

Call for Expression of Interest

Technical Support to Implement Climate Resilient WASH for Children Project in Selected Municipalities of Karnali Province

CEF/NPL/2026/005

1 Timeline

Posted	Jul 22, 2026
Clarification Request Deadline	Aug 3, 2026
Application Deadline	Aug 3, 2026
Notification of Results	Aug 10, 2026
Start Date	Aug 17, 2026
End Date	Dec 31, 2027

2 Locations

- A Nepal
 - a Karnali

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

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

4 Issuing Agency

UNICEF

5 Project Background

As per the Constitution of Nepal, access to safe drinking water and sanitation is defined as a fundamental human right and is to be guaranteed as essential for children's survival, health, development, and dignity. In Nepal, these rights are guaranteed by the Constitution, with Article 35(4) ensuring access to clean drinking water and sanitation for all citizens and Article 39 affirming children's rights to health, nutrition, and a clean environment. Ensuring equitable access to Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services is therefore critical to improving child nutrition, health, and education outcomes. Responsibility for delivering these services is shared across federal, provincial, and local governments, as outlined in the subsequent Schedules of the Constitution and in the Local Government Operation Act 2017. According to the findings from 2024–25 MICS, only 22 per cent of the population in Karnali Province have access to safely managed drinking water services which is far below the national average (47 per cent) and lowest among the seven provinces. This challenge is compounded by high levels of water contamination, with E. coli detected in 71 per cent of water sources and 74 per cent of household drinking water samples, both exceeding the national averages of 46 per cent and

60 per cent, respectively. The Flash I 2080 report also highlights significant WASH gaps in schools: around 33 per cent schools lack separate toilet facilities for girls, 9 per cent have no sanitation facilities, and 24 per cent of them do not have basic drinking water services. These deficiencies negatively affect children's health, school attendance, and learning outcomes, particularly for girls, underscoring the need for strengthened governance, institutional capacity, and sustained investment in equitable and climate-resilient WASH services in communities and institutions including WASH in schools. To address these challenges, continued technical support is required for provincial and local governments to strengthen WASH governance, evidence-based planning and financing, institutional capacity, and sustainable service delivery. UNICEF has been supporting provincial and local governments in strengthening WASH systems through WASH sector mapping, the development and implementation of costed WASH plans and WASH financing strategies, and capacity building on key WASH improvement approaches. These include Climate-Resilient Water Safety Plans (CR-WSPs) leading to Water-Safe Community (WSC) certification and declaration, child-centred Three-Star Approach to WASH in Schools, and Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool (WASH FIT) approach for improving WASH services in health care facilities. The effective implementation and scaling up of these interventions require dedicated technical assistance at provincial, municipal, and community level. In this regards, UNICEF seeks solicit expressions of interest from technically competent Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and/or organizations registered under Nepal Company Act, 2006 (as not-for-profit-distribution companies) to provide technical assistance for implementing climate-resilient WASH interventions in selected municipalities of Karnali Province, namely, Birendranagar and Chaukune of Surkhet, Narayan of Dailekh and Chhayanath Rara of Mugu districts. The partnership will focus on strengthening WASH systems through policy support aligned with Nepal's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3), updating the National WASH Management Information System (NWASH-MIS), supporting the preparation and implementation of costed WASH plans, and strengthening municipal capacity for evidence-based planning and financing. It will also support improvements in WASH services through the implementation of climate-resilient drinking water systems in schools and communities, sustainable sanitation facilities, community-based water management systems, and hygiene promotion programmes. In addition, the partnership will facilitate the scale-up of these proven approaches across large and medium-sized water supply systems in urban and semi-urban areas of Karnali Province. The partnership will contribute to establishing resilient, sustainable, and locally owned WASH service delivery systems while ensuring that every child especially girls and children from marginalized communities has access to safe, inclusive, and climate-resilient WASH facilities in schools. It will also strengthen community access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene services, contributing to improved public health and climate resilient WASH systems across programme municipalities.

6 **Expected Results**

Through this partnership, the selected Civil Society Organization (CSO) will provide dedicated technical assistance to programme municipalities in Karnali Province to strengthen the planning, implementation, monitoring, and sustainability of climate-resilient WASH interventions. The following key results are expected to be achieved through the partnership:

- WASH governance strengthened through the updating of NWASH data, revision of WASH plans and financing strategies in at least three local governments.
- At least 17 Water User Committees (WUCs) supported with capacity building in Climate-Resilient Water Safety Planning (CR-WSP) and Water-Safe Community (WSC) development processes.
- Climate-Resilient Water Safety Plans (CR-WSPs) developed and implemented for at least 17 Water User Committees.
- At least 17 water supply schemes constructed, rehabilitated, and/or repaired, providing 10,000 people with access to safely managed drinking water through community- and school-linked water supply systems.
- Water quality monitoring mechanisms established in at least three municipalities and larger Water User Committees to ensure regular monitoring and safe drinking water services.
- At least 10 Water-Safe Communities certified, benefiting 5,000 people through improved water quality, service delivery, and community-led water management.
- Capacity of School Management Committees (SMCs), teachers, and students strengthened through WASH training in at least 30 schools.
- At least 150 youth and adolescents capacitated and mobilized as WASH champions to promote positive hygiene and sanitation behaviors.
- WASH promotion campaigns conducted in at least 30 schools, benefiting 10,000 children through improved WASH facilities, hygiene promotion, peer-to-peer learning, and healthy school environments.
- WASH facilities upgraded in at least 10 schools, improving access to safe, inclusive, and climate-resilient WASH services.
- At least three scalable WASH investment packages and training manuals and three knowledge products developed to support learning, policy advocacy, evidence-based planning, and replication.

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	Clearly mentioned the strategies, course of action, service delivery model, logical framework with defined activities and proposed technical staffs	15
Realistic timelines and plans	Workplan with timeline, M&E, result framework, indicator formulation	15
Sector expertise and experience	Technical expertise in design and implementation of WASH interventions and experience in Safely managed water supply, sanitation and hygiene services, WASH school and experience in linking WASH interventions with other multi-sectoral results (health, nutrition and education).	30
Cost effectiveness	Realistic presentation of budgets for every component of the project or relevant unit costs and benefits of the proposed activities and cost efficiency of the proposed budget to optimize value for money for the proposed partnership.	30
Sustainability of intervention	Clear indication about the sustainability of programme in long-run,	10

10 Attachments

Description	URL
EoI for technical support to implement climate resilient futures for childr	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](#)