

Terms of Reference

Somalia: Senior Water–Energy–Food Nexus

Technical Expert

September 2026

ABOUT THE NDC PARTNERSHIP

The NDC Partnership is a global coalition, bringing together more than 270 members, including more than 140 countries, developed and developing, and more than 120 institutions to deliver on ambitious climate action that helps achieve the Paris Agreement and drive sustainable development. Governments identify their NDC implementation priorities and the type of support that is needed to translate them into actionable policies and programs. Based on these requests, the membership offers a tailored package of expertise, technical assistance and funding. This collaborative response provides developing countries with efficient access to a wide range of resources to adapt to and mitigate climate change and foster more equitable and sustainable development. The NDC Partnership Support Unit is jointly hosted by the World Resources Institute (WRI), the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the UN Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC). For this project, the Advisor will be contracted through WRI.

BACKGROUND

Somalia is among the countries most vulnerable to climate change. Recurrent droughts, floods, land degradation, water scarcity and increasing climate variability undermine livelihoods, food security, infrastructure, public services and economic development. The Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), through the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) and relevant sector institutions, is operationalizing Somalia's NDC 3.0 through stronger institutions, inclusive federal–state coordination, investment planning and transparent monitoring. Water, energy and food systems are deeply interdependent in Somalia. Integrated planning is required to reduce maladaptive trade-offs, improve resource security and translate NDC 3.0 and NAP priorities into coordinated policies, programmes and investments.

This ToR responds to the partial support confirmed by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), facilitated by the NDC Partnership, with recruitment managed through World Resources Institute (WRI). The initial supported period runs to 31 December 2026; any continuation beyond that date is contingent on funding, satisfactory performance and a written contractual extension.

SCOPE OF WORK AND ACTIVITIES

Objective of the Assignment

Institutionalize a practical WEF Nexus approach within federal and FMS planning, coordination and investment processes, and equip Government institutions with tools, knowledge and an initial pipeline of integrated climate-resilient interventions.

Guiding Principles

- Government ownership and alignment with NDC 3.0, the NAP and national development/sector priorities.
- Whole-of-government and whole-of-society engagement across FGS, FMS, civil society, private sector, academia and development partners.
- Gender responsiveness, social inclusion, conflict sensitivity, accessibility and do-no-harm.
- Use of existing systems and evidence, open and editable tools, interoperability and practical institutional sustainability.
- Close coordination across the five Sida-supported assignments and with ongoing partner programmes.

Activities

1. Assess WEF-related policies, mandates, capacities, coordination mechanisms, data systems and ongoing programmes at federal and FMS levels.
2. Map system interdependencies, priority nexus risks, trade-offs and synergies, with particular attention to drought, floods, water pumping, irrigation, livestock, renewable energy, food value chains, ecosystems and vulnerable groups.
3. Develop and facilitate a government-owned WEF technical working mechanism, with proposed terms of reference, membership, meeting rhythm and decision/escalation pathways.
4. Prepare a Somalia WEF Nexus framework and operational roadmap aligned with NDC 3.0, NAP and relevant sector plans, including governance, tools, indicators and phased priorities.
5. Develop a simple screening checklist/matrix for assessing WEF impacts, co-benefits, trade-offs, climate risks, inclusion and conflict sensitivity to inform decisions.
6. Identify and profile an initial pipeline of integrated WEF investment opportunities and provide inputs to the NDC Implementation and Investment Plan.
7. Undertake a capacity-needs assessment and deliver one targeted coaching/training and develop facilitator materials, technical guidelines and knowledge products in coordination with the institutional capacity development advisor.
8. Support and document consultations at federal and FMS level.

Deliverables

Specific deliverables include:

Deliverable Name	Deliverable Description and Acceptance Criteria	Timeframe
Inception phase: stakeholder and systems mapping, assessment methodology and coordination mechanism design.	Inception report with methodology, workplan and timeline, stakeholder mobilization, relevant document review stakeholder and systems mapping, assessment tools and draft TWG Terms of Reference (ToRs)	Mid-October 2026
Federal/FMS diagnostic and nexus opportunity analysis; technical working mechanism convened (first coordination dialogue).	Federal/FMS Assessment report, system interdependencies, priority nexus risks, trade-offs and synergies maps/matrices, final TWG Terms of Reference (ToRs), Operationalize the WEF technical working mechanism through a meeting and prepare a meeting report and decision log.	End-October 2026
Draft WEF Framework/Roadmap and screening checklist operational tools, investment opportunity pipeline and capacity-development plan.	Draft WEF framework and timebound operational roadmap, draft WEF screening checklist, indicator set and technical guidance, prioritized investment pipeline and project preparation opportunities, draft capacity WEF capacity development plan and training package, technical review report.	November 2026
Validation, training, final WEF framework/roadmap and screening checklist and institutional handover.	Validation report, final WEF framework/roadmap and screening checklist, investment pipeline, capacity development plan, delivery of at least one training, training resources and report, final handover/advisory report.	December 2026

CONTRACT TERMS

Timeframe and Duty Station

This is a full- time position based in Mogadishu, Somalia, with travel to Federal Member States (FMS) as required, for 4 months with possible extension, subject to funding, performance, and written contract amendment. The expected start date is September 2026

Reporting Requirements

The Advisor will be embedded in MoEWR and will work under direct supervision of the Federal Republic of Somalia's NDC Partnership's Focal Point and designated senior official/Water Sector Coordination Facility, in close coordination with the NDC Partnership Support Unit. Strategic coordination will include MoECC, relevant agriculture/livestock, energy, planning and finance institutions and FMS line ministries.

- Day-to-day coordination will be through the designated Government focal point, with NDC Country Coordinator, with NDC Partnership Support Unit participation as appropriate.
- Deliverables require written Government acceptance and will be submitted in editable and PDF formats, with source files, datasets and tools where relevant.
- The consultant will provide a concise monthly progress note covering completed outputs, next-month priorities, risks, decisions required, time inputs and stakeholder engagements.
- The consultant will coordinate with the other four assignments to prevent duplication and ensure shared definitions, indicators, datasets and timelines.

QUALIFICATIONS

Academic and Professional Requirements

- Advanced degree in water, energy, agriculture/food systems, environmental or natural-resource management, climate change, engineering, environmental economics, development studies or a closely related field;
- At least 10 years of progressively responsible experience across water, energy, food/agriculture, climate or natural-resource systems, including at least 3 years on integrated WEF Nexus or comparable cross-sector planning;
- Demonstrated experience in policy/institutional assessment, integrated planning tools, government coordination, capacity development and climate-resilient investment design;
- Knowledge of NDCs, NAPs, climate finance and whole-of-government approaches;
- Experience in Somalia, the Horn of Africa or comparable fragile and climate-vulnerable contexts is strongly preferred;
- Demonstrated experience to navigate , political and cultural sensitive contexts with i, diplomacy, strategic judgement and integrity;
- Excellent analytical, facilitation, writing, presentation, digital, and oral communication and knowledge-transfer skills;
- Commitment to gender equality, social inclusion, conflict sensitivity, safeguarding and do-no-harm principles;
- Somalian national or authorization to work in Somalia;
- Fluency in written and spoken English; Somali language capability is a strong asset.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Evaluation Criteria

The following elements will be the primary considerations in evaluating all proposals submitted in response to this TOR:

- Completion of all required elements;
 - CV
 - Technical Proposal – this proposal should demonstrate understanding of the assignment, methodology, workplan, stakeholder approach, quality assurance, and risk management.
 - Examples of references for comparable work
 - Daily remuneration expectation (in USD)
 - Conflict of Interest Declaration
- The extent to which the consultant's proposal fulfills WRI's stated requirements as set out in the TOR;
- Relevant qualifications and experience;
- Technical approach and understanding of climate contexts and water-energy food nexus;
- Comparable assignments and contextual experience;
- Workplan, availability, and quality assurance;
- Overall cost of the consultant's proposal;
- Debarment and sanctions – WRI will not consider proposals from consultants that are presently debarred by the U.S. government or named on any restricted parties lists;
- Sustainability – WRI values sustainability and all other factors being equal, will favor a proposal to more sustainably perform the work.

The applicant offering the best overall value will be selected. For this procurement, the non-price aspect is considered to be of higher importance than the price aspect.

Selection Process

No application/proposal development costs shall be charged to WRI / all expenses are to be borne by the bidders. WRI may award to the bidder offering best value without discussion. However, WRI reserves the right to seek bidder clarifications and to negotiate with those bidders deemed to be within a competitive range.

WRI may, at its discretion and without explanation to the prospective consultants, choose to discontinue this TOR without obligation to such prospective consultants. or make multiple awards under this TOR. Contracts will not be awarded to consultants debarred by the US government or named on restricted parties lists.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please submit a complete application package including Cover Letter, CV, Daily Remuneration Expectation (in USD, expected 40 hours/week), and the completed Conflict of Interest Declaration (see Annex) with the subject **Somalia – Senior Water–Energy–Food Nexus Technical Expert Application** to

- Margaret Barihaihi, Regional Manager Africa, NDC Partnership Support Unit:
margaret.barihaihi@ndcpartnership.org
- Irene Mwaura, NDC Country Engagement Specialist, NDC Partnership Support Unit:
irene.mwaura.5@ndcpartnership.org
- Christine Luttmer, Project Manager, Country Engagement, NDC Partnership Support Unit:
Christine.luttmer@ndcpartnership.org

All proposals must be received **by 5:00pm EST on Friday, 18 September 2026** in electronic format to the contacts listed above.

Conflict of Interest Declaration

World Resources Institute (WRI) policy requires that its staff **must** work to deliberately avoid actual, potential and perceived conflicts of interest related to procurement at both the individual and organizational levels. When a conflict of interest concerning WRI procurement exists, transparency shall be the guiding principle in addressing it.

All actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest **must** be declared.

An **actual** conflict of interest occurs when a decision or action would be compromised without taking appropriate action to eliminate the conflict, such as when:

- An offeror is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to WRI due to competing duties or loyalties;
- An offeror's objectivity in carrying out the requested services is or might be otherwise impaired due to competing duties or loyalties;
- An offeror has an unfair competitive advantage through being furnished unauthorized proprietary information or source selection information that is not available to all competitors.
- An offeror has an existing personal relationship with WRI staff or a member of the evaluation team for this request for proposals.

A **potential** conflict of interest is where such a situation as described above could arise in the future.

A **perceived** conflict of interest is any situation in which a reasonable third party would conclude that conflicting duties or loyalties exist.

Offeror's Name or Company/Organization Name:

☐ There are no entities or persons with which the above-named offeror has a relationship that *creates, or appears to create*, a conflict of interest with the work that is requested in this request for proposals.

☐ The following is a list of entities or persons with which the above-named firm has relationships that create, or appear to create, a conflict of interest with the work that is contemplated in this request for proposals. For each entity listed below you must discuss the actual, potential or perceived conflict in a separate attachment.

No.	Name of Entity/Person	Relationship
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Authorized Representative (Print Name):

Authorized Representative Signature:

Date:
