

Profile: Radiation incident specialist

Required Qualifications

Education

Degree in medicine, biology, health physics, or a related discipline plus post-graduate qualifications or proven equivalent experience in public health, environmental health, medical toxicology or radiation incident management

Experience/knowledge

- Extensive experience in the rapid assessment and public health management of radiation incidents and emergencies
- Specialized knowledge and practical experience in (i) emergency medicine, (ii) medical toxicology, (iii) hematology, (iv) surgery, (v) environmental toxicology, (v) environmental risk assessment or (vi) epidemiology.
- Knowledge of WHO, UN and NGO humanitarian and development community.

Personal skills

- Ability to work under pressure and in difficult conditions in international emergency settings.
- Sensitivity to cultural and gender issues
- Ability to lead a team effectively and to coordinate with other partners
- Good communication skills
- Good computer skills
- Availability for rapid deployment;
- Excellent knowledge of English or French with a good knowledge of the other. Knowledge of another UN languages would be an asset.

Terms of Reference

Overall objectives

To facilitate a timely and effective public health response to environmental health emergencies with particular focus on radiation incidents, and assessment of other environmental health factors impacting on health.

Specific objectives

- To assess the environmental health situation with particular focus on health effects resulting from radiation emergencies.
- To provide technical advice and support to the Ministry of Health in dealing with the public health effects of radiation incidents and environmental emergencies.
- To assist in the design and implementation of plans to manage health risks resulting from a radiation incident

- To coordinate with IAEA and other partners/actors to ensure harmonized response to radiation incidents and other environmental health emergencies

Main tasks

During the response phase and in collaboration with the national authorities:

- Conduct rapid health assessment (to assess situation, priority needs, available resources, gaps and risks);
- Propose, recommend and provide first solutions based on the outcome of the assessment; provide advice to prevent and mitigate health risks; and promote implementation of these measures
- Identify, coordinate and collaborate with main partners/actors;
- Contribute in the conduct of resource mobilization activities (draft proposals, including flash appeals, CERF, others);
- Establish information management and communication systems, including data collection, reporting, information exchange;
- Advise on risk and crisis communication, including dealing with the media, if necessary;
- Provide feedback at the end of the mission, including lessons learnt.