

Procedures and Eligibility

Before submitting an application, UNHCR staff members intending to apply to this Job Opening are requested to consult the Recruitment and Assignments Policy (RAP, UNHCR/HCP/2017/2) and the Recruitment and Assignments Administrative Instruction (RAAI), UNHCR/AI/2017/7 OF 15 August 2017.

Duties and Qualifications

Senior WASH Officer

ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

The Senior WASH Officer will be based in Cox's Bazar, responsible for coordination and technical strategy and standard setting of the WASH sector responses in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, including the responses of UNHCR and partners. The incumbent will report to the Senior Field/Technical Coordinator at Cox's Bazar.

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

Accountability

- WASH services provided to refugee by UNHCR are based on UNHCR country and /or internationally recognised and most up-to date standards and policies.
- Sound technical support and advice are provided to country operation in the field of WASH.
- Viable monitoring and evaluation system are in place for data collection, analysis and interpretation to serve as evidence base for planning and interventions.
- UNHCR WASH programmes are implemented in coordinated approach in line with overall strategy.
- Gaps and overlaps in UNHCR funded WASH programmes and unmet needs are addressed, and the activities are oriented to address priority WASH issues. S/he will manage and provide support to the WASH Unit at Cox's (approx. 10 & 20 staff).

Responsibility

- Ensure that national and/or internationally accepted and relevant standards and policies are applied and adapted in close coordination with the host country and relevant UN agencies and NGO partners.
- Oversee the UNHCR coordination and technical response strategy setting within the WASH sector response at all operational locations in the Bangladesh response, and function as the country level UNHCR WASH sector (co-)lead.
- (Co-) chair and facilitate local level WASH coordination.
- Provide technical advice and guidance for WASH emergency interventions at all operational locations.

- Provide support to sound project management by helping during design, BOQ, tender and contract awarding process as well as conducting joint technical field visits with partners and contractors.
- Provide timely technical support in the management and implementation of UNHCR WASH program.
- Review modelling, layout and profiles of designed system-reservoirs, transmission lines, pumping systems.
- Review calculations and specification of materials, labour and equipment for civil, mechanical and electric systems as well as hydrogeological and geophysical studies.
- Participate in the elaboration of the tender documents for the selection of construction companies.
- Participate in evaluating technical proposals against financial offers.
- Ensure adequate reporting, timely updates and briefings to donor and management.
- Regularly exchange information and best practices with relevant stakeholders, including key sectors of UNHCR i.e. Protection, Public Health, Program, Basic assistance, Shelter, Supply, etc.
- Provide technical inputs in developing ad hoc guidelines/framework/tools for monitoring WASH.
- Participate within the sector to the elaboration of Sector Strategy, SOP, guidelines, and concept notes.
- Promote and support training capacity building of partners and beneficiaries.
- Support efforts to strengthen the capacity of the national authorities and civil society.

Authority

- Enforce compliance with, and integrity of, all WASH standard operating procedures.
- Provide guidance and recommendations on WASH program for the Bangladesh operation.
- Represent UNHCR's in WASH meetings as well as in technical monitoring of activities.
- Decide priorities in the designing of implementation plan, in consultation with senior management and technical colleagues.

ESSENTIAL MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Graduate degree (equivalent of a Master's) in in Hydraulics / Civil / Public Health / Environmental engineering plus minimum 8 years of working experience in the private engineering sector, consultancy or private and public water and waste water utility companies. Undergraduate degree (equivalent of a BA/BS) plus 9 years or Doctorate degree (equivalent of a PhD) plus 7 years of previous relevant work experience may also be accepted.
- A minimum of 3 years' experience in humanitarian work in developing countries.

- Advanced knowledge and proven experience in applied civil engineering in water supply and waste water in urban and peri-urban contexts.
- Diplomacy and interpersonal skills; negotiation, liaison and representation skills.
- Ability to multi-task in a fast changing environment.
- Excellent knowledge of English (written/oral).

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS & COMPETENCIES

- Previous experience with UNHCR and/or an international humanitarian organization dealing with large scale emergencies or displaced/refugee situation directly relevant to the current position would be an asset.
- Knowledge of another UN language.
- Position Competencies

C001L3 - Accountability Level 3
 C002L3 - Teamwork & Collaboration Level 3
 C003L3 - Communication Level 3
 C004L3 - Commitment to Continuous Learning Level 3
 C005L3 - Client & Result Orientation Level 3
 C006L3 - Organizational Awareness Level 3
 M002L3 - Managing Performance Level 3
 M006L3 - Managing Resources Level 3
 X001L3 - Analytical Thinking Level 3
 X005L3 - Planning and Organizing Level 3
 X009L3 - Change Capability and Adaptability Level 3

Additional Information

<p>For those people applying for High Risk Duty Stations, we strongly encourage colleagues to read the country specific security and welfare profiles which can be found on the Intranet under Support Services - Duty of Care (<https://intranet.unhcr.org/en/support-services/duty-of-care.html>). These profiles have been specifically designed to answer some of the key questions (on security conditions, medical provisions, staff welfare, living and working conditions) potential applicants might have before deciding to apply. Ensuring staff are better informed is part of the increased attention UNHCR is paying to Duty of Care. This project is still in the pilot phase, and as such some of the information leaflets are being produced as we speak and might not be available yet. They will be soon, so keep checking. </p>

Desirable Attributes

Under the direct supervision of the Senior Field/Technical Coordinator the candidate will be expected to lead the WASH team. The position will be field based (KTP /NAYAPARA Camps) and may require temporary relocation if necessary during Cyclone season). The candidates needs to have the ability to navigate with multiple stakeholders and government departments including

the DPHE, Dept. of Public Health and Engineering) and RRRC / CIC (Camp in Charge) officers is essential. Ability to create technical documents to include in donor proposals, and ability in reporting progress of same essential. Candidates must be prepared to facilitate donor visits in the field with factual info updates, and should be prepared to Coordinate groups of professional WASH actors, in Zonal/Camp Sector meetings and chair TWiG (Technical Working Group) meetings.

Working experience within UNHCR funding mechanisms and collaboration with relevant divisions like DER/DRRM and PSP, combined with experience working in an inter-agency environment, especially in a complex emergency setting, would also be an advantage. (Including Cluster /Sector coordination mechanisms). Candidate should be prepared to operate in less than ideal weather conditions but not jeopardize their own safety.

Current Situation

Prior to the August 2017 emergency, the est. number of Rohingya refugees was estimated to be around 300,000 in total. Following attacks in Myanmar on police and military posts by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) on 25/08/2017, security operations triggered the largest and swiftest refugee exodus in the region in recent decades, with over 688,000 crossing the border since 25 Aug. Level 3 emergency which remains in effect. Est. 900,000 Rohingyas have sought safety and security in different settlements (refugee camps, makeshift camps, settlements) of CXB district. Over 570,000 refugees reside in Kutupalong mega-camp, making it the largest refugee camp in the world, but also one of the most precarious in terms of terrain and risks. The camp is on rolling hills with steep angles, which are highly prone to flooding and landslides. Many of the smaller camps and settlements, which comprise over 300,000 persons, face similar challenges. Major landslides and floods (and relocation) will occur with the rapidly approaching monsoon rains and cyclonic season, which typically start in April/May. Also an ongoing diphtheria outbreak, endemic cholera risks and substantial public health and WASH-related risks in the highly crowded camp (which is also prone to fire hazards) and a highly complex range of new emergency scenarios emerges. Rohingya caseload is comprised of a diverse and resilient population, but with acute protection needs. Protection concerns emanated, in the first instance, from a highly oppressive environment in Rakhine State pre-flight, exponentially exacerbated by a brutal crackdown on the population by military actors, militia groups and their surrogates. Given refugees' lack of freedom of movement, their lack of recognized legal status and the scarcity of available land where refugees are allowed to settle, the sites where most of the refugees are living are overcrowded, which creates a wide range of protection risks. (continues in `Additional factors`)

Working and Living Conditions

CXB is a `D` category family duty station with 2 years of SAL (1-year for Fast Track). Educational facilities are limited, and international schools from primary to secondary school are currently only available in Dhaka. Health services in CXB are limited but better medical services are available in Dhaka/Bangkok. Malaria and dengue risks exists throughout the year. Vaccination against Japanese Encephalitis and diphtheria are required. CXB is the principle tourist

destination in Bangladesh, with the longest beach in the world stretching over 120km to the tip of the peninsula, with dramatic scenery and a number of high quality hotels and restaurants. Leisure and recreational facilities generally focus on beach activities (surfing, jet ski, etc.) and hotel-based activities (swimming pools, gyms, restaurant and bars). Infrastructure and shopping options in Cox's Bazar -- a small city of just 250,000 persons -- are relatively limited, however. CXB is a comfortable duty station, the workload in the L3 emergency setting is heavy, regularly working long hours and often under stressful conditions. R&R is every 12 weeks, destination is Bangkok. There are domestic flights available from/to Dhaka on a daily bases. Banks/ATM machines available in Cox's Bazaar, credit/debit cards are accepted. Foreign currency can be exchanged easily in banks and exchange houses. UNHCR staff members who upon assignment to Bangladesh opt not to install their family (i.e. recognized dependents) in Cox's Bazar may be compensated for maintaining two households through a 'living allowance'. For more details please refer to the Administrative Instruction on Exceptional Administrative Measures for the Bangladesh Emergency operation UNHCR/AI/2017/10.

Security Considerations

The security level system in Bangladesh is level 3 moderate. Although security is generally acceptable, given the current situation in the area, no movement on highways at night is allowed. Walking and jogging on the streets as earmarked is permitted. Staff members may avail rickshaws and taxis within Cox's Bazar city only. Crowded local markets should be avoided.

Additional Factors

Protection is central to the refugee response with particular focus on community-based approaches to empower refugees and support their resilience. Targeted interventions are required to address protection concerns and trauma emerging from the extreme and widespread incidence of violence suffered by Rohingya refugees pre-flight. Legal and physical protections concerns, GBV and child protection issues also dictate the establishment of systems to support survivors and effectuate diverse protection interventions. Protection and gender mainstreaming across the humanitarian response are key priorities for all humanitarian actors. UNHCR is in a unique situation whereby the Government has given IOM a leading role in the refugee response and UNHCR faces challenges, in some instances, fully carrying out its mandated functions. Effective inter-agency coordination and collaboration in a highly complex and politically charged operational environment are required. The Office works closely with local government authorities and the national office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) which is located in CXB, but Dhaka-level ministries and task forces exert considerable influence in the operational theatre which must be understood and managed. The Office also engages with an evolving and complex coordination structure which is different than the traditional Refugee Coordination Model. UNHCR is tasked with directly and indirectly managing the engagement of almost 100 international and national NGOs in the operational theatre, in addition to a division of Bangladeshi military troops and several battalions of Bangladeshi border guards. The operation is one of the highest profile refugee operations in the world, with regular visits of high-ranking foreign government officials, UN special envoys

and rapporteurs, high-ranking UN and regional body officials, ambassadors and celebrities. The Office spends considerable time engaging in representational, external relations and PI.

Closing Date

Please note that the closing date for all vacancies in the Add.3 to the September 2017 Compendium is Thursday 15 March 2018 (midnight Geneva time).