Terms of Reference Mozambique: Senior Climate Finance Advisor for the Water Sector

November 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

Mozambique's water sector is central to national development, public health, food security, livelihoods and ecosystem protection, but it is increasingly exposed to climate-related risks. The country has abundant water resources and major river basins, including the Zambezi, Limpopo and Rovuma, yet many of these watercourses originate outside the country, making sustainable management dependent on effective regional cooperation. At the same time, rapid population growth and urban expansion are increasing demand for water services, putting additional pressure on infrastructure, institutions and available resources.

Climate change is already altering the conditions under which the sector operates. Rising temperatures, declining rainfall trends, reduced soil moisture, more severe drought conditions, decreasing runoff in parts of the southern and central regions, and rising sea levels are combining to increase water insecurity. These pressures are particularly significant in coastal areas exposed to cyclones, flooding and saline intrusion, and in inland arid and semi-arid areas affected by drought and reduced water availability. As a result, climate impacts are increasingly affecting water quality, shared water sources, infrastructure performance, sanitation, drainage, agricultural production, health outcomes and broader socio-economic resilience.

The water sector has therefore identified a set of priority response areas that include strengthening integrated water resources management, improving water collection, storage, treatment and distribution, promoting climate-resilient rural sanitation, conserving rainwater in reservoirs, developing agro-hydraulic infrastructure, reducing water losses and water consumption, strengthening early warning systems, improving climate risk preparedness and response, and addressing vulnerability to water-related diseases. Additional opportunities include strengthening the policy basis for climate action

in the water sector, improving stakeholder consultation and coordination, enhancing data and tracking systems, supporting concept development, and turning priority measures into climate finance projects with appropriate co-financing and implementation arrangements.
Despite this progress, significant gaps continue to limit implementation. Funding constraints affect the ability to implement and maintain climate actions; institutional capacity gaps and fragmented coordination reduce planning effectiveness; limited hydrological and climate data weaken evidence-based decision-making; community engagement remains insufficient in some processes; transboundary water governance is complex; regulatory enforcement is constrained; and some climate impacts, including coastal saltwater intrusion, require stronger technical understanding. The Senior Climate Finance Advisor will help address these gaps by supporting the conversion of water-sector climate priorities into well-structured, evidence-based and finance-ready proposals that are aligned with national priorities, international climate finance requirements, and the practical needs of vulnerable communities and institutions.

SCOPE OF WORK AND ACTIVITIES

Aim of Intervention

The intervention will provide dedicated climate finance advisory support to the water sector from 01 December 2026 to 31 March 2027, building on the technical products, coordination processes and partner engagement already advanced by the Senior Climate Action Advisor. The assignment will focus on translating the sector's climate action priorities, database entries, NDC 3.0 inputs, concept notes and emerging Climate Action Framework into practical, fundable and well-documented climate finance proposals.

The Advisor will work closely with DNGRH, relevant water-sector institutions, the Senior Climate Action Advisor, the National Designated Authority, and other government and partner stakeholders to ensure continuity between the completed preparatory work and the next phase of climate finance proposal development. The Advisor will use the Water-Climate Nexus Database and the emerging Climate Action Framework as the basis for technically sound, evidence-based and donor-responsive proposals.

Objective of the Assignment

The overall objective of the assignment is to support the development of high-quality climate finance proposals for priority water-sector initiatives in Mozambique. The assignment will also strengthen institutional capacity and ensure that proposals align with national climate and development priorities, outputs already produced through the water-sector climate action support process, and the requirements of international and regional climate finance providers.

- Output 1. Development of Climate Finance Proposals for Water Sector Initiatives
- Output 2. Capacity Building in Climate Finance for Water Sector Stakeholders
- Output 3. Alignment of Financial Proposals with National and International Frameworks
- Output 4. Identification and Engagement with Potential Climate Finance Sources

Activities

The Consultant will deliver the following outputs and activities, using the existing climate action products as the starting point and coordinating closely with the Senior Climate Action Advisor. This approach will avoid duplication and ensure a smooth transition from prioritisation and coordination to proposal preparation and financing:

Output 1. Development of Climate Finance Proposals for Water Sector Initiatives

- Activity 1.1 – Analyse and document financing gaps and opportunities for priority water sector projects, based on the existing Water-Climate Nexus Database, the emerging Climate Action Framework and the NDC 3.0 water-sector priorities, in coordination with the Senior Climate Action Advisor and the National Designated Authority to ensure official endorsement of project proposals.
- Activity 1.2 – Compile supporting evidence and data to strengthen climate finance proposals, drawing on the Climate Action Database, NDC 2.0 implementation tracking, NDC 3.0 sector inputs, stakeholder consultations, concept notes and project pipeline information already generated.
- Activity 1.3 – Provide technical support for compliance checks against international climate finance criteria, focusing on application procedures, documentation requirements, evidence, indicators, results chains, costs, co-benefits and alignment documentation.
- Activity 1.4 – Facilitate submission of climate finance proposals through targeted engagement with donors, the National Designated Authority, accredited entities and partners already contacted during the climate action support process, including those supporting readiness, technical assistance and project concept development.
- Activity 1.5 – Collect and incorporate partner feedback, in coordination with the Senior Climate Action Advisor, to refine proposal packages and ensure consistency with sector priorities, database information, the Climate Action Framework and donor expectations.

Output 2. Capacity Building in Climate Finance for Water Sector Stakeholders

- Activity 2.1 – Coordinate hands-on clinics or peer-review sessions for ongoing proposals, using active concept notes, readiness proposal preparation and project pipeline development as practical learning cases within the application process.

Output 3. Alignment of Financial Proposals with National and International Frameworks

- Activity 3.1 – Cross-reference proposal content with existing NDC 3.0 water-sector inputs, NDC 2.0 implementation lessons, the National Adaptation Plan, SDG commitments and relevant sector priorities to verify alignment.
- Activity 3.2 – Prepare alignment matrices or mapping tables for each proposal submission, drawing from the Climate Action Database, NDC 3.0 measures, Climate Action Framework priorities and funder-specific requirements, while avoiding overlap with workshops or training activities.
- Activity 3.3 – Advise on required supporting documents to demonstrate alignment for funders, focusing on proposal attachments.

Output 4. Identification and Engagement with Potential Climate Finance Sources

- Activity 4.1 – Map and compile up-to-date profiles of relevant international and regional climate finance opportunities, including private sector sources, building on previous engagement with the National Designated Authority, accredited entities, development partners and technical assistance channels.

Key Deliverables

Description	Deliverables (expected output)	Timeframe
Prepare an inception report that sets out the detailed work plan, methodology, coordination arrangements, immediate information needs, and proposed schedule for developing climate finance proposals and related support activities.	Inception report submitted and approved.	Within two (2) weeks of the start date.
Prepare monthly progress reports summarising completed activities, coordination undertaken, progress on proposal development, capacity-building sessions delivered (Output 2), progress in the mapping of climate finance sources (Output 4), challenges, required decisions, and planned actions for the following month.	Three (3) monthly progress reports, covering December 2026 through February 2027. The March 2027 report is the final report.	By the last day of the month.
Prepare a final report that consolidates achievements, deliverables produced, proposal status, stakeholder engagement, capacity-building results, identified financing opportunities (including the climate finance source mapping as an annex), outstanding issues, and recommendations for continued climate finance support in the water sector.	Final consultancy report submitted and approved.	By 25 March 2027.
Develop climate finance proposals for priority water sector initiatives, building on the Climate Action Database, NDC 3.0 water-sector inputs, concept notes, readiness proposal preparation, partner feedback, and existing coordination with the National Designated Authority and accredited entities.	At least two (2) climate finance proposal packages, including evidence base, results logic, costs, co-benefits and supporting documentation, prepared for submission or donor review.	From 01 December 2026 , with draft proposal package(s) due by 15 February 2027 and final package(s) due by 25 March 2027.
Verify and document alignment of each proposal with Mozambique's NDC 3.0 water-sector inputs, National Adaptation Plan, SDGs, Climate Action Framework priorities and relevant funder requirements.	Alignment matrix or mapping table and supporting document checklist for each proposal.	For each proposal cycle, alongside each draft and final proposal package, between 01 December 2026 and 25 March 2027.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The consultant will have an office at the premises of National Directorate of Water Resources Management (DNGRH) in Maputo, Mozambique.

The Consultant will report weekly to the Director of the National Directorate of Water Resources Management (DNGRH), through the Department of Strategic Studies, and will coordinate closely with the Senior Climate Action Advisor to ensure continuity with the completed climate action deliverables. Formal reporting will comprise an inception report within two (2) weeks of the start date; monthly progress reports due by the last day of each month from December 2026 to February 2027; and a final report due by 25 March 2027.

The consultant will also coordinate with relevant NDC Partnership focal points, in-country facilitators, the National Designated Authority, accredited entities, development partners and other institutions engaged in the water-sector climate finance pipeline.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education / Academic Requirements

A master's degree or PhD in water resources, integrated water resources management, environmental management, climate change, development economics, finance, sustainable development, or another field relevant to the assignment.

Professional Experience

- At least seven (7) years of professional, academic, advisory or consulting experience in public, private, academic or third sector institutions relevant to water resources, environmental management, climate action and finance, or sustainable development. Additional relevant experience will be considered an asset.
- Demonstrated expertise in water resources, integrated water resources management, water and wastewater treatment, environmental risk management, or related water sector disciplines, or in closely related fields (such as environmental management, climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction or irrigation) with demonstrated work relevant to the water sector.
- Demonstrated experience in developing, or contributing to the preparation of, climate finance proposals, concept notes or readiness requests for international climate funds and other financing windows (e.g., Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund, GEF, multilateral development banks, bilateral or regional facilities), preferably including proposals that have secured funding. Proposals that have secured funding will be considered an asset.
- Experience supporting climate-related analysis, environmental policy, strategic planning, or resilience planning, including drought-related policies or plans.
- Experience in project design, technical documentation, analytical reporting, and preparation of evidence-based materials that can support climate finance proposals.
- Knowledge of Mozambique's institutional, policy and operational context for water resources management, climate change, environmental management, and sustainable development.
- Experience in training, mentoring or facilitating technical capacity development.
- Ability to compile, interpret and present technical data and supporting evidence for proposal preparation, donor engagement and decision-making.
- Excellent communication and coordination skills, including the ability to work with government institutions, technical specialists, donors and diverse stakeholders.
- Demonstrates teamwork, knowledge sharing, relationship maintenance, and the ability to work effectively in multicultural settings.

Language Requirements

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English and Portuguese are required. The interview will be conducted in both languages; therefore, proficiency in each is mandatory.
- Candidates must indicate their proficiency in each language on their CV using the CEFR scale (A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 or C2), with C2 being the highest level.

CONTRACT TERMS

- Estimated start date: 01 December 2026

- Estimated end date: 31 March 2027

- The position is based in Maputo, Mozambique. The consultant must be a national or have a preexisting work authorisation. The NDC Partnership cannot facilitate visas or relocation benefits. Any logistics and costs associated with relocation or visa processing are the candidate's responsibility.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please submit a **complete application package comprising a cover letter, CV, daily remuneration expectation (in USD, based on an expected 40-hour working week), and a completed Conflict of Interest Declaration** (see Annex). Use **Mozambique Senior Climate Finance Advisor for the Water Sector** as the email subject line and send the application to:

- Margaret Barihaihi, Regional Manager Anglophone and Lusophone Africa, NDC Partnership Support Unit: margaret.barihaihi@ndcpartnership.org
- Rui Dolabella, NDC Country Engagement Specialist, NDC Partnership Support Unit: Rui.Dolabella@ndcpartnership.org
- Christine Luttmer, Project Manager, Country Engagement, NDC Partnership Support Unit: Christine.luttmer@ndcpartnership.org

All proposals must be received **by 5:00 p.m. EST on Friday, 27 November 2026** in electronic format at the email addresses listed above.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Evaluation Criteria

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

- Completion of all required elements;
  - CV
  - Cover Letter
  - Daily remuneration expectation
  - Conflict of Interest Declaration
- The extent to which the consultant's proposal fulfills WRI's stated requirements as set out in the TOR;
- 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 RFP without obligation to such prospective consultants, or make multiple awards under this RFP. Contracts will not be awarded to consultants debarred by the US government or named on restricted parties lists.