Australian Government

# Australia in Nepal – Locally Led Climate Adaptation Program

## *Terms of Reference (TOR)*

## A. Context

### Background

Nepal faces severe and rising climate and disaster risk. Around 80 per cent of the population is exposed to natural and climate-induced hazards.[1] Floods, glacial lake outburst floods, landslides, forest fires and droughts are causing recurring mortality, displacement and damage to infrastructure, farms and markets. Between 2016-25, disasters caused about 5,000 deaths and 15,000 injuries. More than 32,000 climate-induced events between 2018-24 caused cumulative losses of NPR 23.6 billion, or about AUD 227 million.[2][3][4]

Climate change is making risks harder to manage. Rising temperatures, erratic monsoon rainfall, accelerated glacial melt, and more frequent extremes are increasing both acute shocks and slow-onset stresses. Water-related risks are especially significant: communities face both "too much water", through floods, landslides, and debris flows, and "too little water", through dry-season scarcity, declining spring flows and drought. These pressures affect agriculture, health, household labour, local markets, and continuity of basic services.

The impacts are unequal. Women, children, persons with disabilities, Dalits, Indigenous peoples, marginalised ethnic groups, and remote communities often face higher exposure and fewer options to adapt. Exclusion from services, resources and decision-making increases vulnerability and slows recovery. Effective adaptation, therefore, depends not only on technical measures, but on inclusive governance, accountable finance and benefits reaching those at greatest risk.

Nepal has built a substantial policy framework for climate resilience. Key milestones include the National Adaptation Programme of Action, the National Climate Change Policy, the Local Adaptation Plans for Action framework, the National Adaptation Plan, successive Nationally Determined Contributions, and the 16th Five-Year Plan. Federal and provincial coordination mechanisms are in place, including the Environment Protection and Climate Change Council, the Inter-Ministerial Climate Change Coordination Committee and Provincial Climate Change Coordination Committees. Local coordination mechanisms remain less developed.

### Key lessons learned on localisation of climate adaptation

Evidence points to six primary lessons for effective locally led adaptation. Adaptation works best when it is grounded in local risk, livelihoods and power relations, rather than delivered as isolated technical activities.[5] Resilience improves when climate action is linked to economic opportunity, including green enterprises, resilient livelihoods, market access and nature-based solutions.[6] Inclusion must be designed in from the start; vulnerability is shaped by gender, disability, caste, ethnicity, landlessness, age and remoteness, as well as by exposure to hazards.[7]

Devolving finance and decisions is not enough. Local governments and community institutions need sustained technical support, accountability mechanisms and incentives to use climate information in planning and budgets.[8] Localisation should shift authority, not only consultation; communities and local institutions need real influence over priorities, resources, and results.[9] Adaptation requires time for institutions to learn, adjust and embed climate resilience in routine systems.

1 Ministry of Home Affairs, GoN. 2018. Nepal Disaster Report 2017: The Road to Sendai. Kathmandu, GoN.
2 National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority. (2024). 2024 September floods and landslides situation report #4 (Government of Nepal, Ministry of Home Affairs).
3 Nepal in Data. (2025). Overview of fire, landslide, and flood disasters in Nepal.
4 World Bank. (2022). Nepal country climate and development report. Washington, DC: World Bank.
5 Taylor, M., Eriksen, S., Vincent, K., Brooks, N., Scoville-Simonds, M., & Schipper, L. (2022). Putting 'vulnerable groups' at the centre of adaptation interventions by promoting transformative adaptation as a learning process. Norwegian University of Life Sciences, report submitted to the Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD). https://www. nmbu. no/en/faculty/landsam/department/fohe (accessed 31 July 2023).
6 Aziz, M., & Anjum, G. (2024). Transformative strategies for enhancing women's resilience to climate change: A policy perspective for low-and middle-income countries. Women's Health, 20, 17455057241302032.
7 Ahmed, S., & Eklund, E. (2024). Intersectionality shapes the access to various adaptive resources in climate-vulnerable contexts. Environmental Research: Climate, 3(4), 045021
8 Steinbach, D, Bahadur, A, Shakya, C, Thazin Aung, M, Burton, C-JC, Gallagher, C, Mbewe, S, Greene, S, Regmi, BR, Granderson, A, Ramkissoon, C, Kostka, W, Andon, L, Greenstone-Alefaio, T, Dolcemascolo, G, Gupta, S, Tewary, S, Lopez, M, Barnes, J, Binte Mirza, A, Bodrud-Doza, Md, Akhter, F, Rousseau Rozario, S and Reyes, C (2022) The good climate finance guide for investing in locally led adaptation. IIED, London.
9 : Global Center on Adaptation. 2025. Stories of Resilience: Lessons from Local Adaptation Practice. Rotterdam.

**Current Challenges**

The main challenge is implementation. National and sub-national policies exist, but many provincial and local governments lack the technical capacity, risk information, staff continuity and resources to turn commitments into budgeted investments. Donor projects often use different tools and planning approaches, adding to fragmentation. Climate and disaster risks are therefore only partly reflected in plans and budgets, and funding does not match the scale of risk.

Local adaptation is not always locally led or sufficiently inclusive. Institutional barriers, overlapping mandates and unequal access to resources can reinforce elite capture. Participation by vulnerable groups is often weak, and some externally driven activities have disrupted local collective action or produced short-term benefits without reducing structural vulnerability.

A third challenge is relevance. Many local adaptation plans have not kept pace with escalating loss and damage, migration, population decline, farmland abandonment and changing rural economies. Many activities remain incremental or business-as-usual, with limited attention to resilient livelihoods, production-system change, local economic development and employment. This weakens political ownership and limits incentives for local governments to sustain adaptation after project support ends.

**Need for investment**

Nepal needs better-targeted investment that helps local systems deliver practical, inclusive and risk-informed adaptation. The binding constraints are clear: weak integration of climate information into planning and budgets, limited local capability, insufficient finance for vulnerable households, and decision-making processes that do not consistently include those most exposed to climate risk.

Australia's investment will focus on these constraints to strengthen sub-national climate governance, improve water security in vulnerable areas, and expand climate-resilient livelihoods for marginalised households. The aim is to reduce vulnerability and losses by building the systems, incentives and local ownership needed to anticipate, withstand and recover from climate shocks.

## B. Strategic Intent and Rationale

Australia will build on its longstanding support for community forestry, water security, early warning systems and locally led development in Nepal. The investment aligns with Australia's International Development Policy priority to strengthen state and community resilience to shocks, and with Nepal's National Adaptation Plan, Nationally Determined Contributions, Sixteenth Five-Year Plan and federalism agenda.

The strategic case is strongest at the local level. Nepal's national climate ambition is clear, but implementation capacity remains uneven in high-risk, low-capacity provinces and municipalities. Targeted Australian support can help translate policy into practical adaptation by strengthening provincial and local systems, supporting civil society and community institutions, and improving access to finance, risk information and resilient livelihood options for the most vulnerable households.

The investment will move beyond participation towards locally led decision-making. It will support local governments, community institutions, representative organisations and private actors to identify priorities, manage resources and monitor results. By demonstrating inclusive, climate-resilient livelihood and water-security models in Karnali and Sudurpaschim, the program can generate evidence for wider uptake and create a platform for additional public, private and partner financing. A clear focus on Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI), transparent and effective systems, just transition, and inclusive, locally led adaptation offers an attractive platform for blended finance and private sector partnerships, such as agribusiness value chains, renewable energy providers and climate-risk service firms, who benefit from reduced disruption, stronger productivity and more predictable operating environments.

## C. Proposed Project Details

This project forms part of Australia's future climate change investment. This call is focused on the localisation of climate change adaptation, **valued at up to AUD 9 million over 4 years (2027-2030).**

The main objective is to strengthen the climate resilience and economic empowerment of the poorest and most vulnerable households, communities, and local enterprises in selected rural and urban municipalities of Karnali and Sudurpaschim Provinces. It will test, adapt and innovate locally led climate adaptation approaches that can be scaled and sustained by the Government of Nepal (GoN) and Nepali stakeholders. The project will have one core 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.*

Areas 1-3 are designed to guide proposals to integrate best practices across sectors that collectively demonstrate effective local adaptation and create a scalable model to reach the most vulnerable communities. Area 4 outlines where this project is expected to contribute to and align with a future Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) governance program.

Proposals are expected to demonstrate integration of select interventions across all areas under a clear theory of change.

**Area 1: Adaptation and resilience models for effective local climate actions**

Adaptation and resilience interventions are grounded and context specific. Pilot interventions can demonstrate what successful adaptation and resilience look like for the most vulnerable communities facing climate change impacts across the mountains, hills and Terai, showing how integrated, nexus-oriented, and locally led solutions can effectively address current and evolving risks and vulnerabilities. This includes organising climate and development efforts around food, water and nature-based solutions by investing in water security and the water-food-forest nexus, including climate-smart agriculture, efficient and resilient technologies, and the protection and restoration of water sources. It prioritises localised, community-led, evidence-based models by scaling vulnerability-focused initiatives that safeguard human security, reduce physical and mental stresses, and address exclusion and marginalisation. This co-create pilots like climate-resilient, climate-smart, and inclusive villages and eco-villages that can serve as learning laboratories for wider replication across mountains, hills and the Terai.

| Key Investment Areas | Potential interventions |
|---|---|
| **Promote water security and the water–food–forest nexus** | Enhance climate resilience through targeted investments in water security and the water–food–forest nexus, including climate-smart agriculture, water-efficient and climate-resilient technologies, springshed restoration, recharge ponds, water harvesting infrastructure, and efficient irrigation systems. Foster wider adoption of nature-based solutions by generating robust evidence from successful pilots and highlighting their long-term benefits for ecosystems, communities and livelihoods. |
| **Support localised, community-led, evidence-driven models** | Scale up vulnerability-focused adaptation and resilience initiatives through the co-creation and replication of climate-resilient, climate-smart, and inclusive village and eco-village models. Promote gender-responsive and disability-inclusive technologies and practices, alongside diversified non-land-based and non-farm adaptation and livelihood options for vulnerable and marginalised groups. Strengthen human security and adaptive capacity by reducing workloads and drudgery, enhancing social inclusion, addressing physical and psychosocial stresses, and expanding access to resilient livelihood opportunities, services and resources. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Improve access to climate information system** | Strengthen adaptation and resilience through targeted investments in climate information services that are accessible, timely, and actionable for the most vulnerable populations. Expand access to weather and climate forecasts, multi-hazard early warning systems, agro-meteorological advisories, and climate-sensitive health information through inclusive and locally appropriate communication channels. Ensure that climate information services are gender-responsive, disability-inclusive, and tailored to the needs of marginalised communities to support informed decision-making, reduce climate risks, and enhance adaptive capacity. |

**Area 2: Economic and social empowerment to increase adaptation and resilience of the most vulnerable**
This focuses on building long-term, climate-resilient livelihoods for vulnerable groups by transforming local economies and financial systems. It promotes inclusive, green market ecosystems and pro-poor value chains, with a strong emphasis on women, persons with disabilities, and youth enterprises across both land- and non-land-based sectors. It seeks to expand climate and agricultural insurance, blended and catalytic finance, payment for ecosystem services, and local climate funds so that risk management tools and resources reach those most exposed to climate shocks. Complementing this, it strengthens shock-responsive social protection and targeted financial incentives, such as micro-insurance, micro-credit and community savings groups, to help vulnerable households manage crises, support recovery and build lasting resilience.

| Key Investment Areas | Potential Interventions |
|---|---|
| **Promote Economic empowerment of the most vulnerable** | Promote resilient market ecosystems, pro-poor value chains and green enterprises (including agriculture, tourism and forest-based livelihoods) across land- and non-land-based activities by securing access to degraded public riverbed land for landless and poor households (with targeted support for women and marginalised groups); providing starter input packages and training on climate-resilient, regenerative crops; facilitating pro-poor access to finance (group lending via cooperatives, low-collateral loans, mobile money) for investment in production and small-scale processing; and organising vulnerable households into producer and marketing groups. |
| **Develop climate finance and risk-transfer mechanisms** | Scale climate and agricultural insurance (including parametric/index products), blended and catalytic finance, payment for ecosystem service (PES) schemes, and accessible local climate funds so resources and risk-management tools reach vulnerable communities. |
| **Strengthen Shock-Responsive Social Protection and financial incentives for the vulnerable** | Financial incentives, social protection measures, climate and disaster risk financing schemes, and other incentives that help manage the transition to recovery and build long-term resilience. Intentional financial tools such as micro-insurance, micro-credit, and community savings groups, to buffer against harvest failures and extreme weather shocks |

**Area 3: Improved collective action and institution building**
This area adopts a locally led, equity-focused approach that intentionally empowers women, children, the elderly, youth, Dalits, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) and landless and remote communities to lead climate adaptation. It expands their direct access to finance, long-term leadership, skills development, and roles in governance. It embeds analysis of gender-based, economic and political inequalities into local development and climate planning instruments, and by strengthening community institutions such as Dalit networks, Community Forest User Group (CFUGs), farmer groups, cooperatives, water user committees and women's and youth groups. These are central adaptation actors with control over resources and climate finance.

| Key Investment Areas | Potential Interventions |
|---|---|
| **Strengthen inclusion, GEDSI and youth leadership** | Interventions intentionally empower women, Dalits, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, people of diverse SOGIESC, landless and remote communities, and youth—through direct access to finance, long-term leadership and skills development, and meaningful roles in decision-making and governance. |
| **Focus on addressing structural inequity** | Integrate gender-based, economic and political inequalities that are root causes of vulnerability into the core of local periodic plan, fiscal year plan and Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPA) and Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Framework (LDCRF) and encouraging vulnerable and marginalised individuals to meaningfully participate in, and lead, adaptation decisions. |
| **Support localisation and inclusion** | Helping marginalised and vulnerable communities who are landless to access government services. Gender-sensitive and disability-inclusive programming including women and girls and work with socially excluded communities to ensure access to climate adaptive and resilient technology and practices, including access to anticipatory early actions. |
| **Strengthen community institutions and local ownership** | Reinforce CFUGs, farmer groups, cooperatives, water user committees and youth/women's groups as central adaptation actors, ensuring co-creation, local control of resources, and mechanisms that channel a substantial share of climate finance directly to them. Promote women collectives, launch localised awareness and resilience-building activities. |

**Area 4: Improved capacity of subnational governments to effectively plan, resource, and implement inclusive, evidence-based climate actions to increase climate and disaster resilience among vulnerable communities**

This area strengthens evidence-based decisions, including transparency and accountability mechanisms at the provincial and local levels. It supports provincial and local governments to improve policies, legal frameworks and institutions through co-created evidence-based processes and broad stakeholder consultations. Climate change adaptation and disaster resilience are systematically integrated into planning, policies and major investments using domestic fiscal tools such as climate budget coding and adaptation investment plans. Institutional coordination is enhanced across government levels and with the private sector, Civil Society Organisation (CSOs), youth, communities, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and development partners to incentivise and leverage additional finance for resilience.

| Key Investment Areas | Potential Interventions |
|---|---|
| **Strengthen policy and institutional mechanisms** | Support local and provincial government to strengthen the policy and institutions for climate and disaster resilience, using a range of tools and methods including policy co-creation, evidence development, consultations, legal drafting, institutional reviews and supporting Nepal's international engagement. This also involves Improving interagency and intergovernmental coordination. |
| **Improve Stakeholder engagement** | This included working closely with private sector, CSOs, youth, and community networks. Also, enhancing coordination with international and national NGOs and other potential funding agencies to create incentives for financial leveraging. |
| **Enhance climate change financing and accountability mechanisms** | Support provincial and local government to adopt measures to improve the domestic allocation, monitoring and reporting of climate change budget, including leveraging private sector financing and diversification of climate finance. This also includes ensuring that climate financing reaches the most vulnerable and proper accountability mechanisms is established by tracking both flow and impact of investments. |

*Note: This area will be delivered in alignment with Australia's future governance program, currently under design. This project is to ensure ownership and coordination, so that local and provincial governments will provide an enabling policy environment to support the localisation of adaptation.*

## D. The Recipient

The main recipients of this project will be the climate-vulnerable people and communities, including local government and local institutions in Nepal that work directly with climate-vulnerable people and communities. This project will support the program delivery in close coordination with the federal government and the provincial and local governments in Karnali and Sudurpaschim provinces. The project team will periodically present progress of activities to a Project Steering Committee (PSC) comprising GoN, DFAT and other stakeholders. It is expected that the project team will closely work with provincial and local Government, using existing coordination mechanisms to best coordinate with government agencies, the private sector, local institutions, and other relevant stakeholders.

## E. Geographic Focus

The project will be implemented in Karnali and Sudurpaschim provinces, working with select local governments. The proposed governments are the most vulnerable municipalities based on the Government of Nepal's vulnerability and risk assessment[10].

| Province | Rural Municipalities | Urban Municipalities |
|---|---|---|
| **Karnali** | Chankehli (Humla), Namkha (Humla), TIla (Jumla), Naraharinath (Kalikot), Mahawai (Kalikot), Junichande (Jajarkot), Bheri Malika (Jajarkot) | Aaathabisakot (Rukum west), Chaurjahari (Rukum west) |
| **Sudurpaschim** | Khaptad Chhededaha (Bajura), Saipaal (Bajhang), Kedarsyun (Bajhang), Thalara (Bajhang), Dogada Kedar (Baitadi), K.I. Singh (Doti), Bogatan Phudsil (Doti), Jorayal (Doti), Mellekh (Achham), Chaurpati (Accham), Bannigadhi Jayagadh (Accham), Dhakari (Achham) | Budhinanda (Bajura), Jaya prithbi (Bajhang), Patan (Baitadi), Shikhar (Doti), Dipayal Silgadhi (Doti), Mangalsen (Achham), Bhajani (Kailali) |

Municipalities above are the eligible project implementation sites. Applicants may identify the most suitable locations based on the overall budget and the likelihood of implementing focused and pilot interventions that can be scaled to other areas of Nepal.

## F. Expected Deliverables

Outcome and output-based key performance indicators (KPIs) to be discussed with the Australian Embassy in Nepal in detail, following the selection of the successful applicant.

10 https://www.mofe.gov.np/content/115/vra-report-2021--rural-and-urban-basti/

## G. Service Providers

The selected eligible organisation[11] (individual organisation) or team[12] (organisations in consortium) proposal will propose a staffing profile to include (as appropriate) a team leader, deputy team lead/program coordinator, field coordinator, public finance management expert, GEDSI expert, and field-based team embedded in the Palikas. The team may have national and or local experts, with the understanding that local context is highly valued.

The Organisation or Organisation team shall demonstrate corporate skills/experience, including:

- Program management: The team shall have expertise in managing and delivering a complex development program of a similar size.
- Adaptive Management: The program will need to be flexible and adaptable to changing circumstances; the Organisation or Organisation team will need to demonstrate strong expertise and experience in adaptive program management.
- Financial management and reporting: Experience managing the finances of large development programs. At least one member of the team should have a relevant accountancy qualification.
- Monitoring, evaluation, and learning of development programs: Quantitative and qualitative data analysis skills; the team must be able to generate learning about program performance.

The Organisation or Organisation team shall demonstrate technical skills/experience, including:

- Grounded experience: Expertise in managing complex development programs and working with the Government of Nepal. The team must demonstrate experience in building the capacity of government and local institutions.
- Climate change adaptation: Knowledge of Nepal's climate change impact, vulnerability, and risks; adaptation priorities; Local Adaptation Plans of Action and locally led adaptation principles and practices; climate change economics; and climate-resilient livelihoods (incl. food, water, and agriculture).
- Adaptive social protection: Experience of working in adaptive social protection and disaster and climate risk and financing insurance, mostly social and financial incentives for the most vulnerable to manage the transition towards long-term recovery and resilience to climate extreme events and climate-induced loss and damage.
- Institutional development: The Organisation or Organisation team should demonstrate capacity to provide more contextual and tailor-made institutional support to help sensitise and build the capacity of the local institutions of vulnerable groups, including community-based organisations, youth, women, children, persons with disabilities, people of diverse SOGIESC and local government.
- Gender equality, disability equity and social inclusion: Grounded in intersectionality, just transition and intergenerational equity.
- Support for policy development, evidence-based planning, and learning: The team will know Nepal's climate change policy and institutional framework, and how this can be translated and operationalised in the local and provincial levels. Experience working on vulnerability and risk assessment and identification of adaptation options is desirable.

## H. Safeguarding

The project must meet strict risk management, environmental and social safeguard obligations, including Child Protection and Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) policies. Implementing partners must conduct thorough risk assessments, establish safe reporting mechanisms, and ensure all

11 Organisation here refers to organisations legally registered in Nepal and by law have the mandate to work on climate change, and particularly implement the project in Karnali and Sudurpaschim province, and selected municipalities.
12 The Organisation team here refers to a consortium or combination of organisations who are legally registered in Nepal and, by law, have the mandate to work on climate change, and particularly implement the project in Karnali and Sudurpaschim province, and selected municipalities.

downstream partners comply with DFAT's "do no harm" principles. Guidance notes are available at: https://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/safeguard-guidance-notes.

Child Protection Policy 2025 | Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment | Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

## I. Call for Expression of Interest (EOI) and Final Proposal

The call will adopt a two-step process:
Step One – Request for Expression of Interest. We are inviting eligible organisations (individual organisations) or organisation teams (lead organisation in partnership with other organisations) to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) in accordance with the provided template.

**The EOI must be submitted within three weeks of the release of the EOI call**, by email. Please send the EOI to: austembassy.kathmandu@dfat.gov.au

Step Two – Request for Proposal (RFP): Shortlisted organisations will be invited to submit a full proposal.

## J. Eligibility criteria for the organisation submitting EOI

The eligibility criteria for the organisation submitting the EOI include:

- The Organisation and Organisation team (consortium) should have legal authority to work in Nepal and a mandate to support the federal, provincial, and local government, including local institutions.
- The Organisation or Organisation team should have at least three years of working experience in Nepal, including delivery of climate change adaptation projects, preferably locally led adaptation.
- The lead Organisation should have a track record of managing a portfolio of USD 1 million per year. This does not apply to other consortium members if it is a joint submission.

Partnerships with locally led organisations, including women-led and youth-led organisations, organisations of persons with disabilities, organisations working with Indigenous communities, and organisations representing people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC), particularly those representing marginalised and socially excluded groups, are highly encouraged.

## K. Selection process

**Selection Process and Criteria for EOI**

The organisation or organisation team (consortium) will be shortlisted and selected through a competitive process based on technical qualifications and management experience that includes clarity in the proposed approaches, team composition and qualifications, demonstrated expertise in developing and implementing locally led adaptation, budgeting and compliance with all legal and financial documents.

EOIs will be assessed against:

| | |
|---|---|
| Organisational capability and relevant experience | 25% |
| Understanding of the TOR (Technical capability) | 25% |
| Track record delivering comparable programs (scale and results) | 15% |
| Strength of management and delivery capacity | 20% |
| Consortium strength and collaboration (where applicable) | 15% |

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

**Selection Process and Criteria for Request for Funding (RFP)**

A small number of shortlisted organisation or organisation team (consortium) will be invited to submit a full proposal. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the EOI. The following will be the criteria used to select the successful full proposal.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Technical and Delivery Capability (70%)** | |
| Understanding of the Development and climate change context, proposed innovations, approaches, and process to achieve the outcome, outputs, and delivery of activities | 20% |
| Proposed approaches to engagement with local government, the vulnerable groups and local institutions, provincial government, federal government and other stakeholders | 20% |
| Proposed approach to integration and sustainability of project pilots and project results | 20% |
| Proposed core team, clearly mapping field level staffing and proposed skills sets | 10% |
| **Organisational and Financial capability (30%)** | |
| Organisational experience and expertise: Organisation or Organisation team (consortium) experience and expertise to deliver the project and understanding of the local context | 10% |
| Organisation financial management capability (only lead organisation) | 10% |
| Proposed budget, management and program costs | 10% |

## L. Briefing on the call

The Australian Embassy in Kathmandu will hold a virtual briefing at 09:30am–11:00am (Nepal time) on Tuesday 4 August 2026 to allow potential organisations to clarify any questions on the Terms of Reference.

If your organisation is interested in participating, please email austembassy.kathmandu@dfat.gov.au no later than Friday 31 July 2026, including the participant's name and contact details. Please include in the subject line: **"EOI Briefing Registration – [Organisation Name]"**.