

Innovation Manager

## Job Classification

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## **Classified Job Descriptions**

Job Description Type: Specific Job

Category: IP

Reason for Classification: Establishment of a new post

DPG

1L08

INN

Level:

P-4 Title

Title Information in

Parenthesis:

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CCOG Code:

UNICEFCode

Classified by:

Region: HQ

Country: Sweden

Duty Station: Stockholm

Office: Office of Innovation

Section: Ventures

Unit

Case Number:

Post Number:

Classified Date: 6/11/2024

Organizational Context:

UNICEF has a history of innovating for children. We believe that new approaches, partnerships, and technologies are critical for achieve improved outcomes for children. The Office of Innovation is a creative, interactive and agile team in UNICEF that sits at the unique intersection of working on material global issues, startup thinking, technology and partnerships that can scale solutions. We look to form partnerships around frontier technologies that exist at the intersection of \$100 billion markets and 1 billion person needs.

The Office of Innovation co-founded and co-leads the Digital Public Goods Alliance, established in follow-up to the High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation and the Secretary General's Roadmap. In its report, the Panel recommends as 1B "that a broad, multi-stakeholder alliance, involving the UN, create a platform for sharing digital public goods, engaging talent and pooling data sets, in a manner that respects privacy, in areas related to attaining the SDGs". Norway, Sierra Leone, UNICEF and iSPIRT, the four initial champions are working to implement this recommendation.

The Office of Innovation's Venture Fund is a pooled funding vehicle specially designed to finance early stage, open-source technology that can benefit children. The core motivation of the Venture Fund is to identify clusters or portfolios of initiatives around emerging technology so that UNICEF can both shape markets and also learn about and guide these technologies to benefit children. We invest in solutions that can impact the lives of the most vulnerable children.

Purpose of the Job:

The Innovation Manager supports implementation of UNICEF Ventures' engagement in digital public goods, including through global platforms such as the Digital Public Goods Alliance.

UNICEF played an instrumental role in developing the concept of digital public goods and in securing support for it in global policies and discussions around digital cooperation. This has been complemented by an extensive programme of work bringing together support for the development of digital public goods that can accelerate results for children, ecosystem development and capacity building at the national level and engagement of private and public stakeholders to shape technology practices and policy development. The Ventures Team's overall approach embeds the concept of digital public goods, their role in achieving equity,

transparency and local ownership across **all** work areas and has aligned team vision and targets accordingly. The Government of Norway has been UNICEF Ventures' main partner in taking forward this work, complemented by the supporters of the Venture Fund.

In this context, this role will coordinate UNICEF's external engagement on digital public goods, leading our engagement with private investors and technology companies to increase their commitment to equity, transparency and local ownership of technology and innovation. This role will work across the Ventures team with other Innovation Managers to continue the integration of these principles and related practices across work areas, and also act as project manager, driving and tracking progress against the organisational workplan for the DPG Alliance. This includes supporting UNICEF's Board members in their engagement, acting as the main focal point with the DPGA Secretariat and support donor engagement and communications efforts. Main workplan areas currently include DPGs for youth, DPGs for DPI for children and web3 for DPGs.

Overall, this position is responsible for:

Public Goods

- 1. Lead overall strategy development and implementation of UNICEF's workplan on Digital Public Goods
- 2. Design and implement strategy to increase commitment and engagement from private investors and technology companies to equity, transparency and local ownership in technology innovation, including through DPGs
- 3. Lead Ventures' advocacy efforts on DPGs and related principles, working in collaboration with relevant 001and DPGA Secretariat teams
- 4. Provide oversight and management support to various workstreams implemented by the team, including development of innovative open source prototypes, technical standard setting and implementation of support, and country engagement strategy
- 5. Develop and implement strategy for country level engagement and capacity building in consultation and based on Country Office needs
- 6. Support UNICEF's Board members in their engagement with the DPGA Board.
- 1. Lead overall strategy development and implementation of UNICEF's workplan on Digital

Review results, trends and organisational needs and set UNICEF Ventures' strategy and workplan on DPGs.

Develop and implement to track and monitor, project management tools that articulate goals, activities and progress against agreed KPIs.

Coordinate the work of relevant team members, including staff and consultants and service providers as needed.

Coordinate and streamline work on DPGs with other Divisions, COs and other relevant teams within UNICEF.

Provide operational support to ensure timely contracting of resources and smooth operations for the team's work.

Facilitate planning and review sessions with relevant team members.

Facilitate regular stand-ups and similar team check-ins, identifying bottlenecks and working with team members to resolve them.

Conduct regular reporting to the DPGA roadmap, relevant donor and other internal reports.

Act as main focal point for partners.

2. Design and implement strategy to increase commitment and engagement from private investors and technology companies to equity, transparency and local ownership in technology innovation, including through DPGs

Key functions, accountabilities and related duties/tasks:

Build out value propositions for these stakeholder groups showing how they can benefit from engagement on DPGs, such as investment cases.

Develop resources and compile research to support these engagement points.

Create engagement of private investors with the aim of directing more investment to emerging markets and into solutions that promote local ownership.

Identify key corporate sector players for engagement in DPGs and develop a plan for their involvement in UNICEF's DPG work, and potentially the DPG Alliance.

Package partnership opportunities to raise additional technical and financial resources to grow the portfolio of work and diversify sources of support.

3. Lead Ventures' advocacy efforts on DPGs and related principles, working in collaboration with relevant 001 and DPGA Secretariat teams

Identify opportunities to promote key advocacy messages - including fora, conferences, high level events.

Establish and maintain a network of key allies and supporters for purposes of advocacy, technical collaboration and exchange, evidence building, partnerships.

Support UNICEF's engagement by conducting research, building an evidence base and relevant assets, and developing key messages.

Coordinating engagement with other DPGA members and the Secretariat.

Support engagement (including advising the Director of Innovation and other internal stakeholders) in key UN related processes, such as the Global Digital Compact.

Design campaigns that can be promoted through communications channels.

4. Provide oversight and management support to various workstreams implemented by the team, including development of innovative open source prototypes, technical standard setting and implementation of support, and country engagement strategy.

Working closely with the Programme Managers, Emerging Technology and Venture Fund, oversee development of concepts and roadmaps.

Support the identification of relevant technical partners and vendors.

Oversee integration of these prototypes into the DPG platform, promote their use and adoption across the DPG ecosystem and apply them to other ongoing work within the Ventures team, as relevant.

Ensure ongoing management to open toolkits and products including promoting use and engagement.

5. Develop and implement strategy for country level engagement and capacity building in consultation and based on Country Office needs

Develop and implement to track and monitor, project management tools that articulate goals, activities and progress against agreed KPIs.

Coordinate the work of relevant team members, including staff and consultants and service providers as needed.

Provide operational support to ensure timely contracting of resources and smooth operations

for the team's work.

6. Support UNICEF's Board members in their engagement with the DPGA Board

Track key agenda topics for discussion and decision, compiling main feedback and talking points.

Identify agenda items for submission to the Secretariat.

Follow-up on any actions identified for Board members.

Prepare documents as needed to support external engagement and internal updates on UNICEF's engagement in the DPGA as needed.

Impact of Results:

The key results of this position contribute to the achievement of the expected outcome for the Office of Innovation of "accelerating results for children through innovation and influencing the external context to create an enabling environment for others to innovate for children".

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)7:

Nο

Is this post a Direct contact role in which incumbent will be in contact with children either faceto-face, or by remote communication, but the communication will not be moderated and relayed by another person7:

No

Is this post a Child Data role in which incumbent will be manipulating or transmitting personal-identifiable information on children such as names, national ID, location data, or photos)7

No

The selected candidate for this position will be required to engage with vulnerable children:

No

Competencies and level of proficiency required:

Core Values:

Care
Respect
Integrity
Trust
Accountability
Sustainability

Core competencies:

Nurtures, Leads and Manages People (2)

Demonstrates self-awareness and ethical awareness (2)

Works collaboratively with others (2) Builds and maintains partnership (2)

Innovates and embraces change (2)

Thinks and acts strategically (2)

Drive to achieve results for impact (2) Manages ambiguity and complexity (2)

Recruitment Qualifications:

Education requirements: An advanced university degree (Master's or higher) in engineering, technology, computer science, or other relevant field.

Experience required: A minimum of eight (8) years of relevant professional experience in open source project management, development or strategy development. First level university degree (Bachelor's degree or equivalent) with 10 years of relevant work experience can be accepted in lieu of an advanced university degree.

Demonstrated expertise in some of the required technical areas, including: software quality assurance, Open Source license strategies or community management, developing and piloting Open Source technology products; relevant advocacy strategy and engagement.

Experience in delivering guidance, technical support and mentorship to individuals, teams, start-ups or other groups on complex challenges.

Experience engaging, ideally through advocacy, with stakeholders from different backgrounds and coordinating multi stakeholder activities.

Knowledge of the open-source software and open data eco-systems.

Demonstrated strategy development and project management skills, including coordination of resources and consultants.

Piloting and scaling of technology solutions in UNICEF programme countries desired; developing country work experience and/or familiarity with emergency is considered an asset.

Familiarity with international development.

Language requirements: Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish) is an asset.

Attachments:

Print



