

**Branded Vacancy Announcement Template**

**Title:**

WASH Officer, NO-A, Damascus, Syria, MENA Region, #126893

**Advertising Summary:**

UNICEF Syria is looking for an experienced professional to contribute to the very challenging and demanding WASH programme, addressing challenges of a protracted emergency/crisis, yet with an outlook to early recovery and development.

**Advertising text:**

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.

UNICEF promotes the rights and welfare of all children and adolescents in everything we do. Together with our allies, we work to transform this commitment into practical actions that benefit all children, especially focusing our efforts on reaching the most vulnerable and excluded, worldwide.

**For every child, peace**

UNICEF Syria was established in 1970 and has been working with partners to help empower children to fully claim and enjoy their rights under the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

UNICEF works with partners across Syria to deliver supplies, services and expertise in areas of Child Protection, Education, Health, Nutrition, Water, Hygiene and Sanitation for every child. UNICEF also provides humanitarian assistance when needed.

Syria continues to face one of the most complex emergencies in the world. Unprecedented humanitarian needs are compounded by displacement inside the country and across its borders, extensive destruction of civilian and social services infrastructure, devastating impacts on the economy, and most importantly, the breakdown of the social fabric that stitched the country together for decades.

Today, 90% of people in Syria live in poverty, most are unable to make ends meet or bring food to the table. Families have had their resources depleted, with limited employment opportunities, skyrocketing prices, and shortage of basic supplies. For most people, the current socio-economic challenges represent some of the harshest and most challenging circumstances they have faced since the beginning of the crisis 11 years ago.

In 2023, 15.1 million people need humanitarian assistance. This is the highest number of people in need ever recorded in Syria since 2011. The number of children in need - more than 6.5 million – has increased by seven per cent in the past year alone. This is largely due the ongoing conflict, continued displacements, the unprecedented economic crisis, deepening poverty, and unemployment. The COVID-19 pandemic, the hike in price of commodities triggered by the overall global economic situation and the impact of sanctions are further compounding the dire situation.

For information of the work of our organization, please visit our website: [UNICEF Syria](https://www.unicef.org/syria/)

**How can you make a difference?**

Syria, grappling with its current crisis, has witnessed significant disruptions in its water distribution systems. A growing concern is for communities not served by public water networks, who are inherently at a higher risk of consuming unsafe water. Addressing these challenges, UNICEF has stepped in as a pivotal actor, facilitating the provision of Sterilization Materials (Sodium Hypochlorite) to disinfect water across all water systems in the nation.

However, this endeavor is not without its challenges. Since 2014, approximately 9,000 metric tons of liquid Sodium Hypochlorite, costing around USD 2 million, are being provided annually. This import not only entails financial implications but also logistical and operational challenges, especially in a crisis-stricken region. Additionally, it's worth noting that the demand for Sterilization Materials (Sodium Hypochlorite) has been on the rise year after year. As more areas within the country become accessible and water distribution expands, the needs proportionally increase. The gravity of this is underscored by the fact that Sodium Hypochlorite's efficient distribution and use directly impact around 14 million people, ensuring their access to clean water.

In light of the above, WASH Officer seeks to address the complexities surrounding the procurement, distribution, and effective use of water disinfections (Sodium Hypochlorite). This position will serve as a strategic intervention to optimize the Sodium Hypochlorite supply chain, ensuring the continued access of the Syrian people to safe and clean water during these trying times. It is worth mentioning that the water sector is heavily dependent on the consistent delivery of chlorine by UNICEF and any deficiency in this critical operation increase possibilities of water borne diseases including cholera and might constitute a reputational risk on UNICEF Syria.

**Purpose of the Job**

The WASH Officer position provides professional technical, operational, and administrative assistance throughout the WASH programming process, through the application of theoretical and practical technical skills in researching, collecting, analyzing, and presenting programme information while learning organizational rules, regulations and procedures to support the development, implementation and monitoring of the WASH output results of the Country Programme, prioritizing water quality issues.

Under the supervision of the WASH Specialist, the WASH Officer will have a key role handling the important component of water quality issues including the providing of chlorine to all governorates and ultimately to water facilities in time and according to the plan. This includes the storage and testing of chlorine to ensure attaining desired efficacy.

**Key Functions, accountabilities, and related duties/ tasks:**

**1. Programme development and planning**

• Research and analyze regional/national political, WASH, health, and social and economic development trends. Collect, analyze, verify and synthesize information to facilitate programme development, design and preparation.

• Prepare technical reports and inputs for programme preparation and documentation, ensuring accuracy, timeliness and relevance of information.

• Assist in the development/establishment of WASH-related outcome and output results, as well as related strategies, through analysis of WASH sector needs and priorities.

• Provide technical and administrative support throughout all stages of programming processes by executing/administering a variety of technical programme transactions, preparing materials/documentations, complying with organizational processes and management systems, to support progress towards the WASH-related outcome and/or output results in the Country Programme.

• Prepare required documentations/materials to facilitate review and approval processes.

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

• Work collaboratively with colleagues and partners to collect/analyze/ share information on implementation issues, suggest solutions on routine programme implementation and alert appropriate officials and stakeholders for higher-level interventions and/or decision. Keep record 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 and prepare minutes/reports on results for follow up action by higher management and other stakeholders.

• Monitor and report on the use of sectoral programme resources (financial, administrative and other assets), verify compliance with approved allocations, organizational rules, regulations/procedures and donor commitments, standards of accountability and integrity. Report on issues identified to enable timely resolution by management/stakeholders. Follow up on unresolved issues to ensure resolution.

• Prepare inputs for programme and donor reporting.

**3. Technical and operational support for programme implementation**

• Undertake field visits and surveys, collect and share reports with partners/stakeholders. Report critical issues, bottlenecks and potential problems to supervisor, for timely action.

• 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 WASH, to support programme implementation.

**4. Humanitarian WASH preparedness and response**

• Draft inputs for the preparation of WASH emergency preparedness, including the drafting of required supplies and services, long-term agreements, partnership agreements, and coordination mechanisms.

• Study and fully understand UNICEF’s procedures for responding in an emergency.

• Take up support roles in an emergency response and early recovery, as and when the need arises.

**5. Networking and partnership building**

• Build and sustain close working partnerships with government counterparts and national stakeholders through active sharing of information and knowledge to facilitate programme implementation and build capacity of stakeholders to achieve WASH output results.

• Draft communication and information materials for WASH programme advocacy to promote awareness, establish partnership/alliances and support fund raising for WASH.

• Participate in inter-agency meetings/events on WASH programming to collaborate with inter-agency partners/colleagues on UNDAF operational planning and preparation of WASH programmes/projects and to integrate and harmonize UNICEF output results and implementation strategies with UNDAF development and planning processes.

• Research information on potential donors and prepare resource mobilization materials and briefs for fund raising and partnership development purposes.

**6. Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building**

• Assist in the development, implementation, monitoring and documentation of WASH action research and innovation (technical or systems).

• Assist in the preparation of learning/knowledge products, covering innovative approaches and good practices, to support overall WASH sector development.

• Assist in creating and delivering learning opportunities for UNICEF WASH staff, to ensure our sector capacity remains up to date with latest developments.

• Participate as a resource person in capacity building initiatives to enhance the competencies of clients/stakeholders.

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

**Education:**

• University degree in one of the areas that are relevant to the work of the organization, preferred areas including but not limited to engineering, public health, environmental science, management, social sciences, behavior change communication, water and sanitation, sanitary engineering or any other area that is considered relevant to the responsibilities described in the vacancy announcement.

• Advance university degrees in areas relevant to this position will be an asset.

**Experience:**

• A minimum of one year of professional experience in WASH-related programmes for developing countries is required.

• Candidates with experience in water quality management will have an advantage.

• Experience in conducting logistics’ systems analyses, quality monitoring, and capacity building in the WASH sector is an advantage.

• Experience working with government bodies, international organizations, local communities, UN, UNICEF, or relevant NGOs in Syria is an asset.

**Language Requirements:**

• Fluency in English and Arabic is required.

**Required Technical Knowledge**

• Basic knowledge of at least three components of the ones mentioned below.

1. Urban water supply including water safety, sustainability

2. Urban sanitation including sustainability.

3. Hygiene promotion

4. National government WASH policies, plans and strategies

5. Analysis of national budgets and expenditure for basic WASH, and related advocacy

• Basic knowledge of at least two of the below four components.

1. Programme/project management

2. Capacity development

3. Knowledge management

4. Monitoring and evaluation

• Basic knowledge of both below components.

1. Human rights and WASH

2. Gender equality and WASH

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

UNICEF’s Core Values of Care, Respect, Integrity, Trust and Accountability and Sustainability (CRITAS) underpin everything we do and how we do it. Get acquainted with Our Values Charter: [UNICEF Values](https://www.unicef.org/careers/get-prepared#Values)

 **UNICEF competencies required for this post are…**

