

TERMS OF REFERENCE- Temporary Appointment

Summary

Post Title	Emergency specialist (Localization)
Proposed level	P3
Location	Atbara (roving - frequent travel to the field)
Duration	364 days
Supervisor	Chief of Field Operations and Emergency
WBS & Grant	SM229930, WBS# 4020/A0/07/880/007/001

Background

Nearly six months since fighting erupted in Sudan, civilian displacement continues across the country. An estimated 5.6 million people have fled their homes since the conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) started in mid-April, making Sudan the largest child displacement crisis in the world. Families have sought refuge within Sudan and/or in neighbouring countries. The conflict is putting the health and well-being of Sudan's 24 million children at risk. Almost 14 million children in Sudan require urgent humanitarian assistance. Access to vulnerable populations remains constrained due to fighting. Social systems – including the health and education systems – are on the brink of collapse due to lack of access and financial resources. Supplies are depleted and infrastructure, including hospitals and schools, still under attack or used as shelter by displaced families.

UNICEF is staying and delivering for the children of Sudan, through a three-pronged humanitarian, development, and peace nexus strategy: maintain critical and lifesaving services in hotspot areas, provide urgent assistance to newly displaced and host communities, ensure basic service delivery continues in non-conflict areas. In 6 months, UNICEF has reached 5.7 million people with health supplies, 3.4 million people with safe drinking water, 3.2 million children with malnutrition screening – of whom around 200,000 received life-saving treatment, over 500,000 children and caregivers with psychosocial counselling, learning, and protection support through more than 700 safe spaces, and over 300,000 mothers, children and family members with cash, information and care services to protect their health and well-being.

Critical to these efforts has been a focus on expanding partnerships with local actors, especially in areas where access is constrained, to ensure timely delivery of humanitarian action, and strengthen the resilience of communities affected by the conflict through implementation of local solutions. Local actors typically are the first to respond to humanitarian crises and development challenges, remaining in the communities they serve before, during and after; and are present throughout the humanitarian-development nexus. In Sudan, local actors have been critical in negotiating access to, and promoting acceptance among, affected populations in Khartoum, the Darfurs and Kordofans, and to delivering humanitarian aid as direct responders – as example, local actor response to the cholera outbreak in Khartoum.

Working more effectively with local actors helps ensure decisions by humanitarian and development actors are made closer to the communities they serve, thus strengthening the inclusion of, accountability to, and acceptance by affected populations. It is key to improving the quality and coverage of programming and enhancing early response and access to affected population as local actors are always with the affected communities.

Through the Grand Bargain commitment,¹ UNICEF committed to:

- 1) Increase and support multi-year investment in the institutional capacities of local and national responders, including preparedness, response and coordination capacities, especially in fragile contexts and where communities are vulnerable to armed conflicts, disasters, recurrent outbreaks and the effects of climate change.
- (2) Remove or reduce barriers that prevent organizations and donors from partnering with local and national responders, in order to lessen their administrative burden.
- (3) Support and complement national coordination mechanisms where they exist and include local and national responders in international coordination mechanisms as appropriate and in keeping with humanitarian principles.
- (4) Achieve by 2023 a global, aggregated target of at least 25 per cent of humanitarian funding to local and national responders as directly as possible to improve outcomes for affected people and reduce transactional costs.

Purpose of the job

In line with Grand Bargain commitments, as well as the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, the P3 TA Localization specialist will serve as the primary technical lead on localization, supporting and driving the Sudan Country Office's efforts to "invest in strengthening the institutional and technical capacity of local actors to deliver principled humanitarian response". Focus will be on strengthening the localization, and overall coordination of the Khartoum response, with the aim to expand out to other areas, including the Kordofans and Darfur.

Strategic office context:

The post is based in Sudan with frequent travel to the field. It reports to the Chief Field Operations in the Sudan CO and works closely with the CFOs, Programme Chiefs and teams, and senior management team. The post requires close collaboration and coordination with other sections (including SBC/CE and AAP), with other agencies (especially OCHA, WFP), local NGOs and the ERRs – with a focus on Khartoum and other hotspot areas

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES and DUTIES & TASKS

Specifically, the role will:

- Serve as the SCO technical expert on and key coordinator of localization and mutual aid efforts
- Organize and coordinate the UNICEF Sudan country office and field office work on the localization agenda, especially in hotspots with an initial focus on Khartoum.
- Undertake a consultative process to identify opportunities for strategic engagement with local actors, as well as barriers that may hinder engagement in Sudan.
- Advise UNICEF Sudan country office and field office leadership on localization issues, key partners, and keep abreast of inter-agency/IASC efforts.
- Support and coordinate capacity building efforts to facilitate local actors' ability to respond to the needs of the affected population in timely, appropriate, effective, efficient, equitable and professional ways, while ensuring that the response is of the desired quality and scale support the development and expansion of principled partnerships with local actors, using different

¹ The Grand Bargain: A shared commitment to better serve people in need, 2016.

- partnership modalities (eg sub-granting, framework partnerships, etc) to provide technical assistance and capacity-building, as well as financial support
- Support the development of localized surge capacity (eg local-level emergency response teams/roster of local first responders) to complement other institutional mechanisms and ensure faster response to children's needs during crisis.
- Capture and document field experience, field practice and lessons learned in the domain of the localization agenda.
- Working closely with cluster coordinators, identify and support opportunities to connect local CSOs with cluster coordination at national and sub-national level.
- Working closely with access and CMcoordination colleagues, support local actors' security risk assessments to help address risk that have the most impact on programme delivery and direct risk to children, as well as work with local actors to negotiate access to affected communities to build trust, promote principled partnerships, and to identify any underlying factors that give rise to risk that may have gone unnoticed.
- Explore entry-points for local actors in humanitarian cash transfers, in coordination with the Cash Implementation Unit, to enhance the effectiveness and 'do no harm' principles of cash transfers at community level.
- Specifically support the coordination of the Khartoum response, with focus on expanding partnerships, and driving the hub-and-spoke strategy to deliver supplies and services to the most vulnerable populations in Khartoum.

The incumbent must be able to give expert technical advice on issues pertaining to the localization agenda to the Sudan CO/FO program and operations staff across functional profiles, as well as advice to Sudan CO/FO leadership through clear, realistic, and actionable recommendations on strategic issues. The incumbent must be able to support the Sudan CO/FOs in setting up and sustaining new partnership opportunities with local actors.

Expected background and Experience

V. Competencies and level of proficiency required

<p><u>Core Values</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care • Respect • Integrity • Trust • Accountability <p><u>Core competencies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) • Drives to achieve impactful results (2) • Manages ambiguity and complexity (2) • 	<p><u>Functional Competencies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzing (3) • Deciding and Initiating action (2) • Applying technical expertise (3)
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VI. Recruitment Qualifications	
Education:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An advanced University degree in any of the following: International Relations, Social Sciences, Public Administration, or other relevant fields related to the work of UNICEF. <i>*First university degree with additional two-years of relevant work experience is acceptable in lieu of an advanced university degree</i>
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of five years of relevant professional experience at international level in the field of humanitarian assistance and protection, of which at least 3 years at the field level in humanitarian settings, especially complex and high threat environments. • Demonstrated experience working on the localization agenda in complex settings, including proven record mobilizing and building trust with local actors around humanitarian action. • Strong understanding of the practical application of the humanitarian normative framework, including but not limited to international humanitarian law, the humanitarian principles, and children's rights, as well as the UN and humanitarian architecture, is required.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior field experience in UNICEF, a UN humanitarian agency or similar humanitarian organizations/NGOs is an advantage. • Overall experience in humanitarian response in settings of armed conflict and/or natural disaster, and technical expertise including for instance: emergency preparedness, humanitarian logistics and supply, security risk management, emergency programs, and interagency or cluster coordination, is an asset. • Experience in and knowledge of Sudan and the Sudan context a strong asset. • Willingness and readiness to undertake deep field missions is required.
Language Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluency in English required and working level Arabic a strong asset. •

Duty Station and Travel

Atbara, Sudan

Prepared by: Jill Lawler, Chief of Field Operations and Emergency

Jill Lawler, CFOE

Date: ~~24 October~~, 2023
6 December

Reviewed by:

Date:

Certified by:

Date:

Approved by:

[Signature]

Date: 7 December 2023