



Innovation Specialist (Capacity) SPECIFIC JOB PROFILE

I. Post Information

POST NUMBER/ CASE NUMBER: 130073
POST/CASE NUMBER OF SUPERVISOR:
121776 Senior Adviser Innovation (Wash Hub), P5
REASON FOR CLASSIFICATION: **New Position**
REGION/DIVISION: **Other HQ**
COUNTRY: **Denmark**
DUTY STATION: **Copenhagen**
OFFICE: **Office of Innovation**
SECTION:
UNIT: **WASH Hub**

CATEGORY: **IP (International Professionals)**
PROPOSED LEVEL: **Level 3**
JOB TITLE: **Innovation Specialist (Capacity Building)**
Functional Code: **Innovation**
ICSC CCOG Code: **1L08**

II. Strategic Office Context and Purpose for the job

The fundamental mission of UNICEF is to promote the rights of every child, everywhere, in everything the organization does — in programmes, 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 favoritism. 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 fulfill 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 vision of the UNICEF Sustainable WASH Innovation Hub (the 'WASH Hub') is to be a global home for building, accelerating, and scaling transformational climate resilient solutions for a WASH secure future of universal and equitable access to services, addressing the full ambition of the SDG6 while integrating the principles of Climate, Environment, Energy & Disaster Risk Reduction (CEED)

The WASH Hub will source, pilot and scale transformational and frontier climate resilient innovations that respond to key programmatic challenges that, if solved, will unlock faster progress for a water secure future for children and young people.

The hub will bring together a passionate community of strategic partners including children and young people, academia, private entrepreneurs, public policy makers, social development and humanitarian actors, and our global UNICEF WASH / CEED and innovation colleagues in 150+ countries. Collectively we will co-create, advocate, enable, convene, and motivate for innovative

sustainable solutions to long-standing barriers and emerging opportunities for a WASH secure and climate resilient future for every child.

The WASH Hub will be part of a distributed network working in close partnership with child impacted local ecosystems in countries across the world, while simultaneously engaging some of the most impactful global innovation ecosystems.

Purpose for the job:

The Innovation Specialist (Capacity Building) will work under the supervision of the Senior Adviser Innovation (Wash Hub) and closely with the Innovation Manager. The Innovation Specialist is a key role in supporting capacity development to nurture and enhance innovation across the UNICEF WASH network.

They will be responsible for identifying capacity gaps in implementing, adapting, and adopting innovation across the UNICEF WASH network and identifying, developing, coordinating, and implementing capacity building services to address these gaps. Further, they will be responsible for supporting country office WASH teams to identify capacity gaps in government and NGO partners in UNICEF programme countries and identifying, developing, coordinating, and implementing capacity building services to address these gaps to drive climate resilient WASH innovations that accelerate results for children and young people.

The Innovation Specialist will leverage their expertise and that of the other focal points in the Innovation Office to identify opportunities, design, and implement strategic and timely innovative initiatives.

They will need to work in an environment that will evolve requiring adaptability, flexibility, and the ability to creatively respond to rapidly changing innovation landscapes.

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

Under the general guidance and direction of the P5 Senior Adviser Innovation, and the guidance of the Innovation Manager, the Innovation Specialist will be responsible for:

Strategy Development

- Contribute to developing, leading, and implementing the WASH Hub's strategy for the WASH network capacity to innovate, building culture and capacity at all levels of the organization to innovate and to effectively adapt and adopt WASH innovations.
- Supervise the development and quality assurance processes during the planning and implementation of innovation initiatives; contribute to setting and upholding standards, documentation, and support systems for innovation projects.
- Support the innovation strategy for the WASH Hub by assessing innovation gaps, identifying opportunities, and developing scale-up strategies to support the acceleration of results for children and young people.
- Conduct regular reviews and assessments of innovation projects to ensure alignment with strategic goals and make necessary adjustments.

Capacity Building of the WASH Network

- Lead capacity and learning field engagement, need finding and mapping to identify and prioritise areas for capacity building intervention by undertaking a capacity gap analysis of the UNICEF WASH network.
- Coordinate the design, development and use of new capacity building experiences and resources following design thinking, user-centred approach.
- Encourage teamwork and establish partnerships with a variety of organizations and experts to enhance brainstorming sessions and contribute to the growth of diverse capacity-building initiatives.

- Keep abreast of the latest capacity development initiatives taking place across UNICEF, the UN system and among innovation thought and opinion leaders within and outside of the development sector, with an eye on shared learning.
- Develop and deliver training programmes, workshops, and seminars to build innovation capacity among WASH staff and partners.
- Create and maintain a repository of capacity-building resources, best practices, and case studies.

Advocacy & Communication

- Coordinate with the WASH team on their activities to raise awareness, promote and gather support for capacity-building opportunities and resources.
- Engage actively and network in the global ecosystem of innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship, and related areas to identify and source learning and capacity development resources, and exercise thought leadership to position and diffuse UNICEF's innovation learning work.
- Collaborating with OOI communication team on shared activities aimed at nurturing and strengthening a culture of innovation across the UNICEF WASH network through internal and external communications channels.
- Develop and implement communication strategies to effectively disseminate information about innovation initiatives and capacity-building opportunities.
- Create content for newsletters, reports, and social media to highlight success stories and lessons learned from innovation projects.

IV. Impact of Results

The Innovation Specialist advances UNICEF's mission and strategic objectives by enhancing programme and operational effectiveness and efficiency through innovation, partnerships, and the provision of timely, secure, and safe solutions and services. By enhancing the capacity of the UNICEF WASH network and our government and development partners to innovate and to adapt and adopt innovation, they will support the development and uptake of innovative solutions to accelerate progress towards universal access and use of safe WASH services.

This role ensures technical oversight, coordination, quality, adoption, and sustainability of innovation as a key priority and strategy for improving programme outcomes, ensuring that the most vulnerable populations have access to essential information and services

V. UNICEF values and competency Required (based on the updated Framework)	
i) <u>Core Values</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care • Respect • Integrity • Trust • Accountability • Sustainability 	
ii) <u>Core Competencies for Staff without Supervisory Responsibilities</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) 	

VI. Recruitment Qualifications	
Education:	<p>An advanced university degree (master's or higher) in one of the following fields is required: Environmental Science; Sustainability or related fields; Innovation-related field; International Relations; Education or capacity development; Water & Sanitation or another relevant field.</p> <p>A first degree plus an additional 2 years' experience may be accepted in lieu of a master's degree.</p>
Experience:	<p><i>Required:</i></p> <p>A minimum of five (5) years of relevant professional experience at national and international levels in the areas of innovation, social and economic development, and cooperation and/or WASH capacity development.</p> <p>Understanding of climate resilient WASH / CEED innovations and programming within the UNICEF context.</p> <p>Proven experience and/or training in design thinking, strategic facilitation, disruptive learning, project management, community and/or resiliency planning, and other related fields/areas.</p> <p>Demonstrated understanding of innovation practice in humanitarian, development, or low resource settings; this could include start-up to scaling innovations in relevant sector(s).</p>

	<p>Demonstrated experience in design thinking / human-centred design especially as applied to development programming is required.</p> <p>Demonstrated experience in designing and implementing capacity development experiences from cradle to grave is required.</p> <p>Ability to collaborate effectively with others in various environments.</p> <p><i>Desirable/ Asset:</i></p> <p>Demonstrated knowledge of UNICEF's processes and procedures.</p> <p>Experience in supporting development of communication materials for internal and external publication.</p> <p>Experience in public advocacy, media engagements, and ability to produce intellectual leadership assets on innovation and capacity development.</p>
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English is required. Knowledge and fluency of another UN language is an asset.