

VACCANCY (02)

Job Title: Early Childhood Education Project Officers (02) Expected Start Date: May 2025

Reporting to: Education & Child Protection Manager and works closely with Project Finance In-Charge, MEAL Coordinator and Logistics & PSEA Officer.

Basic position description:

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) Project Officer's overall responsibility is to provide professional technical, operational and administrative assistance throughout the programming process for ECE programme within Cueibet County of Lakes State from planning to delivery of results, preparing, executing, managing and implementing a variety of technical and administrative program tasks. He/she will facilitate and supervise all aspects of early childhood school readiness project implementation at County level; oversee distribution of ECE kits, school materials & dignity kits; support teacher training and PTA engagement; and follow up and monitor activities to measure and communicate impact.

Country: South Sudan	Field Based - Rumbek Centre and Cueibet Counties
Contract Duration	9 Months - full time & fixed term, renewable based on performance and
	availability of funds.

About CMD:

Christian Mission for Development (CMD) is a non-profit, non-governmental, multi-sectoral relief and development organization working to provide holistic services to poor and poverty-stricken communities in East Africa. Founded in 2005, CMD has remained one of the major national NGOs in South Sudan saving lives, alleviating suffering, and helps affected communities rebuild their lives. CMD works with partners to reach hard-to-reach areas with very little or no basic services and significantly in regions affected by wars, poverty, extreme hunger, and illiteracy. Our thematic areas are <u>Education & Child Protection</u>, WASH, Health, Nutrition, Food Security and Livelihoods and Protection.

Vision: CMD envisions empowered, holistically transformed and economically self-reliant communities growing in unity and diversity

Mission: CMD exists to inspire, empower, and transform communities through provision of holistic social

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Background:

The Christian Mission for Development (CMD), in an enduring partnership with UNICEF, is implementing a 9-month forerunner project to improve early childhood education (ECE) service delivery in Rumbek Centre and Cueibet Counties of Lakes State in South Sudan. Under this project, CMD and UNICEF will deploy a pre-accelerator model and a core package ECE services focusing on Teacher and Centre Management training to enhance education quality, increase enrollment, and retain children in ECE programs while preparing them for school.

The project will also support the implementation of South Sudan's new Early Childhood Education (ECE) Policy under the auspices of Ministry of General Education & Instruction (MoGEI) by training teachers and parental capacities; and equipping County Education Departments (CEDs) to improve learning outcomes for underserved pre-primary children in Lakes State.

Main Roles & Responsibilities

The ECE Project Officers will perform his/her duties under the close supervision of CMD's Education & Child Protection Manager. Specific responsibilities will include:

- 1. Support launching of the UNICEF-supported Early Childhood Education (ECE) project and work closely with target local education authorities (LEAs) in Cueibet County to build partnership for the planned activities.
- 2. Conduct training and mentorship of selected ECE teachers in Rumbek and Cueibet Counties.
- 3. Identify capacity gaps and arrange for appropriate training of ECE caregivers to adequately equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge required to accomplish their responsibilities at the day operational level.
- 4. Conduct capacity building for ECE Centres' Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) for effective pre-school leadership and Parental Engagement and support.
- 5. Support and coordinate distribution of ECE kits, school readiness teaching & learning materials, dignity kits and other related tasks.
- 6. Work with ECE teachers/caregivers and CED officials to develop low-cost ECE materials for classroom instruction and enhancing ECE teachers' pedagogic reach.

7. Monitor and collect school readiness data including ECE kids' attendance and class performance in all UNICEF-supported ECE Centres.

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- 8. Participate in County level events that are geared towards supporting ECE networking.
- 9. Conduct regular monitoring and evaluation activities to ensure that the programme is implemented as per plan.
- 10. Flag issues of concerns on the ECE programme to the Logistics & PSEA Officer and Education & Child Protection Manager

Qualifications and Experience

- A Bachelor's degree in Education or related field and/or a Diploma in Early Childhood Education (ECE).
- At least 3-5 years' experience impacting ECE practice and working with communities and local authorities on the promotion of ECE.
- Understanding of the South Sudan early childhood education context, including MoGEI ECE Policy, system licensing and operation, early literacy and numeracy, school readiness, parenting and caregiving.
- Demonstrable expertise in early childhood education and a strong base of program design, implementation, budget management, project management, evaluation experience and technical skills.
- Ability to engage, train, and work with local education authorities, and other relevant institutions as well as teachers, parents, and children to improve ECE children's learning outcomes.
- Solid organizational skills, including multitasking and time-management and strong stakeholder and teamwork skills.
- Strong child protection and safeguarding credentials that ensure prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse of beneficiaries and stakeholders.
- An excellent command of spoken and written English, including report writing and computer skills, especially MS Word and Excel.

Key Behavioural Competencies

- Work collaboratively, building mutual trust and respect, with external organizations and partners to achieve CMD's strategic aims and objectives; and being accountable for the work we do together.
- Adapt to new directions or opportunities arising within the organisation and in our work area; being flexible in our role, constantly using feedback to learn more and evolve further.

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Safeguarding

The Christian Mission for Development (CMD) is committed to safeguarding the communities with which we work, our partners, staff and any others who we come into contact with. The post holder will also be responsible for:

- 1. Preventing harm and abuse from our people, operations and programmes to anyone that encounters our work.
- 2. Reporting all safeguarding incidents you see, hear, hear about or suspect, using our internal reporting mechanism.
- 3. Complying with all safeguarding framework policies and practices.
- 4. Completing mandatory training courses relating to our safeguarding practice.

HOW TO APPLY

- Interested Candidates are requested to submit their Applications, Updated CVs and a scanned copy of their nationality ID/passport to: HR Department, CMD South Sudan OR email them to <u>recruitments@cmd.org</u>, <u>education@cmd.org</u> and <u>info@cmd.org</u> NOT later than Friday 16th May 2025.
- Applications in hard copies must be bound in one document and sent to the following address: Christian Mission for Development (CMD). Juba, South Sudan. Tongping Area, Juba Na-Bari, Plot No. 188 Block No. III, 3rd Class Residential Area, Near Catholic University of South Sudan, Juba-South Sudan.
- 3. The positions are open <u>only to South Sudanese</u> nationals with reputable credentials in ECE programming from the respective Counties.
- 4. Female applicants are particularly and strongly encouraged to apply.

5. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted, and applications submitted will not be returned.

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