

UNICEF Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist Child Survival and Development (Level 4)

1. INTRODUCTION

Children in West and Central Africa have their rights violated on a daily basis to an extent that is worse than anywhere else in the world. Nearly 2 children out of 10 never reach their fifth birthday. They die from malaria, diarrheal diseases and vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles. Malnutrition is widespread in the region. In the Sahel countries, half of the child mortality is related to under-nutrition in children.

To fight child mortality and child malnutrition, UNICEF is promoting a minimum package of proven health and nutrition interventions that includes, amongst others, childhood immunization, vitamin A supplementation, distribution and promotion of insecticide treated bed-nets, promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding and oral re-hydration. Through these interventions child mortality can be reduced by up to 25%. UNICEF is increasing its efforts to fight the impact on the HIV/AIDS pandemic on children through the prevention of transmission of mother to child transmission of HIV, pediatric treatment, prevention of new infections among young people and support for orphans and other vulnerable children.

More information on the work of UNICEF's Regional Office for West and Central Africa is available at <http://www.unicef.org/wcaro/index.html>

2. PURPOSE OF THE POST

Under the supervision of the Regional Chief M&E the Officer is responsible for strengthening documentation, monitoring and evaluation systems for high impact child survival interventions in the West and Central Africa region. The Officer will provide technical assistance and support to:

- 1) Country offices to develop/strengthen national evaluative and results-based monitoring, documentation, supervision and feed-back systems to track results of high impact child survival interventions;
- 2) improving the quantity and quality of evaluations and operations research for high impact Child Survival intervention;
- 3) strengthening the M&E capacities of the West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO) and Country Office staff through network building, knowledge management and training activities

3. MAJOR EXPECTED RESULTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

National capacities for results-based M&E of high impact child survival interventions strengthened:

- 1) Provides high quality technical assistance to strengthen results-based documentation, monitoring, supervision and feed-back systems for high impact child survival interventions in the context of Health Sector Wide Approaches and National Child Survival Strategies. This includes the application of Marginal Budgeting for

Bottlenecks (MBB) tools, results based budgeting and expenditure tracking and other relevant techniques

- 2) Reviews and assesses the quality and results-orientation of Country Office high impact intervention programming processes and documents (situation analysis, programme, review and evaluation documents)

High quality evaluations and operations research for high impact Child Survival interventions available and used:

- 1) Manages external sub-contracting of the design, implementation, follow-up and dissemination of sub-regional evaluations, studies and operations research of the outcomes and impact of high impact interventions. In this regard, works with the Country Offices and HQ to identify evaluation and operations research needs and designs.
- 2) Provides technical assistance to the WCARO CSD Section and Country Offices on methodologies to evaluate high impact interventions and ensures that evaluations are conducted according to UNICEF/UNEG evaluation standards.
- 3) Provides technical assistance to countries on the design of operations research.
- 4) As part of the WCAR knowledge management strategy, writes and disseminates papers, documents and reports to present the results of evaluations, studies and research to internal and external parties using virtual and face to face approaches.

UNICEF WCARO, Country Office and National Partners' monitoring and evaluation capacities strengthened:

- 1) Manages the design and implementation of a training programme for Country Staff and national counterparts who implement high impact interventions. This includes organizing training on results-based high impact intervention monitoring systems, outcome and impact evaluation, operations research and study methodology.
- 2) In the context of the training programme develops and promotes the use of results-based PM&E training materials and programming tools and guidance for high impact child survival interventions.
- 3) Establishes a network of external and internal individuals and organizations with expertise in the field of health related results-based monitoring systems, evaluation, studies and operations research. In this context, collaborates closely with the CSD M&E Community of Practice to exchange ideas on new strategies, innovations and approaches to strengthen M&E systems, documentation, operations research and evaluation of high impact Child Survival interventions.

The post is based in the Regional Office with frequent travel in the region and occasionally internationally.

4. QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCIES:

a) EDUCATION

Advanced university degree in Public Health or in Development Planning, with Public

Health experience and specialization in health sector performance monitoring and evaluation. Specialized training in results-based management, evaluation, research and analysis.

b) WORK EXPERIENCE

Eight years of progressively responsible, relevant professional work experience for national and/or international organizations in public health including results-based programme design, implementation, development and management of M&E systems, evaluations and research.

Proven experience in designing complex capacity strengthening strategies.

Proven experience in organizing and delivering specialized training.

Proven experience in managing senior level consultants.

Developing country work experience.

(c) LANGUAGES and SOFTWARE

Fluency in English and French (reading, writing and speaking).

Advanced knowledge of Microsoft Applications (Word, Excel, Powerpoint), e-mail and internet search engines (PubMed, ScienceDirect etc.), Statistical software (EpiInfo, Stats, SPSS). Knowledge of Desktop Publishing and other programmes related to website management desirable.

d) COMPETENCIES

Communication, Working with people, Drive for results, Leading and supervising, Formulating strategies and concepts, Analyzing, Applying technical expertise, Planning and organizing

5. HOW TO APPLY

Please enter your data in the UNICEF online recruitment facility at http://www.unicef.org/about/employ/index_apply.html

Deadline: 29 October 2010