Terms of Reference
Somalia: Senior Water Resources Management and Climate Resilience 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 security is central to Somalia's transformation, peacebuilding and resilience. The National Water Resources Strategy and National Water Resources Development Plan provide a basis for coordinated investment, but stronger technical backstopping, climate-risk analysis, infrastructure mapping, partner coordination and bankable investment preparation are required.

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

Strengthen government-led, climate-resilient water-resources planning and coordination, align priority water investments with NDC 3.0 and the NAP, and produce actionable evidence and investment products for drought, flood and water-security programming.

Guiding Principles

- Government ownership and alignment with NDC 3.0, the NAP and the National Transformation Plan (NTP) priorities.
- Whole-of-government and whole-of-society engagement across FGS, 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 (NDC 3.0 Implementation Plan, MEL/MRV, Water-security and food systems, Capacity building) and with ongoing partner programmes.

Activities

1. Conduct a rapid diagnostic on institutional, technical, coordination and information-management gaps affecting implementation of national water plans and NDC water priorities.
2. Prepare an NDC–NAP–water-plan alignment matrix and prioritized action agenda for climate-resilient water development.
3. Compile and quality-assure existing water-resource, infrastructure, hydrometeorological, groundwater, drought, flood and vulnerability datasets; document limitations and ownership.
4. Develop a strategic water-infrastructure mapping methodology and an initial geospatial inventory using existing geospatial data focused on riverine, pastoral and agro-pastoral areas, in coordination with FMS institutions.
5. Lead or technically guide a rapid climate risk screening for priority water systems and communities, integrating hazard, exposure, vulnerability and adaptive-capacity evidence.
6. Develop screening criteria and technical recommendations for climate-resilient water infrastructure, Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), flood/drought risk management, productive water use and ecosystem safeguards.
7. Identify and develop priority water-sector investment profiles/concept inputs for the NDC investment pipeline, with climate rationale and indicative costs.
8. Strengthen the Water Sector Coordination Facility through partner mapping, coordination tools, monitoring templates, institutional capacity strengthening technical briefs and targeted hands-on knowledge transfer.

Deliverables

Specific deliverables include:

Deliverable Name	Deliverable Description and Acceptance Criteria	Timeframe
Inception report, workplan and methodological protocol.	Inception report with methodological protocol for water infrastructure mapping and rapid climate risk screening, stakeholder engagement, institutional and technical gap assessment, data catalogue, stakeholder map, NDC-NAP-water plan alignment matrix, workplan and workplan.	Mid-October 2026
Draft Institutional/technical diagnostic/assessment report; compiled draft geospatial inventory; preliminary infrastructure maps and climate-risk screening guidance/parameter.	Institutional/technical Gap assessment, initial geospatial inventory of priority areas, preliminary maps, data-quality note, preliminary identification of parameters/guidance to inform the climate risk screening and a climate screening tool.	End-October 2026
Rapid climate risk screening report, priority investment profiles, and coordination/monitoring capacity tools.	Rapid climate risk screening report, updated geospatial inventory and preliminary infrastructure maps, water investment screening criteria and prioritized investment profiles, draft coordination/monitoring capacity tools, draft institutional capacity strengthening plan and technical briefs with key finding and proposed recommendations.	November 2026
Technical validation, final mapping/climate risk screening package, capacity strengthening plan and institutional handover.	Validation report of the various deliverables, final water infrastructure map, data sets and source files; rapid climate screening report, prioritized investment profiles, final coordination/monitoring tools, institutional capacity strengthening plan, training report and final handover 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 Somalia's NDC Partnership's Focal Point and the Water Sector Coordination Facility or another designated senior unit, in close coordination with the NDC Partnership Support Unit. The role will work across MoECC, MoF, the national hydrometeorological function, relevant basin authorities, sector partners and the WEF Nexus Expert. Day-to-day coordination will be through the Water Sector Coordination Facility Lead, the designated Government focal point, the 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 input 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 resources management, hydrology, hydrogeology, civil/environmental engineering, irrigation, climate science or a closely related discipline;
- At least 10 years of relevant water-sector experience covering several of the following: IWRM, hydrology/groundwater, irrigation, flood and drought risk, productive water use, urban water, WASH interfaces, infrastructure planning and institutional development;
- Demonstrated experience in climate-risk/vulnerability assessment, water-infrastructure mapping/GIS, data-quality management and climate-resilient investment preparation;
- Experience supporting government-led coordination, donor engagement and implementation of national water strategies/plans;
- Experience with Somalia/FGS–FMS institutions or comparable arid, fragile and conflict-affected settings is strongly preferred;
- Strategic judgment, political and cultural sensitivity, diplomacy and integrity;
- Excellent analytical, facilitation, writing, presentation, 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;
- Comparable assignments and contextual experience;
- 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 Technical Proposal, 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 Resources Management and Climate Resilience 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.

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

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:

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☐ 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:

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