

Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP)

AU AIP Multi-Country Green Climate Fund Readiness Support

Africa Union Multi-Country Programme to Accelerate Water, Climate Resilience Development and Gender Transformative Investments

Terms of References

National Consultant for support to the enhancement of Tunisian stakeholders' capacities on programming and engagement with the Green Climate Fund (GCF)

1. Context of the Continental Water Investment Programme in Africa (AIP)

On 6 September 2023, African Heads of State and Governments committed to support the implementation of the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) as part of the Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change. Africa is highly vulnerable to climate change, and it is expected to significantly impact water, with an increase in extreme events, including droughts, floods, water scarcity, and waterborne diseases. Despite this marked vulnerability, many African countries have limited capacity to access climate finance for strategic water investments. Access to climate finance for water security in Africa is critical to achieving the objectives of the African Union (AU) Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032), which recognizes the need to strengthen climate-resilient water systems under Focus Area 2: Adopting Pathways Towards Transformative Climate Resilient Development.

The Continental Africa Water Investment Program (AIP) supports the implementation of the African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy. The Assembly of the African Union Heads of State and Government adopted it as part of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa—Priority Action Plan 2 (PIDA-PAP 2) to address the growing need for investment in water, which is greatly exacerbated by climate change. The AIP comprises five pillars that aim to contribute towards narrowing the investment gap in water across Africa, namely:

- (i) Mobilise high-level political commitment and leadership on water investments – The AU-AIP High-Level International Panel on Water Investments in Africa was created in 2022, bringing together the present and former African heads of State and global leaders. In 2023, the Panel supported the AU in the development and launch of the [Africa Rising Investment Tide](#) and the [Action Plan for Water Investment in Africa](#)

Reports, which offer Concrete courses of action to help countries mobilize at least USD 30 billion annually by 2030 for the implementation of the AIP;

- (ii) The AIP-PIDA Water Investment Scorecard – The [AIP-PIDA Water Investment Scorecard](#) aims to improve the accountability, transparency, and effectiveness of water financing and investments. This tool allows countries to establish baselines, track progress, identify bottlenecks, and take action toward meeting Africa's water investment needs. The AUDA-NEPAD adopted it in February 2022 and has been developed and tested in 10 countries in 2023 before its deployment at the level of AU Member States;
- (iii) Water investment programs at regional and national levels – AIP supports AU Member States to develop national water investment programs to close the water investment gap. Many African countries are extremely vulnerable to climate variability, reflected in weak institutional capacity, inadequate water infrastructure, and insufficient data processing and communication systems to ensure effective water management. National water investment programs aim to address these gaps, thereby bridging the investment gap for water security;
- (iv) International Blended Investment Facility AIP – The AIP will assess the need for a blended International Investment Facility, targeted at assisting countries in mobilizing Official Development Assistance (ODA) and grant financing. This will help to de-risk priority water investments through various innovative financial instruments and sources including sovereign wealth funds, guarantees, trade finance, institutional investors, private equity funds, foundations, value-based impact investing, and funding climatic conditions; and
- (v) Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls in Water Investment – The Transformative Climate-resilient Development for Gender-responsive Water Program (AIP WACDEP-G) aims to develop tools to assist governments in addressing systemic inequalities in decision-making, planning, and implementation of water investment actions. It promotes a transformative approach to institutions, social structures, and relations. The AIP WACDEP-G was piloted in five African countries between 2020 and 2024, and plans are underway to scale it up to other African countries.

2. Context of the AU AIP multi-country GCF Readiness Support Programme

The overall objective of the GCF readiness support is to strengthen the capacity of participating countries to plan climate-resilient water investments and prepare projects for climate action. This objective will be achieved through the following interventions:

- Enhancing countries' capacity in climate finance programming and direct access to GCF resources, with a focus on water-related climate actions.
- Improving strategic frameworks for climate-resilient water investment planning by developing water investment programmes.

- Developing national project pipelines through the preparation of concept notes.
- Establishing a continental knowledge and investment platform to facilitate learning and investment in Africa's water security.

The readiness support is implemented in collaboration with the AIP Water and Climate Development Programme for Gender Transformation (AIP WACDEP-G).

The overall objective of AIP WACDEP-G is to address gender inequalities at scale by promoting transformative planning, decision-making, and institutional development in gender-responsive climate-resilient water investments.

3. Objective of the mission

The objective of the mission is to support the enhancement of Tunisian stakeholders capacities on programming and engagement with the Green Climate Fund (GCF). This includes the analysis of capacity-building needs to strengthen Tunisia's engagement with GCF and the organisation of training workshops. The mission will target the National Designated Authority (NDA), Potential Direct Access Entities (DAEs), Potential Executing Entities (EEs) and key stakeholders (private sector, civil society, etc.).

4. Description of Activities

The consultant is expected to support capacity enhancement of key stakeholders involved in initiating, planning, mobilizing funds, and implementing activities financed by the GCF. Specifically, this includes:

a- Stakeholders analysis: Identifying the actors involved in GCF-funded activities across three categories: Members of the National Designated Authority (NDA), Potential Direct Access Entities (DAEs) and other stakeholders (Executing Entities (EE), and others).

The consultant will outline the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder in relation to GCF funding access.

b- Conduct interviews: The consultant will interview identified stakeholders using questionnaires developed by the capacity-building expert at GWP SA for each category of actors.

c- Preparing capacity needs assessment report and capacity development plan:

The report will detail the findings of the capacity assessment for each stakeholder category. It will identify capacity-building needs and recommend actions to address them. The consultant will develop a comprehensive capacity development plan, outlining the activities to be implemented under this project (more specifically the three training workshops) as well as additional initiatives necessary to meet identified needs.

The consultant will also specify the activities of the three training workshops to be implemented by the project (content and themes, duration, proposed sessions, etc.).

d- Supporting the organization of three training workshops:

The consultant will help organize the three training workshops included in the capacity development plan. Responsibilities include identifying participants, preparing the concept note, agenda, and conducting pre- and post-workshop evaluations. The workshops will be delivered by GWP specialists. Based on his/her expertise, the consultant may be requested to facilitate certain workshop sessions. The consultant will be responsible of preparing the workshop reports.

5. Expected Deliverables

The consultant must provide the following deliverables, which correspond directly to the activities described above:

- Deliverable 1: Capacity needs assessment report,
- Deliverable 2: Capacity development plan for the targeted stakeholders,
- Deliverable 3: Workshop reports, including pre- and post-workshops evaluations.

6. Reporting

The Consultant will work under the supervision of the National Technical Coordinator. The service delivery will be executed, and its completion will be determined based on the approval and satisfaction of the deliverables by the Programme Officer at the GWP SA Coordination Unit and the Executive Secretary of GWP-Med.

7. Contract Price, Duration, and Payment Schedule

The maximum compensation for this mission is USD 5,500. This amount includes all other costs, including local travel, income taxes, and any additional expenses required for the completion of the work/service, including VAT.

The total contract duration will be a maximum of six (06) months after the contract signature.

Payments will be made upon acceptance and verification of the deliverables, as detailed in the table below.

Deliverable	Deadline	Payment
Deliverable 1: Capacity needs assessment report	4 weeks after contract signature	30%
Deliverable 2: Capacity development plan for the targeted stakeholders	4 weeks after contract signature	
Deliverable 3: Training workshop reports, including pre- and post-workshop evaluations	6 months after contract signature	70%

8. ON/OFF Disqualification Criteria

For more details on the ON/OFF disqualification process, please refer to the call for tenders.

9. Qualifications and Experience

The required qualifications are presented below. Failure to provide the minimum required qualifications is considered ground for disqualification. Qualifications additional to the minimum requested per category will receive additional score under the evaluation process as described in the section Awarding Criterion and Evaluation process.

- At least a Master's degree or equivalent experience in a relevant field, such as water resource management, climate change, environmental sciences, economics, finance, development aid, or related field (**Required ON/OFF**).
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in French (**Required ON/OFF**).
- At least three years of experience in climate change, water or natural resource management, climate finance, or related fields (**Required Evaluated**).
- A proven track record of a at least one (01) project involving capacity needs assessment (**Desired – Evaluated**).
- A proven track record of a at least one (01) project involving the organization and facilitation of training workshops (**Desired – Evaluated**).
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English (**Desired – ON/OFF**).

10. Award Criteria and Evaluation Process

The Award criterion is the most economically advantageous tender considering the best price / quality ratio. Offers that meet the exclusion grounds will undergo further evaluation, focusing on the requirements outlined in the "Qualification and Experience" section, as follows:

Criteria (1)	Weighting (2) (w)	Criterion Points (3) (c)	Score = (2) x (3) (4)
At least a Master's degree or equivalent experience in a relevant field such as water resource management, climate change, environmental sciences, economics, finance, development aid, or related disciplines (Required – ON/OFF)			
Excellent oral and written communication skills in French (Required – ON/OFF)			

At least three years of experience in climate change, water or natural resource management, climate finance, or a related field (Required – Evaluated)	40%		
A proven track record of a at least one (01) project involving capacity needs assessment (Desired-Evaluated).	25%		
A proven track record of a at least one (01) project involving the organization and facilitation of training workshops (Desired – Evaluated).	25%		
Excellent oral and written communication skills in English (Desired – ON/OFF)	10%		
Total	100%		

Failure to provide the minimum required qualifications is considered ground for disqualification.

Scoring for each evaluation criteria starts from 100 points (when minimum requirements are met) up until maximum 150 points (100p Base +10p for extra criteria over base up to 50 additional points)

Each Section/evaluation criterion is evaluated autonomously. The final scoring of each evaluation criterion is the outcome of its scoring multiplied by the corresponding weighting factor. The overall score of the technical offer is the sum of the final scoring of all the Sections/evaluation criteria.

The overall score of the technical offer is calculated on the basis of the following formula:

$$B_i = w_1 \times c_1 + w_2 \times c_2 + \dots$$

For the overall score which will determine the ranking of offers, technical evaluation will be weighted with 80%, and the financial offer with 20%.

The final listing of the most advantageous offers will be made on the basis of the following formula:

$$\Lambda_i = 0.8 * (B_i/B_{\max}) + 0.2 * (K_{\min}/K_i).$$

Where:

- B_{max}: the max score received by the best of the technical offers received
- B_i: the score of the technical offer
- K_{min}: The cost of the financial offer with the minimum price offered.

- Ki: The cost of the financial offer

The most advantageous offers is the one with the greater value of Λ .

In case of equality of overall scores, the winning proposal is the one whose corresponding technical proposal received the highest rating.

11. Monitoring and Progress Controls

Ms. Sondos Njoumi et Ms. Sarra Touzi will be providing oversight and guidance from the side of the Project Team.

12. Place of Performance

Tunisia.

13. Terms and Conditions

Language

The deliverables will be prepared in both draft and final versions in French. The final version will also be prepared in English. The Consultant shall take into account the costs related to translation, if any, in their proposal.

Submission of data, reports and other material produced

All primary data, reports, and other documentation produced during this assignment shall be made available to GWP-Med and to the relevant institutions in electronic format. All data acquired, and products developed during the assignment will be in the ownership of the Project and cannot be used by the Consultant and its team without prior written permission.

Review and quality assurance

A thorough evaluation of the Consultant's work conducted during the course of the assignment implementation, as well as a comprehensive review of the deliverables, may be conducted by an independent external expert or team of experts. The Consultant is expected to thoroughly consider and incorporate any relevant observations or recommendations provided by the reviewer(s) into the final versions of the deliverables.