

# **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)**

## **Locally-led Climate Adaptation Program – Nepal**

Delivery Partners

### **1. Overview**

The Australian Government invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from suitably qualified organisations to deliver the Locally-led Climate Adaptation Program in Nepal.

This EOI is the first stage of a two-stage procurement process. It is intended to assess organisational capability and delivery capacity. A limited number of applicants will be shortlisted and invited to submit a fully developed and costed proposal at the second stage.

### **2. Objective**

The objective of this EOI is to identify organisations with:

- Demonstrated capability in climate adaptation and locally-led development
- Strong organisational, financial and delivery capacity in Nepal or comparable contexts
- Clarity on understanding of the TOR and approaches to project delivery
- Proven ability to deliver programs of similar scale and complexity
- Experience working with government and subnational systems

### **3. Scope of the Investment**

The program will support locally-led climate adaptation in Nepal, addressing key implementation constraints at subnational level, including:

- Limited integration of climate risk into planning and budgeting
- Institutional and technical capacity gaps
- Unequal access to resources for vulnerable and marginalised groups

The investment will:

- Strengthen provincial and local systems to operationalise national climate policy
- Support locally led decision-making and inclusive governance
- Improve access to climate finance and risk information
- Promote climate and disaster-resilient livelihoods and water security

The program will operate in Karnali and Sudurpaschim Provinces and adopt an adaptive programming approach across national, provincial and local levels.

**End-of-program outcome:**

By 2030, women, persons with disabilities, children and youth, marginalised communities, and rural households benefit from enhanced access to climate- and disaster-resilient livelihoods.

The program is expected to run from 2027 to 2030, with an estimated value of up to AUD 9 million. The final project budget will be negotiated with the successful organisation. This will consider financial management capability, scope and extent of activities, overheads and management costs and overall value for money.

Further detail is provided in the Terms of Reference (TOR).

#### **4. Eligibility**

Applicants may be a single organisation or a consortium.

For consortium applications, a lead entity must be nominated.

- The lead entity must be legally registered and authorised to operate in Nepal and will be the contracting party with the Australian Government.
- Consortium partners must demonstrate relevant capability and comply with Australian Government safeguarding, integrity and risk management requirements

Applicants must:

- Demonstrate relevant experience in climate change adaptation
- Demonstrate capacity to manage large value donor-funded investments (for consortia, this may be held by the lead entity or collectively across partners)
- Comply with Australian Government requirements on safeguarding, fraud control and integrity

Partnerships with Nepal-based organisations, including women-led, youth-led and organisations representing marginalised groups, are strongly encouraged.

#### **5. EOI Requirements**

EOIs must be concise (maximum eight pages, excluding annexes) and clearly address the following.

##### **5.1 Organisational Capability**

- Core expertise in climate adaptation, locally-led development and systems strengthening

- Relevant sectoral and geographic experience
- Demonstrated managerial and financial management capability, including management of large, devolved teams across multiple sites.
- Experience managing donor-funded programs of similar scale

## **5.2. Technical Capability: Demonstrated understanding of the Terms of Reference (TOR)**

- Understanding of the problem and issues
- Understanding of the potential solutions

## **5.3 Relevant Program Experience on Climate Change Adaptation**

Provide up to three examples of relevant programs (for consortia, examples may be drawn from any consortium partner), with demonstrated capability in climate adaptation and locally-led development, including:

- Objective and scope
- Contract value and duration
- Role of the organisation
- Key results achieved

## **5.4 Consortium Arrangements (if applicable)**

- Roles and responsibilities of partners
- Complementarity of expertise
- Evidence of prior collaboration on at least one comparable program

## **5.5 Management and Delivery Capacity**

- Proposed management structure
- Key roles and functions, included nomination of key management team members
- Presence and operational capacity in Nepal (or comparable contexts)
- Experience managing multi-stakeholder and subnational delivery

For consortium applications, delivery capacity may be demonstrated collectively across partners.

## 6. Annexes

The following may be included (not counted toward page limit):

- CVs of key personnel (maximum two pages per CV), including potential team leader for the project
- Organisational structure or organogram (optional)
- Audit statements (inclusion of the most recent audit report) or similar evidence of ability to meet accounting requirements
- Referee details

## 7. Evaluation Criteria

EOIs will be assessed against:

- Organisational capability and relevant experience
- Understanding of the TOR (Technical capability)
- Track record delivering comparable programs (scale and results)
- Strength of management and delivery capacity
- Consortium strength and collaboration (where applicable)

For consortium applications, evaluation will consider the combined capability and experience of all partners.

**Note:** Detailed design methodology and costing will be assessed at the proposal stage.

## 8. Process

A limited number of applicants will be shortlisted and invited to submit a full proposal, including detailed design, implementation approach and budget.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the EOI stage.

## 9. Briefing

The Australian Embassy in Kathmandu will convene a virtual briefing session to provide an overview of the EOI and respond to clarification questions from interested organisations.

- **Date:** 4 August 2026
- **Time:** 09:30am–11:00am (Nepal Standard Time)
- **Format:** Virtual

The briefing will cover:

- Overview of the program and TOR
- Clarification of the two-stage process (EOI → proposal)
- Expectations at EOI stage (capability only)
- Timeline and submission requirements

Organisations wishing to attend should register by emailing:

**austembassy.kathmandu@dfat.gov.au**

Subject: **EOI Briefing Registration – [Organisation Name]**

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## **10. Clarifications and Questions**

Organisations may submit written questions.

- **Deadline for questions:**  
5:00 pm (NST), 5 August 2026
- Submit via email:  
austembassy.kathmandu@dfat.gov.au
- **Responses issued by:**  
5:00 pm (NST), 7 August 2026

Responses may be shared with all applicants to ensure consistent information.

## **11. Contact Person**

All enquiries must be directed to:

Sunita Gurung  
Senior Program Manager  
Human Development, Humanitarian and Resilience

Email: austembassy.kathmandu@dfat.gov.au

Enquiries must be submitted in writing only. The Australian Embassy in Kathmandu may not respond to enquiries received through other channels.

## **12. Submission Requirements and Compliance**

Applicants must ensure submissions comply with the following requirements:

- Submissions must not exceed eight (8) pages (excluding annexes)
- Submissions must use a minimum font size of 11 point

- Page margins must be at least 2.54 cm (1 inch) on all sides
- Tables, diagrams and figures must be included within the page limit
- Submissions must be in English and submitted in Word or PDF format
- Submissions must be received by the closing date and time specified

Submissions that do not comply with these requirements, including those exceeding the page limit or using formatting intended to circumvent it, may be assessed as non-conforming.

### 13. Indicative Timeline

| Activity               | Date           |
|------------------------|----------------|
| EOI released           | 24 July 2026   |
| Briefing session       | 4 August 2026  |
| Deadline for questions | 5 August 2026  |
| Responses issued       | 7 August 2026  |
| EOI closing date       | 16 August 2026 |

### 14. Conditions

- This EOI does not constitute a commitment to procure services
- The Australian Government reserves the right to:
  - shortlist a limited number of applicants
  - not proceed with the process