

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
JPO Request Form

INNOVATION for NUTRITION



*Breastfeeding woman, member of a local cooperative producing nutritious foods for young children in Northern Côte d'Ivoire.
@UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire. 2023*

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:

- Regular field missions and participation in national training sessions on the prevention and management of malnutrition supported by UNICEF in collaboration with national counterparts. Whenever possible and relevant, participation in regional, continental and global UNICEF-supported events will be ensured.

Career prospects and potential for retention

The potential for retention is good as Nutrition is a core priority for UNICEF, as further detailed below:

- To deliver on the Nutrition Strategy 2020–2030, UNICEF counts the largest nutrition workforce globally. In 2019, our workforce for nutrition included 640 staff members and more than 1,500 consultants leading and supporting the design and implementation of advocacy, policies and programmes on maternal and child nutrition in development and humanitarian settings, in 130 countries across 7 regions worldwide. Further, more than 3,600 programme staff lead and support the design and implementation of advocacy, policies and programmes for Health, Education, Water and Sanitation, Child Protection, and Social Policy. UNICEF's multisectoral mandate for children, wide on-the-ground presence, and long-standing role as a trusted adviser to national governments position UNICEF to mobilize national, regional and global partners – across public and private sectors – to tackle the global challenge of child malnutrition.
- As part of its convening role, UNICEF occupies a leadership position (as chair, coordination committee member or board member) in more than 10 global nutrition initiatives. UNICEF collaborates with many nutrition partners at global, regional and country levels to scale up nutrition policies, strategies and programmes that accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 2: to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition. UNICEF is a lead partner in the Scaling Up Nutrition movement – a global initiative uniting governments, civil society partners, United Nations agencies, development actors and donors, the private sector, and businesses to support country-led

efforts to end malnutrition. As the lead agency in the [Global Nutrition Cluster](#), UNICEF collaborates with more than 45 partners and 10 observers to ensure that the response to nutrition emergencies is coordinated, predictable, timely, effective and at scale.

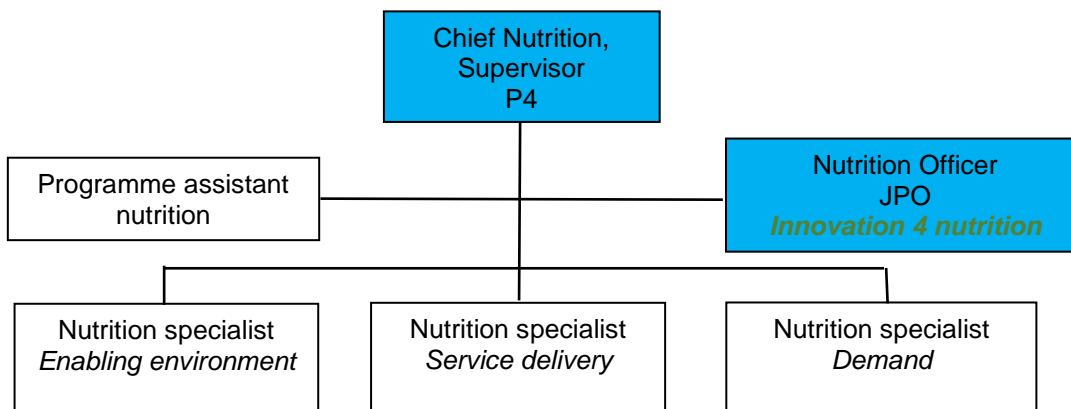
Supervisor's experience in coaching and development of young professionals

- The supervisor is a former incumbent of the UNICEF JPO programme and was a JPO Nutrition officer from 2007 to 2009.
- The supervisor has 15 years of experience with UNICEF in Nutrition at country and regional levels. Over the last 5 years, the supervisor has directly supervised 2 JPOs in Nutrition and also officially coached one JPO in Nutrition as part of the UNICEF Global JPO Programme.

Information and living condition of Duty station:

General Information	<p>A country of about 29 million inhabitants, Cote d'Ivoire is one of the most developed countries in West Africa, accounting for more than 40% of the West African Economic and Monetary Union's GDP and exports. The country remains politically stable and recently organized local elections that remained mostly peaceful. The official language of the country is French, and the diplomatic and expatriate community is large and diverse.</p> <p>UNICEF main Office is in Abidjan, the economic capital and largest city of the country. A cultural crossroads of West Africa, Abidjan is characterized by a high level of industrialization and urbanization. The transport network is developed and offers safe options to commute within the city and between major towns.</p> <p>Abidjan features a tropical wet and dry climate with a long rainy season from March to July, a short rainy season from September to December, and three dry months (January, February and August).</p>
Security	<p>The Security Level in Abidjan is classified as Moderate (Level 3) as per the UN security management system in Cote d'Ivoire. The political situation remains relatively calm, and the next general elections will take place in 2025. Terrorism remains a concern especially in the North part of the country bordering Mali and Burkina Faso. Despite some security challenges, there is a quick response Police service and effective fire services.</p>
Housing	<p>Different types of long-term accommodation are available in Abidjan: standalone houses, houses in gated compounds, apartments. These could be furnished and/or fully serviced, or unfurnished. Electricity and running water are available, although this may not be 24hrs in few areas of Abidjan. Costs are reasonable but vary per location.</p> <p>Upon arrival, you staff reside in a hotel or apartment until they get a permanent housing. Long term accommodation can be found through available Real estate agencies.</p>
Schools & Childcare	<p>Abidjan has the French School, and several other international schools offering an international curriculum, some with the international baccalaureate Programme.</p> <p>There is a large network of privately owned kindergartens and pre-schools.</p>
Work for spouses & partners	<p>Work opportunities for spouses/partners are limited but available within the UN system, the INGO sector, and other International Organizations. UNICEF has a specific policy for supporting spouses of international staff installed in the country with their spouses to access to opportunity of consultancy within the organization.</p>

Reporting line of the JPO: the JPO will report to the Chief of Nutrition Section



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UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND SPECIFIC JOB PROFILE

I. Post Information

Job Title: **Nutrition Officer, Innovation 4 Nutrition**
 Supervisor Title/ Level: **Chief Nutrition, P4**
 Organizational Unit: **Nutrition Section, Programme**
 Post Location: **Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire**

Job Level: **P2**
 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.

Strategic office context:

The Nutrition Section at UNICEF is seeking donor support for the funding of a JPO position for 2024-2025 that will provide critical support for the accelerated implementation of the nutrition programme with a focus on innovations. The JPO will support the Nutrition Section's ability to ensure the technical excellence and quality of programmatic work on nutrition while supporting the innovations for nutrition. Overall, the funding of this position will provide much-needed support for the organization's strengthened commitment to the prevention and management of malnutrition as its core mandate. The JPO will lead the innovation agenda for better nutrition as part of the implementation of the 2021-2025 UNICEF Country programme to reach 2030 Global Nutrition Targets towards a better future for all women and children in Côte d'Ivoire.

Purpose for the job:

Please outline the overall responsibility of this position, focusing on:

1.) What purpose it serves

UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire seeks to create an environment in which knowledge, innovations and learning are harnessed to drive advocacy, policies, programmes and research to improve the quality of diets, nutrition services and nutrition practices for children, adolescents and women. In a context where nutrition is a national priority, the UNICEF Nutrition section seeks to act as a knowledge broker and thought leader to strengthen the quality of advocacy, policies, strategies, programmes and research for maternal and child nutrition. UNICEF Nutrition section also seeks to foster a culture of innovation to design, test, evaluate and scale up new policy concepts and programme approaches in ways that inspire the government, partners and communities to fast-track progress and impact in making good nutrition a reality for children, adolescents and women everywhere in the country.

2.) What is it accountable for

The JPO, Nutrition officer, will support the development and implementation of four key innovations for nutrition as part of the implementation of the UNICEF Nutrition Programme in Côte d'Ivoire. The **4 key innovations for nutrition** will enable better programming towards optimal nutrition through community-led and local solutions and are as follows:

- **1st Foods** towards nutritious diets for young children;
- **Nutrition4women** towards better nutrition for women and adolescent girls and the prevention of anemia;
- **1st 1000 days** national social and behavior change campaign for optimal nutrition practices;
- **Family-MUAC** towards the early detection of child malnutrition by families.

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

Under direct supervisor of the Chief Nutrition (P4) the JPO will be responsible for the following key functions/accountabilities:

- 1. Support to strategy design and development of four (4) innovations for nutrition*
- 2. Support to implementation of four (4) innovations for nutrition*
- 3. Advocacy, networking and partnership building for the scaling-up of four (4) innovations for nutrition*
- 4. Knowledge management and capacity building for the scaling-up of four (4) innovations for nutrition*

1. Support to strategy design and development of four (4) innovations for nutrition

- *Research and/or participate in conducting comprehensive Nutrition situation analysis related to the 4 innovations for nutrition (1st Foods, Nutrition4women, 1st1000days, and Family-MUAC);*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provide technical support and guidance to the UNICEF Nutrition section on design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the 4 targeted innovations. This will involve documenting and sharing best practices examples on what has worked across both development and humanitarian programming context.</i>
<p>2. Intensive support to implementation of four (4) innovations for nutrition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Support the translation of knowledge into programming by synthesizing evidence, developing guidance in the 4 key areas as follows: a) Nutritious diets for young children (1st Foods); b) Better nutrition for women and adolescent girls; c) Large-scale SBC for better nutrition; d) Family-led detection of malnutrition;</i> • <i>Formulate, design and prepare innovation for nutrition programme guidance, ensuring alignment with UNICEF's Strategic Plans as well as national priorities, plans and competencies, in the 4 key areas.</i> • <i>Provide onsite technical and operational support to governments counterparts and NGO partners on the implementation of the 4 "innovations 4 nutrition";</i> • <i>Participate in regular programme field visits and/or exchange information with partners and stakeholders to identify bottlenecks, monitor progress and take appropriate action to face programming challenges.</i>
<p>3. Advocacy, networking and partnership building for the scaling-up of four (4) innovations for nutrition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Engage with knowledge networks, including through technology platforms, social networks and communities of practice for knowledge exchange on maternal and child nutrition.</i> • <i>Prepare regular updates and briefing notes for management, donors, and partners to keep them informed of progress.</i> • <i>Support the development or adaptation of advocacy and communication tools.</i>
<p>4. Knowledge management for the scaling-up of four (4) innovations for nutrition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Identify and prioritize knowledge gaps and plan, commission and implement contextually relevant research on maternal and child nutrition to support innovations for nutrition;</i> • <i>Document programme successes, failures and lessons learned.</i> • <i>Collect and maintain an up-to-date database on evolving evidence in the field of nutrition programming and synthesize key programmatic recommendations.</i>

IV. Impact of Results

The technical and operational support provided to the development and implementation of innovations for nutrition will directly impact on the ability of UNICEF to prevent and manage maternal and child malnutrition to achieve the 2023 Global Nutrition Targets. 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 Côte d'Ivoire.

The funding of this position will provide much-needed support for the organization's strengthened commitment to prevention of stunting and other forms of malnutrition by fostering innovations to improve the coverage, quality and efficiency of essential nutrition interventions.

The work at UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire will also provide a rich exposure and experience to the incumbent and will in turn contribute to building his/her capacity around designing, implementing and monitoring state-of-the-art innovative nutrition programmes.

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 • Sustainability <p><u>Core competencies skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates Self Awareness and Ethical Awareness (1) • Works Collaboratively with others (1) • Builds and Maintains Partnerships (1) • Innovates and Embraces Change (1) • Thinks and Acts Strategically (1) • Drives to achieve impactful results (1) • Manages ambiguity and complexity (1) 	<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)
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VI. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	As a champion, you will need to have an advanced university degree in one of the following fields: nutrition, public health, nutritional epidemiology, global/international health and nutrition, health/nutrition research, policy and/or management, health sciences, nutritional epidemiology, or another health-related science field is required
Experience:	A minimum of two years of professional experience in one or more of the following areas is required: Public health, nutrition planning and management, or maternal, infant and child health/nutrition care. Relevant experience in a UN system agency or organization is considered as an asset.
Language Requirements:	Fluency in French and English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language or local language of the duty station is considered as an asset.