

Terms of Reference/Call for Proposal for a Research Consultancy

The impact of climate change on Gender-based Violence (GBV), education and early marriage in the Lake Chad province in Chad

This call and Terms of Reference are developed for the recruitment of a Research Consultant to conduct a research that analyzes and measures the impact of climate change on gender-based violence (GBV), girls' school dropout and early marriage in the Lake Chad province in Chad. The evidence generated from the research will inform World Vision's gender, climate change and fragile programming and strengthen our gender-responsive and gender transformative interventions to specifically tailor gender-based violence and child protection prevention and response programming interventions to address the needs of girls in the Lake Chad province.

Additionally, the research results will enable World Vision to demonstrate thought leadership in the international development and nexus sector, specifically on an issue that has been identified as a key challenge requiring specific attention in the region.

1. Context

Chad is one of the countries in the Sahelian strip which covers an area of 1,284,000 km² with galloping demographic growth (3.2% in 2021, the National Institute of Statistics, Economic and Demographic Studies of Chad). According to the General Census of the Human Population (RGPH) of 2022, Chad has a population of 17,958,641 inhabitants including 14,0225,699 young people representing 78% of the national workforce. Agriculture and livestock breeding are the two mainstays of the Chadian economy and represent 80% of the GDP of the primary sectors. Around 76% of the Chadian population lives in rural areas according to world demographic data. Agriculture and livestock also provide main sources of food and income for rural households. However, climate change effects such as increasing temperatures and less predictable rains have exacerbated drought and floods which destroyed fields and took away harvests, resulting in a drop in income and an increase in the vulnerability of producers, leading to the adoption of harmful survival strategies including early marriage, girls dropping out of school and gender-based violence. The area coverage and volume of the lake Chad, a significant source of livelihoods for the people of Chad and neighboring communities, have significantly reduced due to climate change as a significant driver (more than 90% reduction in its original surface area).

Climate change can amplify and accelerate pre-existing gender inequalities, exacerbating dispossession, marginalization, and discrimination of women and girls in affected communities. This impact in turn affects women and girl's ability to adapt or recover from a climate-induced emergency and risks their livelihoods disproportionately.

According to a recent study entitled Chad: early marriages, a difficult challenge to overcome carried out by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and published by Blaise Daristone on November 23rd 2022, Chad is the second country in the world having the highest rate of early marriages where 68% of girls are married by the age of 18 and 25% by the age of 15. These are figures that could double by 2050 if nothing is done according to this same study. Among the causes of this practice, considered harmful, we can cite poverty (exacerbated by climate change), cultural constraints and lack of education.

According to UNICEF (December 2022), one in two primary school-age children in Chad is out of school, and only 40% of girls complete primary school (for high school, the figure drops to 15%). Seventy percent of elementary school have no access to water and 78% have no sanitary facilities. Fifty-five percent of children are married before the age of 18 and over 30% of women aged 15 to 49 have undergone female genital mutilation. The children affected by intercommunity crises are subject to trauma due to separation from their families, as well as high levels of gender-based violence and abuse violence, including corporal punishment. By 2022, UNICEF estimates that some 1.67 million children under the age of five will suffer from acute malnutrition, including some 335,000 severe cases.

In the Lake Chad province, in addition to the effects of climate change, the population is suffering the weight of conflicts between armed groups from different neighboring countries and violence from the Islamic sect Boko Haram, not to mention intercommunity conflicts. In such a poly-crisis context, it is necessary to conduct a study that could

help analyze the impact of climate change on gender-based violence, school dropout of girls and early marriage in the Lake Chad province, in Chad. The results of this study will make it possible to inform program interventions that can help mitigate the impacts of climate change on GBV, girls dropping out of school and early marriage.

2. Research Objectives

The general objective of this study is to analyze and measure the impact of climate change on gender-based violence (GBV), girls' school dropout and early marriage in the Lake Chad province, Chad.

Specifically, it aims to:

- A. Analyze the linkage between climate change and related negative impacts on gender-based violence in the Lake Chad region; and
- B. Analyze and measure the effects of climate change on early marriage of young girls and consequently the school dropout of young girls.

3. Research Questions

To achieve the research objectives and identify mitigating solutions, this study will focus on two main questions which are as follows:

1. What are the climate change contributors to GBV in the Lake Chad region¹?
2. How do the effects of climate change highlight girls' lack of agency, voice, and decision-making, and how do they contribute to gender-based violence, school dropouts and early marriages in Lake Province in Chad?

The Research Consultant will support the team in identifying sub-research questions.

4. Research Methods and Methodology

A mixed methods approach will be used. Specific data collection tools and methods will be prioritized during this research activity, namely Focus Group Discussions, Key Informant Interviews, Secondary Data Sources (Government, UN, WV program reports) analysis. The selected Consultant is expected to design the full Research Protocol adapted for quality, rigour, and alignment with objectives. World Vision Canada (WVC) and World Vision Chad (WVT) will work with the selected Consultant to finalize and approve the research inception report, develop a workplan and budget and provide agreed upon logistics and operational support.

5. Deliverables and Timeline

Key Expected Results

The main deliverables expected from the consultant are:

1. Inception Report

- a. Research questionnaire, protocol, data collection plan (including a fully remote data collection plan as backup), budget and timeline to deadline
- b. Research Methodology
- c. Literature review (with WVC support if needed)
- d. List of relevant stakeholders/actors
- e. Data collection tools and data collection plan completed
- f. Research report design and qualitative analysis framework.
- g. Final sampling methodology (including sampling unit and frame) and sample size.
- h. Ethics review submission

¹ Assuming climate change has impacted lake Chad and the people whose livelihoods depend on it (to be referred to)

2. Cleaned data (including data files (e.g. Excel, SPSS), qualitative data transcripts, syntax/code books, etc.). Data analysis software being used (qualitative and quantitative).
3. **Final Research Report** (approximately 30 pages) including an abstract in publishable format.
4. Face-to-face and/or virtual **Presentation of Results** (including PPT).
5. Data and artifacts: Raw and Cleaned Data Sets and completed consent forms.

Please refer to **Annex 1** for suggested deliverable timeframe.

Schedule

The approximate period of the contract will be over a period of 6 months from the signing of the contract. The consultant must make all necessary preparations to initiate the research, in accordance with the timelines suggested below.

6. Budget

The consultant will work with WV to develop a detailed budget to realize the activities of this research project. A payment schedule as per contract agreement will be developed to break down the total cost of the consultancy linked to key milestones or deliverables rather than a single lump sum.

7. Consultant Qualifications

- The Consultant ideally holds a PhD or Master's Degree from a recognized university or be currently employed by an academic institution specializing in climate change and livelihoods research or another related field with a focus on gender equality.
- Possess a minimum of 5 - 7 years of experience in designing and administering studies, collecting data and producing qualitative research, developing tools, developing data quality protocols, and training facilitators and/or investigators, preferably for international non-profit organizations or multilateral agencies.
- Previous experience in the Sahel Region, Chad or fragile contexts is preferred.
- Demonstrated experience in designing comprehensive mixed methods research studies and conducting them with methodological rigor.
- Demonstrated ability to produce high quality written reports within tight deadlines.
- Fluency in French is mandatory. Knowledge of local languages is an asset.
- Ability to travel to Chad, if the security context permits, to conduct field research, training, and data collection, while adhering to organizational guidelines and protocols for security, child safeguarding and other measures. Some remote management of independent data collection may be required.
- Ability to commit to a minimum 6 month timeframe for the design and implementation and completion of the research study. (2 months for data collection and 1 month for report writing)
- Previous demonstrated experience in coordinating and administering studies of a similar nature will be considered an asset. Please provide samples of prior research work.

8. List of documents to be submitted with the ToR proposal

Applications to this consultancy must be 3-5 pages (excluding annexes, CVs, etc.)

1. Curriculum Vitae of Consultant (and bios of additional team members if applicable).
2. An overview of the overall approach to research (including area selection, sampling size, and methodology).
3. Proposed measures for data collection, capture and management (with risk management considerations) and a fully remote data collection strategy in case travel to sites is not possible. (Plan will encompass team management, communications and data collection processes).
4. Budget with breakdown of costs (fees, travel, administrative, operational etc.).
5. Contact details of three references who can be contacted regarding the relevant experience.
6. Copies of two previous reports of a similar nature.
7. A profile of past experience of the consulting firm (if applicable).

All consultants/candidates are required to accept and agree to the Code of Conduct for World Vision Staff and World Vision Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies.

9. Submissions

Please send your application to World Vision Canada to the below email addresses no later **January 5th, 2024 5pm Eastern Time**. Mention “WVC Climate Change Research Consultation” in the subject line and attach supporting documents as indicated.

Any questions regarding these Terms of Reference or any other aspects of the project and proposal can be addressed to [Maereg Tafere@worldvision.ca](mailto:Maereg_Tafere@worldvision.ca) and [Alicia LopezAlvarez@worldvision.ca](mailto:Alicia_LopezAlvarez@worldvision.ca) at any time during the tender process until the final deadline for submission.

Annex 1: Proposed Deliverable Timeframe

Deliverables	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Consultant recruited										
Inception report (proposed methodologies, scope and understanding from researcher)										
First draft of research report										
Final research report										
Raw and cleaned data sets										
Presentation of results										