**UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND**

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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. 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.**Job organizational context**:UNICEF Lebanon has been a major actor in the MHPSS thematic area since 2013, including providing strategic and capacity building support to the National Mental Health Department at MoPH. UNICEF has also been actively working with the government and its partners to reinforce levels 1-4 of the MHPSS pyramid across sectors. Much of this work involved integrating MHPSS into child protection prevention and response work, e.g., through case management, gender- based violence (GBV) specific programming, and community based psychosocial support mechanisms and referrals to specialized services (particularly in the humanitarian context); as well as support to strengthening mental health provisions at primary healthcare centers (PHCs). In addition, UNICEF’s Education programme has been supporting the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) to promote the psychosocial wellbeing of children in schools, whilethe Adolescent and Youth programme has supported out of school adolescents with the Adolescent Kits for Expression and Innovation which is an online PSS and positive engagement |

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| platform. The UNICEF Health and Nutrition programme is strategically supporting capacity building of eMHPSS staff in relation to MHPSS.Following the Executive Director’s 2021 identified priorities, the office main objective is to strengthen and expand current UNICEF cross-sectoral MHPSS interventions and to provide a new innovative and holistic MHPSS approach.In line with the office objectives listed above, the incumbent’s specific role will be to:* Ensure cross-sectoral coordination of MHPSS efforts, including programme management, monitoring and implementation of results;
* Provide technical and operational support to cross-sectoral programme implementation;
* Ensure networking and partnership building with relevant governmental, non- governmental and UN agencies’ stakeholders involved into the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of MHPSS activities;
* Monitor and report on the cross-sectoral programme implementation and use of financial resources;
* Actively participate in multi-agency technical discussions.

**Purpose for the job:**The Child Protection Officer reports **to the Child Protection Specialist** for supervision. The Child Protection Officer provides cross-sectoral professional technical, operational and administrative assistance in the area of Mental Health Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) throughout the programming process for child protection, adolescent development, health and education programmes/projects, within the Country Programme from development planning to delivery of results. H/She prepares, executes, manages, and implements a variety of technical and administrative programme tasks to facilitate MHPSS programme development, implementation, programme progress monitoring, evaluating and reporting. |

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| **III. Key function, accountabilities and related duties/tasks** |
| **Summary of key functions/accountabilities:**1. **Support to MHPSS programme development and planning**
2. **Programme management, monitoring and delivery of results**
3. **Technical and operational support to programme implementation**
4. **Coordination and partnership with relevant stakeholders**
5. **Support the development and implementation of the National MHPSS Sub-strategy for children, caregivers and youth**
6. **Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building**
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| 1. **Support to programme development and planning**
	* Conduct and update the situation analysis for the development, design and management of cross-sectoral MHPSS related programmes/projects. Research and report on development trends (e.g. economic, social, health) and data for use in programme development, management, monitoring, evaluation and delivery of results.
	* Contribute to the development and establishment of cross-sectoral programme goals, objectives, strategies, and results-based planning through research, analysis and reporting of MHPSS efforts and other related information for development planning and priority and goal setting.
	* Provide technical and operational support throughout all stages of programming processes by executing and administering a variety of technical, programme, operational, and administrative transactions, preparing related materials and documentations, and complying with organizational processes and management
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| systems, to support programme planning, results based planning (RBM) and monitoring and evaluating of results.* Prepare required programme documentations, materials and data to facilitate the programme review and approval process.
* Continue the roll out of the Frontliners Wellbeing Package, providing wellbeing support to frontline workers within the Child Protection, Education, and YAD sectors; including roll out of trainings ToT trainings, monitoring of the interventions, as well as lead on the next steps pertaining to the Wellbeing support package.
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| 1. **Programme management, monitoring and delivery of results**
	* Work closely and collaboratively with colleagues and partners to discuss implementation issues, provide solutions, recommendations and/or to alert appropriate officials and stakeholders for higher-level interventions and/or decisions. Keep records of reports and assessments for easy reference and/or to capture and institutionalize lessons learned.
	* Participate in monitoring and evaluation exercises, programme reviews and annual sectoral reviews with government and other counterparts to assess programmes/projects, and to report on required action/interventions at the higher level of programme management.
* Monitor and report on the use of cross-sectoral programme resources (financial, administrative and other assets), verifying compliance with approved allocations, organizational rules, regulations, procedures and donor commitments, standards of accountability and integrity. Report on critical issues and findings to ensure timely resolution by management and stakeholders. Follow up on unresolved issues to ensure resolution.
* Prepare regular and mandated sectoral programme/project reports for management, donors and partners to keep them informed of programme progress.

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| 1. **Technical and operational support to programme implementation**
	* Conduct regular programme field visits and surveys and exchange information with partners/stakeholders to assess progress and provide technical support. Take appropriate action to resolve issues and/or refer to relevant officials for resolution. Report on critical issues, bottlenecks and potential problems for timely action to achieve results.
	* Provide technical and operational support to government counterparts, NGO partners, UN system partners and other country office partners/donors on the application and understanding of UNICEF policies, strategies, processes and best practices in child protection, to support programme implementation.
	* Provide technical support on the Lego Play and Heal Project, and ensure the mental health component of the project is appropriately designed, developed, implemented, and monitored.
	* Provide technical support to UNICEF partners on the roll out of the Lego Play and Health Project, to ensure the MHPSS component is up to UNICEF and global standards.
	* Provide technical support to UNICEF LCO on all programmatic activities including MHPSS components, including but not limited to Makani centers and CP Safe Spaces, to ensure appropriate mainstreaming of mental health and psychosocial support services.
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| 1. **Coordination and partnership**
* Foster strong collaborative relationships with government counterparts and national stakeholders to facilitate effective program implementation and enhance stakeholders' capacity in child protection.
* Actively engage in MHPSS government-led and inter-agency meetings/events to collaborate with partners on operational planning and cross-sectoral MHPSS projects, ensuring alignment of UNICEF's strategies with UNSDCF processes.
* Co-lead the National MHPSS Task Force, collaborating with inter-agency partners/colleagues to integrate children, youth, and caregivers into national MHPSS initiatives.
* Plan and lead on a monthly MHPSS Task Force UNICEF internal meeting in order to ensure alignment between sections, and identify areas of collaboration and engagement.
* Ensure close coordination with UNICEF Regional Office and support in fundraising efforts for MHPSS related programs and projects.
* Represent the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Program for UNICEF LCO in national, regional, and global webinars, conferences, and meetings as needed; while highlighting the multi-sectoral approach to MHPSS Programming in Lebanon.
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| * Provide technical guidance to the National Mental Health Program's MHPSS initiatives related to children, youth, and caregiver well-being, including reviewing workplans and ensuring inclusive approaches.
* Conduct research on potential donors, prepare resource mobilization materials, and craft briefs to support fundraising and partnership development efforts.
* Drive MHPSS fundraising by building partnerships, increasing awareness, and supporting cross-sectoral and multi-agency programs.
* Showcase Lebanon's MHPSS efforts at national, regional, and global levels through participation in knowledge-sharing events, webinars, and forums.
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| 1. **Support the development and implementation of the National MHPSS Sub-strategy for children, caregivers and youth**
	* Lead the development and launch of the National MHPSS Sub-strategy for children, adolescents, and youth, conducting multi-sectoral assessments to inform future MHPSS programming.
	* Support the development and launch of the MHPSS sub-strategy action plan that will support the implementation of the national MHPSS sub-strategy for the coming years.
	* Ensure that UNICEF MHPSS program are aligned to the National MHPSS sub-strategy by providing technical and operational support to other sections within UNICEF.
	* Follow up on the strategy implementation, coordination with stakeholders to ensure cohesion and alignment.
	* Complete a mid-line assessment on the strategy implementation.
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| **6. Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building*** + Identify, capture, synthesize, and share lessons learned for knowledge development and to build the capacity of stakeholders.
	+ Apply innovative approaches and promote good practices to support the implementation and delivery of concrete and sustainable programme results.
* Research and report on best and cutting-edge practices for development planning of knowledge products and systems.
* Participate as a resource person in capacity building initiatives to enhance the competencies of clients and stakeholders.
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| **IV. Impact of Results** |
| The efficiency and efficacy of support provided by the Child Protection Officer to programme preparation, planning and implementation, contributes to the achievement of sustainable results to create a protective environment for children against harm and all forms of violence, and ensures their survival, development and well-being in society. Success in child protection programmes and projects in turn contributes to maintaining and enhancing the credibility and ability of UNICEF to provide programme services for mothers and children that promotes greater social equality in the country. |