

TERMS OF REFERENCE

National Health Emergency Consultant

CONTRACT MODALITY Individual Consultancy

DUTY STATION Xai-Xai, Office based

DURATION OF CONTRACT Two months

Purpose of Assignment

Since mid-December 2025, Mozambique has experienced extensive flooding across the central and southern regions, severely affecting access to essential health services. The floodsp articularly intense in Gaza, Maputo city, Maputo Province, and Sofala provinces have disrupted the lives of more than 652,000 people, with over half displaced from their homes and temporarily settled in accommodation centers, schools, and higher-ground areas.

The widespread destruction of health infrastructure, water systems, bridges, telecommunications, and electricity networks has significantly limited the population's ability to access life-saving health care. In Gaza province, where the largest proportion of the affected population is concentrated, health facilities remain overstretched and, in some districts, only partially functional. Damage to roads and bridges has delayed referral pathways and reduced the capacity of ambulances and mobile health teams to reach isolated communities.

Flood conditions have sharply increased the risk of waterborne diseases, particularly diarrheal diseases and cholera, due to contaminated water sources, poor sanitation, and overcrowding in temporary shelters. Health facilities are recording rising caseloads of acute watery diarrhea, respiratory infections, malaria, and trauma-related injuries. Vulnerable groups including children under five, pregnant and breastfeeding women, people with chronic illnesses, and the elderly face heightened risk of complications and mortality when timely treatment is unavailable. The destruction of livelihoods, including the loss of 325,000 livestock and damage to 285,000 hectares of crops, is expected to exacerbate acute malnutrition rates, further increasing health vulnerabilities. Limited access to clean water and safe food preparation in displacement sites increases the risk of disease outbreaks and undermines overall public health stability.

As one of the Government's principal humanitarian partners, UNICEF continues to provide technical and financial assistance through its rapid response mechanisms to ensure life-saving interventions reach the most affected populations.

UNICEF's Health section is supporting the Ministry of Health (MISAU) at national and provincial levels to:

- Reinforce essential primary health care services in affected districts,
- Ensure availability of emergency medical supplies,
- Support disease surveillance and early detection of outbreaks,
- Strengthen cholera preparedness and response,
- Deploy mobile health teams to inaccessible or displaced communities,
- Support on Small rehabilitation of Health Facilities

To strengthen humanitarian response and post-emergency recovery efforts, UNICEF will deploy a consultant from 26 October to 24 December 2026 (44 working days) to support critical emergency health interventions. The assignment will focus on the implementation and monitoring of life-saving primary health care activities, management of emergency medical supplies, coordination with provincial health authorities, and integration with multisectoral response partners. The consultant will also support the planning, oversight, and monitoring of the rehabilitation of health facilities financed by the Safe and Healthy Environment Cluster, ensuring improved access to quality and resilient health services for affected populations.

Scope of Work

The purpose of this consultancy is to provide technical, operational, and coordination support to UNICEF's Health Emergency Response in Gaza Province, ensuring the timely, high-quality, and accountable delivery of life-saving primary health care (PHC) interventions for populations affected by emergencies. The consultant will support emergency preparedness and response activities, including outbreak response, mobile health service delivery, continuity of maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) services, emergency health supplies management, and strengthening of provincial and district health emergency systems.

Under the supervision of the Health Emergency Officer, and in close collaboration with government counterparts and implementing partners, the consultant will undertake the following tasks:

1. Strengthen Coordination Mechanisms at Provincial and District Levels.

- Strengthen coordination between UNICEF-supported interventions, Health Cluster partners, and government-led emergency response activities to maximize coverage and avoid duplication.
- Liaise with the Provincial Directorate of Health (DPS Gaza), district health authorities (SDSMAS), NGOs, UN agencies, and community structures.
- Contribute to emergency preparedness and contingency planning at provincial and district levels.

2. Support Emergency Health Supplies and Logistics

- Collaborate with UNICEF Health and Supply teams to facilitate the pre-positioning, distribution, and monitoring of essential emergency health supplies and equipment.
- Monitor stock levels at provincial and district levels and identify critical shortages requiring immediate action.
- Support the tracking and utilization of emergency health commodities provided through UNICEF and partners.

3. Support Rehabilitation of Health Facilities

- Provide technical follow-up and field monitoring of small-scale rehabilitation works in selected health facilities financed through the Safe and Healthy Environment Cluster.
- Monitor implementation progress, identify bottlenecks, and support coordination between contractors, health authorities, and UNICEF.
- Ensure rehabilitation activities contribute to restoring safe and functional health services in affected areas.

4. Monitor Compliance with Emergency Health Standards

- Conduct monitoring visits to health facilities.
- Assess compliance with national clinical protocols, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) standards, and emergency health guidelines.
- Document operational challenges and recommend corrective actions to DPS and implementing partners.

- Follow up on actions agreed during supervision and monitoring visits.

5. Reporting and Documentation

- Support the compilation of emergency health situation reports, monitoring updates, and Health Cluster reporting products.
- Prepare weekly progress updates, field mission reports, and briefing notes.
- Contribute to donor reporting, lessons learned, and documentation of response achievements.
- Maintain up-to-date records of emergency health interventions, supply distribution, mobile brigade activities, and health facility rehabilitation progress.

Expected Deliverables (44 Working Days)

- Coordination support provided to Health Cluster and government emergency response mechanisms.
- At least two monitoring missions conducted per month to emergency-affected districts and health facilities.
- Weekly emergency health updates and field reports submitted.
- Monitoring reports on mobile health brigades and emergency health supplies produced.
- Progress reports on rehabilitation of supported health facilities prepared.
- Final consultancy report summarizing achievements, challenges, lessons learned, and recommendations for strengthening emergency health preparedness and response in Gaza Province

Work Assignments Overview	Deliverables/Outputs	Delivery deadline to complete the deliverable
Support Health Facility Rehabilitation and Emergency Health Operations	• Health Facility Rehabilitation Progress Report. • Emergency Health Supplies Monitoring and Pre-positioning Report. • Field Monitoring and Coordination Report	30 November 2026
Support Completion, Handover, and Closure of Emergency Response Activities	• Health Facility Rehabilitation Completion and Handover Report. • Emergency Response Closure and Lessons Learned Report. • Final Consultancy Report with recommendations.	31 December 2026

Payment Schedule:

Payment will be made on submission and acceptance of deliverables. UNICEF reserves the right to withhold payment in case the deliverables submitted are not up to the required standard or in case of delays in submitting the deliverables on the part of the consultant.

Important Notes

- Individuals engaged under a consultancy or individual contract will not be considered “staff members” under the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and UNICEF’s policies and procedures and will not be entitled to benefits provided therein (such as leave entitlements and medical insurance coverage). Their conditions of service will be governed by their contract and the General Conditions of Contracts for the Services of Consultants and Individual Contractors. Consultants and individual contractors are responsible for determining their tax liabilities and for the payment of any taxes and/or duties, in accordance with local or other applicable laws.
- Contracts are conditional upon the selected candidate's willingness to comply with any current or future vaccination requirements that may be established by UNICEF, where applicable. Failure to comply with applicable vaccination requirements, where required and without an approved medical exemption by UNICEF, may result in the withdrawal of the consultancy offer or termination of the contract in accordance with the General Terms and Conditions of Contract.
- UNICEF offers reasonable accommodation for consultants with disabilities. This may include, for example, accessible software, travel assistance for missions or personal attendants. We encourage you to disclose your disability during your application in case you need reasonable accommodation during the selection process and afterwards in your assignment.

**QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE / EXPERIENCE/ COMPETENCIES
(CORE/TECHNICAL/FUNCTIONAL) / LANGUAGE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE ASSIGNMENT**

Minimum Qualifications required: Bachelors in Medicine, public health, or relevant academic background.

Years of Experience/ Knowledge/Expertise/Skills required:

Work Experience:

- At least 5 years of progressive professional experience in public health and emergency health programs
- Demonstrated experience in implementing and coordinating health emergency response activities, such as floods, cholera outbreaks, displacement emergencies, or other rapid-onset crises.
- Proven ability to support Government-led emergency health operations, including coordination with the Ministry of Health (MISAU), Provincial Health Directorates (DPS), and District Health Services (SDSMAS) in Mozambique.

Language Requirements:

- Oral and written fluency in Portuguese and , with the ability to produce high-quality technical reports, plans, and coordination documents for Government and cluster partners.

Knowledge/Expertise/Skills:

Experience working with UN agencies, Health Cluster partners, NGOs, or humanitarian organizations in emergency or development health programs is an advantage.

Desirables:

Excellent coordination, communication, and facilitation skills with multisectoral teams, Government counterparts, and community structures.