

TERMS OF REFERENCE

WASH Emergency Consultant

CONTRACT MODALITY Individual Consultancy

DUTY STATION Maputo, Mozambique (office based)

DURATION OF CONTRACT 6.5 months

Purpose of Assignment

Between December 2025 and mid-January 2026, Mozambique experienced severe flooding that affected more than 724,000 people across several provinces. Gaza Province was among the hardest hit, with extensive damage to water supply systems, contamination of more than 210 boreholes, and interruption of services for over 140,000 people. Sanitation systems were also affected, increasing risks of diarrheal diseases and suspected cholera.

During the immediate response phase, UNICEF supported the Government with lifesaving WASH interventions including:

- Water trucking reaching approximately 85,800 people
- Installation of water storage bladders
- Construction of emergency latrines reaching 10,228 people
- Distribution of essential WASH supplies to 46,846 people
- Hygiene promotion, primarily in accommodation centers
- Deployment and operation of a portable water treatment unit (AquaStart) provided by the Government of Spain through AECID to strengthen emergency water production capacity.

The response is now transitioning to early recovery, focusing on:

- Rapid restoration of priority water systems and boreholes
- Strengthening operation and maintenance (O&M) capacity
- Improving sanitation and hygiene conditions
- Supporting coordinated recovery with Government partners
- Transitioning emergency assets (including AquaStart) to national preparedness. Following the withdrawal of the AECID technical team, trained national technicians are operating the unit. UNICEF is providing short-term technical supervision, water quality monitoring and operational support, while working with national authorities to ensure its sustainability. As permanent water supply systems are progressively rehabilitated, reliance on the temporary module will decrease. The unit will then be transitioned into a mobile national preparedness asset, capable of rapid deployment for future emergencies.

The recovery program aims to restore safe water access for at least 50,000 people and reach 100,000 people with hygiene promotion, while embedding resilience measures in Gaza and Maputo Provinces, focusing on the most affected districts. Initial assessments and planning with local authorities are ongoing to identify communities and

sites to be targeted under the recovery phase as well as implementation modalities. UNICEF received some emergency funding with short life span to restore access to safe water and sanitation services in Gaza and Maputo Provinces. UNICEF is willing to recruit a consultant for 6 months to lead the recovery phase in close coordination with Government authorities.

Scope of Work

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The consultant will provide technical and operational support to UNICEF and Government partners to implement the WASH early recovery phase in flood-affected areas, with a focus on system assessment, prioritization, support to technical design, procurement, implementation support and coordination.

Under the supervision of the Chief of WASH / Emergency Coordinator, and in close coordination with the WASH Cluster, Government counterparts, and implementing partners, the consultant will undertake the following tasks:

1. Technical Assessment and Planning. In collaboration with Government authorities (DPOP, SDPI in Gaza and Maputo Provinces):

- Support rapid and detailed technical assessments of: Damaged water supply systems; Contaminated or non-functional boreholes; Sanitation conditions in affected communities and accommodation/resettlement sites
- Identify and prioritize systems for: Rehabilitation; Major repair; Replacement or new construction where justified; Estimate population served and public health risk levels.
- Support development of a prioritized recovery plan aligned with available funding and targets.
- Support rapid identification and resolution of technical and operational bottlenecks in the field.
- Provide technical guidance to local NGOs, service providers, and Government partners.
- Track progress against indicators and prepare weekly situation reports

2. Engineering Design and Documentation. In collaboration with the UNICEF Team in charge of construction/rehabilitation based in Maputo:

- Prepare or review: Technical designs and specifications; Bills of Quantities (BOQs); Cost estimates; Technical drawings
- Ensure designs incorporate flood-resilient and climate-appropriate standards.
- Support preparation of technical documentation for procurement and contracting.

3. Implementation Support and Quality Assurance

- Provide field-based technical oversight of rehabilitation works including support to borehole cleaning, disinfection and testing; pump replacement and infrastructure repair; rehabilitation of system components
- Ensure compliance with national standards and UNICEF quality requirements.
- Support water quality monitoring plans (chlorine residual and bacteriological testing).
- Monitor implementation progress and quality, including through regular field visits, and provide clear, actionable recommendations for corrective actions.
- Support the collection, analysis and validation of WASH response data for reporting purposes.
- Identify high-risk cholera transmission hotspots and propose urgent mitigation measures.

4. Sanitation, Hygiene and Emergency Supplies

- Support technical assessment of sanitation needs in affected communities and accommodation/resettlement centers.
- Develop TORs and support procurement of local contractors to lead awareness raising on hygiene and latrines construction.
- Supervise the implementation of awareness raising and latrines construction activities.
- Support planning and monitoring of distribution of WASH supplies, ensuring alignment with needs and targeting criteria.
- Support planning and follow-up of WASH emergency supplies pre-positioning, distribution, and use at field level.
- Update WASH emergency response plans and contingency stocks.
- Provide technical input on selection, installation and use of emergency WASH equipment and materials.
- Liaise with UNICEF supply, logistics and operations teams to ensure timely availability and appropriate use of WASH supplies.

5. Coordination and Government Support

- Support coordination with INGD, DNAAS, DPOP, district authorities and other relevant Government counterparts on WASH emergency response planning and implementation.
- Facilitate joint field assessments and validation of priorities.
- Support alignment with Government recovery plans.
- Support the Provincial WASH Cluster in Gaza, including participation in coordination meetings, joint planning, and follow-up with partners.
- Facilitate strong linkages between UNICEF-led interventions, partner activities, and Government-led response efforts to avoid duplication and maximize coverage.

6. Emergency Asset Transition and Preparedness

- Support operational planning for the transition of the AquaStart unit from emergency operation to national preparedness.
- Document operational requirements, maintenance needs and deployment scenarios.

7. Monitoring, Reporting and Knowledge Management

- Monitor field operations, including water production planning, basic performance follow-up and compliance with water quality control procedures.
- Conduct weekly field monitoring missions to project sites, providing supervision and documenting key observations. Share feedback and recommended follow-up actions with the supervisor through email after each mission
- Coordinate regularly with district and provincial authorities (operation and distribution) and relevant national institutions (e.g. DNAAS, ARA-Sul, INGD, AIAS) to clarify roles and responsibilities for operation, supervision,

maintenance and consumables.

- Support development of a simple transition and sustainability plan, including operational arrangements, maintenance needs and estimated running costs under Government leadership.
- Ensure alignment between rehabilitation of permanent water systems and the gradual reduction of dependence on AquaStart.
- Prepare a short operational and handover note summarizing current status, institutional arrangements, key risks and recommendations for future deployment as a national emergency response asset.

8. Reporting and Knowledge Management

- Contribute to situation reports, internal updates, donor reports and briefing notes related to the WASH emergency response.
- Document key challenges, lessons learned, and good practices to inform ongoing response and preparedness efforts.

Support handover and continuity planning at the end of the assignment.

Work Assignments Overview	Deliverables/Outputs	Delivery deadline (in weeks/months) and input days to complete the deliverable
<p>Technical inputs to UNICEF WASH response plans, coordination products, and reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidated rapid assessment report and prioritization matrix of damaged water systems, boreholes and sanitation needs (Gaza and Maputo). • Initial recovery plan aligned with available funding and targets. • Weekly situation reports submitted (email with bullet points to be shared weekly) • Technical designs, BOQs and cost estimates for priority rehabilitation works completed and validated. • Technical documentation prepared and submitted to 	<p>Deliverable 1 – Initial briefing report summarizing priority WASH needs, gaps and recommended actions in Gaza and Maputo Provinces</p>	<p>15/04/2026</p>

<p>support procurement processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitation and hygiene interventions planned, with TORs and procurement support for service providers completed. • Supervision and operational support to Aquastart operations in Hokwe District. • Field supervision initiated early rehabilitation activities. • Coordination with partners including Government to high standard 		
<p>Monthly progress report including implementation status and identified bottlenecks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical documentation prepared and submitted to support procurement processes (continued and closed) for both water and sanitation. • Conduct regular field monitoring visits to verify quality, coverage and compliance with standards. • Identify implementation bottlenecks and propose corrective technical and operational actions. • Support Provincial WASH Cluster coordination and follow-up with partners and Government counterparts. • Distribution and pre-positioning plan for WASH supplies finalized and operational. • Supervision and 	<p>Deliverable 2 – Technical Update Concise progress report on implementation status, coverage achieved, key constraints, and corrective actions taken.</p>	<p>16/05/2026</p>

<p>operational support to Aquastart operations in Hokwe District.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute technical input to UNICEF situation reports, donor updates and internal planning documents. • Weekly situation reports submitted (email with bullet points to be shared weekly) 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued technical oversight of implementation with corrective actions documented and followed up. • AquaStart operational review and initial transition arrangements agreed with Government. • Distribution and pre-positioning plan for WASH supplies finalized and operational. • Mid-assignment update including progress against targets, risks, operational challenges and recommended adjustments. • Weekly situation reports submitted (email with bullet points to be shared weekly) • Monthly progress report 	<p>Deliverable 3 – Technical Update Concise progress report on implementation status, coverage achieved, key constraints, and corrective actions taken.</p>	<p>15/06/2026</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued technical oversight of implementation with corrective actions documented and followed up. • AquaStart operational review and initial 	<p>Deliverable 4 – Technical Update Concise progress report on implementation status, coverage achieved, key constraints, and corrective actions taken.</p>	<p>15/07/2026</p>

<p>transition arrangements agreed with Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-assignment update including progress against targets, risks, operational challenges and recommended adjustments. • Weekly situation reports submitted (email with bullet points to be shared weekly) • Monthly progress report 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced implementation monitoring with updated completion forecasts for priority systems. • AuaStart transition and sustainability plan finalized, including roles, maintenance needs and cost estimates. • Updated contingency planning and emergency stock status. • Weekly situation reports submitted (email with bullet points to be shared weekly) • Monthly progress report. 	<p>Deliverable 5 – Technical Update Concise progress report on implementation status, coverage achieved, key constraints, and corrective actions taken.</p>	<p>18/08/2026</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct targeted follow-up visits to priority sites to assess sustainability and outstanding gaps. • Final verification of completed works and 	<p>Deliverable 6 – End-of-assignment report summarizing achievements, challenges, lessons learned, and recommendations for follow-up.</p>	<p>30/09/2026</p>

<p>functionality of rehabilitated systems (including water quality compliance).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AquaStart handover and operational note finalized. • Weekly situation reports submitted (email with bullet points to be shared weekly) • Final report summarizing results achieved, systems rehabilitated, population reached, key lessons learned and recommendations for recovery and preparedness. • Handover note and continuity recommendations for UNICEF and Government include lessons learned. 		
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Payment Schedule:

Payment will be made on submission and acceptance of deliverables. UNICEF reserves the right to withhold payment in case the deliverables submitted are not up to the required standard or in case of delays in submitting the deliverables on the part of the consultant.

Important Notes

- Individuals engaged under a consultancy or individual contract will not be considered “staff members” under the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and UNICEF’s policies and procedures and will not be entitled to benefits provided therein (such as leave entitlements and medical insurance coverage). Their conditions of service will be governed by their contract and the General Conditions of Contracts for the Services of Consultants and Individual Contractors. Consultants and individual contractors are responsible for determining their tax liabilities and for the payment of any taxes and/or duties, in accordance with local or other applicable laws.
- The selected candidate is solely responsible for ensuring that the health insurance (and visa if applicable) required to perform the duties of the contract are valid for the entire period of the contract. Selected candidates are subject to confirmation of fully-vaccinated status against SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) with a World Health Organization (WHO)-endorsed vaccine, which must be met prior to taking up the assignment.

It does not apply to consultants who will work remotely and are not expected to work on or visit UNICEF premises, programme delivery locations or directly interact with communities UNICEF works with, nor to travel to perform functions for UNICEF for the duration of their consultancy contracts.

- UNICEF offers reasonable accommodation for consultants with disabilities. This may include, for example, accessible software, travel assistance for missions or personal attendants. We encourage you to disclose your disability during your application in case you need reasonable accommodation during the selection process and afterwards in your assignment.

**QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE / EXPERIENCE/ COMPETENCIES
(CORE/TECHNICAL/FUNCTIONAL) / LANGUAGE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE ASSIGNMENT**

- **Education:**
 - A bachelor's degree is a must in subjects/ areas of WASH e.g. Health Promotion or Education, Civil or Public Health Engineering, Public Health (MPH), Environmental Health or any other related qualification
 - An advanced university degree qualification is desirable in the same subjects/ areas
 - **Work Experience:**
 - At least ten years of direct WASH emergency experience, at least four of which would be based in the field at a Team Leader/WASH programme management level.
 - A minimum of 5 years of experience responding to recovery of an emergency.
 - A minimum of 8 years of experience with either the UN and/or NGO.
 - Previous experience with UNICEF Mozambique.
 - Sound understanding of the WASH sector in Mozambique.
 - **Language Requirements:**
 - Fluent in Portuguese, spoken and written.
 - Knowledge of the local language in the project area will be an advantage.
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