

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT – (INTERNAL/ EXTERNAL)

The Office of the **United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization**, Juba, is currently seeking a qualified candidate for the following post:

Job Title	Team Lead / Senior Expert – System Strengthening and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)
Duty Station	Juba
Section	Education
Contract Type/ Level	Service Contract (SC-9)
Post Duration	Initial period of 6 months with possibility of extension subject to satisfactory performance and resource availability.
Closing Date	31 May 2026
Application Details	<p>This vacancy is open to qualified South Sudanese nationals only.</p> <p>Interested applicants should submit their updated resume by email to juba.hr@unesco.org.</p> <p>Please clearly type the job title in subject. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for further assessment.</p> <p>Applications from qualified women candidates are encouraged.</p>

FUNCTIONS OVERVIEW

I. Basic Purpose:

Under the overall authority of the Head of Office and UNESCO Representative and the direct supervision of the Head of Education, the **Team Lead / Senior Expert – Systems Strengthening and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning** - provides strategic leadership, technical oversight and operational coordination of UNESCO’s education systems strengthening and MEL portfolio in South Sudan. The post focuses on sector planning, monitoring and evaluation, data systems (including EMIS), policy analysis, capacity development, in line with SDG4 and national education priorities.

The incumbent ensures the development, implementation and quality assurance of programmes that support evidence-based education sector planning, strengthened institutional capacity, improved data use for decision-making, and resilient education system capable of anticipating and responding to crisis and recovery contexts.

The post also contributes substantively to UN and UNESCO’s global and regional initiatives related to SDG monitoring (in particular, SDG4 and related Goals), data and statistics, ensuring alignment with international and regional standards, frameworks and reporting mechanisms.

Furthermore, the post holder serves as UNESCO's MEL Focal Point supporting both internal capacity development and knowledge management and external engagements as a member of the UN team in South Sudan.

II. Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Lead education system strengthening programmes with strong MEL integration: Design, implement and oversee programmes aligned with SDG4, national priorities and partner frameworks (e.g., GPE, ECW), ensuring robust monitoring, reporting, and results-based management across the portfolio.
2. Drive evidence-based sector planning and performance monitoring: Provide technical leadership for sector analysis, Education Sector Plans, and Joint Sector Reviews, embedding data-driven decision-making and international standards into policy and planning processes.
3. Strengthen EMIS and data ecosystems: Oversee development and improvement of EMIS and related data systems, enhancing data quality, accessibility, and effective use for planning, monitoring, reporting, and accountability at all levels.
4. Build national capacity for MEL and data use: Support government and sub-national actors in monitoring, reporting, and statistics, contributing to national, regional, and global education reporting and fostering sustainable data and MEL systems.
5. Generate and apply evidence for policy, partnerships and resource mobilization: Lead analytical work, assessments, and research (including in fragile contexts) to inform programming and advocacy, while engaging partners, mobilizing resources, and coordinating across stakeholders to strengthen system-wide impact.
6. Undertake other tasks as deemed relevant by the direct supervisor.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in Education, Education Policy and Planning, Measurement and Evaluation, Statistics, Economics, Development Studies, or a closely related field.

Specialized training in monitoring and evaluation

Experience, Knowledge and Skills:

- Minimum of seven (7) years of progressively responsible professional experience in programme design, system strengthening, and monitoring and evaluation (MEL) within the United Nations and/or multilateral organizations, including demonstrated experience working in South Sudan or similar fragile contexts.
- Proven experience in managing complex development programmes and portfolios, including system strengthening, data systems, and results-based management (RBM), with solid experience in project management, budgeting, and oversight of procurement processes.
- Demonstrated technical expertise in data systems and analytics, including experience with information management systems (such as EMIS or similar platforms), statistical analysis, and use of software such as SPSS and other data analysis/visualization tools (e.g., Excel, Power BI, STATA) to support evidence-based planning, monitoring, and reporting.

- Good knowledge of UNESCO's mandate, mission, and comparative advantage, particularly in areas related to system strengthening, data, and monitoring frameworks.
- Experience engaging with multilateral funding mechanisms, including programme development, donor reporting, and compliance with partner requirements.
- Proven track record in resource mobilization, including development of project proposals, concept notes, and donor engagement.
- Relevant international and/or regional experience, with familiarity with fragile and crisis-affected contexts.
- Strong partnership, coordination, and representation skills, with demonstrated ability to collaborate effectively with government counterparts, UN agencies, development partners, and coordination platforms.
- Excellent analytical, drafting, and communication skills, with the ability to translate data and evidence into actionable insights for decision-making and policy dialogue.
- Strong leadership and team management capacity, with experience supervising teams, providing technical guidance, and delivering results in complex operational environments.

Languages:

Fluency in English (both oral and written) is required. Knowledge of Arabic is a significant asset.

Assessment:

Evaluation of qualified candidates may include a written test followed by competency-based interview.

PLEASE NOTE THAT UNESCO IS A NON-SMOKING ORGANIZATION.