

Call for Expression of Interest

Humanitarian and Resilient WASH interventions in NWS

CEF/SYR/2024/068

1 Timeline

Posted	Nov 29, 2024
Clarification Request Deadline	Dec 8, 2024
Application Deadline	Dec 27, 2024
Notification of Results	Jan 10, 2025
Start Date	Feb 1, 2025
End Date	Jan 31, 2026

2 Locations

- A Syrian Arab Republic
 - a Aleppo Governorate
 - b Idlib Governorate

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

With prolonged conflict, over five million people are experiencing deteriorated quality of life and exposed to hazardous environment in North-West Syria (NWS). The affected population includes about 50 per cent children, who are most vulnerable to communicable diseases that are preventable. The proportion of women is about 50 per cent of total population, who spend significant amount of their time to secure household water demands and are at risk of being subjected to gender based violence (GBV). People with some form of disability counts to 15 per cent of total population, who need special assistance including disability-friendly WASH facilities. NWS is densely populated that accommodates more than half population as internally displaced people. During last four years, UNICEF has enhanced its programming focus to build resilience of the residents and displaced people by restoring water supply and waste

management systems, and effectively used the cluster mechanism to promote resilience through other humanitarian actors. In addition, efforts are made to expand existing services to the displaced people and vulnerable local populations in need of humanitarian assistance with the objective of providing more sustainable solutions. WASH in Child Protection Centres, Schools and Health Facilities are also given due priority to enhance functionality of WASH services and prevent communicable diseases. Behavioural Change Communication helped curbs potential spread of water borne diseases. The situation further deteriorated with the earthquake, as this led to the damage of existing infrastructure and additional displacement of people. Efforts are on to find resilient solutions to reduce dependency on emergency service provision, such as water trucking and desludging of septic tanks, wherever possible. In several locations with displaced people, where provision of resilient services cannot be done, due to lack of feasible technical solutions and limitations of housing, land, and property (HLP) issues, life-saving emergency response such as water trucking, public toilets and emergency waste management services have played a key role in the response. UNICEF's response has been instrumental in guiding the cluster to introduce innovations and mainstream cross-sectoral interventions within the response. For example, UNICEF introduced use of solar electrification to support the operations of water stations that was eventually scaled up through cluster mechanism to over 200 water stations. Similarly decentralised water storage facilities enhanced the access of water-points to households and reduced the chances of Gender Based Violence (GVB). There are several other innovations, such as the use of remote monitoring the performance of water stations, design of disability friendly toilets, and appropriate WASH facilities for school-age children. Subject to the availability of funds, UNICEF aims at restoring water supply and wastewater disposal and treatment, solid waste management systems, improve hygiene practises and services, and implement innovative WASH solutions in several communities and camps. To protect affected people, and particularly the most vulnerable, like children and their caregivers from potential communicable diseases, UNICEF further aims to support partial operational costs of this public infrastructure, including innovative solutions for an appropriate exit strategy. UNICEF will support some of the vulnerable displaced people in the informal settlements, camps, and reception centres with life-saving emergency supplies and services as may be needed. UNICEF integrates its WASH response with Health, Nutrition, Food Security, Education and Protection programmes, targeting children and their caregivers in locations, where they are most vulnerable. The overall approach is aligned with the UNICEF's global approach to WASH responses, and aligned to WASH cluster strategy globally and locally. Notes: - Please consider scenarios given for each result, and duration of the project 1year in all cases. - The use of AI will be detected, and it is highly discouraged as it might affect the quality of the concept note. - The organisation must be legally registered with Turkish government and not for profit with current operational presence in Idleb and North Aleppo in Northwest Syria. - NGOs/INGOs submitting expression of interest applications in response to the call in United Nations Partner Portal (UNPP) should clearly outline how they intend to meet the criteria for partner selection and corresponding financial contribution will be considered. - National and International NGOs should ensure completing their profiles in UNPP. - The organisation must meet all eligibility criteria for partnership with UNICEF (rules and regulations).

6 Expected Results

Result 1 (Compulsory either 1 or 2, or both): **RESILIENT WASH INTERVENTIONS:** In NWS, UNICEF's response strategy aims at enhancing resilience of affected people with resilient water supply, improvement of hygiene services and practices, and sanitation services. The approach includes rehabilitation/expansion of services within residents and IDPs, and improving population's hygiene services and practices - behavioral change is given due priority to ensure optimal impact of available supplies and services on the health and wellbeing of children and their caregivers. Innovative and cost-effective solutions are encouraged to address the key issues that include access, equity, gender, disability, and user-friendly supplies and services. AAP and PSEA activities are embedded into the programming. Scenario: - 2 communities of 30,000 people each (one in Aleppo, one in Idlib), 60% of IDPs in one of the above mentioned SDs (project location section) - Pre-existing water supply network, partially functional and covering 60% of the population - Pre-existing sewerage system partially functional and covering 60% of the population - 1 pumping station in each community (daily capacity 200m3/day) Result 1: Outputs and Indicators: Improved access to and use of sustainable water supply for the people in need (restoration of existing services). - # people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene, Improved access to and use of wastewater collection, disposal, and treatment for people in need (restoration of existing services): - # people have improved access to (added sustainable) sanitation services Enhanced awareness and improved hygiene service and practises on communicable diseases: - # of people reached with the handwashing behavioural change programmes - # people supported with access to essential WASH NFIs Result 2 (Compulsory either 1 or 2, or both): **LIFESAVING WASH INTERVENTIONS** Where affected people continue to depend on life-saving response, emergency provision of WASH services is implemented. These interventions include emergency water supply, hygiene promotion for adequate services and practises, and emergency sanitation. Community engagement is ensured such that these supplies and services cover

most the most vulnerable people; and are appropriate to the context- behavioral change is given due priority to ensure optimal impact of available supplies and services on the health and wellbeing of children and their caregivers. Innovative and cost-effective solutions are encouraged to address the key issues that include access, equity, gender, disability, and user-friendly supplies and services. AAP and PSEA activities are embedded into the programming.

Scenario: - 2 camps of 5,000 people each (one in Aleppo, one in Idlib), 60% of IDPs in one of the above mentioned SDs (project location section) - The camp is not connected to water network or sewerage line Results 2: Outputs and Indicators: Access to and use of life-saving emergency WASH facilities and services, including water trucking: - # people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene Access to and use of emergency sanitation services for people in needs (including emergency sanitation and solid waste management): - # people have improved access to sanitation services Enhanced awareness and improved hygiene practises on communicable disease. Includes warehousing and distribution of WASH NFIs (for the scenario given): - # of people reached with the handwashing behavioural change programmes - # people supported with access to essential WASH NFIs Result 3 (Optional): WASH Systems Strengthening Water service delivery in NWS faces numerous challenges, such as infrastructure damage, high operational costs, unregulated water service provision via water trucking, heavy dependence on donor funding, and lack of trust on local water authorities which complicates cost recovery efforts, and low technical capacity of local authorities to ensure appropriate institutional performance of WASH sector. The aim of Result 3 (optional) is to strengthen WASH systems in NWS, addressing regulatory frameworks, accountability mechanisms, and service delivery models. AAP and PSEA activities are embedded into the programming. Scenario: - 2 communities of 30,000 people each (one in Aleppo, one in Idlib), 60% of IDPs in one of the above mentioned SDs (project location section) - Pre-existing water supply network, partially functional and covering 60% of the population - Pre-existing sewerage system partially functional and covering 60% of the population - 1 pumping station in each community (daily capacity 200m3/day) Results 3: Outputs and Indicators: Enabled environment for improved performance of WASH services - # of WASH entities' members trained - # of sustainable cost-recovery systems established *Results section continues below

7 Indicative Budget

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8 Other Information

Result 4 (Optional): WASH in Schools WASH in Schools programming will significantly benefits children in the given communities by providing access to safe drinking water, improved sanitation, and hygiene facilities at school level. These services enhance children's health, reduce absenteeism, and improve academic performance by preventing waterborne diseases and promoting better hygiene practices. Intervention includes rehabilitation of WASH facilities at schools and additional tailored Hygiene promotion program for the students. AAP and PSEA activities are embedded into the programming. Scenario: - 2 communities (one in Aleppo, one in Idlib), - Pre-existing water supply network - Pre-existing sewerage system partially functional - 2 Schools (1 in each community) with capacity of 500 children/school (in line with local Education standards) Results 4: Outputs and Indicators: Access to and use of WASH in Schools for school-going children (installation of new child-friendly services and repair of existing services), including Enhanced awareness on communicable disease preventive behaviour • # of school children gaining access to gender-friendly WASH facilities and services • # of people reached with adapted hygiene promotion programs Result 5 (Optional): WASH in HCFs (PHC and Nutrition services) WASH in Health care facilities providing integrated health and nutrition services, is crucial for children's health and well-being. Access to clean water, proper sanitation, and hygiene practices in these settings significantly reduces the risk of infections within the health facilities , which is vital for child health and survival1. Improved WASH services also enhance the effectiveness of nutrition programs by preventing waterborne diseases that can exacerbate malnutrition. Interventions includes rehabilitation of WASH facilities at Health Care facilities and additional tailored Hygiene promotion program for the affected children and their caregivers. AAP and PSEA activities are embedded into the programming. Scenario: - 2 communities (one in Aleppo, one in Idlib), - Pre-existing water supply network - Pre-existing sewerage system partially functional - 2 Health facilities providing nutrition services (1 in each community) with patient load of at least 150 people per day (Facility has existing WASH facilities-water supply and toilets) Results 5: Outputs and Indicators: Access to and use of WASH in Health Facilities for people in need, including Enhanced awareness on communicable disease preventive behaviour • # of health care facilities with functional WASH facilities • # of people reached with adapted hygiene promotion programs Result 6 (Optional): WASH in Child Protection facilities (Child friendly spaces CFSs and Women and Girls Support Centers (WGSCs) WASH programming in Protection Centres is vital for safeguarding children's health and well-being in vulnerable settings. By ensuring access to clean water, adequate sanitation, and hygiene facilities, these programs

significantly reduce the risk of disease outbreaks and improve overall health outcomes. They also provide a safe and dignified environment, which is crucial for children's physical and psychological recover. Intervention includes rehabilitation of WASH facilities in Child Protection Centres and additional tailored Hygiene promotion program for the children using the facilities and their caregivers. AAP and PSEA activities are embedded into the programming.

Scenario: - 2 communities (one in Aleppo, one in Idlib), - Pre-existing water supply network - Pre-existing sewerage system partially functional - 2 Child Friendly Spaces (CP) with space for approximately 150 children (1 in each community), including parents/caregivers Results 6: Outputs and Indicators: Access to and use of WASH in Protection centres for people in need, including Enhanced awareness on communicable disease preventive behaviour • # of Protection centres equipped with WASH facilities • # of people reached with tailored hygiene promotion programmes

IMPORTANT NOTE: We encourage to use eCN on this link <https://ecn.unicef.org> to fill the concept note using online platform for better alignment with UNICEF digital partnership system. This allow better accessibility after selection and during programme document development phase.

9 Selection Criteria

Name	Description	Weight
Access/security considerations	This selection criterion emphasizes that the NGO should have proved the ability to gain access to and implement programmes in the given locations.	10
Local experience and presence	Local experience and presence: NGO's prior experience in the geographic locations in NWS.	10
Relevance of proposal to achieving expected results	: Proposal clarity in achieving the expected results against the defined indicators. The proposal is written with clarity and logic. It clearly links indicators/activities/results and clearly reflects AAP and PSEA considerations.	20
Sector expertise and experience	NGO with adequate WASH engineering, ability in human-centred design, and capacity in community engagement at Gaziantep and in NWS.	10
Cost effectiveness	The project presents an intervention that will ensures adequate cost per capita, considering low operational costs.	15
Sustainability of intervention	NGO proposal to include the approaches to be used for the sustainability of interventions with a solid exit strategy and quality community engagement.	15
Other	Integrated response: the partner successfully applies to several Results.	20

10 Attachments

Description	URL
WASH_2025_CFEI_29.11.2024	Download the document here

11 Concept Note Template

[Download the document here](#)

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

[UN Partner Portal](#)