

Junior Professional Officers (JPO) Programme**Terms of Reference****GENERAL INFORMATION**

Title: JPO – Water Resources Assessment

Organizational Unit: SC/HYD/WWAP

Duty Station: Perugia, Italy

SUPERVISION

Direct supervision by: UNESCO WWAP Coordinator

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the overall authority of the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences (ADG/SC), the direct supervision of the Coordinator of the UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) the incumbent will focus on the implementation and provide strategic lead to the activities related to a) policy-science dialogue and advocacy and b) valorization of WWAP and United Nations World Water Development Reports (UNWWDR):

Background Research for the WWDR

- Conceptualize and lead research activities, ensuring comprehensive data collection, analysis, and synthesis.
- Conduct literature reviews to assess global trends, policy frameworks, and case studies related to water governance and sustainability.
- Identify and integrate relevant case studies, best practices, and statistical data to support evidence-based recommendations.
- Validate and refine data in collaboration with experts and organizations to ensure accuracy and credibility.
- Prepare and draft key report sections, policy briefs, and background documents, translating complex research into clear and actionable insights.

Collaborate and Coordinate Stakeholder Engagement

- Engage with UN-Water researchers, policymakers, and international organizations to align report findings with global priorities.
- Facilitate discussions, workshops, and consultations to integrate diverse perspectives into the UN WWDR.
- Organize and manage expert meetings, ensuring meaningful contributions to report development.
- Track project milestones, prepare progress reports, and ensure timely delivery of key outputs.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education: University degree (Master or equivalent preferred) in natural sciences, international relations or policies and development.

Work experience:

- A minimum of 4 years of relevant professional experience in the area of water resources management, and water resources research.

Competencies and skills:

- In-depth knowledge of the field water and environment.
- Excellent creativity skills.
- Very good IT skills, including knowledge of standard office software (Word, Excel etc.).
- Capacity to build and maintain effective working relations with national/local authorities, relevant institutions, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.
- Excellent communication skills (oral and written), ability to coordinate the drafting of complex document.
- Ability to work in a team and to maintain effective working relationships in a multi-cultural environment.

Languages: Excellent knowledge of English; knowledge of another UNESCO official language is an asset.

LEARNING ELEMENTS

- Encourage to develop essential skills for independent learning in the field of water resources assessment, focusing on global water challenges, data-driven analysis, and policy implications for sustainable water management.*
- Prepare for future societal challenges by fostering a deep understanding of water resources assessment, governance, and sustainability within the framework of SDGs.*
- Help appreciate the complexity of water management systems, including underlying interdisciplinary approaches, in response to climate change, extremes and evolving water management needs.*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Describe the background of the Programme in the context of the portfolio/mandate of the organizational unit where the JPO will work (Include a website link).

Founded in 2000, UNESCO The World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) seeks to equip water managers and key decision-makers with the information, data, tools and skills to effectively participate in the development of policies to improve the supply and quality of global freshwater resources. The primary product of the WWAP Secretariat is the UN World Water Development Report, a UN-Water flagship report on water resources related-issues, which is produced every year on a different topic.

The wealth of information compiled and produced by WWAP have a substantial impact at the policy and implementation level, only if these knowledge products of the Secretariat are shared effectively with policy and decision makers and other relevant stakeholder (e.g. researchers, NGOs, representatives of sectors outside the water domain). This could be done through mainstreaming actions and the use of innovative methods. This requirement necessitates the involvement of a specialist on policy, advocacy and valorisation.

<https://www.unesco.org/en/wwap>