



Classified Job Descriptions

Job Description Type:	Specific Job Description	Region:	ESAR
Category:	NO (National Officers)	Country:	Ethiopia
Reason for Classification:	Establishment of a new post	Duty Station:	Addis Ababa
Level:	NOC	Office:	Programme
Title:	Climate, Environment and DRR Specialist	Section:	Programme
Title Information in Parenthesis:		Unit:	Programme
CCOG Code:	1A02	Case Number:	ETH26006
UNICEF Code:	PMA	Post Number:	
		Classified Date:	4/10/2026

Organizational Context:

Ethiopia is among the countries most affected by climate change globally, with children disproportionately exposed to climate related hazards including droughts, floods, extreme heat and environmental degradation. These climate and disaster risks undermine child survival, development and protection outcomes and place increasing pressure on social service systems, particularly in health, nutrition, WASH, education and child protection.

UNICEF Ethiopia's Country Programme places a strong emphasis on strengthening climate resilient, inclusive and shock-responsive social services as a core strategy to safeguard children's rights in the context of escalating climate and disaster risks. In line with UNICEF's global climate and environmental sustainability commitments and the Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI), the Country Office supports the Government of Ethiopia to integrate child-centred climate change adaptation, environmental sustainability and disaster risk reduction across national policies, sector plans and financing frameworks, while ensuring coherence between humanitarian, development and resilience programming.

UNICEF has established a close and trusted partnership with the Government of Ethiopia, particularly the Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD), to advance child sensitive climate governance. This includes technical engagement on Ethiopia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0), the development of a national Climate and Environmental Policy, disaster risk reduction frameworks, climate resilient social service delivery, and the mobilization of climate finance for child focused programmes. There is growing demand from government counterparts for UNICEF to provide sustained, embedded technical support to translate climate commitments into implementable, measurable and child focused outcomes.

Ethiopia is also preparing to host the 32nd Conference of the Parties (COP32), which will significantly elevate national and international attention on climate policy, finance and implementation. In this context, UNICEF Ethiopia is supporting government counterparts to ensure that children, social services and disaster risk reduction are adequately reflected in COP related policy processes, technical preparations and follow-up actions.

Within this context, climate, environment and disaster risk reduction work is coordinated

under the overall leadership of the Deputy Representative (Programme). The Climate, Environment and DRR Specialist plays a central role in supporting the operationalization of UNICEF's climate and environmental agenda across programme sections and in close collaboration with government institutions.

Purpose of the Job:

The Climate, Environment and DRR Specialist (NO-3) provides technical leadership, programme support and coordination to advance child-centred climate change adaptation, environmental sustainability and disaster risk reduction within UNICEF Ethiopia's Country Programme.

Reporting directly to the Deputy Representative (Programme), the incumbent is accountable for supporting the design, implementation, monitoring and reporting of climate- and DRR-responsive programmes; contributing technical inputs to national climate and environmental policy processes; supporting climate finance development; and strengthening the systematic mainstreaming of climate, environment and disaster risk reduction across UNICEF-supported programmes.

The position is expected to be co-located with a key government counterpart ministry, enabling close day-to-day technical engagement, coordination and alignment between government priorities and UNICEF-supported interventions. Through this role, the incumbent supports the translation of national climate commitments, including those related to COP32, into practical, child-focused actions that enhance the resilience, equity and sustainability of social service delivery for children.

Key functions, accountabilities and related duties/tasks:

The Climate, Environment and Disaster Risk Resilience (DRR) Specialist works to achieve the results outlined the Ethiopia Country Office 2025 – 2030 Country Programme Document (CPD) and in line with the UNICEF 2026 – 2029 Strategic Plan.

1. Technical Support to the country office and sectors on climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives
 - Provide technical support to UNICEF sectors to mainstream climate and environment in their programming.
 - In collaboration with sectoral colleagues, provide technical support for ensuring the use of sustainable energy in all sectors.
 - Support sectoral colleagues with adopting and implementing UNICEF's Social and Environmental Standards and Procedures.
 - Provide monitoring and backstopping of implementation of approved proposals.
2. National and global climate policy engagement and advocacy
 - Provide technical assistance to the Government of Ethiopia to ensure that climate adaptation and mitigation policies are child sensitive and include specific actions for climate resilient social service delivery.
 - Provide technical assistance to acquire child sensitive data and evidence necessary for climate policy development and implementation.
 - Liaise with key Government Officials and inter-governmental climate processes to ensure inclusion of key social sectors in inter-governmental climate processes and policies.
 - Provide technical assistance to key sectoral ministries to develop their capacity and understanding of inter-governmental climate processes such as the Conference of Parties.
 - Support youth platforms on advocacy and action around climate and environment.
3. Leverage partnerships and finance opportunities for climate-resilient social services
 - Identify and build strategic partnerships to strengthen in-country sectorial capacity on climate, environment, renewable energies, and financing, and to leverage climate finance for children.
 - Develop and implement climate finance strategies for Ethiopia Country Office.
 - Coordinate and develop bankable climate finance proposals for the Ethiopia Country Office in collaboration with sectoral colleagues and relevant Government Ministries.
 - Liaise with national focal points for global climate and environmental funds such as Adaptation Fund, GEF and GCF in coordination with country office colleagues.
 - Identify and implement innovative climate finance strategies for UNICEF Ethiopia in collaboration with Government Ministries, private and public sector actors, and UNICEF sectoral colleagues.

4. Development of tools, guidance and technical support on climate risk assessment, climate change adaptation and DRR

- Provide technical assistance to relevant Government Ministries to strengthen data, analysis and evidence on the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation on children and social service delivery.
- Provide technical assistance to Government Ministries and UNICEF sectoral colleagues to support the development of child-responsive anticipatory action, early warning systems and shock-responsive approaches addressing multiple climate hazards.
- Support the integration of climate risk analysis, adaptation and DRR considerations into UNICEF programme planning, implementation and monitoring processes across sectors.
- Coordinate with UNICEF sectoral colleagues and government counterparts to support climate mitigation and adaptation approaches, including renewable energy solutions for social service delivery and climate-related financing mechanisms.
- Contribute to the adaptation and application of tools, guidance and methodologies related to climate risk assessment, DRR and climate resilient programming.

5. Knowledge Management

- Contribute to lessons learned and knowledge sharing on climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Encourage south-south collaboration between countries on climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Collect and codify case studies related to children, climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Impact of Results:

The technical support provided by this position will have an impact on UNICEF's capacity to effectively integrate climate change and environmental sustainability concerns into its programming and advocacy, enabling the organization to deliver improved results for children in all outcome areas of its current Strategic Plan and beyond. The position also has a direct impact on UNICEF's ability to mobilize and leverage climate finance resources from, and engage with multilateral, bilateral and private sector partners, and collaborate with civil society. It will solidify UNICEF as the Government of Ethiopia's the go-to partner for advancing children's rights in the face of climate change.

Competencies and level of proficiency required:

Core Values:

Care
Respect
Integrity
Trust
Accountability
Sustainability

Core Competencies:

Demonstrates self-awareness and ethical awareness (1)
Works collaboratively with others (1)
Builds and maintains partnerships (1)
Innovates and embraces change (1)
Thinks and acts strategically (1)
Drive to achieve impactful results (1)
Manages ambiguity and complexity (1)

Recruitment Qualifications:

Education requirement: An advanced university degree (Master's Degree) in relevant areas of work such as environment, social and economic development, and/or international cooperation.

Experience required: A minimum of 5 years of relevant professional experience focused on developing countries related to development cooperation in climate change adaptation and mitigation, environment and socio-economic development.

Specific expertise in programme/project formulation, implementation, monitoring and review and evaluation related to climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk

resilience work in developing countries is required.

Specific expertise in developing and implementing bankable climate finance proposals for the Adaptation Fund, GEF, Green Climate Funds and/or other sources of climate change fund is required.

Prior experience undertaking climate risk and vulnerability assessment is required.

Knowledge on climate change impacts, climate risk assessments and adaptation solutions is required.

Experience engaging in inter-governmental climate processes including the Conference of Parties and the Subsidiary Bodies process is required.

Experience directly engaging with Government Ministries on climate action is required.

Experience working with UNICEF on climate mitigation and adaptation programming is a strong asset.

Specific expertise on implementing global Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) is an asset.

Knowledge on Green House Gas emissions and climate change mitigation solutions, especially related sustainable energy, including market assessments is an asset.

Expertise in Government capacity building, developing tools and providing training is an asset.

Familiar with children's rights and gender in the context of climate change adaptation and mitigation and/or natural resources management is an asset.

Excellent analytical and writing skills, advocacy and presentation skill is an asset.

Relevant experience in program/project development and management in related areas in a UN system agency or organization and Civil Society Organization is an asset.

Demonstrate ability to work harmoniously in a multi-cultural environment and establish harmonious & effective working relationship both within and outside an organization is desired.

Language requirements: Oral and written fluency in English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish) or local language is considered as an asset.

Is this role a Representative, Deputy Representative, Chief of Field Office, the most senior Child Protection role in the office, Child Safeguarding Focal Point, or Investigator (OIAI)?:

No

Is this post a Direct contact role in which incumbent will be in contact with children either face-to-face, or by remote communication, but the communication will not be moderated and relayed by another person?:

No

Is this post a Child Data role in which incumbent will be manipulating or transmitting personal-identifiable information on children such as names, national ID, location data, or photos)?:

No

The selected candidate for this position will be required to engage with vulnerable children:

No

Competencies and level of proficiency required:

Recruitment Qualifications: