



## International Midwife Mentor

ONSITE

BANGLADESH

### GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Host Entity:</b>	UNFPA
<b>Country of Assignment:</b>	Bangladesh
<b>Duty station:</b>	Cox's Bazaar
<b>Volunteer Category:</b>	International UN Volunteer Specialist
<b>Number of Assignment(s):</b>	1
<b>Expected Start Date:</b>	01/10/2025
<b>Duration:</b>	18 month(s)
<b>Possibility of Extension:</b>	No
<b>Sustainable Development Goal:</b>	3. Good health and well-being
<b>DoA ID:</b>	1784888021260295

### DETAILS

#### ORGANISATION MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

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UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency with the mission to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA calls for the realization of reproductive rights for all and supports access to a wide range of sexual and reproductive health services - including voluntary family planning, maternal health care and comprehensive sexuality education. UNFPA has been active in Bangladesh since 1974 to achieve the three transformative results - ambitions that promise to change the world for every man, woman and young person to 1) end unmet need for family planning, 2) to end preventable maternal death, and 3) to end gender-based violence and harmful practices. Currently, UNFPA is implementing 10th Country Programme (2022-2026) in Bangladesh. UNFPA's main office is in Dhaka, while there is a sub-office in Cox's Bazar to coordinate UNFPA's humanitarian efforts in response to the Rohingya refugee crisis.

#### ASSIGNMENT CONTEXT

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A wave of military violence against the Rohingya population caused mass (forced) displacement from Myanmar into Bangladesh in 2017. Initially, approximately 730,000 Rohingyas arrived at Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Almost seven years after the initial influx, Bangladesh is currently hosting the world's largest refugee camp, spanning over 33 congested camps, in the space-constrained, densely populated, and climate-vulnerable Ukhiya and Teknaf

Upazilas of the Cox's Bazar District. There are currently (February 2025) a total of 1,006,107 Rohingya refugees registered in Bangladesh, of which 51% are women and girls. With restricted movement exacerbated by heightened security risks as well as limited access to regular income and livelihood opportunities, Rohingya refugees' dependency on humanitarian assistance climbed from 95% to 97% according to the latest data. UNFPA provides vital sexual and reproductive health services, combats gender-based violence and supports adolescents and youths in line with the Joint Response Plan (JRP) for humanitarian support to the Rohingya refugees across Cox's Bazar district and Bhasan Char island in Bangladesh. Within the Rohingya Response, UNFPA is chairing the SRH (Sexual and Reproductive Health) working group, as well as leading the GBV Sub Sector, leading the coordination of activities and facilitation of information management, technical expertise, and resources.

According to the JRP, there are 247,006 women of reproductive age who are needed the sexual and reproductive health information and services (ca. 24% of the total population). Under the JRP, and with the support of various donors including the Government of Japan, UNFPA SRH programme supports access to SRH services, strengthening of emergency obstetric and newborn care facilities, improving quality of antenatal and post-natal services, quality facility-based deliveries and ambulance services for emergency referrals.

UNFPA works with its partners to deploy 288 licensed national midwives across the Rohingya Response, supporting government and non-government health facilities. UNFPA provides training and support for midwives deployed by other agencies. The midwives provide midwifery-led Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char. As the first midwives in Bangladesh graduated in 2016, and the profession is still being established in the healthcare system, knowledge and skill gaps in emergency obstetric care are still observed in healthcare facilities, where midwives are required to provide high-quality care to expectant mothers' during the antenatal, labour, delivery, and postpartum periods. Implementing high-quality midwifery will improve efforts to reform health systems, as midwifery is a vital component of any health system. Research indicates that midwives who are competent, informed, and caring minimize stillbirths and maternal and newborn deaths while also promoting health and well-being and keeping mothers and babies safe.

The purpose of JICA funded UNV position is to mentor the national midwives, midwife coordinators, and midwife supervisors as well as work with the doctors, facility managers, and clinical coordinators. The position will enhance capacity building and evidence-based respectful midwifery-led care within an interdisciplinary team. They will contribute to providing high quality health services for the refugee and host community girls and women, with a focus on maternal health.

## **TASK DESCRIPTION**

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Under the direct supervision of SRHR (Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights) Program Specialist, SRH (Sexual and Reproductive Health) Team Leader, the UN Volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

Capacity development:

- Provide midwives, clinical coordinators and involved doctors with relevant training, bedside/hands-on teaching, and mentorship.
- Build the capacity of midwives to provide initial stabilization of emergencies when needed, and evidence-based routine maternity care, including respectful

adolescent-friendly ANC (Ante Natal Care), delivery, and PNC (Post Natal Care) services.

- Build the capacity of midwives to provide quality comprehensive SRH services including family planning, cervical cancer screening, MR (Menstrual Regulation) /PAC (Post Abortion Care), clinical management of rape, health response to sexual violence, and prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.
- Develop and support the implementation of systems to strengthen the quality of SRHR service delivery.
- Build the capacity of midwives to provide the needed data for monitoring and evaluation.
- Assess and respond to challenges in midwives' enabling environment, including logistics and commodities and capacity, or communicate to relevant support systems.
- Conduct regular field visits to provide oversight and support to health facility managers and clinical coordinators to enable national midwives to provide quality comprehensive SRH services with a focus on maternal health.
- Coordinate training and mentoring sessions on all aspects of comprehensive SRHR. Support an effective response that integrates SRH (including Adolescent and Sexual Reproductive Health), Gender Based Violence (GBV), and data interventions.

#### Advocacy and Partnership:

- Advocate within facilities for evidence-based respectful adolescent-friendly midwifery-led SRH services.
- Coordinate with other partners at the facility level to synergize SRH care provision.
- Participate in the SRH working group, as needed. Develop guidelines for the provision of SRH care to refugees and host communities, as needed.
- Support coordination with donors, governments, including JICA/Embassy of Japan, and non-government actors to monitor the project and enhance existing partnerships, and generate where possible new ones.
- Provide input for situational reports, donor reports, background briefs, and other communication/advocacy products as required.

#### Project/programme Management Support:

- Support SRH unit programme implementation with implementing partners.
- Provide support to assessments of SRH needs of the affected population particularly as it relates to midwifery services, as needed.
- Contribute to maternal and perinatal death reviews.
- Support the development of a Midwifery leadership programme, in coordination with the international midwifery specialist and national midwifery programme staff.
- Support the documentation, organisation, and visibility of the Midwifery programme.
- Assist in developing/adapting protocols for selected areas in programme coordination (such as syndromic case management of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), referral for emergency obstetric care, midwifery, fistula repair, medical response to survivors of rape, counselling, and family planning services, etc.).
- Conduct monitoring/mentoring visits and ensure a systematic approach for tracking barriers, challenges, and progress within facilities.
- Liaise with the national midwifery team to ensure alignment of midwifery programming across the humanitarian/development/peace nexus.
- Carry out any other duties as required.

Furthermore, UN Volunteers are required to:

- Strengthen their knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and external publications and take active part in UNV activities (for instance in events that mark International Volunteer Day);
- Be acquainted with and build on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host country;
- Reflect on the type and quality of voluntary action that they are undertaking, including participation in ongoing reflection activities;
- Contribute articles/write-ups on field experiences and submit them for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
- Assist with the UNV Buddy Programme for newly-arrived UN Volunteers;
- Promote or advise local groups in the use of online volunteering, or encourage relevant local individuals and organizations to use the UNV Online Volunteering service whenever technically possible.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

<b>Age:</b>	18-80
<b>Nationality:</b>	Candidate must be a national of a country other than the country of assignment.
<b>Required experience:</b>	3 year(s)

## ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS

### REQUIRED RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

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3 year(s)

### SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

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- At least three year's clinical midwifery experience with proven competence in all areas of the ICM minimum competencies for essential midwifery practice. Experience with facilitating clinical mentoring and training.

Skills and experience description:

- Technical knowledge of current developments in sexual and reproductive health care; Strong expertise in capacity development.
- Knowledge and understanding of health care in low-resource settings, particularly in the areas of reproductive health.
- Exceptional interpersonal, communication, networking, and negotiation skills.
- Ability to express ideas and concepts clearly and concisely in written and oral forms. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc.), experience in handling web-based management systems.

### REQUIRED EDUCATION LEVEL

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Bachelor's degree in Midwifery.

A midwifery degree, aligned with the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) standards for midwifery education i.e. direct-entry bachelor's degree in Midwifery (3 years) or 18 months of bachelor-level midwifery education following a minimum of 3-year nursing programme. A master's degree in midwifery, nursing, medicine/public health is desirable but clinical experience of four years, in combination with a relevant BA degree in a related field, may be considered in lieu of an advanced degree.

A development-oriented background is preferable so that effective collaboration with development actors such as JICA can be sought.

## LANGUAGE

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Language	Proficiency	Required
English	Fluent	Yes

## COMPETENCIES AND VALUES

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- Accountability
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Building Trust
- Client Orientation
- Commitment and Motivation
- Commitment to Continuous Learning
- Communication
- Creativity
- Empowering Others
- Ethics and Values
- Integrity
- Judgement and Decision-making
- Knowledge Sharing
- Leadership
- Managing Performance
- Planning and Organizing
- Professionalism
- Respect for Diversity
- Self-Management
- Technological Awareness
- Vision
- Working in Teams

## OTHER INFORMATION

Volunteerism is understood as a wide range of activities undertaken of free will, for the general public good, for which monetary reward is not the principal motivating factor.

## LIVING CONDITIONS AND OTHER REMARKS

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Cox's Bazar is a district of Bangladesh, and it is famous for its fishing ports and tourism. It is one of the most-visited tourist destinations in Bangladesh. The beach in Cox's Bazar is an unbroken 120 km (75 miles) sandy sea beach with a gentle slope, making it the second longest sea beach in the world. The climate of Cox's Bazar is similar to the rest of the country. The climate of Bangladesh is generally determined by its location in the tropical monsoon

region: high temperature, heavy rainfall, generally excessive humidity, and distinct seasonal variations. It is further characterized by its location in the coastal area.

Historically Cox's Bazar, like other parts of Bangladesh, is a safe place to live. Since August 2017, with the large-scale Rohingya influx from Myanmar, Cox's Bazar is seen as a district with a humanitarian crisis. Culturally Cox's Bazar is very diverse and well-known for its traditional heritage. The communications systems in Cox's Bazar are well-developed and the district is well-connected with other cities. All the national mobile networks are operational in Cox's Bazar. Travel by rickshaw is also permitted within Cox's Bazar only during daytime. Cox's Bazar has a domestic airport.

Cox's Bazar is currently classified as a family duty station. UN International staff are supposed to live in the areas approved by the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS). A flat with 1-2 bedrooms with separate bathrooms, often rented out to tourists, is the most common housing option in Cox's Bazar. The price range varies depending on the size, the number of rooms, and the location of the apartments, renting a 2-room apartment costs around 50,000-150,000 BDT (400-1,300 USD) per month. The Sub-Office in Cox's Bazar is housed in a refurbished hotel, which it shares with UNDSS and WHO. The office provides a paid shuttle service for the commute of staff members, while international staff who live in the UNDSS-approved areas will be able to walk to the office. Tomtoms (auto-rickshaws) are a popular form of transportation in Cox's Bazar, providing an alternative transportation option for staff members.

<https://www.unv.org/>

## **INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT**

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United Nations Volunteers is an equal opportunity programme that welcomes applications from qualified professionals. We are committed to achieving diversity in terms of gender, care protected characteristics. As part of their adherence to the values of UNV, all UN Volunteers commit themselves to combat any form of discrimination, and to promoting respect for human rights and individual dignity, without distinction of a person's race, sex, gender identity, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, pregnancy, age, language, social origin or other status.

## **SCAM WARNING**

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