Position Title: Representative, D-1, Kathmandu, Nepal

If you are a committed, creative professional and are passionate about making a lasting difference for children, the world’s leading children's rights organization would like to hear from you.

For 70 years, UNICEF has been working on the ground in 190 countries and territories to promote children's survival, protection and development. The world’s largest provider of vaccines for developing countries, UNICEF supports child health and nutrition, good water and sanitation, quality basic education for all boys and girls, and the protection of children from violence, exploitation, and AIDS. UNICEF is funded entirely by the voluntary contributions of individuals, businesses, foundations and governments.

Purpose for the job:

The Representative serves as the accredited representative of the UNICEF Executive Director in the Country and reports to the Regional Director for general direction. The Representative is responsible for establishing dialogue with the government to develop the framework of cooperation in the country and for working closely and collaboratively with the government and national institutions, stakeholders and partners, to develop the UNICEF Country Program of Cooperation in support of UNICEF’s and national and international development efforts to advance children’s rights to survival, development and well-being as established under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, international treaties/framework and UN intergovernmental bodies.

As Head of a medium size Country Office, the Representative is responsible for leading and guiding managers of programs/projects and operations supporting the CO programs, providing leadership and vision to the UNICEF country programme team in managing and leveraging resources for the achievement of results and fulfilment of the rights of children. The Representative leads and oversees the various program sectors and operational service teams ensuring delivery of quality results in accordance with the UNICEF Strategic Plans, standards of performance and accountability framework, ethics and integrity.

Key function, accountabilities and related duties/tasks:

- Developing and planning the Country Program
- Leading and managing the CO
- Monitoring and quality control of the Country Program
- Representation and external relations at global/national level
- Building alliance, resource mobilization and UN System coordination
- Leading innovation, knowledge management and capacity building
- Safety and security of staff, programs and organizational assets

Minimum Requirements:

- An Advanced University Degree in social sciences, international relations, government and public relations, public or social policy, sociology, social or community development or other related fields, is required.

- A minimum of 12 years professional development experience that combines intellectual and managerial leadership in development cooperation at the international level, some of which served in developing countries is required. Relevant professional experience in any UN system agency or organization is an asset.

- Oral and written proficiency in English is required. Knowledge of another official UN language or a local language is an asset.
Country Typology:

- Nepal is a Low Income country, with a population of 28.851 million and a GDP per capita of USD 691.7 in 2014.
- Kathmandu, Nepal is a Family duty station.
- Kathmandu, Nepal is a "C" Duty Station. (Source: International Civil Service Commission, effective 01/Jan/2016)

Brief country context: Nepal is a landlocked Himalayan country with a diverse ecology and culture, and one of the most rugged terrains in the world, with around 80 per cent of its population living in rural areas, many in remote middle hills and mountainous locations with difficult access to social services. There are 126 caste and ethnic groups, and 123 languages are spoken as mother tongue. Millions of Nepalese children are malnourished and continue to die from easily preventable diseases. Women and girls suffer myriad forms of abuse and neglect, and many ethnic groups and disadvantaged communities have limited access to basic services and rights. Adolescents account for nearly one-quarter of the population and represent a development opportunity and challenge. The country continues on a path of complex political and peace transition, following a 10-year armed conflict, which fueled rapid urbanization. Nepal is the poorest country in South Asia, and an estimated 30 per cent of its GDP comes from remittances. It is classified on the Human Development Index (HDI) for 2015 as having low human development and is ranked 145th of 188 countries. Nevertheless, this measure is improving steadily, with Nepal now being above average for Least Developed Countries. It has been able to achieve many targets for the MDGs, including reducing poverty, maternal and child deaths, increasing access to primary education and coverage of safe water supply and sanitation. The country is highly prone to natural and climate-induced disasters and hazards. The 2015 earthquakes have had far reaching implications, impacting the lives of about 5.3 million people (including 1.1 million children), particularly in the 14 most-affected districts.

Size of the country office:
- The Country Programme budget is approximately US$145 million and an additional US$120 million emergency funds for the Earthquake response.
- 280 staff (including 180 FT and 100 TAs for emergency after Earthquake).

Focus of country programme, targets, challenges:
- The overall goal of the 2013-2017 UNICEF Country Programme is to address political, system, societal inequities to enable children, adolescents and women to access education, health care, nutrition, sanitation, clean water, protection, information, and other services necessary to fulfil their rights to survival, development, protection and participation. The original focus of the Country Programme was primarily on 15 low performing districts (10 in the mid and far western hills, 4 in the central terai and 1 in eastern terai), supporting government to reduce disparities, through the development of legislation and multi-sector policies at national level. Following the earthquakes which primarily affected the central and eastern regions of Nepal, the Country Office opened five emergency sites to more effectively manage and coordinate the humanitarian response. The level of deprivation – 44% poor in terms of multidimensional poverty compared with 25% in terms of income poverty as of 2011, quality of services, caste-based discrimination and gender-based disparities and Protection issues (eg. trafficking, child marriage) and the actual execution / implementation of legislation, policies and programmes remain key challenges. The political situation, geographical terrain, vulnerability, diversity, capacity and simultaneous implementation of regular and emergency programmes are additional challenges.
- A new country programme (2018-2020) is currently being developed.
• **Additional information applicants should know:** Working with government at central and district levels, and strategic partnerships within the United Nations, international financial institutions and bilateral institutions and with civil society are essential for scaling up projects and programmes.

**Person Profile:**

• A high visibility DS with bilateral donors and national committees, with need to support frequent donor missions.
• Capacity to identify and support innovative programme strategies for application with multiple partners, and guide change management within UNICEF office on introduction of new strategies.
• Capacity to manage complex emergency and staff safety in earthquake-prone location.
• Politically savvy to work with government at central and local levels.
• Solid leadership, managerial and people skills.
• Strong negotiation skills, maturity and sensitivity to work with multiple stakeholders.

**Competencies of Successful Candidate:**

**Core Values**

• Commitment
• Diversity and inclusion
• Integrity

**SSR competencies**

• Delivering results
• Managing complexity and change
• Impact and partnership
• Innovation and risk taking
• Leading, engaging and nurturing
• Self-awareness

Applications will be considered only if accompanied by an updated Cover Letter and CV, as well as the two most recent PERs (for internals) / Evaluations (for externals). Regret letters will only be sent to shortlisted candidates.

*UNICEF is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages qualified female and male candidates from all national, religious and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities, to apply to become a part of our organization.*