

Terms of Reference

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Specialist – ZAHLE, LEBANON

MISSION LOCATION

Zahle (Bekaa sub office), Lebanon

DURATION

6 months

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

There are currently over 1 million Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR in Lebanon, which makes Lebanon the highest refugee-hosting country per capita in the world. There are no approved camps in the country and refugees are spread over 1,750 localities. The refugee response is led by the Government of Lebanon (GoL) and local actors, supported by the international community. As the designated lead agency in the refugee response, UNHCR has established a sector-based structure in Beirut and in the field to support the Government. The structure brings together 13 UN agencies, 60 national and international NGO partners in identifying and agreeing on the strategic priorities to address the needs of Syrian refugees and other affected populations. The Lebanon national response falls under the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), whereby UNHCR guides the refugee response while UNDP facilitates the resilience and stabilization component. UNICEF, as WASH sector lead is also the agency of last resort.

Through inter-agency coordination mechanisms, 9 sectors have been established in Lebanon, with UNHCR leading or co-leading the Protection, Basic Assistance, Shelter, and Health sectors. UNHCR is also providing information management support to all. The Office has grown substantially in the past years and now has around 640 staff.

Key changes to the UNHCR WASH program for 2018 include:

- **Nationalization strategy:** UNHCR Lebanon is actively pursuing a strategy of nationalization driven by GoL requests. This includes partnering/capacity building of both Lebanese organizations and UNHCR national staff. Operationally, UNHCR Bekaa WASH is partnering directly with a Lebanese NGO for the first time for a large part of its program; additionally, a national Assistant WASH Officer has been recruited in the second half of 2017, with the intent that she will lead the program in the future.
- **Community support projects at the municipality level to enhance peaceful coexistence:** as the Syrian crisis enters its seventh year, the mandate of UNHCR WASH is to contribute to the protection space for refugees by fostering peaceful coexistence between Syrian refugees and hosting Lebanese communities. Operationally, UNHCR is targeting closer support to strategic municipalities with high tensions between Lebanese and Syrians through community support projects. UNHCR will implement these projects through a second, new partner. Additionally, through close partnerships with the municipalities, UNHCR aims to understand and facilitate/advocate for their wider development needs as stabilization and recovery efforts continue.
- **Support to out-of-camp settings:** historically, the Lebanon WASH response has focused on informal settlements (IS), with minor support to those in substandard buildings (SSBs) through shelter partners. In order to address the needs of the approximately 80% of Syrian refugees living outside of ISs, the UNHCR WASH program aims to collaborate with municipalities and shelter partners to understand and support these needs.
- **Improved targeting and response to the needs of the most vulnerable:** in light of reduced UNICEF funding for WASH in ISs, UNHCR is improving mechanisms for targeting in ISs and out-of-IS settings and implementing tailored WASH services according to vulnerability.

AIM OF THE MISSION

The WASH Specialist will support the UNHCR WASH team in the following activities:

1. Facilitate capacity building activities of the new national partner in the implementation of targeted WASH activities in informal settlements and out-of-IS settings. Monitor the activities of the partner to ensure delivery of WASH services to beneficiaries in line with sector standards, UNHCR standards and partnership agreements.
2. Facilitate capacity building activities of the new UNHCR national Assistant WASH Officer, in planning, implementation and monitoring of WASH activities, to ensure adequate capacity to lead the program in 2019.
3. Plan, design, implement, coordinate and monitor municipality community support projects, with a focus on municipality solid waste management (SWM) projects, through a second WASH partner.
4. Develop partnerships with strategic municipalities to identify and advocate for key municipality stabilization/recovery projects.
5. Contribute to RedR Australia's new Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) program and support the development of the MEAL framework and methodologies.

MISSION OBJECTIVES

- National partner effectively delivers WASH services in ISs and out-of-IS settings, with sufficient capacity to plan, implement and monitor independently in 2019.
- Assistant WASH Officer effectively plans, implements and monitors the activities of two UNHCR partners, with sufficiently capacity to independently undertake the same activities in 2019.
- Effective municipality SWM projects are planned and implemented.
- Strategic municipalities identify stabilization/recovery projects and coordinate with key refugee and development actors for their implementation.
- RedR's MEAL framework and methodologies are enhanced based on field input.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the supervision of WASH/Shelter Officer, the WASH Specialist will:

- Assist the planning of 2018 WASH interventions to ensure they are in accordance with the 2018 UNHCR Bekaa WASH strategy and 2020 UNHCR Lebanon WASH strategy and informed by targeted assessments (WASH baseline and KAP survey);
- Support the UNHCR funded WASH partner to implement its 2018 WASH program through the provision of technical guidance to the partner and the UNHCR Assistant WASH Officer;
- Facilitate the UNHCR Assistant WASH Officer to:
 - Develop enhanced targeting mechanisms to identify and target the most vulnerable households in both ISs and out-of-IS settings;
 - Plan, lead and report on technical and joint monitoring missions, document progress, actions and follow-up;
 - Organise and chair monthly progress and ad-hoc meetings with the UNHCR funded WASH partners, prepare minutes and follow up on identified actions;
 - Review and provide sound inputs to quarterly, mid-year and end of year reports received from the UNHCR funded WASH partner;
 - Manage the UNHCR funded WASH budget and provide guidance with regards to under/overspends and reallocation.
- Review 2017 pilot activities and mainstream successes where possible;
- Facilitate targeted trainings for UNHCR WASH partners (with a focus on the new national partner) and the UNHCR Assistant WASH Officer, including specifically:
 - Protection monitoring including appropriate referral pathways;

- Environment mainstreaming;
- Gender and persons with specific needs (including children, elderly, pregnant women and people with disabilities) inclusion;
- Technical skills, including water quality management, solid waste management, etc.
- Support the UNHCR funded WASH partner in the design and implementation of municipality solid waste management systems;
- Help inform improved targeting of stabilization interventions (through the analysis and field validation of vulnerability assessment);
- Work hand in hand with municipalities, water establishments and other donors to assess gaps in municipal capacity primarily within area of operation and provide recommendations; advocate
- Improve design and implementation of on-site decentralised sewage and water systems and management;
- Participate in monthly Bekaa Water Working Group and Bekaa Water Establishment donor meetings;
- Evaluate the success of WASH interventions and provide technical and financial inputs with regard to the 2019 WASH strategy and 2019 UNHCR funded WASH programme;
- Provide input into RedR Australia's MEAL framework and methodologies with feedback from the field.

Note: Duties may change during the period of the deployment and the specialist will need to be flexible.

PROFILE

Experience and Essential Requirements

- University degree in water and sanitation engineering/ water resources development and/or postgraduate degree in one of the civil engineering disciplines (water supply and/or hydrology) or sanitation/hygiene engineering;
- Advanced University Degree in Engineering or management/project management is preferable;
- Minimum 8 years (6 years with Advanced University Degree) of relevant work experience of progressively responsible functions in infrastructure/ water/ sanitary engineering or a related field in developing countries preferably dealing with large scale WASH activities, training in site planning or shelter is preferable;
- Prior experience in designing and implementing WASH strategies in post-emergency stabilization situations;
- Proven ability to deal with multiple tasks in courteous and service-oriented manner in demanding working condition that often has short deadlines;
- Ability to coordinate a range of diverse actors and activities to achieve a common objective in the area of WASH is essential;
- Demonstrated experience in organizing and conducting training activities and information campaigns in the areas of environmental sanitation, natural resources management, water quality, bore-hole drilling, vector control and appropriate technologies;
- Proven technical expertise in area of WASH and Environmental assessment including surveys, programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and coordination is required;
- Knowledge and experience of working with local partner agencies with a capacity to provide formal and informal training;
- Knowledge of UNHCR mandate, priorities and principles, and understanding of humanitarianism in development and emergency contexts;
- Proven experience providing technical support working in partnership with humanitarian agencies and private sector companies;
- Knowledge of GoL environmental legislation.

Personal Characteristics

- Ability towards analytical and creative thinking for rapid solutions;
- Good communicator with strong interpersonal and negotiations skills to deal with persons of various cultural and educational backgrounds;
- High ethical and professional standards;
- Team player with service oriented attitudes;

- Proficiency in basic computer software such as MS Access, Excel, Powerpoint, Word, water modelling software, GIS, AutoCAD.
- Fluency in English is essential.