chief		01.08.2022
	Ronelle Sasser Human Resource Specialist		1 Aug 22
Endorsed by	Gerrit Maritz Deputy Representative		1.08.2022
Approved by	Rudolf Schwenk Representative		1 August 2022