

Call for Expression of Interest

Develop a multi-sector climate change adaptation and mitigation plan in Rural Maharashtra in view of the monsoon deficit caused due to El Nino effect

CEF/IND/2026/073

1 Timeline

Posted	Sep 12, 2026
Clarification Request Deadline	Sep 17, 2026
Application Deadline	Sep 23, 2026
Notification of Results	Sep 28, 2026
Start Date	Oct 5, 2026
End Date	Jul 4, 2027

2 Locations

- A India
 - a Maharashtra

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

- A WASH and Environment
 - a Natural resources, environmental pollution and climate action

4 Issuing Agency

UNICEF

5 Project Background

Maharashtra is experiencing a highly variable and increasingly rainfall-deficient monsoon, with the strengthening El Niño contributing to weaker monsoon activity and longer dry spells. State-level rainfall was about 14–15% below normal during 1 June–31 August, while 15 districts reportedly received less than 75% of normal rainfall. Marathwada has been particularly stressed, with an approximately 71% rainfall deficit in August. The key climate risk is not simply drought, but a combination of prolonged dry spells, high temperatures and episodic intense rainfall. This is resulting in reduced groundwater recharge; stress on rural drinking-water sources; water-quality deterioration; possible need for emergency water supply, drought contingency plans. Greater dependence on marginal or unsafe sources may increase water-quality risks, diarrhoeal disease and hygiene challenges, particularly for children and vulnerable communities. Water stress can reduce agricultural production and household food availability, contributing to reduced dietary diversity and increased risk of maternal and child malnutrition. El Niño-related higher temperatures and below-normal/variable rainfall can increase heat stress, dehydration and risks to pregnant women, infants and young children. WHO's 2026

assessment highlights heat, water scarcity, food insecurity and climate-sensitive diseases among key El Niño health concerns. Reduced rainfall and crop stress can lead to loss of agricultural income and rural employment, particularly in drought-prone areas such as Marathwada and parts of Vidarbha and Madhya Maharashtra. India's 2026 rainfall deficit is already raising concerns about crop yields and rural incomes. El Niño-related climate stress in Maharashtra should be addressed through an integrated child-centred approach linking water security, nutrition, health, livelihoods, migration and DRR. Priority should be given to anticipatory action in climate-vulnerable districts, ensuring continuity of essential services and strengthening resilience of communities and systems before climate shocks translate into humanitarian needs. This detailed assessment proposes an El Nino impact assessment of 60 Gram Panchayats in Maharashtra, tracking the status of drinking water, groundwater, irrigation, and surface water from the pre-Rabi to the post-Rabi seasons. Its objective is to document El Nino impacts and the challenges communities face, their adaptive behaviours, and relevant stakeholders' responses to generate evidence that informs climate-resilient water governance and preparedness planning. The objective of the proposed partnership is: • To conduct an interval-based assessment in two phases to understand short term difference of the impact of El Nino. • To prepare a report based on the multi-sector indicators, examine the effects of El Nino in rural areas and assess the extent of these impacts. • To understand and evaluate the adaptation and coping measures implemented by communities and develop template for an adaptation and mitigation plan. • To organize a state level dissemination workshop for multi-stakeholders to sensitize stakeholders on El Nino and its' multisector impact. Scope Village-level, multi-sector situational analysis covering water security, agricultural operations, household income, and migration, along with institutional and informal stakeholder responses, benchmarked against seasonal progression. Selected 60 villages across 7 to 8 districts spanning key regions in Maharashtra, including Marathwada, Vidarbha, West Maharashtra, and North Maharashtra. Start Date and End Date: Oct 5, 2026 to July 4, 2027

6 **Expected Results**

A comprehensive assessment report on local and temporal impacts of El Nino at the household and community levels.

7 **Indicative Budget**

30.00000

8 **Other Information**

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9 **Selection Criteria**

Name	Description	Weight
Local experience and presence	Track record of working with communities in similar situations	40
Clarity of activities and expected results	Clear Results Matrix with activities and timelines	20
Sector expertise and experience	Expertise and staff available with the Partner	20
Relevance of proposal to achieving expected results	How relevantly the proposal is prepared in view of the climate change and impact on multi-sectors	20

10 **Attachments**

Description	URL
This is a time bound intervention.	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

