

## Terms of reference: Mid-term review of WaterAid's Water for Women project in Timor-Leste

### About us

WaterAid's vision is a world where everyone, everywhere has safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). Our mission is to transform the lives of the poorest and most marginalised people by improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

### About the role

We are seeking an individual consultant or small, multi-disciplinary team to complete a short-term contract leading the mid-term review of our Australian Government-funded Water for Women project in Timor-Leste.

### Water for Women

Water for Women is the Australian Government's flagship WASH program and is being delivered as part of Australia's aid program, investing \$110.6 million over five years from 2018 to 2022.

Water for Women is partnering with 10 Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to deliver 18 projects in 15 countries in South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Over its lifespan, the Fund aims to support an estimated 2.95 million people, including the most marginalised within these communities.

WaterAid has three projects funded through Water for Women, in Myanmar, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste. The focus of this Mid-Term Review will be our project in Timor-Leste.

### ***Beyond inclusion, WaterAid Timor-Leste's Water for Women project***

*Beyond inclusion* is a five-year project, which aims to improve WASH services in Liquica and Manufahi municipalities of Timor-Leste and influence social norms for greater gender equality.

The project builds on and extends much of our previous work in Timor-Leste. It continues our work with national and municipal governments to strengthen the WASH sector and improve coordination across related sectors (for example nutrition), all while ensuring gender and social inclusion approaches are mainstreamed.

At the local level, the project continues to support communities with gaining access to, and maintenance of, inclusive WASH services, including to continue to use our Community Dialogue toolkit to create more equal power dynamics between men and women. It also continues to employ our Community Scorecard (CSC) process, enabling people to provide feedback to government on the quality of services they're receiving.

Across all these activities, the project is also focused on documenting and sharing lessons and emerging models of good practice within Timor-Leste, so that others can adopt them.

### **Purpose and scope of the mid-term review**

We believe a deep understanding of context is needed to inform what we do and how our sector strengthening, and gender transformative approaches could be applied. We use Theory of Change (ToC) to design our programs and frame learning-oriented monitoring that guides adaptations; both to how we think change happens, as well as to supported activities.

The purpose of this mid-term review is to facilitate a participatory process of critical reflection with project teams to agree adaptations to the underlying ToC. It is envisaged this would be based on a collective analysis of progress to date and reflection on key assumptions within the design.

The findings and agreed adaptations generated will be an important reference for future reflection, analysis and course correction over the remaining years of the project.

### **Key review questions**

The following key questions will be reviewed and finalised with the review team as part of the inception process:

1. Utilising an assessment of progress towards intermediate changes<sup>i</sup>, what are the strengths and limitations of supported approaches<sup>ii</sup>?
2. What lessons have been learned through responding to COVID-19 and how well have projects responded to COVID-19?
3. What do findings from the above reveal about contributions thus far to stated project outcomes?
  - a. Gender equality and social inclusion are integrated into effective national WASH systems.
  - b. Women and men share roles and responsibilities in decision-making in the household and at the community level, with a particular emphasis on WASH.
  - c. Municipalities use gender transformative approaches to deliver nutrition sensitive, inclusive, sustainable WASH services.
  - d. National WASH sector knowledge management and learning systems strengthened, including exchange between relevant sectors.
4. To what extent are assumptions in the project's Theory of Change holding true? Are there other inherent assumptions that should be made explicit?

Based on an analysis of the questions above, it is expected the consultant(s) will facilitate a participatory process with WaterAid's country program team to identify, agree and document any adaptations to project outcomes, intermediate changes and/or approaches.

A detailed evaluation plan will be finalised through the inception phase setting out how data will be collected and analysed for each evaluation question.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

WaterAid Australia's Learning and Documentation Advisor and WaterAid Timor-Leste's Program Director will jointly coordinate the review, with support from relevant technical leads and specialists. WaterAid will provide support throughout the process and sign-off on the final report.

## Deliverables and timelines

We expect to appoint consultants in September and conclude the process by mid-November 2020. A proposed timeframe is outlined below:

- 18<sup>th</sup> Sept: Consultants contracted, and work-plan agreed
- 21<sup>st</sup> Sept – 16<sup>th</sup> Oct: Document review, data collection, analysis and sense-making
- 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct: Participatory process for validating findings and agreeing adaptations
- 30<sup>th</sup> Oct: Draft report submission
- 6<sup>th</sup> Nov: Report feedback
- 13<sup>th</sup> Nov: Final report submission

The final report must clearly set out the method, limitations, findings and conclusions from the evaluation. All recommendations emerging through the process must be discussed and agreed through a participatory process with WaterAid's Water for Women team.

## Evaluation team qualifications

We seek an individual consultant or small, multi-disciplinary team for this assignment who would bring specific experience with and knowledge of:

- Theory of change and adaptive management – particularly supporting organisations to apply the concepts in development programming
- Evaluation – particularly methods for qualitative data collection, analysis and interpretation
- WASH, systems thinking, gender equality and social inclusion – particularly in relation to WaterAid's work

## Budget

**The budget for this review is AUD \$25,000 (inclusive of GST and reimbursable expenses).** In the current climate, no travel (either interstate or international) is expected.

## To apply

Interested applicants are requested to submit a proposal with the following:

1. One-page statement of the expertise you/your team will bring to this review
2. CV for each proposed review team member
3. Draft review framework including a description of proposed methods and tools
4. Financial proposal with daily rates for team members (inclusive of GST)
5. 2-3 executive summaries from recent evaluation reports where you were the lead evaluator(s)

**Please submit proposals to [recruitment@wateraid.org.au](mailto:recruitment@wateraid.org.au) by 11.59pm AEST Sunday, 6th September.** Please include 'Application: Water for Women Mid-term review (Timor-Leste)' in your email subject title.



## Further Information

For further information please contact Luke Lovell, WaterAid Australia's Learning and Documentation Advisor, via [luke.lovell@wateraid.org.au](mailto:luke.lovell@wateraid.org.au).

*WaterAid is a child safe organisation committed to protection of people we serve. Our recruitment and selection procedures are designed to ensure we only recruit people who are suitable and aligned with our standards on the safety of children and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. All appointments are subject to appropriate background checks and screening.*

*We promote diversity and equality in all our practices. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.*

<sup>i</sup> In assessing progress, the review could include identifying notable lessons learned from project adaptations and adjustments to date.

<sup>ii</sup> Key approaches for this project include: supporting a WASH sector strengthening approach; provision of technical advice/support to government and other key stakeholders; brokering relationships between key stakeholders; and generating and sharing project evidence to influence change. A subset of questions to explore approaches will be agreed during development of the review plan. These could include, for example, how well a sector strengthening approach has been embedded, or how partnerships are contributing to collective impact.

**WaterAid's vision is a world where everyone, everywhere has safe water, sanitation and hygiene.**

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