**Regional Chief Monitoring (Data and Research) - P5**

**Job organizational context**

Provides Monitoring, research, surveys (MICS and others) related technical leadership, management advice, and support throughout the region and is responsible for the oversight, quality assurance, technical assistance and capacity building for country Monitoring and research’s design, planning, monitoring, data analysis and reporting in the West and Central Africa Region. Facilitates application, adaptation and operationalization of UNICEF research policies, data strategy, directives and standards in close collaboration with relevant HQs Divisions/Offices counterparts. Is responsible for the coordination and strengthening of UNICEF contribution to UN UNDAF evaluation, country common analysis (CCAs) support at regional level through work with the R-UNDG WCA QSA/Programme Support Group and counterparts. Work closely with the Regional Chief Programme and Planning, the Regional Evaluation Advisor and in coordination with Regional Advisors, Regional Deputy Director and Regional Director who is accountable for the evaluation function.

**Purpose for the job**

Responsible for the coordination, planning, development and capacity building of the monitoring, and research functions in WCAR and overseeing the data collection, analysis, monitoring and research functions in the Regional Office. This includes advice to the 24 country offices on monitoring, research, data collection and analysis, contributing to global knowledge and experience and supporting advocacy and policy development based on sound evidence.

**Summary of key functions/accountabilities:**

1. **Strategic Representation:** Provides overall leadership and coordination for the implementation and use of Research and Studies in the 24 country offices and in the Regional Office to contribute to Key Results for children for knowledge and advocacy on the situation of children in West and Central Africa and the impact of UNICEF interventions in coordination with UN agencies and other key partners.
2. **Technical Support and capacity building**: Support country offices to strengthen monitoring mechanisms, build national capacity for research and ensure the role of monitoring and research in country programme formulation and design as well as for the Mid Term Review exercise. This includes the coordination and management of technical assistance, links with academic institutions and regional and international networks. In collaboration with the regional chief of programme and planning and the Regional Evaluation Advisor guide and support Regional Office and Country Offices in building capacity to plan and conduct relevant Monitoring orientation/training sessions and staff learning/development activities with focus on results based management and budgeting/RBM-RBB, Management for Results/M4R) and workshops (including regional PM&E and DROPS regional network meetings). In close collaboration with the Regional Advisors and COs and drawing on external networks and technical resources, design and coordinate activities to achieve the results for Monitoring in WCAR, oversee the development of Monitoring approaches, research methodologies to high impact child survival and HIV/AIDS interventions, and education and protection interventions, emergencies.
3. **Quality assurance and oversight:** Advises the Regional Director and the Regional Management Team on the quality and conformity of studies and research activities in the Region with UNICEF policy and guidance and ensures mechanism for the review and quality control of studies and research products in the country offices and the Region. This includes quality assurance and oversight of MTRs, situation analyses and research as well as review of resources and capacity.
4. **Knowledge Management:** Provides guidance and ensure that the knowledge generated by, research and data collection and analysis exercises feeds into the Global Knowledge of the UN and UNICEF and also is shared and is accessible to country offices, regional partners, the media and other strategic partners to increase knowledge and understanding of the situation of children in West and Central Africa.
5. **Regional Office Management:** As part of the Planning, M&E section, establishes priorities and the work-plans for monitoring, research, data and analytics activities for monitoring in the Regional Office and support the ROMT with monitoring compliance and performance standards for the Regional Office Management Plan. Manages the work of the WCAR Evidence Generation and KM Committee, and major studies and research activities, and contributes to RMT meetings.
6. **Strategic Partnerships:** Develop strategic partnerships with the UN Regional structure, regional and sub-regional (AfrEA, AfDB, national research associations) networks and academic institutions, IFIs, donors and regional structures such as ECOWAS and ECCAS to facilitate and strengthen Monitoring, Research and data analyses practices and tools in order to benefit children in the region.

**Impact of Results**

* Nature of work is primarily of an advisory role, providing the Regional Director and the Deputy Regional Director as well as Country Representatives and other managers with authoritative policy advice and cutting edge technical expertise in the areas of monitoring, research and data.
* The work typically requires developing innovative approaches, new techniques or contributing to development/change, and establishing important guidelines for research and data. As a functional team leader, the nature of work focuses on facilitation, guidance, collaboration and coordination. As a technical specialist and expert, the Regional Chief Monitoring provides oversight and/or guides and supports on planning, integrating and coordinating professional work of intricate, broad, often, of conflicting demands arising from the region. The programme results affect ultimately credibility, reputation and success of programme/sectoral group or the organization.
* The position has significant freedom to innovate in terms of regional monitoring, research and data and analytics with direct influence on regional programmes and key impact on the development of corporate strategies and policies. The expert advice and knowledge sharing/dissemination play a key role in decision-making by the Regional Director and Country Representatives.
* As primary technical expert in the field of monitoring, research and data, the regional chief Monitoring’s effectiveness as an advocate and trusted counterpart substantially affects UNICEF’s image as a reliable and creative partner in the Region.
* Advocate effectively for resources and/or mobilize resources through compelling representation. Serve as a catalyst in the expansion and harmonization of research and data by other international or bi-lateral development partners.
* The scope of the Regional Chief Monitoring impact extends beyond research and data collection design and implementation to affect the regional strategies and policies in a sector. The regional chief M&E’s policy and strategy recommendations and technical decisions impact on programme priorities and strategies and UNICEF’s cooperation with other partners and agencies.

**Competencies and level of proficiency required**

**Core Values**

* Commitment [ III ]
* Diversity and inclusion [ III ]
* Integrity [ III ]

**Core competencies**

* Communication [III]
* Drive for Result [III]
* Working with People [III]

**Functional Competencies**:

* Leading and Supervision [III]
* Formulating Strategies and Concepts [III]
* Analyzing [III]
* Relating and Networking [III]
* Applying Technical Expertise [III]
* Planning and Organizing [III]
* Networking [ III ]

**Recruitment Qualifications**

Education: Advanced university degree in any of the following: Statistics, Demography, Social Sciences, Economics, International Relations, Public Health, Education or other fields related to the work of UNICEF.

Experience: Ten years of progressively responsible professional work experience at the national and international levels in social development, management, monitoring, research, data related disciplines.

Language Requirements: Fluency in French and English.