

Climate Change Technical Support for Asia Region

Agency:	Caritas Australia Limited	Location:	Remote
Key Contact:	Ranmal Samarawickrama, Asia Associate Director	Contract Period:	March-September 2024

1. Organisational Background

Caritas Australia is the Catholic agency for international humanitarian relief and development in Australia. Through relationships with the Church, partners and communities in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and Australia, Caritas Australia helps to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

Our programs promote the good of every person regardless of their religious, political or cultural beliefs. We envisage a world in which children, women and men most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice are agents of their own change and architects of their own development.

Our commitment to safeguarding

At Caritas Australia, we recognise the personal dignity and rights of all people, especially children and vulnerable adults towards whom we have a special responsibility. If you are offered this position, you will be required to undergo relevant background checks, including police and reference checks.

You will also be required to sign our Code of Conduct, which includes a section on Professional Behaviour Standards for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults, as well as to abide by our safeguarding policies.

Our commitment to diversity

At Caritas Australia, we support an inclusive and diverse workforce. In particular, we encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants for all advertised positions.

2. Project Background and Context

Climate change is a global challenge that disproportionately affects the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world. It threatens the lives and livelihoods of millions of people who depend on natural resources for their survival and well-being. Climate change also exacerbates existing inequalities, conflicts and disasters, and undermines human rights and dignity.

Caritas Australia has a long history of supporting communities in Asia to respond to the impacts of climate change and build resilience. Caritas Australia recognises that climate change is not only an environmental issue, but also a social justice issue that requires solidarity, action and advocacy. Caritas Australia supports the calls of Pope Francis and the Caritas Internationalis Laudato Si' Action Platform to achieve integral ecology and care for our common home.

Caritas Australia is currently designing two projects in Asia that aim to enhance the resilience and adaptive capacity of communities facing the impacts of climate change. The projects are located in Timor Leste and Cambodia, and involve multiple partners and stakeholders. The projects are expected to start implementation between July and October 2024 and run for five years.

In addition to these specific projects, Caritas Australia seeks to strengthen its overall climate change advisory capacity and support in the Asia region. Caritas Australia recognises the need to integrate climate change considerations into all its programs and operations, as well as to engage in policy

dialogue and advocacy on climate change issues at the national, regional and global levels. Caritas Australia also aims to foster learning and knowledge sharing on climate change among its staff, partners and communities, and to collaborate with other Caritas agencies and networks on climate change initiatives.

3. Purpose, Scope and Specific Objectives

The purpose of this consultancy is to provide climate change advisory and technical support to Caritas Australia and its partners in the Asia region. The consultancy will assist Caritas Australia and its partners to design climate-resilient and adaptive projects that align with Caritas Australia's policies and standards, as well as the needs and priorities of the target communities and stakeholders. The consultancy will also represent Caritas Australia at relevant DFAT meetings and events on climate change, and support the development of a comprehensive proposal for future climate change funding opportunities in the region.

The specific objectives of the consultancy are:

- To review and provide feedback on draft data collection tools and methods for primary data collection as part of project design, ensuring that they adequately identify the climate change risks, vulnerabilities and opportunities for the target communities and stakeholders.
- To provide remote and in-person guidance during theory of change and project logic development stages project design, ensuring that project interventions adequately address the climate change issues and are informed by climate change good practice and evidence.
- To review and provide feedback on draft project proposals and implementation plans, ensuring that they reflect the climate change analysis and incorporate relevant climate change indicators, assumptions and risks.
- To represent Caritas Australia at selected DFAT meetings and events on climate change in the region, and to communicate and coordinate with other Caritas agencies and networks on climate change initiatives and advocacy.
- To support the development of a strategic and coherent proposal for future climate change funding opportunities in the region, based on a thorough mapping and analysis of the existing and potential climate change projects, partners and donors in the region.
- Other representation duties on behalf of Caritas Australia as needed. Specific TORs for these representation tasks will be shared and agreed on a case-by-case basis.

4. Scope and Methodology

The consultancy will cover the period from March to September 2024. The consultancy will involve a mix of remote and in-person support, subject to the availability of the consultant and project teams, as well as the flexibility of travel conditions. The expected level of effort for the consultancy is a maximum of 20 days. Specific time commitments for individual tasks will be negotiated in advance.

The consultant will work closely with the Caritas Australia Asia DMEL Lead, country office staff, Asia Associate Director and the partner organisations in Timor Leste and Cambodia. The consultant will also liaise with the Caritas Australia Impact Team and other relevant staff as needed.

5. Accountability

The consultant will report into Ranmal Samarawickrama, Asia Associate Director, with additional

reporting to Tim Morris, Asia DMEL Lead.

6. Expected Outcomes and Outputs

Phase 1 – March-April: Primary data collection processes identify climate change risks, vulnerabilities and opportunities

- Feedback on the draft data collection tools and methods for Timor Leste and Cambodia project designs

Phase 2 – April-May: Project interventions address climate change issues and are informed by climate change good practice and evidence

- Guidance and facilitation during the theory of change and project logic development workshops for Timor Leste (late April) and Cambodia project design (late May – TBC)

Phase 3 – May-September:

- Feedback on the draft project proposals for Timor Leste (May-June) and Cambodia (July-September) project designs

Ongoing – As required:

Enhanced engagement and collaboration between Caritas Australia and key stakeholders, including DFAT

- A report on the DFAT meetings and events, and the communication and coordination with other Caritas agencies and networks on climate change in the region

A comprehensive and strategic regional climate change program proposal that builds on the strengths, gaps and opportunities of existing and potential climate change projects, partners and donors in the region.

- A draft proposal for a regional climate change program
- A finalised proposal incorporating feedback from Caritas Australia stakeholders

Other possible activities identified during the course of the consultancy may be discussed.

7. Payment

A daily rate up to a maximum of AU\$700 per day will be paid based on invoices submitted by the consultant on a monthly basis. The consultant will be required to track hours spent and invoice at the end of the month.

8. Timeline

It is envisaged that all work will be completed by September 2024.

9. Selection Criteria

This work is considered as a surge role responding to a staffing shortage - as such there is an expediency with initiating this consultancy, with a consultant who has proven to deliver quality and timely work through the Caritas Internationalis confederation. The potential consultant should meet the following criteria:

- Have previous experience working within the Caritas Internationalis confederation, and demonstrate alignment with its ethos and values.
- Have a relevant degree or equivalent experience in humanitarian or development work, with a focus on climate change.
- Have excellent communication and facilitation skills, and the ability to work with diverse stakeholders, including affected communities, local partners, and international actors.
- Have proven experience in producing high-quality reports, briefs, and recommendations based on evidence and best practices, using clear and concise language.
- Have the availability and flexibility to work remotely and travel to the field as required, adhering to COVID-19 protocols and security guidelines.
- Have the ability to deliver the expected outputs within the agreed timeframe and budget.

10. Application Procedure

Please send an Expression of Interest briefly outlining your suitability for this piece of work, and addressing the selection criteria.

Expressions of Interest are due Friday 22 March 2024. Submissions will be assessed on a rolling basis and candidates may be selected for consideration before the closing date. Please send any queries regarding the consultancy, and all Expressions of Interest to Tim Morris, Asia DMEL Lead, via Tim.Morris@caritas.org.au.