

Call for Expression of Interest

Climate-Resilient WASH for Schools and Communities in the Federated States of Micronesia

CEF/FSM/2026/005

1 **Timeline**

Posted	Sep 1, 2026
Clarification Request Deadline	Sep 7, 2026
Application Deadline	Sep 11, 2026
Notification of Results	Sep 15, 2026
Start Date	Oct 1, 2026
End Date	Apr 2, 2029

2 **Locations**

- A Micronesia
 - a Pohnpei

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

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

4 **Issuing Agency**

UNICEF

5 **Project Background**

The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is highly vulnerable to climate-related hazards, including droughts, typhoons, flooding, sea-level rise, and saltwater intrusion. These hazards threaten water security, damage WASH infrastructure, and disrupt essential education and public health services, with disproportionate impacts on children, particularly girls and children with disabilities. UNICEF is implementing an integrated climate-resilient WASH programme to improve safe drinking water, sanitation, hygiene, and resilience in schools and communities. In schools, the programme will support 15 school WASH improvement projects, strengthen WASH and MHM planning and operation and maintenance systems, build the capacity of education stakeholders, and promote student participation. At community level, the programme will strengthen Drinking Water Safety Plans, hygiene and MHM practices, and local capacity for

climate-resilient water management. The programme will also pilot innovative atmospheric water generation systems in Pohnpei, Yap and Chuuk State. UNICEF is seeking a strategic partnership with a qualified national institution to support assessments, research, training, community engagement, implementation, monitoring, and knowledge management. The partnership will strengthen local capacity and generate practical evidence and solutions to support sustainable, inclusive, and climate-resilient WASH services across FSM.

6 **Expected Results**

The partnership is expected to contribute to the following results: 1. Strengthened institutional capacity for climate-resilient and inclusive WASH in Schools Institutional and technical capacity will be strengthened to plan, implement, monitor, and sustain climate-resilient, gender-responsive, and disability-inclusive WASH in Schools (WinS) and Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM), including through baseline assessments, School Improvement Plans, WASH/MHM Improvement Plans, and strengthened operation and maintenance systems. Target: At least 15 schools supported with WASH/MHM assessments and improvement planning. At least 15 school-level training and capacity-development activities conducted. At least 100 key education stakeholders receive targeted institutional capacity development. Approximately 1,000 teachers, school personnel, students, and other education stakeholders reached through training, orientation, and implementation support. 2. Improved access to inclusive, gender-responsive, disability-responsive, and climate-resilient WASH services in schools Selected schools will receive technical and material support to implement priority WASH and MHM improvements identified through assessments and School Improvement Plans, including improvements to facilities, hygiene practices, MHM, accessibility, and operation and maintenance arrangements. Target: At least 15 school WASH improvement projects implemented. All targeted schools supported to establish or strengthen operation and maintenance arrangements for improved WASH facilities. All targeted school improvements incorporate appropriate considerations for gender, MHM, disability inclusion, and climate resilience. 3. Enhanced student leadership and participation in WASH and climate resilience Students will be actively engaged in promoting safe hygiene practices, MHM, climate resilience, gender equality, and disability inclusion through WASH clubs, peer-support activities, awareness campaigns, practical learning, and inter-school knowledge exchange. Target: WASH clubs and/or student-led WASH activities established or strengthened in at least 15 targeted schools. Students from all targeted schools participate in peer-to-peer WASH, MHM, and climate-resilience activities. At least one student-led WASH awareness or learning activity per targeted school conducted during programme implementation. 4. Improved community water security, hygiene practices, and climate resilience Communities will strengthen their capacity to identify and manage risks to drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene through Drinking Water Safety Plans, community training, awareness activities, and locally led climate-resilient WASH interventions. Target: At least 1,000 people reached with improved basic hygiene services. Approximately 700 community members directly trained in climate-resilient water safety, sanitation, hygiene, and MHM. Up to 30 community training and capacity-development activities conducted. Target communities supported to develop and/or implement Drinking Water Safety Plans and priority risk-reduction actions. 5. Innovative climate-resilient water solutions tested and demonstrated Innovative water technologies will be piloted in selected schools and communities to assess their suitability for improving water security in locations vulnerable to drought, saltwater intrusion, and other climate-related water shortages. Target: Atmospheric water generation systems installed, operational, and monitored in Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap state of FSM. Operation, maintenance, water production, water quality, user acceptance, and sustainability of the systems documented. Practical recommendations developed on the feasibility and potential scale-up of atmospheric water generation technology in FSM. 6. Strengthened national knowledge, evidence, and learning for climate-resilient WASH Research, assessments, monitoring, documentation, and evaluation will generate evidence and practical recommendations to strengthen future climate-resilient and inclusive WASH programming, policies, standards, and investment decisions in FSM. Target: At least three (3) technical/programme reports produced for 3 states, documenting the situation of school maintenance, challenges, link between school maintenance and US-FSM Compact Agreement, lessons learned, and recom

7 **Indicative Budget**

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8 **Other Information**

The selected partner is expected to work closely with UNICEF, relevant national and state government authorities, schools, communities, and other WASH stakeholders throughout implementation. The partner should ensure strong local ownership, meaningful participation of children and communities, and integration of gender equality, disability inclusion, climate resilience, safeguarding, and environmental sustainability across all activities.

9 **Selection Criteria**

Name	Description	Weight
Local experience and presence	Demonstrated presence and operational experience in FSM, including established relationships with national/state government, schools, communities and relevant local stakeholders.	20
Relevance of proposal to achieving expected results	The proposal clearly demonstrates how the proposed approach, activities and methodology will contribute to achieving the expected project results and targets, including climate-resilient and inclusive WASH in schools, MHM, student participation, community water security, capacity development, innovative water technologies, and knowledge generation. The proposal should include a realistic work plan and demonstrate consideration of gender equality, disability inclusion, child rights and climate resilience.	40
Experience working with UN	Demonstrated experience working with UN agencies or other international development organisations, including familiarity with programme implementation, results-based management, monitoring and reporting, safeguarding, and accountability requirements. Previous experience working with UNICEF, particularly on WASH, education, climate resilience or community-based programmes, will be an advantage.	10
Contribution of resource	Demonstrated contribution of institutional resources to support effective and sustainable implementation of the programme, including qualified personnel, technical expertise, facilities, equipment, logistical support, student or volunteer engagement, and other in-kind contributions. The proposed contribution should demonstrate institutional ownership and complement UNICEF-supported resources.	30

10 **Concept Note Template**

[Download the document here](#)

11 **For more information on this partnership opportunity, and to apply, please visit**

[UN Partner Portal](#)