

### Call for Expression of Interest

# Call to Establish a Pool of Eligible Standby CSO Partners for UNICEF Sudan – South Area Field Offices – WASH Programme (June 2026 – December 2027)

**CEF/SDN/2026/011**

## 1 **Timeline**

Posted	Mar 5, 2026
Clarification Request Deadline	Mar 15, 2026
Application Deadline	Apr 4, 2026
Notification of Results	May 14, 2026
Start Date	Jun 1, 2026
End Date	Dec 31, 2027

## 2 **Locations**

- A Sudan
  - a Blue Nile
  - b South Kordofan
  - c White Nile
  - d Sennar
  - e North Kordofan
  - f West Kordofan

## 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**

Sudan is facing one of the world's most severe humanitarian crises, and UNICEF's Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Programme has become a lifeline for millions, particularly since the conflict escalated in April 2023. Even before the current crisis, the country had major WASH gaps: around 11 million people lacked basic water services, 26%

of water systems were non-functional, and 63.6% of the population (~27 million people) lacked basic sanitation, with over 10 million practicing open defecation. These structural weaknesses meant that WASH systems collapsed rapidly as conflict intensified. The 2023 conflict has further disrupted water schemes, fuel supply, and sanitation facilities, while the displacement of over 12 million people has overstretched water points and sanitation infrastructure, triggering major public health emergencies, including recurrent cholera outbreaks and rising diarrheal diseases. As the lead WASH humanitarian actor, UNICEF has scaled up its response across Sudan. In July 2025 alone, over 2.3 million people received safe water through trucking, chlorination, and rehabilitation of infrastructure. UNICEF has also delivered 7.6 million oral cholera vaccine doses, ensured water access for over 811,000 people during peak conflict, and provided emergency WASH supplies, temporary sanitation solutions, and support for community water systems with fuel, chemicals, and solar solutions. Despite these efforts, Sudan continues to face worsening disease outbreaks, deteriorating infrastructure, and unprecedented displacement. UNICEF remains one of the few agencies capable of delivering WASH services on a national scale, yet humanitarian needs far exceed available resources.

**6 Expected Results**

The overall focus and Expected Result of the WASH programme is to improve and have an equitable use of safe drinking water, sanitation, healthy environment and improve hygiene practices in deprived provinces and vulnerable areas. Please See attached Call for Expression of Interest (CFEI)/Terms of Reference (TOR)/Scope of Work - WASH.

**7 Indicative Budget**

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**8 Other Information**

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**9 Selection Criteria**

Name	Description	Weight
Clarity of activities and expected results	Demonstrated clarity in proposed activities and expected results, including the application of a results-based management approach to programming.	15
Relevance of proposal to achieving expected results	Clear articulation of activities and interventions required to achieve expected results within realistic timelines, including appropriate staffing for effective programme implementation.	15
Local experience and presence	Prior experience and presence in the target community and geographic area, demonstrating knowledge of the local context, engagement with children and communities, community trust, and/or established consultation and feedback mechanisms to inform programme design and implementation.	15
Project management	Demonstrated ability to manage the proposed intervention. The availability of independent audit reports for the last two (2) years of financial records, accounts, business transactions, and accounting practices is considered an asset (to be attached to the submission).	10
Sector expertise and experience	Relevant technical knowledge, skills, sectoral expertise, and a proven track record.	10
Cost effectiveness	Assessment of the proposed level (e.g. percentage) of direct and indirect costs in relation to the planned activities and expected results.	10
Contribution of resource	Contribution of cash, intellectual property, human resources, supplies, and/or equipment to complement UNICEF resources.	5
Realistic timelines and plans	Ability to achieve programme outputs and deliver timely results, including capacity for accelerated implementation during humanitarian emergencies.	5
Access/security considerations	Demonstrated ability to access and operate effectively in challenging security environments and/or hard-to-reach locations.	5

Experience working with UN	Experience in programme design and implementation with UN agencies, including demonstrated knowledge and understanding of UN policies, procedures, and programmes, as well as successful prior collaboration.	5
Other	Organizational capacity to integrate and implement key cross-cutting priorities, including: • Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), with mechanisms for prevention, reporting, and response • Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) • Gender equality and inclusion • Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Evidence of institutional policies, training, and operationalization of these safeguards will be considered.	5

## 10 **Attachments**

Description	URL
Call for Expression of Interest (CFEI)/Terms of Reference (TOR)/Scope of Wo	<a href="#">Download the document here</a>
Guidance Note for CFEI and Selection Criteria	<a href="#">Download the document here</a>
Guidelines for Completion of UNICEF Concept Note Template	<a href="#">Download the document here</a>
Exclusion Criteria from CFEI	<a href="#">Download the document here</a>
UNICEF Concept Note Template with Guideline (English)	<a href="#">Download the document here</a>
UNICEF Concept Note Template with Guideline (Arabic)	<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](#)