



WFP celebrates and embraces diversity. It is committed to the principle of equal employment opportunity for all its employees and encourages qualified candidates to apply irrespective of race, colour, national origin, ethnic or social background, genetic information, gender, gender identity and/or expression, sexual orientation, religion or belief, HIV status or disability.

Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme

Supply Chain Planning & Optimization Officer Supply Chain Planning & Optimization Branch Rome, Italy

TERMS OF REFERENCE

ABOUT WFP

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is a highly prestigious, reputable and the world's largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters, and the impact of climate change.

We are currently seeking a Junior Professional Officer to fill the position of Supply Chain Planning Officer with our Supply Chain Planning & Optimization Branch based in Rome, Italy.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

With a strong focus on end-to-end planning, visibility, and optimization, the Supply Chain Planning & Optimization Branch works intensively with colleagues in the field and the WFP headquarters (HQ) in Rome to provide a holistic view of each operation to all functional areas, ensuring there is alignment both horizontally and vertically across key actors and decision makers. Building on this shared view, analytical tools are deployed to anticipate issues down the line and support the creation of supply chain plans and what-if scenarios. Through this pro-active approach, WFP decision makers can make more integrated, evidence-based decisions that improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of their operations. Based on the demonstrated impact of this approach to managing WFP operations, a Supply Chain Planning function is now being institutionalized across the organization, with new positions being created in HQ and in our field offices. These Planners are part of a global planning network, equipped with a suite of analytical tools and processes that were created to support WFP operations, and will be responsible for improving operations at global, regional, and country level.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Title of Post:** Supply Chain Planning & Optimization Officer
- **Grade:** P2
- **Supervisor:** Head of Optimization (P3)
- **Unit:** Supply Chain Planning & Optimization Branch
- **Division/Country Office:** Supply Chain Division
- **Duty Station:** Rome, Italy
- **Duration of assignment:** Two years

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the direct supervision of the head of optimization, the JPO will have the following responsibilities:

- Support the overall development and application of optimization-based tools and methodologies, both for internal WFP usage and for external parties (e.g. governments and WFP partners).
- Undertake optimization activities for complex emergencies (such as those in Syria and Yemen), working closely with colleagues from Supply Chain, Programme, Resource Management, and Nutrition in both the field and WFP's headquarters in Rome.
- Building on WFP's suite of analytical solutions, develop a prototype solution that can optimize the network design of WFP operations.
- Promote best practices in supply chain planning and analytics.
- Recommend and support the implementation of improvements to WFP's planning processes and systems.
- Perform "what-if" scenario analyses to support the resolution of ad-hoc issues and emergencies affecting WFP's global supply chain.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Improved cost-effectiveness for top priority WFP operations.
- Improved efficiency of WFP's supply chain networks in-country.
- Identification of cost-saving opportunities in WFP's global supply chain.

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

- University or advanced university degree in Operations Research, Data Science, Engineering, Business Analytics, or other related fields
- Minimum of 2 years of relevant working experience in supply chain optimization is required (e.g. network/flow optimization, vehicle routing/scheduling, fleet management, etc.).
- Fluency in English.
- Behavioural competencies: leads by example with integrity, drives results and delivers on commitments, fosters inclusive and collaborative teamwork, applies strategic thinking, builds and maintains sustainable partnerships.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

To perform the wide range of tasks and excel in this position, the ideal candidate would also possess one or more of the following experiences or skillsets:

- Exposure to the international arena either by direct work for an international institution/organization or by interacting with international stakeholders.
- Relevant working experience in SC-related industry (e.g. supporting S&OP-type processes, material planning, distribution planning, procurement, shipping, etc.).
- Relevant working experience with the development of data pipelines (e.g. ETL, APIs, etc.).
- Relevant working experience with consultancy-type activities (e.g. business analysis, process mapping, data transformation and analysis, presenting conclusions to senior management, etc.).
- Relevant working experience with software-development (e.g. proficiency in programming languages, agile methodologies, testing and deploying code, system design).
- Intermediate level of one, or more, of the following official languages: French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Portuguese.
- WFP's international professionals are required to serve in different locations around the world during their career (including in hardship duty stations); willingness to be mobile would maximise opportunities for long-term retention into the Organization.

SUPERVISION

Supervision will be provided by the head of optimization.

This supervision includes weekly check-ins to follow up on the JPO's progress, as well as with the wider optimization team to follow up on the progress of specific projects and deliverables.

TRAINING COMPONENTS

WFP requires that new appointees go through a set of training modules at the beginning of their service, helping the JPO to get a first understanding of our humanitarian work and their duties as an international civil servant.

The Supply Chain Division complements this with a training program that introduces new staff to the different elements that make up WFP's complex supply chain, from procurement and quality control to shipping and warehousing.

The JPO will go through the Planning branch's onboarding programme, which involves training sessions with other planning officers in HQ and the field. The training will include introductions to the humanitarian sector and WFP's supply chain operations and is complemented with hands-on training on a suite of analytical solutions that support supply chain planning analyses.

LEARNING ELEMENTS

At the end of the two-year assignment, the JPO should have obtained:

- Very good knowledge of the optimization of supply chains for humanitarian operations.
- Good skills in the utilization and development of analytics to support supply chain planning analyses, in engaging with supply chain stakeholders on end-to-end supply chain plans, and in presenting analytical insights to supply chain management.
- Good general understanding of WFP's overall operations and activities in the region of assignment.