WASH Specialist



General description

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Specialists support the implementation of WASH projects with the aim of reducing health risks for affected populations in the areas of water, sanitation and hygiene. The WASH Specialist is both expected to be able to give specialized technical support, conduct situational analyses in the field and take sectorial leadership. Cooperation and coordination with local governments, UN agencies and other NGOs a vital elements as well as being able to do financial priorities and reports. Furthermore education of both affected or displaced populations and staff will often be necessary.

WASH Specialists will primarily, but not exclusively, be deployed to UNHCR or UNICEF.

Examples of duties and responsibilities

- Act as focal point to WASH issues and liaise with relevant actors in different stages of WASH programme/project implementation to follow up on agreements and recommendations.
- Support and develop existing programmes within the WASH sector.
- Consolidate and provide technical guidance and support to implementing partners on all water, sanitation and hygiene promotion related issues, to ensure quality, cost-effectiveness, sustainability and environmental soundness in their implementation.
- Arrange repairs of existing systems as, tanks, pumps, pipe networks and generators.
- Asses the health risks in the overall WASH situation, and design and implement systems to improve the situation in collaboration with relevant actors.
- Negotiate access to identified suitable natural water sources with relevant stakeholders while ensuring adherence to the *Do no harm* principle.
- Facilitate participatory and community-based approaches.
- Guide and supervise technical and support staff, and ensure that training needs are met.
- Develop educational material to both staff and affected or displaced people.
- Contribute to the budgeting process and give inputs to the financial management of the programme on technical areas.
- Provide weekly reports and input to the Emergency WASH Sector Coordination forum on progress and results of interventions and activities.

Required qualifications

- Professional technical experience matching the above-mentioned duties and responsibilities.
- A minimum of 3 years international humanitarian field experience.
- Relevant educational background and knowledge of the UN.
- Knowledge and understanding of the complexity related to refugee and IDP situations.
- Proficiency in one (preferable two) languages. English is obligatory, while French or Arabic is an advantage.