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|  | **UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND**  **JOB PROFILE** |

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| **I. Post Information** | |
| Job Title: **Nutrition Specialist – Nutrition Information System**  Supervisor Title/ Level **Chief Nutrition**  Organizational Unit:  Post Location: **SCO** | Job Level: **P3**  Job Profile No.:  CCOG Code:  Functional Code:  Job Classification Level: **Level 4** |

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| II. Organizational 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 so all children have an opportunity to survive, develop and reach their full potential, without discrimination, bias or favoritism. There is growing evidence that investing in the health, nutrition, 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. UNICEF has been in Sudan since 1952 and continues with a presence in 12 of Sudan’s 18 states.  Sudan is among the top four countries in the world with the highest prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM), with an estimated 13.6 percent. The nutrition outlook is expected to deteriorate in 2024 due to ongoing conflict since mid of April, food security decline, compromised health and WASH services, and prolonged displacement. The estimated people in need for nutrition services is projected to rise further with the deteriorating nutrition determinants. Currently, the nutrition cluster estimate that 3.67 million children under five will suffer from acute malnutrition during 2024, out of which, 729,000 children will have severe acute malnutrition which put them at immediate risk of death if not treated on timely manner.  The micronutrient deficiencies in Sudan are widely spread and a concerning public health matter that contributes to morbidity and mortality and negatively impact human productivity and country economic growth. Most common micronutrient deficiencies in Sudan include iron deficiency anaemia, Vitamin A, iodine, calcium, and Vitamin D deficiencies that affect infant, children under five years, adolescent, and pregnant and lactating women. The S3M survey of 2018 has shown situation of a poor micronutrient status among the most vulnerable groups of infants, children under five years, adolescent, pregnant and lactating women and more than 14 states out of 18 have significant prevalence rate for one or more of those micronutrient deficiency. The survey results estimated the prevalence of anemia among children under 5 and reproductive age non pregnant women in Sudan respectively at 48% and at 30% while 37% of pregnant women have amenia. The same survey has shown also 40% and 55% of preschool age children and non-pregnant women of reproductive age respectively have hypocalcemia and the prevalence of iodine deficiency was at 25.6% among non-pregnant reproductive age women.  Most of Infant and Young Child Feeding practices in Sudan are not optimal and that contributes to increased risks of morbidity and mortality among young children and put them at higher risk of chronic negative consequences in their future such as stunting and reduced productivity and cognitive capabilities. The S3M survey of 2018 has shown situation of a poor infant and young child feeding practices especially in the complementary feeding indicators. Minimum dietary diversity among under-fives is low at 25 per cent, and only 63 percent of under two children receive the age-appropriate meal frequency. While breastfeeding is common practice in Sudan, the level of exclusive breastfeeding stand at 62 percent, with only 73% of age-appropriate continued breastfeeding. The micronutrient malnutrition is prevalent, with 48 per cent of under-five children experiencing anaemia due to iron deficiency.  Fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has erupted on 15 April weeks leading to the displacement of millions of Sudanese people both internally and externally, disruption of the health systems, and looting of humanitarian assets and offices has compromising humanitarian action in key locations. Efforts are ongoing to deliver assistance wherever and whenever possible. Health and nutrition information management needs is increasing in light of the nonfunctioning government HIS and the current and potential increase in the scale of the humanitarian operation led by UNICEF and other partners.  Humanitarian action is of fundamental importance to UNICEF and encompasses interventions aimed at saving lives, alleviating suffering, maintaining human dignity, and protecting the rights of affected populations wherever there are humanitarian needs, as well as interventions addressing underlying risks and causes of vulnerability to disasters, fragility, and conflict. UNICEF’s humanitarian action is guided by the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action (CCCs) which set organizational, programmatic, and operational commitments and benchmarks against which UNICEF holds itself accountable for the coverage, quality, and equity of its humanitarian action and advocacy and which are mandatory for all UNICEF personnel.  **Job organizational context:**  The Nutrition Specialist - Nutrition Information System (NIS) will report to the Chief of Nutrition who is at Level 5.  **Purpose of the job**:  Under the overall direction and guidance of the Chief of Nutrition (L5), the Nutrition Specialist (NIS) will support is to reinforce the nutrition information management systems at national and sub-national level. The Nutrition Specialist supports the development and preparation of the nutrition programme and is responsible for managing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting the programme progress of the nutrition programme within the country programme, particularly those related to supporting the development of a functional and sustainable nutrition information systems to inform and monitor accelerated cover and reduction of disparities in nutrition. The Nutrition Specialist provides technical guidance and management support throughout the programming processes to facilitate the administration and achievement of concrete and sustainable results in maternal, infant and child nutrition programmes/projects. This is carried out according to plans, allocation, results based-management approaches and methodology (RBM), as well as UNICEF’s Strategic Plans, standards of performance, and accountability framework. |

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| III. Key function, accountabilities, and related duties/tasks |
| **Summary of key functions/accountabilities:**   1. **Support to programme development and planning** 2. **Programme management, monitoring and delivery of results.** 3. **Technical and operational support to programme implementation** 4. **Networking and partnership building** 5. **Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building** |
| 1. **Support to programme development and planning**  * Contribute to and support the preparation, design and updating of the situation analysis for the nutrition programme to ensure comprehensive and current data on maternal and child nutrition is available to guide policy development, and the design and management of nutrition programmes/projects. * Undertake diagnosis of the Sudan Nutrition Information System to assess if it is comprehensive and fit for purpose in the current humanitarian setting. Support the CO and cluster partners to address the capacity gaps identified during the diagnostics, including specific capacity building actions in collaboration with the nutrition information * Participate in strategic programme discussions on the planning of nutrition programmes/projects. * In close collaboration with the nutrition cluster, update the plans for ENA SMART surveys, rapid nutrition assessments and other assessments considering seasonality and program needs. * Participate in the development of plans for improved data visualization including the use of geographic mapping and dashboards in collaboration with relevant team members. * Formulate, design and prepare a sector of the nutrition programme proposal, ensuring alignment with UNICEF’s Strategic Plans, Country Programme, and coherence/integration with the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), regional strategies, as well as national priorities, plans and competencies. * Keep abreast of development trends to enhance programme management, efficiency and delivery. * Work closely and collaboratively with colleagues and partners to discuss strategies and methodologies, and to determine national priorities/competencies to ensure the achievement of concrete and sustainable results. Support the periodic humanitarian prioritization exercise using the available nutrition information * Provide technical and operational support throughout all stages of nutrition programming processes to ensure integration, coherence and harmonization of programmes/projects with other UNICEF sectors and achievement of results as planned and allocated. |
| 1. **Programme management, monitoring and delivery of results.**  * Plan and/or collaborate with internal and external partners to establish monitoring benchmarks, performance indicators, and UNICEF/UN system indicators and measurements, to assess and strengthen nutrition performance accountability, coherence, and delivery of concrete and sustainable results for the assigned sector in nutrition programmes. * Participate in the design of improved systems for nutrition situation monitoring and surveillance in Sudan, including the use of innovative approaches to bridge data gaps that may result from access challenges. * Participate in monitoring and evaluation exercises, programme reviews and annual reviews with government and other counterparts to assess progress and to determine required action and interventions to achieve results. * Support national capacity building to ensure the quality of surveys (SMART, coverage and other surveys) and nutrition assessments throughout the planning, training, data collection, data management, analysis and reporting stages. * Prepare and assess monitoring and evaluation reports to identify gaps, strengths and/or weaknesses in programme management. Identify lessons learned and use knowledge gained for development planning and timely intervention to achieve goals. * Contribute to and support the consolidation of sitreps and regular information updates, including IPC related updates as needed * Actively monitor programmes and projects through field visits, surveys and/or exchange of information with partners and stakeholders to assess progress. Identify bottlenecks and potential problems and take timely decisions to resolve issues and/or refer to relevant officials for timely resolution. * Monitor and verify the optimum and appropriate use of sectoral programme resources (financial, administrative, and other assets) confirming compliance with organizational rules, regulations, procedures, donor commitments, and standards of accountability. Ensure timely reporting and liquidation of resources. * Prepare regular and mandated programme/project reports for management, donors and partners to keep them informed of programme progress. |
| 1. **Technical and operational support to nutrition programme implementation**  * Provide technical guidance and operational support to government counterparts, NGO partners, UN system partners and other country office partners/donors on the interpretation, application and understanding of UNICEF policies, strategies, processes, best practices, and approaches on nutrition and related issues to support programme development planning, management, implementation, and delivery of results. * Facilitate review and adaptation of the IYCF- assessment methods, tools and guidelines to ensure they are fit for purpose, in the context of large IDP situation, in collaboration with cluster partners * Adopt and promote the use of national and global standards for information management for interoperability. * Support the Nutrition program with a data quality audit jointly with sector partners. * Draft policy papers, briefs and other strategic programme materials for management use, information and/or consideration. * Participate in emergency preparedness initiatives for programme development, contingency planning and/or to respond to emergencies in country or where designated. |
| 1. **Networking and partnership building**  * Build and sustain effective close working partnerships with nutrition sector government counterparts and national stakeholders through active sharing of information and knowledge. * Prepare communication and information materials for CO programme advocacy to promote awareness, establish partnership/alliances and support fund raising for nutrition programmes (maternal, newborn and child survival and development). * Participate and/or represent UNICEF in inter-agency discussions, ensuring that UNICEF’s position, interests and priorities are fully considered and integrated in the humanitarian response plan, famine prevention plan, country development plan and other multi-agency plans. |
| 1. **Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building**  * Apply and introduce innovative approaches and good practices to build the capacity of partners and stakeholders, and to support the implementation and delivery of concrete and sustainable programme results. * Keep abreast, research, benchmark, and implement best and cutting-edge practices in nutrition management and information systems. Assess, institutionalize, and share best practices and knowledge learned. * Contribute to the development and implementation of policies and procedures to ensure optimum efficiency and efficacy of sustainable multisystem programmes and projects. * Organize and implement capacity building initiatives to enhance the competencies of clients and stakeholders to promote sustainable results on multisystem programmes and projects. |

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| IV. Impact of Results |
| The NIS Specialist supports Sudan in ensuring timely situation analysis built on a solid plan of assessments and data triangulation for better decision making on nutrition by all actors. This contributes to the predictability and accountability of humanitarian action, in line with the aims of the cluster approach and IASC principles, and ensures that the humanitarian response is well-coordinated, strategic, adequate, coherent, effective and builds the resilience of the affected population. This in turn contributes to maintaining and enhancing the credibility and ability of UNICEF to continue to provide programme services to mothers and children that promotes greater social equity in the country. |

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| **V. UNICEF values and competency Required (based on the updated Framework)** |
| **i) Core Values**   * Care * Respect * Integrity * Trust * Accountability * Sustainability   **ii) Core Competencies**   * 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) * Drive to achieve impactful results (2) * Manages ambiguity and complexity (2) |

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| **VI. Recruitment Qualifications** | |
| Education: | An advanced university degree in one of the following fields is required: nutrition, public health, nutritional epidemiology, global/international health and nutrition, health/nutrition research, policy and/or management, health sciences, nutritional epidemiology, or another health-related science field.  Formal training in nutrition information management and key survey methodologies is an advantage |
| Experience: | A minimum of five years of professional experience in a developing country in one or more of the following areas is required: information management, nutrition, public health, nutrition planning and management, or maternal, infant and child health/nutrition care with hands on experience on Nutrition/ public health information system  Experience in health/nutrition programme/project development and management in a UN system agency or organization is an asset |
| Language Requirements: | Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of other languages is considered an asset, particularly the language of the duty station. |

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| **VII. Child Safeguarding** | |
| Is this role a representative, deputy representative, chief of field office, the most senior child protection role in the office, child safeguarding focal point or investigator (OIAI)? | No |
| Is this post a direct contact role in which incumbent will be in contact with children either face-to-face, or by remote communication, but the communication will not be moderated and relayed by another person? | No |
| Is this post a child data role in which the incumbent will be manipulating or transmitting personal-identifiable information on children such as names, national ID, location data or photos? | No |
| The selected candidate for the position will be required to engage with vulnerable children? | No |