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## **Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme**

### **Regional Nutrition Integration Officer Nutrition Unit**

**Dakar, Senegal/ Regional Bureau for Western Africa**

#### **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 Regional Nutrition Integration Officer with our Nutrition Unit based in Dakar, Senegal/ Regional Bureau for Western Africa.

#### **CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND**

WFP's Regional Bureau for Western Africa (RBD) provides strategic guidance and technical support to WFP operations and activities in 19 countries in the region. In West and Central Africa, several factors threaten the food security and nutritional status of the population, but especially of women and children under five. These include household food insecurity, conflicts and armed violence, population displacement, high levels of childhood illnesses and water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea, fragile health systems, poor access to clean water and sanitation, and chronic poverty. Affordability remains also a challenge in the region, more than half of households in the Sahel G5+1 countries have no access to nutritious diets. West and Central Africa region is the world's only region where wasting levels have been constant for more than 10 years while the number of wasted children continues to rise, especially in the Sahel G5+1, with a 46% increase in wasting burden compared to the 2015-2022 average.

In this region, a combination of humanitarian, development and peacebuilding interventions are being implemented and complement each other. This nexus of short-term (emergency response)

and medium-to long term programming (development approach) is essential to ensure the appropriate balance between emergency response to acute shocks and strengthening of systems so resilience of nations, systems, communities and populations to new future shocks is improved.

The nutrition unit within the Regional Bureau in Dakar (RBD) is engaged in the provision of strategic and technical assistance for the implementation of large nutrition interventions in response to national and regional nutrition crisis and in the development of national nutrition capacities. The nutrition unit is working with the country offices in the region to strengthen the integration of nutrition in WFP country strategic plans (CSP) to accelerate progress in preventing child undernutrition and achievement of sustainable development goals.

WFP is implementing an integrated resilience approach in 5 countries of the Sahel (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger) in collaboration with UNICEF and GIZ with funding from BMZ. This is an important opportunity to address underlying drivers of malnutrition through a nutrition-sensitive approach.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- **Title of Post:** Regional Nutrition Integration Officer
- **Grade:** P2
- **Supervisor:** Regional Nutritionist
- **Unit:** Nutrition
- **Division/Country Office:** Regional Bureau for Western Africa
- **Duty Station:** Dakar, Senegal
- **Duration of assignment:** Two years

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Under the direct supervision of the Regional Nutritionist Advisor, the JPO will have the following responsibilities:

- Support capacity strengthening on nutrition integration in country offices and the Regional Bureau for WFP staff and partners, including government counterparts.
- Support the strengthening of national systems, strategies and programmes to facilitate and improve nutrition integration in the region.
- Undertake an analysis of the integrated resilience package currently implemented in the 5 countries and make recommendations to improve nutrition integration.
- Support the country offices in the region to implement and monitor nutrition-sensitive programmes in line with WFP guidelines, including through regular support mission in country.
- Contribute to technical discussions, exchange experiences, advocate for nutrition integration and identify areas of potential collaboration with wide range of stakeholders.
- Contribute to knowledge management around nutrition integration, including the documentation of processes, good practices and learnings and development of communication and advocacy documents.

## **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- Nutrition integration is well articulated in Country Strategic Plans in the region.
- Capacities of WFP staff and partners are built in Nutrition integration.
- Clear and realistic recommendations to improve nutrition integration in the resilience approach in the Sahel are formulated.
- Nutrition-sensitive programmes in the region are implemented in line with corporate guidelines.
- Good practices and lessons learned related to nutrition integration in the region are identified and documented.

## **ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE**

- Advanced university degree in the field of international nutrition, agriculture, food security, health, social sciences, or other areas relevant to nutrition-sensitive programming
- Minimum of two years' experience working in relevant fields
- Fluency in English and French
- Proficiency in Windows MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)
- 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**

- Exposure to the international arena either by direct work for an international institution/organization or by interacting with international stakeholders.
- Intermediate level of one, or more, of the following official languages: 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**

The Nutrition Officer JPO will work under the direct supervision of the Regional Nutrition Advisor.

The JPO will be requested to prepare and discuss with his/her supervisor an annual work plan using the Performance and Competency Enhancement (PACE) system, in addition to reports on arrival, progress and termination of the contract. He/she is expected to work closely with other units in the Regional Bureau and will be in frequent contact with the Headquarter to extend due support in timely manner. Guidance will be provided as required.

The supervisory role will also include:

- Mentorship by the Regional Nutrition Advisor
- Regular and ad hoc feedback sessions with the supervisor to monitor progress against annual work plan, and to identify learning opportunities.

## **TRAINING COMPONENTS**

The JPO will be fully integrated in a team of Nutrition staff and involved in the day-to-day operations of the team under the supervision of the regional nutritionist. He/she will be offered possibilities to:

- participate in professional trainings relevant to the JPO's professional profile as agreed with the supervisor.
- participate to missions with experienced WFP regional and country staff.
- use WFP Learning System (We Learn) that will provide him/her with ample learning opportunities in various areas of WFP and Nutrition.

Upon arrival, the JPO will receive a comprehensive briefing and background documents and will be introduced to the relevant working counterparts within and outside WFP.

## **LEARNING ELEMENTS**

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

- Very good knowledge of public health nutrition and nutrition integration

- Good skills to leverage nutrition knowledge to provide technical assistance to WFP country offices for the design and implementation of nutrition-sensitive programmes applying WFP standards and corporate guidance.
- Familiarity with global and regional nutrition related policies and strategies, including WFP corporate programme and policy standards related to nutrition.
- Good general understanding of WFP's overall operations and activities in the region of assignment.

Saving Lives  
Changing Lives