

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Post Title: WASH Specialist

Function Area: WASH

Level: P3

Duration: 6 months (3 months would be acceptable)

Supervisor: Chief of Field Office - Qamishli

Duty Station: Qamishli, Al-Hasake Governorate

PURPOSE:

North East Syria (NES) remains one of the most complex operating environments in Syria due to a combination of ongoing hostilities, weather-related hazards and population movements. Currently, 1.65 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in NES – 14 percent of the overall total. As of April 2019, NES is hosting 604,853 IDPs, including 133,675 in 57 camps, collective shelters, and last resort sites.

Between January 2018 and April 2019, approximately 479,174 IDPs have spontaneously returned to their areas of origin in Al Hassakeh (22,530), Ar Raqqa (139,260) and Deir ez Zor (317,384) – two-thirds of those returning to Ar Raqqa during this period returned to the capital city itself. An assessment conducted in Ar Raqqa in February 2019 identified that critical needs remain in healthcare, water and sanitation, non-food items, shelter, electricity, livelihoods opportunities as well as protection – with mine risk education and clearance identified as of particular concern given extensive explosive hazard contamination. Since the beginning of May a series of fires have broken out across NES destroying thousands of hectares of arable land. Currently, the food security sector is carrying out its annual Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CSFAM) which is expected to capture the impact of these incidents. In the meantime, humanitarian actors are monitoring a number of indicators, including market prices and purchasing power, to determine what strategies are required to mitigate/respond to any resulting humanitarian needs. Given the nature and severity of needs across the NES, steps are being made to scale up the humanitarian response through all possible means.

UNICEF has a field office in Qamishli with two WASH national officers that cover Al Hasake, Deir Er Zor and Al Raqqa governorates. UNICEF would like to deploy an experienced stand by partner to support the two officer in the planning, coordination and implementation of WASH activities in the NES, most notably in the IDP camps

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the general guidance of the UNICEF Chief of Field Office, the incumbent will be responsible for supporting the planning, implementation and monitoring of the WASH response in the NES, most notably in the IDP camps.

Activities and Tasks:

- Support coordination of the overall WASH response in the NES governorate; Acts as WASH sub-sector coordinator for North East Syria, including coordination with INGO forum in the area.
- Conduct analytical interpretation and summarize the best available information from WASH assessments in order to benchmark progress of the emergency response over time. That is - monitoring indicators (quantity, quality, coverage, continuity and cost) of service delivery and track the progress in implementation, address bottlenecks, issues impeding sector response;
- Contribute to the reporting of WASH sectoral outcomes through the systematisation and provision of consolidated up-to-date information.
- Undertake field visits to monitor implementation of emergency interventions by implementing partners and provide technical assistance as requested;

- Follow up the WASH situation and propose technical solution and strategy to response to current situation on how to meet the minimum standards;
- Coordinate, consolidate and provide technical guidance and support to IPs and WASH actors on all Water Sanitation and Hygiene related issues and in accordance with UNICEF policies and priorities;
- Follow up the capacity of each IPs and WASH actor and recommendation area of improvement needed;
- Review performance, monitor development and evaluate approaches adopted by partners in WASH and related sectors i.e. natural resources management, environment assessment, technical capacity of implementing partners etc. and formulate appropriate designs and corrective measures as deemed necessary.

QUALIFICATIONS OR SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE/EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Advanced university degree in relevant fields such as public health, water supply, social sciences, environmental sciences or a field relevant to international WASH related development/emergency assistance. Additional training in Health Education or Communication for Development (Programme Communication), an asset;
- Five years of progressively responsible professional work experience in the UN, other international development organization or national government.
- Recent experience in WASH in Emergency programmes, including coordination
- Experience in WASH social mobilisation and behaviour/social change communication
- Fluency in English (verbal and written).
- Fluency in Arabic preferred