



UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND JPO Request Form



UNICEF/2023/ koudomphone

Training and Learning Plan

- ✓ Participation in a one-week JPO Induction Programme in New York;
- ✓ Guidance and advice in relation to training opportunities within the field of expertise;
- ✓ Use of yearly JPO training funds for internal/external training opportunities;
- ✓ Participation in the Mentoring, Coaching, and Career Counselling and Career transition programmes;
- ✓ Encourage field mission and/or stretch assignment during and after the 2nd year

In addition, the JPO will benefit from learning opportunities in the receiving office, taking advantage of local and international learning events, either in person or remotely through webinars.

The JPO will contribute to the outcome of the Nutrition Programme under the Country Programme of Cooperation between the Government of Lao PDR and UNICEF 2022-2026: "By 2026, more infants, children, adolescents and women have equitable access to and benefit from high-impact multi-sectoral nutrition interventions", more specifically to the second output under the nutrition outcome - output 2: *Government authorities at national and subnational levels and their partners have strengthened capacity to deliver convergent quality and equitable high impact nutrition interventions and services.*

The JPO is expected to contribute to the nutrition team's support to the Ministry of Education on school nutrition and to the Ministries of Agriculture and Health on food systems in order to strengthen nutrition sensitive interventions in Lao PDR. Experience in national level engagement and setting agendas on school nutrition and food systems will be highly valuable for the future career of the JPO.

Career prospects and potential for retention: The field of nutrition sensitive interventions is increasingly relevant for the work of UNICEF, and this JPO position provides exposure, learning, and growth, thus increasing the potential for future applications to positions in this area across the agency.

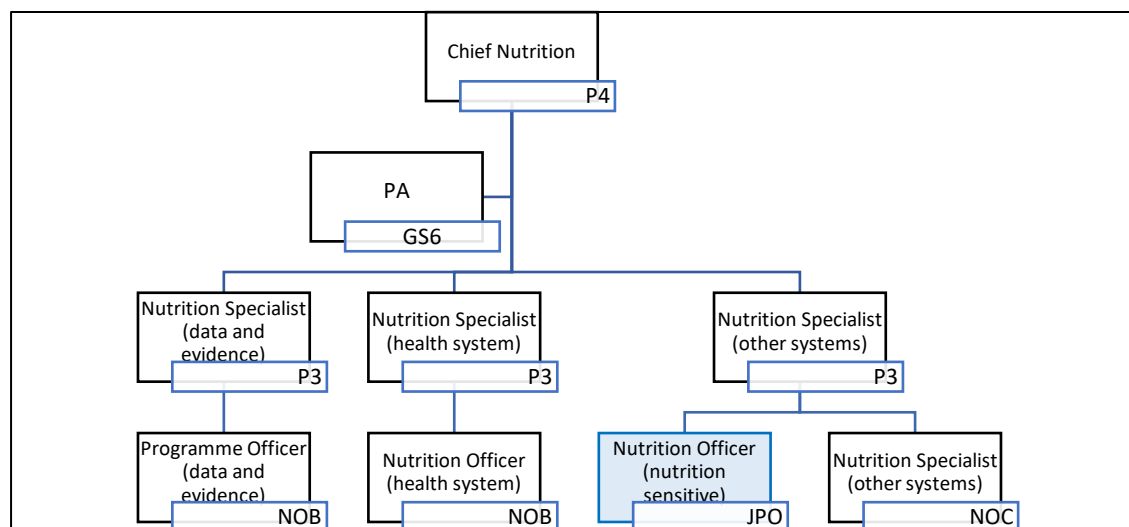
Supervisor's experience in coaching and development of young professionals: the post's supervisor has 19 years managing teams and extensive experience coaching junior national and international staff, namely in the nutrition field.

Information and living condition of Duty station: [For Field Office locations only]

General Information	UNICEF- Lao PDR office is located by side of the Mekong River, 3km from the center of Vientiane and easily accessible. Commute is either done by private car, taxis, or bicycles. The JPO will be based within the Nutrition Section of the UNICEF Lao PDR Office in the Capital City of Vientiane. The assignment may also require periodic travel to support program implementation, monitoring missions at
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	subnational level. All work-related travel for the planning, implementation or monitoring of activities, including air tickets, car rentals, security clearance and will be supported by UNICEF as per UNICEF rules. The UNICEF Lao PDR Office is a multi-cultural working environment with around 100 staff working to protect and advance the rights of children.
Security	Lao PDR is a family duty station and is relatively safe but special cautions must be aware when walking alone during the dark. As part of the appointment process, the JPO is required to complete the B-SAFE training and submit the certificate. UNICEF's Emergency Operations Centre (OPSCEN) in New York is 24hours/7 days a week in contact with all UNICEF offices all over the world. In addition, the office works closely with UNDSS (United Nations Department of Safety and Security) Office in Lao PDR. UNICEF Operations Manager is the security Focal Point.
Housing	There is a wide range options for accommodation, including apartments and individual houses. Rents vary from approximately USD500 per month for a small house or one bedroom apartment to USD1,500 per month for larger properties.
Schools & Childcare	International Schools are available in the duty station and are following International Curriculum that are globally recognized. International schools often include a kindergarten and pre-school classes (sometimes even a nursery) for younger kids.
Work for spouses & partners	Work opportunities for spouses/partners are limited. However, if hired by any organization a work permit must be applied for through the same hiring organization.

Reporting line of the JPO





UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND SPECIFIC JOB PROFILE

I. Post Information

Job Title: **Nutrition Officer (Nutrition Sensitive Interventions)**
 Supervisor Title/ Level: **Nutrition Specialist, P-3**
 Organizational Unit: **Programme**
 Post Location: **Vientiane, Lao PDR**

Job Level: **P-2**
 Job Profile No.:
 Job Classification Level: **Level 2**

II. Strategic Office Context and purpose for the job

The fundamental mission of UNICEF is to promote the rights of every child, everywhere, in everything the organization does — in programs, in advocacy and in operations. The equity strategy, emphasizing the most disadvantaged and excluded children and families, translates this commitment to children's rights into action. For UNICEF, equity means that all children have an opportunity to survive, develop and reach their full potential, without discrimination, bias or favoritism. To the degree that any child has an unequal chance in life — in its social, political, economic, civic and cultural dimensions — her or his rights are violated. There is growing evidence that investing in the health, education and protection of a society's most disadvantaged citizens — addressing inequity — not only will give all children the opportunity to fulfill their potential but also will lead to sustained growth and stability of countries. This is why the focus on equity is so vital. It accelerates progress towards realizing the human rights of all children, which is the universal mandate of UNICEF, as outlined by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, while also supporting the equitable development of nations.

Lao PDR suffers from high rates of malnutrition including some of the highest rates in the region – one out of three (33%) children aged 6-59 months are stunted while nearly one of every two children are affected by micronutrient deficiencies. While data on the nutritional status of adolescents is minimal, available evidence indicates high level of micronutrient deficiencies and concerning dietary practices during this second opportunity in life to stop the cycle of malnutrition and poverty. Malnutrition including during adolescence is known to have long-term impact on their growth and development, including consequences for productivity and human capital development in the country.

With this challenging context, UNICEF Lao PDR is at the forefront of nutrition programming in Lao PDR, supporting the Government to improve the delivery of direct nutrition services at the community and health facility levels and is the leading advocate and partner on nutrition to the Government of Lao PDR. UNICEF is also taking the lead to support the Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES) in improving their ability to contribute to improved nutrition outcomes for school aged children through improved school-based nutrition programmes.

As part of the UN support (including UNICEF) to Lao PDR a roadmap "from Pathway to action" was developed, aiming to provide guidance and milestones to the Government of Lao PDR (GoL) and its partners in terms of capacity development, governance, and finance to transform food systems in a way that is socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable. The roadmap articulates actions to accelerate progress and reflect evidence-based priorities within sectoral plans, budgets, and investments (public, private and ODA) to strengthen multi stakeholders' engagement and give food systems visibility within the national socio-economic development planning process (NSED). UNICEF leads the track 1

“ensuring safe and nutritious food for all” technical group jointly with Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), and World Food Programme (WFP).

Job organizational context: The **Nutrition Officer** will be based in Nutrition Section at UNICEF Laos.

Purpose for the job: Under direct supervisor of Nutrition Specialist (other systems) (*P3*) the JPO will contribute to National level exchanges and policy development related to nutrition in education and food systems considering global evidence and looking at the opportunities related to the current work and the overall organization’s value added. He/she will also provide technical support to the GoL on policy, implementation and tools development. As a part of the duties, the JPO will also engage in activities related to fundraising as well as knowledge management and evidence generation.

III. Key functions, accountabilities, and related duties/tasks:

1. Support to programme development and planning

- Support the Chief Nutrition and Nutrition Specialists to set priorities for the organizations’ School nutrition and Food System’s agendas, based on global evidence and looking at the opportunities related to the current work and the overall organization’s value added.
- Participate in strategic program discussion on the planning of projects/activities related to nutrition sensitive interventions namely in education and food systems.
- Support donor engagement and development of programme proposals related to school nutrition and food systems.
- Provide technical and operational support during all phases of the programming processes and ensure that programs and projects are integrated, coherent, and harmonized with other sectoral departmental activities with a nutrition focus.

2. Technical and operational support to programme implementation

- Provide technical guidance and support to MOES, including for the effective functioning of the new-ly established Education Nutrition Committee meeting, and for the planning of nutrition interventions in secondary schools in alignment with the National Plan of Action for Nutrition 2021-2025.
- Collaborate with relevant actors from Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), Ministry of (MOH), development partners, academia, private sector to define and implement activities related to food systems.
- Support the development of technical guidance and communication & information materials pertaining to school nutrition and food systems.
- Provide technical assistance to identify indicators to monitor the implementation of the package of nutrition interventions in secondary schools and support their inclusion into EMIS system.
- Support to draft policy papers, briefs and other strategic programme materials for management use, information and/or consideration.

3. Networking and partnership building

- Support to strengthen networking and partnership building for food systems and school nutrition, build and sustain effective close working partnerships with government counterparts, national and international stakeholders, including potential donors, through active sharing of information and knowledge.
- Prepare communication and information materials for CO program advocacy to promote awareness, establish partnership/alliances and support fund raising for nutrition programs related to nutrition sensitive interventions.

4. Programme management, monitoring and delivery of results

- Participate in monitoring and evaluation exercises, program reviews and annual reviews with government and other counterparts to assess progress and to determine required action/interventions to achieve results.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare/assess monitoring and evaluation reports to identify gaps, strengths/weaknesses in program and management, identify lessons learned and use knowledge gained for development planning and timely intervention to achieve goals. ▪ Support identification of lessons learned and use knowledge gained for development planning and timely intervention to achieve goals; 	
5. Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support assessments and research related to nutrition sensitive interventions, school nutrition, and food systems in Lao PDR, support dissemination and use of findings for programming purposes. ▪ Support the identification and introduction of innovative approaches and good practices to build the capacity of partners and stakeholders, and to support the implementation and delivery of concrete and sustainable results for nutrition pertaining to school nutrition and food systems. 	
IV. Impact of Results	
<p>The efficiency and efficacy of program preparation planning and implementation of nutrition programs/projects and contribute to and accelerate the national development efforts to improve the nutritional status of mothers, infants, and children in the country, and this in turn contribute to maintaining/enhancing the credibility and ability of UNICEF to continue to provide program services for mothers and children that promotes greater social equity in the country.</p>	
V. Competencies and level of proficiency required	
<p><u>Core Values attributes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care • Respect • Integrity • Trust • Accountability <p><u>Core competencies skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates Self Awareness and Ethical Awareness (2) • Works Collaboratively with others (2) • Builds and Maintains Partnerships (2) • Innovates and Embraces Change (2) • Thinks and Acts Strategically (2) • Drives to achieve impactful results (2) • Manages ambiguity and complexity (2) 	<p><u>Functional Competencies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persuading and influencing (1) • Applying technical expertise (1) • Learning and researching (2) • Planning and organizing (2)
VI. Recruitment Qualifications	
Education:	Masters' degree in nutrition, public health, nutritional epidemiology, global/international nutrition, nutrition research, policy and/or management, agriculture, or another health-related science field
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At least two years of progressively responsible professional experience in a developing country in one or more of the following areas: nutrition, public health, nutrition planning and management is required. If within the UN system agency or organization it is an asset, while experience with UNICEF is highly valued.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working experience in a multi-cultural environment and to establish harmonious working relationships. ▪ Working experience in conceptualizing, executing ideas, analysis and transferring knowledge and skills. ▪ Excellent verbal and written communication skills, especially in communicating complex information and concepts to non-specialists. ▪ Previous experiences with the implementation of nutrition preventative interventions from the food systems perspective. ▪ Provision of technical assistance to Government based on global evidence and best practices. ▪ Capacity building experiences, ideally targeting government officials in a developing country setting.
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish) or a local language is an asset.