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**Position:** Consultant - National Climate Resilient WASH in Institutions

**Employing Agency (Employer):** Inductus Limited

**Duration of the contract:** Contract will be issued till 31-May 2025 from the date of joining

**No. of Vacancy: 1 (ONE)**

**Duty Station:** The selected candidate may work remotely, but he/she must be available for strategic meetings across 4 Ministries, and/or other UN agencies. Most of the times these meetings happen every week and with prior notice of just 1-2 days so that consultant needs to be prepared accordingly.

**Reporting Line:**

1. Administrative Supervision- Inductus Limited
2. Reporting Officer – WASH +CCES in Institutions specialist, Delhi Office

**Last Date for Application:** 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 (Mid Night)

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**CONTENT OF TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT**

**1. Background / Rotational:**

The availability of safe and adequate water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) is crucial in promoting the health of individuals in all settings, more so in the context of emerging climate change. Institutions such as schools, health care facilities, and anganwadis need to prioritize the availability of climate resilient sustainable WASH services, including gender segregated sanitation units, access to safe water, and proper handwashing facilities, besides sustainable capacities of service providers and practices of the users. To ensure sustainable Climate Resilient WASH in institutions it is crucial to support establishment of robust systems for operation and maintenance with clear division of roles and responsibilities.

Incorporation of climate change and environmental sustainability (CCES) considerations into WASH programming within institutional settings, can help realize vision of clean villages, panchayats, and urban localities in a sustainable way and ensure continuity of services and

routine life activities during climate change linked extreme weather events. The years 2023 and 2024 have been record breaking in terms of weather extremes caused by climate change across the World<sup>1</sup>, including<sup>2</sup> in India<sup>3</sup>. Many parts of the country witnessed damages to infrastructure in institutions like schools, health care facilities and preschools/ AWC's impacting their routine activities due to climate change linked weather extreme events like above average frequency and intensity of rainfall, cyclones, floods and landslides. Besides infrastructural damages health, wellbeing, livelihoods and education of children and their families is also adversely impacted due to these emergencies. Therefore, it is increasingly important to focus on climate resilience of institutions like schools, health care facilities and preschools/ AWC's.

There is substantial research evidence that supports the positive impact of WASH interventions in schools, studies in China and Kenya showed a reduction of 24-35% in absenteeism through water treatment and handwashing with soap, and absence among girls was reduced by 21%-37%. Students in schools with improved WASH services were more likely to be regular in attendance (80%) compared to those without (58%) (Study by Sharma, Mohan & Adhikari, Ramesh. 2022). Hand cleansing can cut the risk of respiratory infection by 16% (2006, Tamer Rabie 1, Valerie Curtis.)

Similarly, the access to adequate, functional water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities in different categories of healthcare facilities (HCFs) plays a crucial role in addressing health outcomes including reduction of healthcare associated infections (HAIs), reduction in disease, control in anti-microbial resistance (AMR), improved maternal and neonatal health, lowered health costs, improved infection prevention and control (IPC) and enhanced patient and healthcare worker safety. WHO systematic analysis on Global causes of maternal death, 2014<sup>4</sup> reveals that in 10.7% cases sepsis was the cause of maternal mortality (between 2003 and 2009). Lack of proper WASH and IPC in HCFs is one of the leading causes of infections like sepsis. According to C Meh et. al. 2022, in 12% cases, pregnancy-related infection causes maternal death in India. Moreover, lack of proper WASH and IPC in HCFs is one of the leading causes of infections not just inside the HCFs' premises but to health of nearby communities. To ensure HCFs remaining functional during climate change induced disasters it is crucial to have climate change resilient infrastructure and equip the staff, nearby communities and patients with right knowledge and relevant skills to deal with these circumstances. MoHFW initiated the efforts to integrate climate risk resilience across their interventions and key department focusing on integration of WASH and climate resilience in health care facilities is the National Health Systems Resource Center (NHSRC). The National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health (NPCCHH) under Center for Disease Control in the MoHFW, was set up to guide development and trainings on this subject at National and State level. These efforts not only address immediate health concerns but also contribute towards creating resilient and environmentally conscious stakeholders/ communities. Prioritization of WASH practices within

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the framework of climate change and environmental sustainability, can foster healthier and more sustainable environments for all.

In India, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is one of the largest and oldest programs dedicated to child development. Preschool education is a vital component of the ICDS scheme, benefiting around 4.3 million children between the ages of three to six. According to the Poshan tracker website of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India as of April 2023, only 633,000 AWCs (45.4%) have their own buildings while rest of the 54.6% are operating in rented premises. Drinking water services are available in 87.6% of the AWCs, and toilets were accessible in 78.9% of the AWCs but there is no indication about the presence/ absence of handwashing facilities in AWC's. There is no data source for AWC's operating in rented premises. WASH services in AWC's along with hygienic practices are crucial for optimal child growth and development since these are centers to provide essential services for children between 3-6 years. There are still limitations in obtaining the cross verified data sets for climate resilient and age appropriate WASH conditions specifically in AWCs.

Climate Resilient WASH (CR WASH ) in Institutions is critical for sustaining the open defecation free (plus) (ODF+) communities under the Swachh Bharat Mission. As defined by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti (DDWS, MoJS), few of the parameters for an ODF+ Gram Panchayat are:

1. To have functional separate toilets for male and females in schools and AWCs
2. All schools and anganwadis, (AWCs)manage biodegradable waste, greywater waste. Schools, anganwadis, also get verified by the verification team after the panchayat declares itself as ODF+ Model Panchayat.

Despite all recent positive development, there are few existing gaps in CR WASH in schools/ pre-school and health care facilities programs that need to be addressed; like limited access to cross verified data sets due to which infrastructural gaps in terms of adequacy, age and gender appropriateness, poor operation and maintenance, quality, in-effective management of these services, capacity and skill gaps, human and financial resources. Additionally, it is also crucial to initiate and strengthen CCES priorities across existing WASH programming for institutions as it's a relatively new area of work and the key stakeholders are not so well accustomed to either plan then implement programs.

There is a requirement to strengthen and prioritize CR WASH in institutions programming since climate change has a negative impact on child's ability to survive, grow, thrive, and ultimately learn. Children, being one of the most vulnerable face maximum brunt of climate change and environmental degradation on daily basis.

To help UN ORGANISATION in addressing the above challenges, the services of a consultant are required. The consultant will provide support to nodal ministries such as the Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Woman and Child Development (MoWCD) and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) as per mutually agreed areas of work.

## **2.PURPOSE OF ASSIGNMENT**

This consultancy aims to provide technical support for Climate Resilient Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (CR WASH) programs in institutional settings like schools, health centres and preschools/anganwadis.

The purpose of this assignment is to engage the services of a qualified institutional CR WASH professional with extensive expertise in the sector at the national level. This professional will provide effective support to the concerned nodal ministries in situational analysis, formulation of approaches, strategies, developing guidance notes, assessment checklists, capacity building, compendium of best practices for strengthening WASH and climate-resilient components in key schemes.

### **Key Governmental programs to be supported will include:**

- Ministry of Education (MoE): National Education Policy 2020, Samagra Shiksha (Swachhata Action Plan), Swachh Bharat Swachh Vidyalaya, Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar, SOP for WASH in School, School Swachhata/Cleanliness Action plan, Swachhata/Cleanliness Pakhwada, Mission LiFE component on schools
- Ministry of Woman and Child Development (MWCD): ICDS, Poshan Abhiyan, Saksham Anganwadi, Poshan Mah, Poshan Pakhwada
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW): Kayakalp, Swachh Swasth Sarvatra (Rural, Urban), SUMAN, MUSQAN, NPCCHH, School Health Programme, NRCs, IPHS 2022
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs: Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban for the school and colleges and other institutions of higher learning.

## **4. OBJECTIVE/S**

The primary objective will be to assist in effectively facilitating, coordinating, and implementing the components of CR WASH in Institutions within the relevant schemes of respective ministries as mentioned above , while helping in integration of climate resilience across WASH in schools, Anganwadi centres and healthcare facilities in alignment within sectoral policies, programs, and relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The support of this consultancy position will help UN ORGANISATION in offering technical assistance for enhanced physical and financial planning, implementation and strengthening of the monitoring mechanisms for CR WASH in schools, anganwadis/pre-schools and health care centres in addition to advocacy for more focus on integration of climate change and environmental sustainability (CCES) across the relevant programs.

Other objectives of this consultancy will include assistance will be extended to UN ORGANISATION field offices depending upon the requirements, for following:

- Climate resilient WASH in Schools capacity development including development of school level action plans, data analysis, organising stakeholder consultation etc.
- Climate-resilient WASH in AWCs: Capacity development, review of technical documents and data analysis as required.

- Climate Resilient WASH in health care facilities: Helping in situational analysis, capacity building interventions, support development of the costed action plan, development of key messages/ IEC

## **5. MAJOR TASKS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED**

Under the overall guidance of the UN ORGANISATION WASH in Institutions Specialist and the WASH Section Chief, the consultant will support the Ministry of Education (MoE), MoHFW, MoEFCC, MoHUA and the MoWCD for all the programmatic components of CR WASH in schools, pre-schools/anganwadis, health care facilities.

### **Following are major tasks and sub tasks:**

1. Develop and help collate inputs of State colleagues on the Standard operation procedures SoPs document for Climate Resilient WASH in preschools/anganwadis facilities/ schools and health care facilities. Inputs of concerned colleagues will be taken on board from other section as well.
  - Review literature, guidelines, and policies
  - Analyse national and international guidance
2. Training Module for CR WASH in schools and anganwadi centres (AWC) for stakeholders; this wil specifically include:
  - Finalize schedule- session plan and framework/ chapter & sub chapter wise list in consultation with concerned staff in UN ORGANISATION.
  - Collate key reference and resource information
  - Develop draft content and training materials (Session `PPT, support handbooks)
  - Revise module based on feedback
  - Finalize the module package
3. Data analysis and collation support for climate-resilient WASH in Schools and WASH in health care centers:
  - Help develop state report cards for WASH in schools: steps will involve mapping of data available under indicators (as in UDISE+, SVP 2021-22, ASER, JJM website etc). Collection of state-wise data from secondary sources. Design the report card template followed by development and finalization the state-wise report cards.
  - As required, support to be provided to the MoHFW for data analysis and collation for WASH in HCF's required for the Global reporting under the Joint Monitoring Program of WHO and UN ORGANISATION.
4. Help in development of compendium of best practices related to WASH and climate resilience in health facilities and in anganwadis:
  - Review and shortlist cases from secondary sources
  - Structure and develop the first draft
  - Vetting and finalization of the document
  - Disseminate the compendium to stakeholders

5. Monthly sectoral updates for CR WASH in Institutions (Schools, AWC, Health Care Facilities)
  - Collate updates/ notifications/ directives/ media highlights.
  - Review and analyse available updated information.
  - Collate key updates for WASH in Institutions reference/ points/ note for further use and dissemination
6. Technical support for Harit and Swachh (clean and green school) Vidyalaya Puraskar/ award and rating scheme(SVP) implementation based on request from National Ministry of Education:
  - Revise HSVP guidelines (As per requirement)
  - Support implementation at the State level as required.
  - Provide IT related need-based support to Ministry of Education (MoE)
  - Draft technical guidance notes and advisories as needed in MoE
7. Technical support for eco/ youth clubs in schools programs of MoE for climate-resilient WASH in Schools:
  - Plan workshop/session in consultation with stakeholders/ states
  - Prepare relevant information and case studies
  - Design session on the role of youth in driving change
  - Summarize key outcomes and discussions in a report
  - Assist in organising a National level workshop jointly with MoEFCC on this topic.
8. State level support for capacity building and/or consultation with key stakeholders on Climate Resilient WASH in institutions (15 Trip of 3 days each)
  - Plan and schedule visits with supervisor's guidance
  - Structure the session plan as per the theme of the workshop
  - Develop and share support materials/ PPT for technical sessions.
  - Undertake visits and prepare trip reports.
9. Documentation of selected case studies/ best practices on Climate Resilient WASH in pre-schools, HCF (3 Trip of 3 days each)
  - Conduct secondary research and identify best practices
  - Collaborate with stakeholders to plan documentation.
  - Develop documentation framework/template
  - Undertake visits and develop draft documents
  - Finalize case study documentation based on the inputs
  - Support in advocacy efforts with MoHFW, MOE, MoWCD for addressing the gaps outlined above.

## **9. DELIVERABLES AND DEADLINES**

In view of the nature of the work, all the tasks will be done throughout the period of engagement.

The payments will be processed monthly against a monthly report, based on an agreed plan covering duration of this contract, highlighting key activities and achievements under this assignment:

**10. OFFICIAL TRAVEL INVOLVED (ITINERARY AND DURATION)** As and when required based on the guidance of technical supervisor, the consultant is expected to undertake 18 field visits requiring of 3 days travel in the total duration of the contract. The field missions may involve travel to any of the state and districts in the country, for State/National level consultation/meetings, documentation and for supervision. The itinerary cannot be indicated at this point of time as the consultant will have to travel based on instructions from our nodal Ministries and requests from States.

## **11. QUALIFICATIONS /SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE/EXPERIENCE/ COMPETENCIES (CORE/TECHNICAL/FUNCTIONAL)/ LANGUAGE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE ASSIGNMENT (Please use as applicable):**

- Post-graduate in any stream with components of rural and urban water supply, sanitation, climate change and environmental sustainability in schools like Rural Development/ Social Sciences/ Management /University degree in Social Sciences/ Environmental sciences with specialized knowledge of National programs related to water and sanitation, hygiene, climate change, environmental sustainability in communities and institutions.
- At least 6 years progressive experience of working in water, sanitation, hygiene, climate change and environmental sustainability sector in schools, preschools/anganwadis and healthcare facilities. At least 2 years must involve working with data sets, monitoring tools and MIS.
- Proven ability to advocate effectively with National state and district level officers of counterpart and other departments.
- In-depth knowledge of sector policy and practice, in particular, relating to WASH in Schools-Swachh Vidyalaya Abhiyan, Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskars, Green/ eco/ youth club schools or any other.
- Experience and knowledge of Management Information Systems, data bases, monitoring and evaluation tools is a must.
- Previous experience working with UN or bilateral agency will be an advantage.
- Good verbal and high-quality written communication skills in English and Hindi, including presentational skills
- Demonstrated skills in training of various levels of stakeholders.
- Ability to use computer software i.e. MS Office, MS Excel, PowerPoint, online data bases, and Internet programs is a must.

**DURATION OF THE CONTRACT:** Valid till 31-May-2025. Further extendable based on the fund availability & consultant's performance.

**D. DUTY STATION:** Remote.

## **12. PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

Progressive monthly payment on submission of updated tasks and activity report for supporting activities, duly approved by the supervisor/s