

Call for Expression of Interest

Sustaining access to improved WASH services for Rohingya Refugees on Bhasan Char Island

CEF/BGD/2025/026

1 Timeline

Posted	Sep 10, 2025
Clarification Request Deadline	Sep 15, 2025
Application Deadline	Sep 30, 2025
Notification of Results	Nov 15, 2025
Start Date	Jan 1, 2026
End Date	Dec 31, 2026

2 Locations

- A Bangladesh
 - a Chittagong

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

- A WASH and Environment
 - a Basic sanitation
 - b Hygiene
 - c WASH in emergencies
 - d Water

4 Issuing Agency

UNICEF

5 Project Background

As per the Joint Response Plan (JRP) for 2025, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) projected the relocation of 40,000 Rohingya refugees to Bhasan Char. By July 2025, a total of 37,039 Rohingya refugees — including 20,542 Children (aged 0–18 years) in Bhasan Char. Children and adolescents there continue to face significant risks due to unsafe water, poor sanitation, and inadequate hygiene practices. To address this, ongoing hygiene promotion coupled with water treatment is crucial at both the source and household levels. Regular maintenance of latrines and bathing facilities is vital for the Rohingya community. Since these facilities are older than 6 years, a higher frequency of repair and maintenance is required to keep them functional. Faecal sludge management is a challenge as wastewater from 250 digesters is discharged directly into drains, risking water contamination. The biogas outlets in BC frequently face blockages from various materials, including menstrual pads and other small particles. Moreover, the quantity of daily collected waste is still low due to the disposal of waste in open drains, resulting in blockages, restricting water flow and

ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes, especially during the monsoon. On the other hand, limited awareness of proper MHM practices coupled with myths, misconceptions and limited access to essential menstrual hygiene commodities is creating a concerning situation for girls and women of reproductive age. Menstrual hygiene management (MHM) and other hygiene practices are also challenging. Additionally, climate change risks are also intensifying in BC, and particularly during the monsoon season, flooding and other disasters create more difficulties for WASH intervention in addressing critical needs. The selected Partner will be responsible for implementing all of the WASH interventions outlined in this Expression of Interest, which includes the management of UNICEF AoR Clusters. These interventions contribute to the achievement of the Bhasan Char Joint Response Plan (JRP) 2026 objectives for the WASH Sector. The selected partner is expected to work in partnership with the WASH Sector, providing capacity building support to other WASH Sector partners and in line with guidance given by the WASH Sector Lead, CiC, and the Additional Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (ARRRC). Community Maintenance Team (CMT) will be used to reduce cost of O&M; of WASH services. Targeted and mainstreamed community engagement needs to follow an approach that prevents and responds on WASH concerns at the family and community level, and which shares information with communities to make informed choices regarding WASH services. Community members' voices need to be heard and responded to for greater accountability and inclusive WASH programme delivery. Privacy concerns for women, girls and persons with Disabilities. In accordance with UNICEF's due diligence requirements, partners with an established history of partnerships with UNICEF, who have demonstrated progressive improvements in compliance areas including Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), Child safeguarding, fraud prevention, organizational governance, and procurement practices validated through audits, spot checks, and monitoring visits, will be accorded priority consideration in selection under the CFEI process.

6 **Expected Results**

UNICEF's expected targets under the Bhasan Char JRP 2026: Headings Target 1a Rohingya refugee women, men, boys, and girls in Bhasan Char, inclusive of all age groups and persons with Special Abilities, have access to safe water supply for drinking and other domestic purposes 19000 Population 2a Rohingya refugee women, men, boys and girls in Bhasan Char, inclusive of all age groups and persons with disabilities, have access to quality and equitable sanitation services including Solid waste management. 19,000 population 3a Rohingya refugee (women, men, boys, girls in Bhasan Char, inclusive of all age groups and persons with disabilities) are aware and protect from public health risks including PSEA and maintain Child Safeguarding, ESS and CFRM to ensure AAP. 19,000 population Contingency for Crisis Management Key Outcome Rohingya people including children, adolescents, and their families in Bhasan Char have equitable and inclusive access to safe, sustainable, and quality WASH services, including essential hygiene supplies. Performance Indicators All indicators must have verifiable sources of evidence and be disaggregated by gender, disability, and, where relevant, other dimensions. UNICEF will work with the selected applicant to finalize performance indicators. Examples of indicators include: # of people accessing a sufficient quantity of quality water for drinking and domestic needs % of water samples that met E. coli standards at source level (=>90%) % of water samples that met E. coli standards at household level (=>85%) # of functional water distribution networks and Handpump Tubewells. # of people accessing appropriate sanitation services # of people reached through solid waste management activities following WASH Sector standards % functional latrines # of toilets and bathing spaces upgraded to make them gender inclusive and accessible to person with disabilities (PWD) % of women and girls feeling safe to use communal latrines # of people engaged on adopting safe hygienic practices # of people reached by Epidemiological messages like: Dengue, AWD/Cholera, COVID 19, Scabies, Diphtheria etc). # of functional WASH community structures % of people practicing improved hygiene behaviours (hand washing with soap) # of people trained on Child Safeguarding, ESS under WASH programming # of people received critical WASH supplies (MHM Kits, Soap) # of sessions for beneficiaries on PSEA and child safeguarding organized by the trained personnel in the reporting period # of beneficiaries reached with PSEA and child safeguarding sessions # of community members who reported their concerns through Information sharing, Multi-loop Complaint and Feedback mechanism % of Complaint/feedback resolved # of non-compliance incidents identified during sport checks and monitoring visits Percentage (%) of Implementing Partner staff and subcontractors engaged in the Project who have signed the Code of Conduct # of stakeholder meetings and consultations conducted Environmental and Social Risk Screening conducted prior to the start of activities ESRM plan for civil works prepared Project area security risk assessments completed Security Management Plan in place Percentage (%) of ESS Performance Reports submitted on time Percentage (%) of incident reports submitted on time

7 **Indicative Budget**

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8 Other Information

The selected implementing partner will have strong leadership and technical capacities in humanitarian and development contexts in WASH programming. The partner will have an in-depth organizational understanding of international and national policy on WASH. This introduces the Sustainable Development Goal 6, the Declaration for Water and Sanitation 2030. And Minimum Standards of WASH. The partner will have proven experience in working with children and adolescents and delivering quality and inclusive WASH through the ISCG and Sphere standards. The partner must have technical experience in Water Quality monitoring, Solid Waste Management, Fecal Sludge Management and vector control, technical capacity to lead the different technical working groups with the staff capacity development for effective WASH services delivery. The partner should be able to provide technical skills programming for the Person with Disabilities (PWD). The organization must have approval to work in Bhasan Char

9 Selection Criteria

Name	Description	Weight
Other	Knowledge and understanding of policy, expected results, programme outcome & indicators, UNICEF objective/requirements and demonstrated competencies and experience to deliver quality, inclusive WASH programming.(08) - Excellent application of information management, knowledge management and technical and professional skills including gender and disability inclusion to conceptualize, develop, implement, monitor, report on, and evaluate projects related to the WASH response. (04) - Knowledge and expertise on Environment and social management (ESS) and AAP-CFM compliance in implementation.(08)	20
Sector expertise and experience	Competence to strongly represent the WASH Sector, Technical Working Group in coordination and interagency forums.(05) - Competence to communicate clearly at a strategic and analytical level, including developing high quality monthly sitreps and Quarterly Progress Reports that propose solutions as well as identify challenges. Clear and consistent reporting in Activity Info and when responding to WASH Sector data requests. (10) - Strong working relationships and communication with relevant government ministries, RRRC and departments and with the WASH Sector lead.(05)	20
Relevance of proposal to achieving expected results	Technical experience and knowledge of WASH programming/Response and emergency response. Has demonstrated skills and competencies to deliver quality WASH Service , inclusive emergency response.(10) - Demonstrated technical competencies and experience in planning, designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating for effective delivery of WASH Services. This includes program management, team management, budget, sector, donor visit, reports etc.(5) - Experience of community engagement (CCC, PLTS, Community structure, User groups) and Accountability to Affected Population within a camp setting. Includes the establishment of ways to ensure that all affected communities have access to the information they need to make informed choices regarding WASH and that their voices are heard and responded to for greater accountability and inclusive programme delivery(5) - Technical skills required to support WASH Sector and WASH response(2) - Competence to build the technical capacities of internal and external stakeholders, including WASH Sector partners and government authorities.(2) - Organizational capacity to support the WASH Sector to transport and distribute WASH NFI, IEC learning materials.(1)	30
Project management	Team manager: Relevant experience, qualifications, and position based in Bhasan Char.(5) - Team members: Relevant experience, skills & competencies.(5) - Retention of key staff and procedures for handling unavoidable team changes.(2) - Gender balance of the team.(3)	15

Experience working with UN	Previous experience of working with UNICEF WASH program including Bhasan char, and awareness of HACT partnership, PSEA and child safeguarding and financial policies and procedures.(15)	15
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10 **Attachments**

Description	URL
Detailed word file of CFEI is attached here with all the requirements inclu	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](#)