

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

CLIMATE CHANGE EXPERT TO SUPPORT GEF PPG

Duty Station: Home-based with travel to Tanzania (if required)

Duration: 4 months (spread over 9 months)

Project: GEF PPG for Integrated Landscape Management for Sustainable Ecosystem Services and Community Livelihoods in Wami-Ruvu River Basin, Tanzania

Reports to: PPG Team Leader / PPG Coordinator

Budget: USD 10,000

Type of Contract: Individual Consultant

Application Deadline: 15 July 2025

1. BACKGROUND

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is supporting the preparation of a full project proposal focused on enhancing the resilience of ecosystems and communities in the Wami-Ruvu River Basin in Tanzania. The Wami-Ruvu Project Identification Form (PIF) was approved in Feb 2025 and with the objective to halt land degradation and conserve biodiversity in the Basin, thereby improving the provision of ecosystem services that mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and regulate critical water resources.

Over the next 9 months, the full proposal will be fully elaborated, in close collaboration with the Vice-President Office, the Ministry of Water, and all the partners for submission to the GEF Secretariat for endorsement. Once endorsed, the full project will be implemented by UNEP, and co-executed by the Ministry of Water, the Global Water Partnership Tanzania, Wami-Ruvu Basin Water Board and the Vice President Office. This implementation arrangement will be discussed and clarified with all the stakeholders during the PPG phase.

The basin plays a critical role in supporting biodiversity, water resources, and livelihoods. However, the region is increasingly vulnerable to climate-related risks including changes in rainfall patterns, temperature rise, ecosystem degradation, and unsustainable land use practices.

As part of the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase, a team of experts is being assembled to design a comprehensive and scientifically grounded project that aligns with national climate strategies and GEF programming. The Climate Change Expert will provide critical analytical and technical inputs to ensure climate rationale, climate risk analysis, and ecosystem-based adaptation options are fully integrated into the project design.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

To assess climate risks, vulnerabilities, and mitigation opportunities in the Wami-Ruvu Basins and ensure that climate change adaptation elements are adequately integrated into the GEF project design, including contributing to the theory of change, results framework, and financial arrangement.

3. SCOPE OF WORK AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the guidance of the PPG Team Leader and in close collaboration with other technical experts (natural resource, biodiversity, GIS, water, and protected area specialists), the Climate Change Expert will be responsible for:

3.1. Climate risk and contextual analysis

- i. Review the development, socio-economic, and environmental context of the Wami-Ruvu River Basins, with a focus on climate change implications.
- ii. Identify and assess climate change-related drivers of ecosystem degradation, including changes in temperature, rainfall variability, flooding, and drought patterns.
- iii. Map and characterize vulnerable areas and population groups within the basin most exposed to climate impacts.

3.2. Integration into project design

- i. In collaboration with the Natural Resources and Protected Areas Management Expert, identify and prioritize policy and technical measures to address identified climate risks and ecosystem degradation drivers.
- ii. Lead the design of specific project interventions related to climate adaptation and mitigation, ensuring alignment with GEF priorities and national policies (e.g., NDCs, NAPs).
- iii. Contribute to the elaboration of future development and climate resilience scenarios, based on narratives previously approved in the Project Identification Form (PIF).
- iv. Identify effective ecosystem restoration options and nature-based solutions (NbS) that enhance climate resilience in vulnerable areas.

3.3. GHG Mitigation and Carbon Analysis

- i. Work with the GIS and Land Use Change Specialist to:
 - Estimate the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction potential of proposed interventions using the FAO EX-ACT tool.
 - Develop a baseline for future climate impact assessment and monitoring.

3.4. Ecosystem services and innovative financing

- i. Explore and identify potential Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) options.
- ii. Identify enabling activities and institutional arrangements necessary for the establishment and operationalization of PES systems across the basin.

3.5. Budget and monitoring contributions

- i. Provide input into the synthesis report, especially on the budgetary implications and co-financing prospects of climate-related interventions.
- ii. Contribute to the development of the project's results framework (monitoring framework).
- iii. Provide inputs into the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework.

3.6. Other Duties

- i. Participate in stakeholder consultations and validation workshops during the PPG phase.
- ii. Provide input into the Gender Action Plan, Environmental and Social Safeguard Screening
- iii. Perform any other related tasks as requested by the PPG Team Leader or PPG Coordinator to ensure the integration of robust climate-related analysis into the full project document.

4. DELIVERABLES

- i. Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Report for the Wami/Ruvu Basin.
- ii. List and description of proposed climate adaptation and mitigation interventions aligned to project objectives.
- iii. Baseline and emission reduction potential analysis using EX-ACT.
- iv. Options report on PES schemes with proposed operational models.
- v. Inputs to the full GEF CEO Endorsement Request and associated annexes, including contributions to:
 - Climate rationale section
 - Theory of Change
 - Results Framework (highlighting climate-relevant indicators)
 - Budget estimates and co-financing rationale
- vi. Contributions to stakeholder engagement reports and PPG progress reports.

5. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Advanced degree (Master's or PhD) in Climate Science, Environmental Studies, Natural Resources Management, or related field.
- Minimum of 7 years of relevant experience in climate change risk assessment, ecosystem-based adaptation/mitigation, or sustainable development.
- Proven experience with GEF-funded project development, especially in the PPG phase.
- Strong knowledge of FAO EX-ACT or other GHG accounting tools.
- Familiarity with Tanzanian climate policies, NDCs, and basin-level environmental issues.
- Excellent analytical, writing, and communication skills in English.
- Experience working with multidisciplinary teams and facilitating consultations with stakeholders, including government agencies and local communities.

6. REPORTING AND COORDINATION

The consultant will report to the PPG Team Leader and work in close coordination with the PPG Coordinator, executing partners, and national consultants. All deliverables will be subject to approval by the PPG coordination team and the GEF Implementing Agency.

7. APPLICATIONS

Interested candidates should submit their CV's with a letter of motivation for this position, presenting a summary on approach to the tasks, along with a short work plan to shamiso.kumbirai@gwpsaf.org with a copy to mark.naidoo@gwpsaf.org