Child Protection Specialist



General description

A Child Protection Specialist supports field operations by providing technical assistance and guidance on child protection. He/She identifies and screens children with specific needs and makes sure that relevant child protection programmes are in place. Furthermore, he/she offers capacity building, spreads latest research and evaluates child protection mechanisms. Child protection issues include, but are not limited to: birth registration, children with disabilities, gender based violence in emergencies, unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) etc.

A Child Protection Specialist will primarily, but not exclusively, be deployed to UNHCR and UNICEF.

Examples of duties and responsibilities

- Mapping of child protection systems and development of a child protection strategy.
- Ensure child protection risks and strategies are assessed on a regular basis.
- Strengthening of child protection coordination mechanisms.
- Identify protection issues and services that affect children at risk.
- Design of child protection interventions.
- Establishment and support of monitoring and evaluate the child protection system.
- Regular field visits to monitor implementation of programmes and to provide technical guidance.
- Facilitate the Best interest Determination system (BID).
- Monitor and support the implementation of 1612 MRM procedures.
- Implement and monitor programmes on child friendly spaces.
- Support of capacity building and training for Child Protection staff.
- Coordinate with other agencies, governments and NGOs to implement and coordinate common standards.
- Cooperate with Protection cluster to ensure that child protection issues are part of all initiatives and documents, i.e. participate in Chile Protection working group.
- Preparation of annual and donor reports as well as other documentation related to child protection programmes.

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.