

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND
Terms of Reference

<p>DUTY STATION: Bujumbura SECTION/DIVISION: Health LEVEL: P3, Temporary Appointment (TA) DURATION: 6 months (181 days) TITLE: Health in Emergencies Specialist</p>	
<p>PURPOSE OF POST: Under the overall supervision of the Chief of the Health Section and the Health Manager, Health Specialist for guidance and technical oversight, the Emergency Health Specialist is responsible for the development, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of UNICEF's response to the mpox epidemic at the national and operational levels.</p>	<p>REPORTS TO: Chief of Health section/mpox Coordinator</p> <p>NUMBER/LEVEL OF POSTS SUPERVISED: Not applicable, but the post will work closely with two consultants based in the field.</p>
<p>BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT: On 24 July 2024, the Ministry of Health (MoH) declared an outbreak of MPOX following the confirmation of 03 cases in two districts. Since then, as of 14 October 2024, a cumulative total of 1,189 confirmed cases and 2,808 suspected cases have been reported in 42 of the country's 49 health districts. Most cases are among men (53%) and children and adolescents under 20 years of age (58.1%).</p> <p>On 14 August 2024, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared that the upsurge of mpox in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and a growing number of countries in Africa constitutes a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC). On 20 August 2024 UNICEF activated a Level 3 Corporate Emergency Activation Procedure for three months to scale up mpox preparedness and response in Burundi, Central African Republic, DRC, Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda, countries where there is active transmission of Mpox variant 1b. The country also faces additional risks and threats, including outbreaks of cholera (2190 cholera cases and 12 deaths) and measles (2756 measles cases and 12 deaths reported in 44 out of 49 health districts). The striking similarities between the geographical distribution of mpox, cholera and measles cases highlight concerns about child vulnerability and equity in the context of actual emergencies.</p> <p>To respond to this health crisis, and to support the efforts of the Government through the Ministry of Health in responding to this epidemic, UNICEF is working to strengthen existing systems through a multi-sectoral approach, including access to a range of services: integrated health for cases management, nutrition, WASH and PCI services, mental health and psychosocial support, RCCE, socio-economic support (cash transfer) and PSEA for infected and affected people, active case finding and outreach, home monitoring of discharged patients, and community awareness raising.</p>	
<p>KEY FUNCTIONS, ACCOUNTABILITIES AND RELATED DUTIES/TASKS</p>	<p>QUALIFICATIONS & COMPETENCIES</p>

- Provide technical support for the effective development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national mpox contingency plan;
- Actively support technical coordination of UNICEF-supported activities with partners, namely WHO, UNFPA, WFP, OIM and other partners involved in MPOX preparedness and response activities at national and sub-national levels;
- Provide technical support to implementing partners as part of UNICEF's mpox preparedness and response;
- Supporting the preparation of the stand-up meeting and following up on action points by Tacker in consultation with UNICEF's Technical Crisis Team on Mpox preparedness and response plan;
- Participate in national health coordination and working group meetings and liaise with key partners to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of health activities;
- Support the updating of the UNICEF mpox preparedness and response plan, UNICEF mpox daily and weekly SITREPs, and other updates related to mpox in collaboration with the Nutrition, WASH, CREC, Child Protection, Education, PME and Social Policy sections of the UNICEF country office ;
- Support the collection and reporting of quality data for the development of the weekly Humanitarian Plan Monitoring (HPM) and the monthly UNICEF SITREP;
- Provide support to UNICEF offices and the 49 at-risk districts in the planning, pre-positioning, distribution and monitoring of emergency health supplies, with the aim of achieving mpox prevention and control.
- Support to the country in the dissemination of technical and operational guidance on MPOX preparedness and response;
- Contribute to epidemiological surveillance and contingency planning for other epidemics, such as Marburg hemorrhagic fever.
- Provide health inputs to rapid needs assessments, humanitarian response planning, emergency needs assessments and other CO documents.
- Contribute to the appropriate use of UNICEF resources and timely justification of funding in accordance with HACT (Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers) procedures.

Education: Advanced university degree in medicine, Public Health or other relevant disciplines.

Work Experience:

- A minimum of five (5) years of relevant professional experience in one or more of the following areas is required: public health planning and management, health emergency/humanitarian preparedness and response, infection and infection prevention in the fight against public health emergencies (WHO, CDC, MSF).
- Work experience in emergency and developing countries
- Background/familiarity with emergencies
- Work experience with UNICEF/UN agencies or international development institutions is an advantage.

Language: Fluency in French is required. Knowledge of English and another official UN language or local language of the duty station is considered as an asset.

Core Values

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

Core Competencies

- Demonstrates Self Awareness and Ethical Awareness (1)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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)
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