

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Mapping Opportunities for WASH and Climate Action (ESCA) Programming

World Vision International — Global WASH Team

Procurement Type	Direct Consultancy – Technical Advisory Services
Posting Date	March 2026
Application Deadline	31 March 2026
Projected Start Date	16 April 2026
Contract Period	April – June/July 2026 (2–3 months)
Estimated Level of Effort	20 working days (160 hours)
Location	Remote

1. Background and Purpose

World Vision International (WVI) implements water, sanitation, and hygiene programming across 60+ countries, reaching millions of children and communities with services. As climate shocks increasingly threaten access to safe water and sanitation, WVI is strengthening the integration of environmental sustainability and climate action (ESCA) within its WASH programming.

WVI is exploring opportunities to expand WASH programming for climate change mitigation and adaptation, identify investment opportunities, develop financing strategies and institutional positioning to ensure access to climate finance to develop and scale climate-smart WASH interventions.

This consultancy is intended to provide the Global WASH team with a clear, actionable understanding of WVI's current positioning, emerging opportunities, and priority pathways to strengthen the integration of climate change mitigation and adaptation within WASH programming — and to engage strategically with relevant climate finance mechanisms.

2. Objective of the Assignment

The objective of this consultancy is to analyze, synthesize, and provide actionable recommendations on WVI's current and potential engagement in climate-smart WASH, enabling WVI to:

- Clearly articulate how WASH contributes to climate action and resilience within its organizational strategy, with a clear assessment of strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities.
- Identify priority programmatic and institutional actions to advance climate-smart WASH.
- Make informed decisions on engaging with climate finance for WASH programming.
- Ensure WASH services and programming are sustainable, safe, and resilient to climate-related risks.

3. Scope of Work

The consultant will undertake four interrelated workstreams:

3.1 Internal Mapping of WVI WASH and Climate-Relevant Programming

- Review selected WVI WASH Business Plan documents, assess indicator coverage and relevance to climate-smart WASH, and identify project models and relevant studies.
- Map existing and emerging WASH interventions that contribute to:
 - Climate change adaptation (e.g., resilience to droughts, floods, climate variability)
 - Climate change mitigation (e.g., energy efficiency, renewable energy use, emissions reduction)
- Identify gaps, strengths, and underrecognized climate-relevant practices within current WASH programming.
- Conduct internal and external stakeholder mapping to identify actors with interest or influence over WASH climate outcomes and avoid duplication.

3.2 External Landscape and Benchmarking Review

- Conduct a desk-based review of global best practices, innovations, and relevant policies related to climate-smart and climate-resilient WASH.
- Benchmark WVI's approach against selected peer organizations (international NGOs, UN agencies, development partners) with experience in WASH and climate action.
- Identify lessons, emerging trends, and strategic niches relevant to WVI's mandate, operational footprint, and child well-being focus.

3.3 Climate Finance Opportunities Mapping

- Identify and map key climate finance mechanisms and funding streams relevant to WASH, including multilateral (GCF, Adaptation Fund), bilateral, and philanthropic sources.
- Analyse types of WASH interventions typically eligible under these mechanisms and associated requirements.
- Assess WVI's opportunities to access climate finance through partnerships and consortium approaches (short-term) and institutional positioning (medium-term).
- Identify priority innovative climate finance opportunities aligned with WVI's WASH portfolio and capacities.

3.4 Synthesis, Framework Development, and Strategic Recommendations

- Synthesize findings from internal mapping, external review, and finance analysis.
- Develop a Climate-Resilient WASH Framework tailored to WVI, structured around four pillars: Governance and Institutional; Programming and Risk; Finance and Resource Mobilisation; and Evidence and Learning.
- Provide clear, prioritized, and realistic recommendations for programmatic integration of climate-smart WASH, institutional strengthening, and strategic engagement with climate finance.
- Propose a set of indicative climate-smart WASH indicators to support monitoring and accountability.

4. Expected Deliverables and Timeline

All deliverables will be submitted in draft and final versions, incorporating feedback from WVI. The total level of effort is 20 working days, distributed across the following outputs:

Deliverable	Due Date	Estimated Days	Description
Stakeholder Mapping & Internal Review Report	Week 3 of engagement	5 days	Concise analytical report mapping internal climate-WASH capacities, gaps, and stakeholder landscape.
Desk Review & Benchmarking Report	Week 5 of engagement	4 days	Summary of global best practices, peer benchmarking, and emerging trends in climate-smart WASH.
Climate Finance Mapping Note	Week 7 of engagement	4 days	Landscape of relevant climate finance mechanisms with entry pathways and readiness assessment for WVI.
Climate-Resilient WASH Framework + Toolkit	Week 9 of engagement	5 days	Practical framework structured around governance, programming, finance, and evidence pillars; includes risk assessment toolkit and indicator set.
Executive Summary & Slide Deck	End of engagement	2 days	Concise synthesis of findings and recommendations for leadership decision-making.
TOTAL	2–3 months	20 days	All deliverables submitted in draft and final versions incorporating WVI feedback.

5. Consultant Profile

Qualified candidates must demonstrate the following:

- A degree or higher in international development, environmental policy, water resources management, climate change, or related field.
- Minimum 10 years of professional experience in WASH, with demonstrated familiarity with development and humanitarian programming and climate resilience.
- Familiarity with climate finance mechanisms and international donor architecture (GCF, Adaptation Fund, bilateral donors, carbon markets).
- Demonstrated experience in evidence-based reporting and synthesizing findings into actionable recommendations.
- Experience contributing to organizational strategies, frameworks, or institutional integration processes.
- Experience with positioning, donor engagement, and proposal writing (preferred).
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English. French or Spanish is an asset.
- Experience working in or alongside global humanitarian or development organizations.

6. Proposal Requirements

Interested candidates must submit a complete proposal package by the deadline. Proposals must include:

- A cover letter (maximum 2 pages) outlining relevant experience and approach to this type of work.
- A CV highlighting relevant experience in WASH, climate resilience, and related fields.
- A brief financial proposal (daily rate in USD).

Please note: the successful candidate will need to be vetted and onboarded to WVI's internal systems prior to commencement of work.

7. Submission Instructions

All proposals must be submitted electronically by the deadline indicated above.

Submission Email	jae_burchard@wvi.org
Subject Line	TOR WASH and Climate Consultancy— Proposal: [Your Name]
Deadline	31 March 2026

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for follow-up. World Vision International reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and is not obligated to select the lowest-cost submission.

9. Terms and Conditions

- This tender is open to individual consultants. Proposals from firms or agencies will be considered only if a named lead consultant is clearly identified.
- All work produced under this contract will be considered work-for-hire and remain the intellectual property of World Vision International.
- The consultant will be required to pass a background check and adhere to World Vision International's Safeguarding policies.
- World Vision International reserves the right to modify the scope of work or terminate the contract with reasonable notice.
- All contractors are responsible for their own tax obligations. No employment benefits or deductions will be provided.

10. Contact and Questions

Questions regarding this TOR must be submitted in writing to the contact below prior to the application deadline. Responses to questions may be shared with all prospective candidates.

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