

## Call for Expression of Interest

# Accelerating Access to Adequate and Equitable Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene for All in the Songwe Region through Financial Inclusion and Sanitation Market Strengthening

**CEF/TZA/2025/001**

### 1 Timeline

Posted	Feb 21, 2025
Clarification Request Deadline	Mar 5, 2025
Application Deadline	Mar 14, 2025
Notification of Results	Mar 25, 2025
Start Date	Apr 15, 2025
End Date	Dec 31, 2026

### 2 Locations

- A Tanzania, United Republic of
  - a Songwe
  - b Songwe
  - c Songwe

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

- A WASH and Environment
  - a Basic sanitation

### 4 Issuing Agency

UNICEF

### 5 Project Background

Financial inclusion for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene in communities UNICEF, in collaboration with the Government of Tanzania, is implementing a project for "Accelerating Sanitation and Water for All." The project complements the National Sanitation campaign, for which the government launched the second phase under the name "Mtu ni Afya" in May 2024. According to the TDHS 2022, only 55 percent of the household population of Tanzania have access to at least basic sanitation services. Meanwhile, 71 percent of household members dispose of their excreta appropriately (TDHS 2022). Open Defecation (OD) rates in Tanzania currently stand at 10 percent. Furthermore, the percentage of the population with at least basic sanitation services increases from 29 per cent in the lowest wealth quintile to 67 percent in the highest quintile (TDHS 2022). The report further notes that only nearly two-thirds, or 64 percent of the household population, has access to at least basic drinking water services. UNICEF implements WASH

programs based on the SDG 6 acceleration framework that includes (in no exact order) capacity development, governance, financing, data and information, and innovation. Therefore, UNICEF Tanzania has combined Market-Based Sanitation (MBS) with the traditional Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach to increase access to, and use of at least basic sanitation and hygiene services. Through this approach, UNICEF works with communities, and LGA and partners to strengthen demand creation, shift social norms, promote gender equity and community ownership through social and behaviour change communication (SBC), market activation, and strengthening the supply chain by engaging and partnering with NGOs, private sector partners/enterprises. UNICEF is also triggering financial inclusion by partnering with financial institutions to design and implement options that will create/improve access to finances for WASH private sector partners and the last mile populations for building and improving sanitation facilities. The Tanzania national strategy for accelerating sanitation and hygiene for all 2020-2025, developed by the Government of Tanzania with Support from UNICEF and other development partners, identified limited access to finance as one factor limiting the uptake of sanitation and hygiene in rural communities. The strategy identified increased levels of poverty and lack of available finance to poor and most disadvantaged households as one of the bottlenecks for accelerating access to improved sanitation and hygiene. Financial inclusion for WASH, with efficient demand creation around sanitation and hygiene, could translate to increased uptake of improved sanitation and hygiene services. The Songwe region has a population of 1,344,687 (NBS 2022) persons across 394 villages. Only 50 percent of households in the region have access to at least a basic water supply placing the region only above Singida (44 per cent), Tanga (46 per cent), Mara (47 per cent) and Tabora (46 per cent). The TDHS (2022) reports that 66.7 per cent access to at least basic sanitation, with 8.1 per cent of the population still practicing open defecation rate. UNICEF is therefore inviting expressions of interest from potential local Non-Governmental Organisations based in Tanzania, for partnering with UNICEF in accelerating access to WASH facilities and services and improve hygiene behavior practices to end open defecation. The project will leverage private sector engagements, develop programmes with microfinance institutions for providing microloans for private sector specifically for financing environmentally sustainable water and sanitation projects and individuals or communities to install household or community water supply, sanitation and hygiene services. The project should seek to make deliberate efforts to increase access to finance and strengthen the supply chain for water supply, sanitation and hygiene hardware and services along the sanitation value chain (to also include CLTS triggering, WASH financial inclusion, youth engagement and circular economy models) in designated LGAs, in the Songwe region. Additionally, the project will strategically track evidence on specific community needs and challenges to foster sustainable WASH practices. The selected partner will, therefore, integrate WASH behavioral science and human-centered designs to drive meaningful community participation and trigger uptake of WASH-related behaviors and practices by strengthening gender transformative programming and promoting resilience and sustainability.

## 6 **Expected Results**

The overall objective of the project(s) is Increase access to adequate and equitable water supply, sanitation and hygiene practices for all and end open defecation in the Songwe region of Tanzania with attention to the most vulnerable and last-mile populations through access to finance and sanitation markets by December 2026. Specific Objectives: Strengthen sanitation marketing through increased demand creation and strengthening the supply chain for water supply, sanitation and hygiene hardware products and services. Strengthen WASH financial inclusion and other financing mechanisms for access to sanitation loans and services targeting the most vulnerable populations in the Songwe region. Increase engagement of the private sector (including financial institutions) and trigger markets along the water supply and sanitation value chain towards safely managed services. Increase access to and strengthen climate resilient and gender transformative water, sanitation and hygiene services through evidence-based social and behavior change strategies. Enhance a gender-transformative and equity focused WASH program in communities, focusing on promoting positive sanitation and hygiene practices and shifting harmful social norms

## 7 **Indicative Budget**

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## 8 **Other Information**

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## 9 **Selection Criteria**

Name	Description	Weight
Relevance of proposal to achieving expected results	Overall response in terms of completeness, overall concord between RFP scope and concept note.	10
Clarity of activities and expected results	Relevance of strategies proposed and innovative approach in view of attaining expected results	30
Realistic timelines and plans	Relevance of the proposed timeline in view of the call	10
Local experience and presence	Experience and evidence of results in similar projects and areas of work	15
Sustainability of intervention	Long-term sustainability vision	10
Contribution of resource	CSO/NGO contribution and added value (Added value in terms of experience, expertise, HR, in-kind contribution, and cash contributions). Team composition staff profile	10
Other	Partners to demonstrate their capacity and experience in emergency responses in Tanzania. This may include actual Humanitarian work they have undertaken and the end results	5
Other	Partner capacity and systems on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA): PSEA and GBV mitigation considerations. Applying partners must provide proof of PSEA compliance or showing activities for mitigation measures.	10

## 10 **Attachments**

Description	URL
details of the call	<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](#)