



UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND JPO Request Form



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

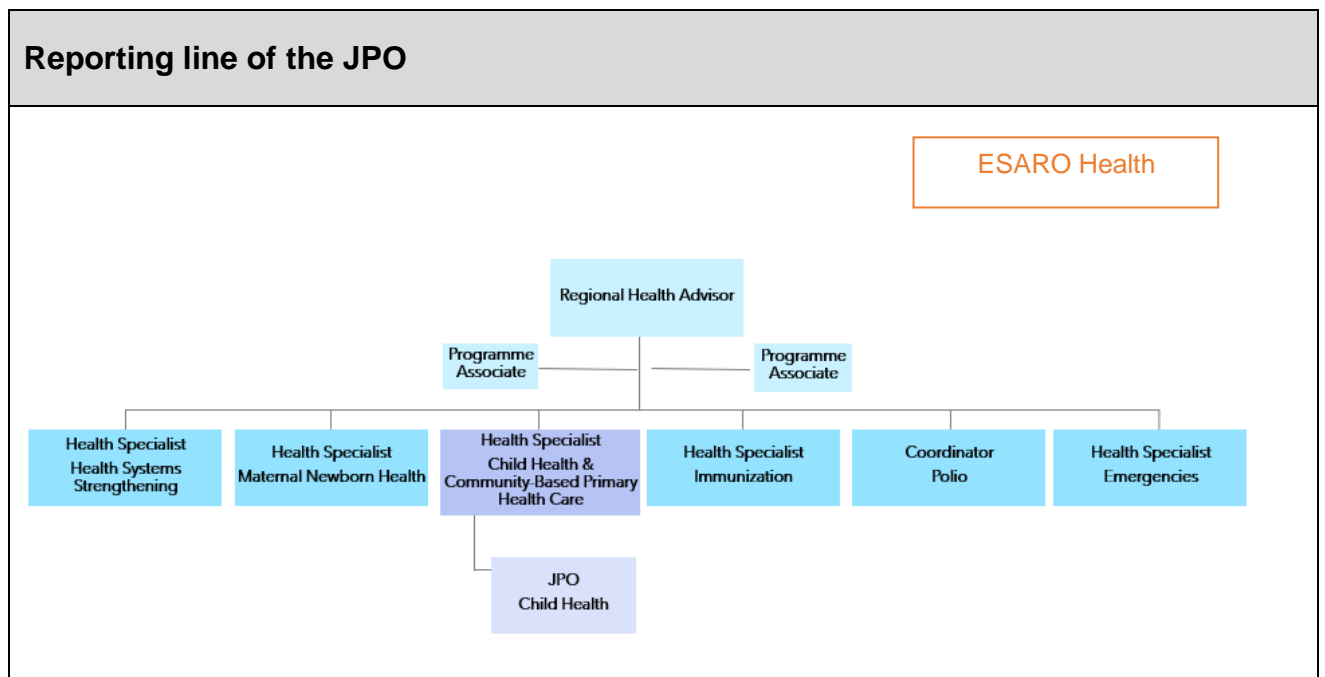
In addition, the JPO will benefit from the following specific learning opportunities in the receiving office:

- ✓ Participation in UNICEF regional health network meetings and webinars, where latest strategic health guidance and UNICEF country office progress in health programming are shared.
- ✓ Participating in relevant Regional Office trainings
- ✓ Participate in in-house learning seminars (i.e. brown bag meetings)

Please also mention the following:

- ✓ Child survival and development remains a core programme area for UNICEF. It is a dynamic sector which continues to evolve with respect to the diverse country typologies in the region as well as the myriad of emerging child health issues stemming from shifting epidemiology, climate change and instability amongst other causes. In order to address the ever increasing complexities in the health sector, this JPO role has strong potential to integrate within the team over the medium term.
- ✓ The Supervisor has worked with UNICEF for over 12 years, and a career that spans 20 years in public health including 13 years in a supervisory role. She has led teams and valued the role of building their capacity to achieve their professional goals as well as optimizing their contributions to UNICEF's mandate. In her previous duty she supervised a team of 8 staff, and at her current regional post supervises 2 consultants.

Information and living condition of Duty station: [For Filed Office locations only]	
General Information	<i>Nairobi is now one of the most prominent cities in Africa politically and financially. Home to thousands of Kenyan businesses and over 100 major international companies and organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the main coordinating and headquarters for the UN in Africa & Middle East, the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON), Nairobi is an established hub for business and culture.</i>
Security	<i>The Security Level in Nairobi is classified as Moderate (Level 3) as per the UN security management system in Kenya. Terrorism is one of the security challenges to UN operations in Nairobi.</i>
Housing	<i>Different types of long-term accommodation are available in Nairobi: standalone houses, houses in gated compounds, apartments. These could be furnished and/or fully serviced, or unfurnished. Advertisements of rental opportunities are also posted at UNON Bulletin Board: http://www.unon.org/motd</i>
Schools & Childcare	<i>Most of international staff's children attend international schools with an academic system that is widely recognized abroad. International schools often include a kindergarten and pre-school classes (sometimes even a nursery) for younger kids. It is advisable to ask your embassy in Nairobi which schools your compatriots prefer for their kids.</i>
Work for spouses & partners	<i>Work opportunities for spouses/partners are limited. However, if hired by any organization a work permit must be applied for through the same hiring organisation.</i>



You may use the GJP or use the Specific JD for the below sections



UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND SPECIFIC JOB PROFILE

I. Post Information

Job Title: Child Health Officer
Supervisor Title/ Level: Health Specialist, P4
Organizational Unit: Health - ESARO
Post Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Job Level: P2
Job Profile No.:
Job Classification Level: JPO

II. Strategic Office Context and purpose for the job

Strategic office context:

The Health Section at UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) is seeking support for the funding of a JPO position for 2024-2026 that will provide critical support for accelerating reductions in under-five child mortality as well as programming to address emerging health areas (Non-communicable diseases - NCDs, injury prevention, etc) and well-being across the first two decades of life.

ESARO's Health Section is a diverse team of health specialists, led by the Regional Health Advisor, technically supporting the 21 countries in the region, in the areas of Maternal and Newborn Health, Child Health and Community-based Primary Health Care, Immunization and Public Health Emergencies, underpinned by a Health Systems Strengthening approach.

In keeping with global trends, sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) has made substantial progress in reducing the number of child deaths in the past few decades. There has been an overall 59% decline in the under-five mortality rate in SSA between 1990 and 2021 (68% decline in ESAR alone). Specifically, during this time period 14 countries in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) cut their under-five mortality rate by more than half demonstrating that it is possible to improve child survival even in resource constrained settings.

Despite these gains, ESA remains the region with the 2nd highest under-five mortality in the world. In 2021, over 1 million children did not make it to their fifth birthday in ESA. This translates to over 2700 under five deaths per day, with just over 50% of these deaths occurring in only 5 of the 21 countries. At the same time, the ESA region is facing an unseen double burden as NCDs are on the rise amongst children, with most health systems ill equipped to identify early, refer and treat NCDs in childhood. Similarly, UNICEF continues to strengthen health systems to be inclusive of children with disabilities – to prevent impairments, identify early and refer for additional care and support as well as inclusion in routine health services.

Purpose for the job:

Under the overall guidance of the Regional Health Advisor, and directly supervised by the Regional Health Specialist (P4) – Child Health and Community-based Primary Health Care, the JPO Health Officer will be responsible for supporting the Eastern and Southern Africa region's child health programming through a life course and continuum of care approach with focus on primary health care in facilities, as part of the broader child survival and development agenda. With additional guidance from the Supervisor and in close collaboration with the Regional Maternal and Newborn Health Specialist, the JPO will specifically contribute to technical guidance and support to countries in the region on strengthening access and quality of integrated prevention and care for (newborn and) childhood illnesses (IMNCI) and its linkages to both community-based services as well as higher level facilities both for referral and strengthening key health systems functions. In addition the JPO will support further expansion and strengthening of child health programming in the areas of non-communicable diseases and promotion of the well child across the life course. The incumbent will play a key role in knowledge management on monitoring progress towards SGD 3 (good health and well-being) and documenting promising practices for wider learning and application across the region.

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

Under the supervision and support of the Health Specialist – Child Health and Community-Based Primary Health Care, the JPO will have the following main functions, accountabilities and duties:

1. Contribute and support countries to strengthen access and quality of integrated prevention and care for (newborn and) childhood illnesses (IMNCI) with focus on primary health care system at health facility level and strengthening key health system functions, inclusive of linkages to community-based services. Support efforts to expand child health programming towards development and promotion of well-being across the life course
2. Support efforts to expand child health programming towards development and promotion of well-being across the life course
3. Develop and support a child health regional learning agenda and strategy

1. Contribute and support countries to strengthen access and quality of integrated prevention and care for (newborn and) childhood illnesses (IMNCI) with focus on primary health care system at health facility level and strengthening key health system functions, inclusive of linkages to community-based services.

- Support the introduction of standards and indicators for pediatric quality of care (IMNCI) ensuring that they build from maternal and newborn health quality improvement investments.
- Contribute to child health resource mobilization efforts, supporting that proposals at regional and country level prioritize integrated service delivery and high impact interventions

2. Support efforts to expand child health programming towards development and promotion of well-being across the life course

- Monitor and technically support country office progress on integration and implementation of the Nurturing Care Framework and its linkages with broader early childhood programming across sectors
- Support child health programming to be more disability inclusive, through application and adaptation of global guidance to regional/country level
- Contribute to evidence generation on regional pediatric non-communicable disease burden and promising programme models for further advocacy, in-country scaling and regional expansion
- Through support to countries, assess country readiness and health system needs to expand child health programming in the region

3. Develop and support a child health regional learning agenda and strategy

- Consolidate and disseminate latest child health technical updates and best practices from across the region and globally
- Explore and foster opportunities to promote south to south exchange and support
- Support the preparation of regional webinars on prioritized and emerging child health programme areas

- Build a regional data repository of developed/adapted resources, strategies and tools key country
- Contribute to high quality program and field monitoring and performance tracking.

IV. Impact of Results

The efficient and effective technical, administrative and operational support provided to strengthening child health programming in the region directly impacts on the ability of UNICEF to be responsive to current population needs along the life course. The focus on improving quality, integrated care within Primary Health Care systems further supports our mandate to uphold equitable and inclusive access to child health services, within the diverse country contexts in the ESA region. Emphasis on promoting whole-of-society engagement and health systems strengthening underpins a more holistic approach to overcoming bottlenecks to improved child health outcomes. This in turn contributes to enhancing the ability of UNICEF to fulfill its mission to achieve sustainable, locally-owned and concrete results in improving the survival, development and wellbeing of children in the region.

V. Competencies and level of proficiency required

Core Values attributes

- Care
- Respect
- Integrity
- Trust
- Accountability

Core competencies skills

- Works collaboratively with others (1)
- Demonstrates Self Awareness and Ethical Awareness (1)
- Drives to achieve impactful results (1)
- Builds and Maintains Partnerships (1)
- Innovates and Embraces Change (1)
- Thinks and Acts Strategically (1)
- Manages ambiguity and complexity (1)

VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	A university degree in one of the following fields is required: Public Health, Primary Health Care, Family Medicine, Health Sciences or relevant technical field.
Experience:	A minimum of two years of professional experience in one or more of the following areas is required international health, primary health care, child health, health systems strengthening, monitoring and evaluation / knowledge management or another related area.

	Relevant experience in a UN system agency or organization is considered as an asset.
Language Requirements:	Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of French is considered as an asset.

VII. Signatures		
Name: Paul Ngwakum	Signature:	Date:
Title: Regional Advisor, Health		
Name: Lieke Van De Wiel	Signature:	Date:
Title: Deputy Regional Director, ESAR		
Name: Etleva Kadilli	Signature:	Date:
Title: Regional Director, ESAR		