

*Call for Expression of Interest*

# WASH Strategic Partnerships with UNICEF- 9 Provinces

**CEF/ZWE/2023/011**

## 1 **Timeline**

Posted	Apr 20, 2023
Clarification Request Deadline	Apr 27, 2023
Application Deadline	May 11, 2023
Notification of Results	Jun 30, 2023
Start Date	Aug 31, 2023
End Date	Dec 31, 2026

## 2 **Locations**

- A Zimbabwe
  - a Harare
  - b Bulawayo
  - c Mashonaland Central
  - d Mashonaland West
  - e Matabeleland North
  - f Masvingo
  - g Manicaland
  - h Mashonaland East
  - i Midlands

## 3 **Sector(s) and area(s) of specialization**

- A WASH and Environment
  - a Basic sanitation
  - b Energy
  - c Hygiene
  - d Natural resources, environmental pollution and climate action
  - e WASH in emergencies
  - f Water

## 4 **Issuing Agency**

UNICEF

## 5 **Project Background**

In-line with the UNICEF 2022-2026 program goal of ensuring that Zimbabweans have increased and equitable use of safe drinking water, sanitation and improved hygiene practices, UNICEF is seeking strategic partners for WASH programming in nine provinces of Zimbabwe. UNICEF would like to establish strategic WASH partnerships with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other eligible institutions in: Matabeleland North, Bulawayo, Midlands, Mashonaland East, Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland West, Harare, Masvingo and Manicaland. Strategic WASH Partnerships are already established in Matabeleland South. This call for Expressions of Interest is not directly tied to funding but rather to establish longer-term partnerships which enable multi-faceted partnership that goes beyond UNICEF's direct funding to partners, although also inclusive of UNICEF direct funding when available. The overall objective of the partnership is to bring together UNICEF and the partner's capacities and comparative advantage in the WASH sector in Zimbabwe, to pool resources and capacities together in building approaches and evidence towards achieving resilient, sustainable and scalable development to the WASH sector in Zimbabwe. This is to contribute to the well-being of households and institutions in vulnerable situations in the face of economic and climate induced shocks and stresses in Zimbabwe, by adopting WASH interventions to the local context, offering sustainable pathways to resilient livelihoods. Applicants are therefore requested to demonstrate their contribution and its impact to the partnership and the development of the WASH sector in the given Province and the country. Additional background can be found below. Zimbabwe is facing a growing humanitarian crisis due to a combination of underlying socioeconomic constraints, as well as the impact of external factors such as climatic change and COVID-19. These issues are stretching the resilience of the Zimbabwean people to the limit. The key take-aways of the December 2022 Joint Sector Review (JSR) workshop include the realization that while significant progress was made by the WASH sector in moving the 2021 JSR commitments, a lot remained to be done. The WASH situation in the country remained dire and the urgency of WASH investment was re-affirmed since much of the government WASH investment was going towards 'big WASH' such as dams while existing service gaps needed attention. Service sustainability emerged as a key challenge faced by the sector with WASH governance structures requiring attention to enhance sustainability. While government has adopted a 'whole of government approach', this can only effectively happen if there is adequate agency collaboration supported by evidence-based interventions. The chronic underinvestment in basic WASH services for rural and urban households is also exacerbating the situation. This is resulting in the ever-present risk of communicable disease with the poor being the most vulnerable to cholera and typhoid. According to the national Weekly Diseases Surveillance Report, number 12 of 2023, by Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC), 7,284 common diarrhoea cases and 4 deaths were reported with 86,588 cumulative cases and 36 deaths of common diarrhea cases reported, with 39% of the reported cases are children under the age of five. Additionally, 285 cumulative cases of typhoid were reported in countrywide with zero deaths. 27 confirmed cases of cholera were also reported with 2 deaths cumulatively. In rural areas, of the 66,622 water sources tracked by the Rural Water Information Management System (RWIMS), only 49% have water, and are functional and protected, which increases the risk of WASH-related diseases, especially in the 23.8% of households lacking at least limited services. Nationally, the proportion of households travelling more than 1km to the nearest water source for 2022 is 16% (ZimVAC 2022).

## 6 **Expected Results**

The partnership is expected to enable joint implementation of WASH interventions, in a given Province of Zimbabwe to ensure that children and their families, particularly the most vulnerable, benefit from resilient, adequate, equitable, affordable drinking water, sanitation and hygiene through:

- Strengthening government and local authority-led systems to enable resilient, affordable, equitable and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services.
- Supporting delivery of Behaviour Change Communication and skills development to enable parents, caregivers, girls, and boys to adopt safe water, sanitation and good hygiene practices; and to demand accountability of community leaders, government and service providers.
- Providing inclusive WASH services, which ensures that the most vulnerable and disadvantaged households in communities have improved access to at least the basic WASH services, including in schools and health facilities, with a focus on the special needs of children with disabilities and girls.
- Improving government, local authorities and communities' capacities to prepare for and respond to disasters and adapt to climate change in the WASH sector, with a focus on vulnerable households.

## 7 **Indicative Budget**

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## 8 **Other Information**

The purpose of this request for EOI is to identify CSOs for strategic partnership, that brings together UNICEF and the partner’s capacities and comparative advantages in the WASH sector in Zimbabwe, by pooling resources and capacities together in building approaches and evidence towards achieving resilient, sustainable and scalable development to the WASH sector in Zimbabwe. UNICEF seeks to establish a strategic partnership with potential organizations for a given Province in Zimbabwe, with a focus on the following Thematic Areas: • WASH in Schools • WASH in Emergencies • WASH and Climate Change • WASH Systems Strengthening • Rural (Community) WASH • Urban (Community) WASH Any resulting partnership with UNICEF as a result of this Call for EOI does not imply immediate funding from UNICEF to the Partner.

**9 Selection Criteria**

Name	Description	Weight
Sector expertise and experience		N/A
Relevance of proposal to achieving expected results		N/A
Sustainability of intervention		N/A
Project management		N/A
Access/security considerations		N/A
Innovative approach		N/A
Cost effectiveness		N/A
Contribution of resource		N/A

**10 Attachments**

Description	URL
Online Information Session link- 27 April 2023 from 0830-1000hrs	<a href="#">Download the document here</a>
Application Template	<a href="#">Download the document here</a>
Call for expression of Interest _ WASH Strategic Partnerships _National	<a href="#">Download the document here</a>

**11 Concept Note Template**

[Download the document here](#)

**12 For more information on this partnership opportunity, and to apply, please visit**

[UN Partner Portal](#)