



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

### REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ARAB STATES TERMS OF REFERENCE WATER AND ENVIRONMENT JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICER (JPO)

**Position:** Water and Environment Junior Professional Officer (JPO)

**Section:** UN-Habitat Jordan Office

**Location:** Amman, Jordan

#### Background and justification

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of 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 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 (SDG) 11 – to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Within Jordan context, UN-Habitat has been supporting the government of Jordan in addressing key urban challenges and improving access to basic services. This includes but not limited to water scarcity, climate change, flash floods, access to safe inclusive and green public spaces for enhancing social cohesion and strengthening livelihoods opportunities. UN-Habitat started the implementation of the regional project “Increasing the resilience of both displaced persons (DPs) and host communities to climate change-related water challenges in Jordan and Lebanon” funded by the Adaptation Fund. The project aims to support the development of a comprehensive response framework to climate change combined with the Syrian crisis especially in an urban context. The project will focus on supporting a sustainable water management approach, by reducing water use of unsustainable sources by means of reducing water losses and



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increasing water use efficiency and by increasing water supply of sustainable sources via supporting water harvesting and promoting the use of non-conventional sustainable water resources.

UN-Habitat will be implementing the following components:

- 1.Component 1: increasing the resilience of municipal governments through managing urban risks and vulnerabilities in the context of climate change, esp. water scarcity challenges, and urban (population) growth, incl. from Displaced Persons (DPs) migration.
- 2.Component 2: Increasing the resilience of citizens (DPs and host communities): Improve awareness, ownership and capacities to respond to climate change, incl. to operate, maintain and replicate resilient water harvesting, supply and irrigation systems
- 3.Component 3: Demonstrating what concrete adaptation measures respond to the needs of both DPs and host communities through increasing the adaptive capacity of the water sector via expanding unconventional water harvesting, supply and irrigation options, using innovative and replicable techniques suitable for the context; this Component includes executing the following Outputs (measures and techniques) in Jordan in both Irbid and Mafraq Municipalities:
- 4.Component 4: Improving knowledge and policies and regulations to increase urban resilience in the region.

The implementation of UN-Habitat's regional project, "Increasing the resilience of both displaced persons (DPs) and host communities to climate change-related water challenges in Jordan and Lebanon," funded by the Adaptation Fund, reflects a critical response to the multifaceted challenges posed by the Syrian crisis and climate change in urban contexts. Within the framework of this project, there arises a compelling need for the inclusion of a Water and Environment Junior Officer.

This need is driven by the complexity of environmental and climate challenges faced in Jordan and Lebanon, exacerbated by the Syrian crisis. These challenges include water scarcity, increasing temperatures, and erratic rainfall patterns, which require specialized expertise to address effectively, particularly in urban areas where vulnerabilities are heightened. The project's central goal of promoting sustainable water management further underscores the need for a specialist who can navigate issues such as reducing water losses, enhancing water use efficiency, and supporting the utilization of non-conventional sustainable water resources. Moreover, the project aims to adapt to the changing climate by developing a comprehensive response framework, where the Water and Environment Junior Officer plays a pivotal role in aligning project activities with climate adaptation strategies. Environmental sustainability is a fundamental aspect of the project, and the officer is responsible for integrating environmental



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considerations into decision-making processes, monitoring impacts, and ensuring adherence to environmental standards. Coordination, collaboration, data collection, and analysis are also areas where the officer's expertise is indispensable. Lastly, capacity building within local communities and relevant authorities in sustainable water and environmental management practices is essential, and the Water and Environment Junior Officer will contribute significantly to this aspect of the project.

### **Duties, responsibilities and expected outputs**

Under the direct supervision of National Project Coordinator who is managing the project in Jordan, the Water and Environment Junior Officer will undertake the following tasks in both countries:

- Support in the planning, design, supervision, and management of all civil engineering, water and WASH activities undertaken in the project and other UN-Habitat's country office projects.
- Review of technical documentation (scope of work, drawings, specs, BoQs, etc.) related to civil, water and WASH interventions and projects.
- Ensure that all civil, water and WASH projects and related activities are implemented according to developed specs, Terms of References (ToRs), and guidelines, and report any breaches or concerns.
- Closely supervise the work of the contractor(s) during the implementation phase, ensuring high quality of executed works.
- Support the Project Coordinator in providing technical input to working documents, studies, and technical reports as required in the framework of project activities on the topics of climate resilience, transboundary water management and food security.
- Support the Project Coordinator in drafting and/or draft necessary project documents, including work plans, procurement plans, spending plans, M&E plans, risk matrices, O&M plans, progress reports, etc., ensuring that the projects meet UN-Habitat's standards and requirements.
- Coordinate and follow up on all procurement processes related to civil, water and WASH projects.
- Engage and maintain direct dialogue with project beneficiaries, stakeholders – including municipalities, water establishments, Regional Technical Offices and UN agencies, among others.
- Participate in conducting trainings and awareness raising workshops for local beneficiaries as needed.



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- Support in trainings and providing awareness/capacity building for local authorities and stakeholders in water management, resource use, contamination issues etc.
- Contribute to the knowledge management processes (knowledge acquisition, storage, distribution, and use).
- Support the Project Coordinator in documenting the lessons learned from executed projects – those related to the civil, water, and WASH activities – and in providing recommendations for replication and up-scaling of best practices.

### Travel

The Water and Environment Junior Officer is expected to travel frequently to the AF project implementation sites.

### Training and Learning elements

As part of the overall framework of the Water and Environment Junior Officer programme, the JPO will benefit from the following training and learning opportunities:

- Use of yearly JPO duty-related travel and training allocation (DTTA) to increase his/her technical capacities in project development and management, monitoring and evaluation, and urban-related issues.
- Participation in workshops, conferences and trainings organized in Jordan, and virtually.
- On-the-job training and regular mentoring by staff members of UN-Habitat Jordan, as well as interaction with other UN agencies, NGO implementing partners, donors and government counterparts.

### Qualifications, experience and competencies required

Required degree level: Bachelor's degree

Area of education/degree in: Civil Engineering and Water management/ Environment, Agriculture or any related major

Minimum experience: 3 years

Skills and experience in:

- Water management



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- Climate change
- Agriculture
- Environmental planning
- Previous experience as a volunteer and/or experience of another culture, (i.e. studies, volunteer work, internship) would be highly regarded

Language: Fluency in oral and written English is required.

### **Supervision**

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