**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Internal advertisement - FT Health Specialist, NO3, #90854, Abuja, Nigeria**

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.

If you are a committed, creative professional and are passionate about making a lasting difference for children, the world's leading children's rights organization would like to hear from you.

**For every child, *Life***

Nigeria Country Office is one of the largest operations of UNICEF and the largest in the West and Central African Region. The country programming is complex as it has development programming, with major disparities between the North and the South, North being relatively deprived and poor, while majority of the population is concentrated in the North. The country is further challenged with ethnic and religious divide coupled with governance issues particularly financial management.

While the Country Programme is geared towards achieving the nexus between humanitarian and development programming, due to the enormous multidimensional and complex socio-economic, extremism and political challenges the management and oversight of the delivery of the programmes often permeates into managing two parallel programming to respond to the humanitarian crisis in the North East spreading into North Central and North West and regular programming in the rest of the country.

For more information about UNICEF Nigeria please click [here](https://www.unicef.org/nigeria/what-we-do)

**How can you make a difference?**

The Health Specialist reports to the Health Manager (Level 4) for guidance and general supervision. The Health Specialist supports the development and preparation of the health programme and is responsible for managing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting the programme progress of a sector of the health programme (e.g. gender, maternal, neonatal, child survival/development with a focus on immunization and cold chain systems) within the country programme. The Health Specialist provides technical guidance and management support throughout the programming processes to facilitate the administration and achievement of concrete and sustainable results according to plans, allocation, results based-management approaches and methodology (RBM), organizational Strategic Plans and goals, standards of performance, and accountability framework.

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

Please refer to the attached vacancy announcement for full details of the job.

**To qualify as an advocate for every child you will have…**

* An advanced university degree in one of the following fields is required: public health, medicine, pediatric health, family health, health research, global/international health, health policy and/or management, epidemiology, or another relevant technical field.
* A minimum of five years of relevant professional work experience providing technical support in Immunization, Primary Health Care logistics, supply chain management, cold chain and similar activities.
* Prior experience with NAPHCD and immunization supply chain at national level in Nigeria is an asset.
* Relevant experience in a UN system agency or organization is considered as an added value.
* Prior experience with NAPHCD and immunization supply chain at national level in Nigeria is an asset.
* Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language or local language of the duty station is considered as an asset.

**For every Child, you demonstrate...**

UNICEF's values of Care, Respect, Integrity, Trust, and Accountability (CRITA) and core competencies in Communication, Working with People and Drive for Results.

The functional competencies required for this post are...

* Leading and supervising (I)
* Formulating strategies and concepts (II)
* Analyzing (III)
* Relating and networking (II)
* Deciding and Initiating action (II)
* Applying technical expertise ((III)

View our competency framework at

<http://www.unicef.org/about/employ/files/UNICEF_Competencies.pdf>

UNICEF is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages all candidates, irrespective of gender, nationality, religious and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities, to apply to become a part of the organization.

UNICEF has a zero-tolerance policy on conduct that is incompatible with the aims and objectives of the United Nations and UNICEF, including sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination. UNICEF also adheres to strict child safeguarding principles. All selected candidates will be expected to adhere to these standards and principles and will therefore undergo rigorous reference and background checks. Background checks will include the verification of academic credential(s) and employment history. Selected candidates may be required to provide additional information to conduct a background check.

**Remarks:**

This VA is open to all internal staff and other UNICEF personnel (including consultants, JPOs, UNVs, TAs etc.).

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and advance to the next stage of the selection process.

**Detailed Summary of key functions/accountabilities**

**1. Support to programme development and planning**

Support and contribute to the preparation, design and updating of the situation analysis for the sector(s) to establish a strategic plan for development, design and management of health related programmes. Keep abreast of development trends to enhance programme management, efficiency and delivery with a focus on immunization and cold chain systems.

Participate in strategic programme discussions on the planning of health programmes. Formulate, design and prepare a sector of the health programme proposal, ensuring alignment with UNICEF’s Strategic Plan, the Country Programme, as well as coherence/integration with the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), regional strategies, and national priorities, plans and competencies.

Establish specific programme goals, objectives, strategies, and implementation plans based on results-based planning terminology and methodology (RBM). Prepare required documentations for programme review and approval with a focus on immunization and cold chain systems

Work closely and collaboratively with colleagues and partners to discuss strategies and methodologies, and to determine national priorities and competencies to ensure the achievement of concrete and sustainable results.

Provide technical and operational support throughout all stages of programming processes to ensure integration, coherence and harmonization of programmes/projects with other UNICEF sectors and achievement of results as planned and allocated.

**2. Programme management, monitoring and delivery of results**

Plan and/or collaborate with internal and external partners to establish monitoring benchmarks, performance indicators, and other UNICEF/UN system indicators and measurements to assess and strengthen performance accountability, coherence and delivery of concrete and sustainable results for the assigned sector in health programmes with a focus on immunization and cold chain systems.

Participate in monitoring and evaluation exercises, programme reviews and annual sectoral reviews with the government and other counterparts to assess progress and to determine required action/interventions to achieve results.

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.

Actively monitor programmes/projects through field visits, surveys and/or exchange of information with partners/stakeholders to assess progress, identify bottlenecks, 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 and donor commitments, standards of accountability and integrity, ensuring 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.

**3. Technical and operational support to 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, and best practices and approaches on health-related issues to support programme development planning, management, implementation and delivery of results.

Participate in discussions with national partners, clients and stakeholders to promote health and development issues, especially in the areas of gender, emergency preparedness, maternal and neonatal health, and child survival and development with a focus on immunization and cold chain systems

Draft policy papers, briefs and other strategic programme materials for management use, information and consideration.

Participate in emergency preparedness initiatives for programme development, contingency planning and/or to respond to emergencies in country or where designated.

**4. Networking and partnership building**

Build and sustain effective close working partnerships with health sector government counterparts, national stakeholders, as well as global partners, allies, donors, and academia. Through active networking, advocacy and effective communication, build capacity and exchange knowledge and expertise to facilitate the achievement of programme goals on child rights, social justice and equity.

Prepare communication and information materials for CO programme advocacy to promote awareness, establish partnerships/alliances, and support fund raising for health programmes (maternal, neonatal and child survival and development with a focus on immunization and cold chain systems).

Participate and/or represent UNICEF in appropriate inter-agency (UNCT) discussions and planning on health-related issues to collaborate with inter-agency partners/colleagues on UNDAF planning and preparation of health programmes/projects, ensuring organizational position, interests and priorities are fully considered and integrated in the UNDAF process in development planning and agenda setting.

**5. 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 and conduct research to provide evidence for implementation of best and cutting-edge practices in health.

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 programmes and projects.

Organize and implement capacity building initiatives to enhance the competencies of stakeholders to promote sustainable results on health related programmes/projects.