

Livelihoods Officer Profile

Various Locations

Grade: Junior (P2), Mid (P3) and Senior (P4) Level Positions

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is mandated to lead and coordinate international action to protect and assist refugees and other persons of concern. It is constantly seeking talented, compassionate candidates with high-integrity to strengthen its capacity to respond urgently to crises with the right skills. Given the nature of UNHCR's work, it is essential that its workforce has the right mix of skills and qualities to fulfil its mandate.

While UNHCR's primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees, our ultimate goal is to help find durable solutions that will allow them to rebuild their lives in dignity. There are three durable solutions pursued by UNHCR for 6.4 million refugees in protracted situations: voluntary repatriation; local integration; or resettlement to a third country. While pursuing durable solutions, UNHCR works to increase the self-reliance and livelihood opportunities of refugees.

UNHCR launched the Global Strategy for Livelihoods 2014-2018 in an effort to inform field operations on how to implement livelihoods programmes and to guide the development of national and local livelihoods strategies. UNHCR issued the Minimum Criteria for Livelihoods Programming in February 2015 to promote market-oriented and results-driven programming.

Typical functions may include:

- Assessments and Strategic Planning
- Conduct livelihoods assessments including market analysis, socioeconomic assessments, institutional mappings, etc.;
- Develop context specific livelihoods strategies;
- Assess current livelihoods programmes and develop improvement plans;
- Build and maintain strategic partnerships with key stakeholders including private sector, financial service providers, development actors, government etc.

Technical Support and Implementation

- Provide technical assistance and advice to field operations on livelihoods in emergencies and protracted displacement situations;
- Ensure compliance with the Minimum Criteria for Livelihoods Programming and other relevant guidelines and policies;

- Coordinate and facilitate assessments, planning, budgeting, coordination, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation relevant to livelihoods programming;
- Liaise with all relevant units to ensure coordinated planning and implementation of livelihoods interventions;
- Draft, negotiate and establish agreements with partners in collaboration with relevant units;
- Undertake advocacy for persons of concern's access to decent work and livelihoods opportunities and for inclusion in development plans as relevant;
- Draft, review and provide technical feedback on livelihoods reports and proposals.

Capacity Building

- Identify skill and knowledge gaps related to livelihoods among UNHCR and partners, and address these through various capacity building initiatives.

Inter-Agency Coordination

- Ensure an inter-agency coordination mechanism on livelihoods is established and functioning;
- Coordinate inter-agency activities on livelihoods, including representing UNHCR at relevant forums and creating linkages to relevant actors and programmes, where applicable.

Three Main Areas of Concentration

First Area: Global

Livelihoods Officer - Global/Senior Livelihoods Officer - Global

- a. Educational qualifications in Development Studies or Economy or Socio-Economic Development or Rural Development or Business Administration.
- b. Experience in local economic development or SMEs development or employment services or microfinance or poverty reduction.
- c. Experience working with private sector or development agencies or social enterprises
- d. International experience.

Second Area: Rural

Rural Development Officer/Senior Rural Development Officer/Senior Rural Development Officer - Global

- a. Educational qualifications in Agricultural and Rural Development related studies.
- b. Experience in agribusiness or agricultural and rural development programmes.
- c. Experience working with private sector or development agencies or social enterprises
- d. International experience

Third Area: Urban

Livelihoods Officer - Urban/Senior Livelihoods Officer - Urban

- a. Educational qualifications in Development Studies or Economy or Socio-Economic Development or Business Administration.
- b. Experience in local economic development or SMEs development or employment services or microfinance or poverty reduction or urban economic development.
- c. Experience working with private sector or development agencies or social enterprises.
- d. International experience.

Minimum Qualifications and Professional Experience Required:

For positions at the P2 level

- Education: Degree.
- Job experience: Minimum 2 years of relevant experience with graduate degree (equivalent of a Master's), 3 years with undergraduate degree (equivalent of a BA/BS).
- Languages: Proficiency in English is required.

For positions at the P3 level

- Education: Degree.
- Job experience: Minimum 5 years of relevant (international) job experience with graduate degree (equivalent of a Master's), 6 years with undergraduate degree (equivalent of a BA/BS).
- Languages: Proficiency in English is required.

For positions at the P4 level

- Education: Degree.
- Job experience: Minimum 8 years of relevant (international) job experience with graduate degree (equivalent of a Master's), 9 years with undergraduate degree (equivalent of a BA/BS).
- Languages: Proficiency in English and knowledge of a second UN language (Arabic/Chinese/French/Russian/Spanish) at B2¹ is required.

To apply and read a detailed Job Description, please visit: [Current vacancies](#).

The UNHCR workforce consists of many diverse nationalities, cultures, languages and opinions. UNHCR seeks to sustain and strengthen this diversity to ensure equal opportunities as well as an inclusive working environment for its entire workforce. Applications are encouraged from all qualified candidates without distinction on grounds of race, colour, sex, national origin, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity.

¹ See <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/resources/european-language-levels-cefr>, the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).