



UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME  
P.O. Box 30030, Nairobi 00100, Kenya  
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**FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE**

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICER (JPO)**

**Position:** Junior Professional Officer (JPO)6 Post-Earthquake Recovery of Human Settlements

**Section:** Regional Office for Arab States- Morocco Office

**Location:** Rabat, Morocco

### **Background and justification**

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is the United Nations agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all.

In October 2016, at the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development – Habitat III – member states signed the New Urban Agenda. This is an action-oriented document which sets global standards of achievement in sustainable urban development, rethinking the way we build, manage, and live in cities. Through drawing together cooperation with committed partners, relevant stakeholders, and urban actors, including at all levels of government as well as the private sector, UN-Habitat is applying its technical expertise, normative work and capacity development to implement the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goal 11 – to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Mandated by the UN General Assembly in 1978 to address the issues of urban growth, it is a knowledgeable institution on urban development processes, and understands the aspirations of cities and their residents. For forty years, UN-Habitat has been working in human settlements throughout the world, focusing on building a brighter future for villages, towns, and cities of all sizes. This has placed UN-Habitat in the best position to provide answers and achievable solutions to the current challenges faced by our cities. UN-Habitat is capitalizing on its experience and position to work with partners to formulate the urban vision of tomorrow. It works to ensure that cities become inclusive and affordable drivers of



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economic growth and social development.

Since 1995, UN-Habitat has been active in Morocco in partnership with the Ministry of National Territorial Planning, Urban Development, Housing and Urban Policy to support the government's efforts to achieve sustainable urban development. A headquarters agreement was signed with the government of the Kingdom of Morocco and a country program for housing (HCPD) was drafted in 2019 for the period 2020-2023. This document brings together operational projects in UN-Habitat's areas of intervention, at national, regional, and local levels, aimed at achieving sustainable urban development in the country and provides technical support to the partners involved. The recent opening of the UN-HABITAT representative office in Morocco will contribute to the governance and optimal implementation of the country program and consolidate cooperation mechanisms with the Moroccan government.

### National context

In the aftermath of the earthquake that devastated the central regions of Morocco, leaving almost 3,000 people dead and 5,530 injured (at the time of writing this ToRs), reconstruction remains a major challenge for the Kingdom. The Moroccan government has announced the deployment of an emergency program to rehabilitate and support efforts to rebuild homes destroyed in the disaster zones.

The reconstruction of disaster areas is an opportunity to rethink the region's urban planning and break with old practices, because reconstruction does not mean rebuilding houses as they were before the earthquake. There is a need to radically reconsider the way we build houses in rural areas, which have been built with traditional materials that are not very resistant, and take into account several legal, administrative and technical dimensions.

In this context, UN-Habitat plans to contribute its know-how and technical expertise to support the Moroccan government in this large-scale program.

### Duties, responsibilities

Within the Moroccan office portfolio, the junior programme officer will be responsible for the following duties:

- Assists the country and regional offices in the design and preparation of programme/project on recovery and post disaster recovery, disaster deduction, emergency relief and related issues and in various follow-up activities.
- Assists in updating Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD) of Morocco to align to the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) including new project/ programmes that are being developed in the field of disaster recovery.
- Researches, analyzes, and presents information from diverse sources on related programme, projects or specific topics.



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- Contributes to the preparation of various written documents (research report, background papers, project proposals, policy guidelines, etc. )
- Develops and maintains relevant information collected, and responds to various internal and external requests.
- Supports partnership and fund raising in addition to communication regarding the work of UN-Habitat in Morocco.
- Assists in the organization of meetings, seminars, conferences, workshops, etc. with other agencies and partners to facilitate exchanges of professional expertise.
- Maintains awareness of current post disaster recovery and resilience affairs and related issues, to include relevant political, policy, gender considerations or other developments in specific area
- Participates in technical assistance, disaster assessment or other missions as requested.
- Participates in project/programme formulation and mobilization of relevant resources.
- Deliver other duties as required by supervisor.

### Travel

For this JPO post, travel will be required to project sites

### TRAINING AND LEARNING ELEMENTS

The JPO will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of training courses provided by the Human Resources Management Service (HRMS) of the United Nations Office of Nairobi (UNON). The courses include language courses in all United Nations languages, computer training, management courses, etc.. It is expected that the JPO attends at least one international conference/workshop/seminar per year on a relevant topic and s/he will be exposed to international and local best practices in his field of work, thus expanding her/his understanding of development issues related to urban policies and urban planning.

### QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCIES REQUIRED

Advanced University degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in urban planning, territorial development, public policy or a related field. A first level university degree with a relevant combination of academic qualifications and experience may be accepted in lieu of the advance university degree.

### Competencies

- **Professionalism:** Strong conceptual and planning skills required. Shows pride in work and in achievements; demonstrates professional competence and mastery in policy issues related to the New Urban Agenda and the urban dimensions of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development including; urban planning and design, urban basic services, urban crisis response, climate change and cities, risk reduction and rehabilitation, research and capacity development and other; is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results; is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns; shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges; remains calm in stressful situations.
- **Communication:** Speaks and writes clearly and effectively; listens to others, correctly interprets



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messages from others and responds appropriately; ask questions to clarify and exhibits interest in having two-way communication; tailors language, tone, style and format to match audience; Demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.

- **Teamwork:** Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals; supports and acts in accordance with final group decision, even when such decisions may not entirely reflect own position.
- **Planning and Organizing:** Develops clear goals that are consistent with agreed strategies; identifies priority activities and assignments; adjusts priorities as required; allocates appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work; foresees risks and allows for contingencies when planning; monitors and adjusts plans and actions as necessary; uses time efficiently.
- **Client Orientation:** Considers all those to whom services are provided to be “clients” and seeks to see things from clients’ point of view; establishes and maintains productive partnerships with clients by gaining their trust and respect; identifies clients’ needs and matches them to appropriate solutions; monitors ongoing developments inside and outside the clients’ environment to keep informed and anticipate problems; keeps clients informed of progress or setbacks in projects; meets timeline for delivery of products or services to client.

### Supervision

- *The JPO will be under the overall supervision of the Regional Representative, ROAS.*