



Innovation Specialist (Blockchain) JOB PROFILE

I. Post Information

Job Title: Innovation Specialist (Blockchain)
Supervisor Title/ Level: P4 Innovation
Manager, Emerging Technology
Organizational Unit: Office of Innovation
(2576)
Post Location: Stockholm, Sweden

Job Level: P3
Temporary Appointment 364 days

II. Strategic office context and purpose for the job

UNICEF works in some of the world's toughest places, to reach the world's most disadvantaged children. To save their lives. To defend their rights. To help them fulfill their potential. Across 190 countries and territories, we work for every child, everywhere, every day, to build a better world for everyone.

And we never give up.

For every child, inspiration...

UNICEF has a history of innovating for children. We believe that new approaches, partnerships, and technologies are critical for achieve improved outcomes for children. The Office of Innovation is a creative, interactive, and agile team in UNICEF that sits at the unique intersection of working on material global issues, startup thinking, technology and partnerships that can scale solutions. We look to form partnerships around frontier technologies (including AI, drones, and UAVs, blockchain, new banking tools, wearables and sensors, and 3D-printing) that exist at the intersection of \$100 billion markets and 1 billion person needs.

The Office of Innovation's Venture Fund is a pooled funding vehicle specially designed to finance early stage, open-source technology that can benefit children. The core motivation of the Innovation Fund is to identify clusters or portfolios of initiatives around emerging technology – so that UNICEF can both shape markets and also learn about and guide these technologies to benefit children. We invest in solutions that can impact the lives of the most vulnerable children.

[Purpose for the job](#)

The UNICEF Office of Innovation (OOI) is looking for a Blockchain Lead to provide knowledge, technical and strategic coordination and support for Blockchain-related activity of the Ventures team, Office of Innovation and UNICEF more broadly.

Successful candidates will need to have both a deep technical expertise of Blockchain, understanding of the most recent developments trends and ecosystem players, as well as hands-on experience in building and scaling open-source products and working across teams and levels of technical understanding to achieve results.

Overall, this position is responsible for:

- In close collaboration with other members of the Ventures team, develop and execute the Ventures' team's Blockchain and Web3 strategy.
- Guide and support the Venture Fund's investment strategy and implementation on Blockchain and Web3.
- Provide technical, knowledge and strategic project management to specific blockchain and Web3 initiatives, as undertaken by UNICEF.
- Expert guidance to blockchain and Web3 related partnerships and fundraising efforts

III. Key functions, accountabilities and related duties/tasks:

- 1. In close collaboration with other members of the Ventures team, develop and execute the Ventures' team's engagement strategy as a priority frontier technology area.**
 - Identifying and monitor new trends for exploration, capturing where relevant for internal learning.
 - Capture and communicate experiences and lessons from across initiatives and early-stage pilots for dissemination internally and externally.
 - Identify and coordinate financial and technical resources and capacity required
- 2. Guide and support the Venture Fund's investment strategy and implementation on Blockchain and Web3.**
 - Support Venture Fund sourcing and selection efforts.
 - Identify and support promising relevant solutions at early stage.
 - Provide technical assistance to solutions receiving support from the Venture Fund
 - Identify, develop and manage networks, technical expertise and other resources for Fund supported solutions.
- 3. Provide technical, knowledge and strategic support and project management to specific blockchain and Web3 initiatives, as undertaken by UNICEF.**
 - Support Country Office pilots and roll outs related to blockchain and Web3 based technology.
 - Identify and support opportunities to use blockchain for internal efficiency
 - Oversee the development and maintenance of any blockchain-based products managed by the Venture team, including coordination of any related technical resources and capacity on the team.
 - Develop and disseminate relevant technical standards, toolkits and other relevant capacity building tools
 - Advise, as requested, any HQ-led initiatives with relevant Divisions
 - Act as focal point on relevant internal and UN-wide working groups
- 4. Expert guidance and Support to blockchain and Web3 related partnerships and fundraising efforts**
 - In close collaboration with OOI's partnership and communications team, identify partnership opportunities, develop offerings and manage collaborations
 - Lead any external representation with technical partners and platforms relevant to this role, including for advocacy purposes

- Develop OOI's key messages and engagement platform to shape blockchain-related technical standards and practice among private sectors, government partners and other relevant stakeholders

IV. Impact of Results

The key results of this position contribute to the achievement of the expected outcome for the Office of Innovation of “accelerating results for children through innovation and influencing the external context to create an enabling environment for others to innovate for children”.

V. Competencies and level of proficiency required

Core Values attributes

- Care
- Respect
- Integrity
- Trust
- Accountability

Core competencies skills

- Applying technical expertise (3)
- Creating and innovating (2)
- Formulating strategies and concepts (2)
- Drive for Results (3)
- Working with People (3)
- Communication (2)

Functional competencies:

- Relating and Networking (3)
- Planning and organizing (3)
- Deciding and initiating action (2)

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:

- An advanced university degree (Master’s or higher) in engineering, computer science, business administration or other relevant field.

Experience:

- A minimum of five years of relevant professional experience in technology product development, project and partnership management. 7 years in lieu of an advanced degree.
- Technical understanding of decentralized systems and blockchain networks (e.g DLT, Bitcoin and Ethereum, Layer 2 solutions, DApps, DeFi and DAOs).
- Piloting and scaling of technology solutions in UNICEF programme countries desired
- Experience engaging with stakeholders from different backgrounds and coordinating multi stakeholder activities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Demonstrated outstanding analytical and quantitative skills, and the ability to conduct independent research.● Experience managing a decentralized team.● Demonstrated ability to translate clearly complex issues for a non-technical audience.● Familiarity with international development;● Developing country work experience and/or familiarity with emergency is considered an asset.● Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish) or a local language is an asset.
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish) or a local language is an asset.