

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Request for Standby Partner

Surge Mechanism: what is the modality you are requesting (ERT, HSD-Frontlines mission, RRR, internal RRT) if you are unclear, write unclear	ERT/SBP
Surge Modality: in-country, remote, hybrid	<i>In-country</i>
Country and duty station	Burundi Bujumbura
Surge title and Level:	IPC WASH specialist P3
Type of Crisis:	Public health Emergency (Mpox)
Emergency experience required	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please specify: Emergency WASH in public health No <input type="checkbox"/>
Office confirms there is no capacity on ground	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
REA/HRBP reviews request before it goes to the cell	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
What are the plans for this staffing plan post-surge assignment (e.g. no needs after surge, will be nationalized, TA)	TA

Background

On 24 July 2024, the Ministry of Health (MoH) declared an outbreak of Mpox following the confirmation of 03 cases in two districts. As of 05 September 2024, Burundi has reported 352 confirmed cases within 61% of the Health Districts (30 of the country's 49 health districts reported cases), making Burundi the second most affected country after the DRC.

Based on the September 05 sitrep 2024, children under 5 are the most affected, with 30.1%, followed by youth between 20 and 30 years (20.2%). The country is also facing with additional risks and hazards, including disease outbreaks such as Cholera (2,144 Cholera cases with 12 deaths) and Measles (2,756 measles cases and 12 deaths reported across 44 health districts out of 49 health districts). The striking similarities between the geographical distribution of Mpox and measles cases highlight concerns of child vulnerabilities and equity regarding actual emergencies.

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between the geographical distribution of Mpox and measles cases highlight concerns of child vulnerabilities and equity regarding actual emergencies. The humanitarian situation deteriorated significantly in the second half of 2024. Indeed, the increase in the number of people in a situation of high acute food insecurity, including the high prevalence of chronic malnutrition (52.8%), makes Burundi one of the few countries in the world with a rate of over 50% (SMART 2024 survey).

Moreover, Burundi is enduring climate-change-related natural disasters and is amongst the least prepared countries to respond to climate change-induced shocks. From September 2023 to May 2024, Burundi endured heavy rains with an exacerbation of the consequences of human-induced climate change by El Niño across the country, causing internal displacements of populations in many provinces. According to OCHA, El Niño has resulted in 29 recorded deaths, of which some are a consequence of exposure to wildlife in flood-prone zones. The impact of El Niño exacerbated floods and heavy rains has been most significantly felt since the start of 2024, with more than 239,781 people affected and more than 36,907 forced to flee because of flooding and landslides.

Purpose

In this context, UNICEF seeks the support of an Emergency WASH/IPC specialist to support the planning/coordination and implementation of the UNICEF response plan, which will feed into and support the overall national task force response plan by delivering targeted WASH/IPC interventions in the communities, Health Care Facilities and Schools and if necessary, beyond to other at-risk/affected districts.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the Chief WASH & CEED's technical guidance and managerial responsibility in close collaboration with the Mpox coordinator, the WASH/IPC Specialist will be accountable for the quality of UNICEF interventions regarding WASH/IPC both in institutions (healthcare facilities and schools) and at the community level. As the WASH/IPC response focal point for the WASH & CEED program, the incumbent will:

- provide technical and program development support to field response teams and partners engaged in WASH/IPC for the Mpox and other epidemic diseases;
- familiarize her/himself with the current epidemic situation and context, including the extent of the current outbreak, including all SitReps and other relevant reports produced;
- prepare WASH/IPC supply plans in line with the UNICEF Mpox Response Plan and coordination with the relevant government at the national and district level and other partners and relevant stakeholders to the Mpox response;

- support the preparation of donor proposals in support of the response and donor updates and reporting as and when required;
- visit affected/target districts to support field coordination and monitoring of the Mpox WASH/IPC response;
- support IPC/WASH commission coordination both at the national at field (provincial) level (hotspots);
- ensure regular and timely processes and impact evaluations are done regarding UNICEF IPC/WASH-related interventions in healthcare facilities;
- provide technical guidance to developing partnerships agreements and collaboration mechanisms with international and national NGOs that have relevant expertise, implementation capacity and know how in the management of responses to WASH/IPC emergencies as well as in the development of community-based surveillance systems;
- also facilitate a synergic collaboration with the Government of Burundi represented by the Technical Management of Mpox Outbreak Team, the World Health Organization, other UN Agencies, Civil Society Organizations, and other partners for all aspects related to WASH/IPC;
- support systematic and timely reporting of IPC activities to the chief WASH in close collaboration with the Mpox coordinator
- provide any other support as determined by the Chief WASH and Mpox coordinator.

Minimum qualifications:

Education:	Advanced university degree in Water and Sanitary Engineering or equivalent experience in Public Health, Environmental Health, and Social Sciences or related fields.
Experience and technical qualification:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 5 years of experience in the relevant areas of Public Health, Environmental Health, Civil & Water/Sanitary Engineering and Social Sciences; • Previous experience in proving emergency WASH responses in complex environments essential; • Previous experience in emergency preparedness/response (such as Ebola, COVID, ...) is strongly advised; • Knowledge of Infection Prevention Control protocols (WHO, CDC); • Previous experience in preparing donor proposals and reporting; • Experience in building consensus and brokering partnerships; • Experience in facilitating participatory approaches and coordination of partners;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous UNICEF WASH emergencies experience is an advantage.
Language Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluency in English and working knowledge of French.

Duty Station and Travel:

Bujumbura (Burundi) with frequent travel to affected/high-risk Mpox districts as required.