BASELINE STUDY

Terms of Reference

Voices For Just Climate Action - Global Programme
A. INTRODUCTION

This Terms of Reference serves as a guideline for a baseline study for the Voices for Just Climate Action program. The consultancy will be undertaken as part of the Global Program activities. The Voices for Just Climate Action (VCA) program is being implemented by a consortium led by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Netherlands, and other partners including SouthSouthNorth, Akina Mama wa Afrika, Slum Dwellers International, Fundación Avina and Hivos, under the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ five-year strategic partnership: “Power of Voices”. The program aims to ensure that by 2025, local civil society and underrepresented groups will have taken on a central role as creators, facilitators and advocates of innovative climate solutions.

B. BACKGROUND

Climate change has been stated as a global threat, a race we are losing but a race we can win\(^1\) if we adopt climate actions that can propel us to climate justice. Despite being a global challenge, climate change does not pose similar threats and burdens for all. For those already marginalized and dealing with several inequalities, climate change only compounds pre-existing challenges. Inequalities bred by race and ethnicity, class, disability, gender, and sexuality exist on a spectrum and intersect, influencing access to power and resources. There is therefore a need to highlight the glaring effects of climate change, including its structural and systemic causes, and the intersectionality of its effects, and then propose progressive alternatives. The concern that achieving just climate action could be impeded by the harrowing effects of gender inequality and the continued exclusion of the voices of those most affected, particularly those from the Global South in the conversations to address climate change and its effects cannot be overlooked.

The vision for the program is a world where civil society is heard and respected as it influences & co-creates locally relevant, inclusive and fundable climate solutions that deliver real benefits to people & nature as part of local and global responses to the climate crisis. This will be done through mutual capacity building, working closely with CSOs, grassroots organizations and private sector partners.

This Terms of Reference seeks to appoint a consultancy to conduct a baseline study, further guided by the Global Programme Theory of Change (ToC) and outcome indicators (see attached annexes).

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C. OVERALL OBJECTIVES

The baseline study is intended to analyse the current status and to understand the starting point of key elements of the work to guide the adaptation of the ToC and analyse the progress over time. This will enable project indicators at outcome level to be tracked and understood. The baseline report is intended to cover the period 1 January - 31 June 2021, and include inputs from a select number of key civil society stakeholders (individual responses or from a joint validation session).

D. SPECIFIC COMPONENTS

The baseline consists of two parts. The first, general, part covers five topics that are of particular interest to the Ministry and will be collected by all regional teams, including the Global Program. The second section will focus on the specific indicators the global program has chosen. The indicator-specific baseline information is expected to cover some similar topics to the general section, including analysis of power and barriers to inclusion of excluded groups in global decision-making and events. The general section is expected to be more high-level, while the indicator baselines are expected to go into more specific analysis linked to identified key actors such as the UNFCCC.

The baselines on each of the five topics below should be summarized in max. 1-3 pages per topic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Questions to address in the baseline:</th>
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</table>
| 1. GEDI               | - What are the dimensions of (gender) inequality, marginalization and discrimination that affect structurally excluded groups at the global level?  
                        | - What are the social, legal or cultural taboos or obstacles that might limit access for different groups and individuals in society (related to the program)? Thus; which specific barriers need to be addressed to enhance their participation at the global level?  
                        | In this section the GEDI topic is only expected to provide a high-level overview, while the indicator section is expected to go into more detail on specific events. |
| 2. Civic Space        | - What is the state of affairs regarding civic space globally? International intimidation and reprisals? Inclusiveness of global institutions?  
                        | - Digital opportunities and threats, civic space online and digital safety.  
                        | - Media narratives and coverage of civil society and public debates. |

2 Civic refers to the space – online and offline, legally and in practice - where citizens exercise their rights to freedom of association, assembly and expression
### Global Programme: Voices for Just Climate Action

**3. Youth**
- Participation of youth, including position, gender, access, obstacles and opportunities at the global level.

**4. Climate**
- What are threats and opportunities generated by climate change at the global level?
- How do these differ or remain the same between different groups and regions, e.g., across the Global North and Global South?

**5. Stress factors**
- Stressors particular to COVID-19 outbreak that affect stakeholders and the program at the global level.
- Potential conflict sensitivities (identify risks).

In recognition of the fact that women are disproportionately affected by the climate crisis compared to their male counterparts, the baseline study and analysis should draw specific attention to women, and especially indigenous women.

The second part of the baseline with focus on collecting baseline information for the programme specific indicators chosen below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global outcome</th>
<th>Outcome indicator(s):</th>
<th>Baseline information collected per indicator:</th>
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</table>
| **1. Effective and collective participation of local civil society voices in global climate decision making.**
| Quantity and quality of official contributions of local representatives to global events.
| Contributions from local representatives are taken into account or acted upon in global events, whether through the official event outputs or decisions.
| # of local representatives reporting increased capacity to contribute to global events.
| What is the current level of participation of local Southern organizations in global frameworks and conventions, in particular the UNFCCC? What forms does this participation take? Which organisations are involved? Who do they claim to represent? How and where do they engage? What strategies are used - collaborative or conflictual? What barriers prevent them from participating? What is the current capacity of local representatives (whether individuals or CSOs) to participate in global frameworks and conventions? What capacities are in need of strengthening? What is the current appetite of local representatives (whether individuals or CSOs) to participate in global frameworks and conventions? (continued on next page) |

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3 Defined as individuals aged 15-24
### This indicator could be disaggregated and include representatives and organisations that are:
- Youth, women, urban, creatives or Indigenous Peoples or their CSOs and the reasons why they participate or not.

| 2. Different civil society movements are connected and amplified, resulting in joint calls for climate action. | # number of joint calls for climate action from different movements |
| Changes in the nature and quality of collaboration among different movements and organisations. | Who are the main actors trying to influence climate change topics and institutions? |
| | What is their current level of engagement and ‘speaking out’ of non-climate movements on climate change topics and institutions, such as the UNFCCC? |
| | The analysis should include different movements such as youth, women, artists, digital, urban and indigenous groups. |
| | To what degree are different movements already connected or working together? |
| | What, if any, are the causes of fragmentation or non-cooperation? |

| 3. Supportive conditions and regulations of international funds for local climate action finance. | # of climate finance mechanisms or funds adopted/improved for financing local climate action. |
| Quality of improvements to existing climate finance mechanisms and funds. | To what extent do existing climate funds support opportunities for locally shaped solutions? |
| | Which climate funds are the least supportive of local solutions? |
| | Analysis should include current mechanisms of: |
| | - The Green Climate Fund |
| | - The World Bank |

| 4. New global funds for local climate action created, ensuring local solutions are supported. | New fund is launched that reflects lessons from past funds and provides better quality finance to support local solutions local solutions. |
| Additional finance through new fund is committed for locally shaped solutions | What is the current appetite from MoFA and related actors to support and set up a new fund for locally shaped solutions? |
| | Current level of climate finance that directly finances local climate solutions |
E. METHODOLOGY

The consortium partners will select a consultant/institution to conduct the baseline survey. The selected consultant will be required to prepare a research methodology. The baseline study will be requested to apply both quantitative and qualitative data collection methods and a desktop document review.

The consultant team will use project documents and build on the content that is already available in the program proposal. Once selected, the consortium partners will provide the documents. Secondary data sources are expected to be used for further analysis.

F. DELIVERABLES

The consultant is expected to produce the following:

1. Inception report
2. A draft baseline study report for review and validation by the consortium partners and relevant stakeholders
3. A final version of the baseline study report
4. A PowerPoint presentation of the study and findings

G. TIME FRAME

The assignment is expected to last 15 working days from the date of signing the contract of engagement. The assignment should be completed no later than end-August.

H. QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE IDEAL CONSULTANT

The individual should hold a Master's degree or higher in Development Studies, Climate or Development Finance, Gender Studies, Climate Change Science, or a related field from a recognized university.
I. EXPERIENCE, SKILLS, AND OTHER ATTRIBUTES

- At least 5 years of relevant experience in either Monitoring and Evaluation or Research related to climate change
- Specific experience in conducting baseline studies is advantageous
- Fluency in English is required
- Knowledge of recent global developments related to climate justice movements and climate finance
- Demonstrated ability to complete complex assignments in a timely manner and deliver quality results

J. APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be sent by email to ematser@hivos.org and lgroennebaek@wwf.nl by close of business on 26 July 2021. Your application should include:

- A cover letter stating your motivation and summarizing relevant experience
- Technical and financial proposal
- Applicant(s) profile and relevant CV(s)
- Contact details of at least two independent referees with in-depth and proven knowledge of the applicant’s expertise in the field.
A world where civil society is heard & respected as it influences & co-creates locally relevant, inclusive and fundable climate solutions that deliver real benefits to people & nature as part of local and global responses to the climate crisis.

VCA vision

Diverse civil society is collaborating on a shared agenda and co-creating scaled, locally shaped climate solutions that benefit people and nature.

Amplified citizen's voices shape public debate on the just transition to low-carbon and climate resilient futures.

Civil society contributions to climate solutions are considered in policy, practice & budget allocations in our programme countries.

Global outcomes

Amplifying local voices at global level, creating partnerships that can't be established at local/regional level and pushing for better finance conditions and new funds at global level.

Intermediate outcomes (Milestones)

- By 2023, capacity is strengthened of local civil society representatives and local VCA partners to be effective ambassadors, strategists and spokespersons at global level.
- By 2024 (X-number) of youth movements are included in decision-making councils to advocate for intergenerational justice in climate decision-making processes.
- By 2022, new (or complementary) fund sketched with support of key players like Dutch MoFA, GCA and private sector CEOs, showing that local solutions have lasting and relevant impact.
- By 2024, political commitment for the establishment of the new fund with an action plan for making it operational.
- By 2025, launch of new fund

Effective and collective participation of local civil society voices in global climate decision making.

Different civil society movements are connected and amplified, resulting in joint calls for climate action.

Supportive conditions and regulations of international funds for local climate action finance.

New global funds for local climate action created, ensuring local solutions are supported.

Global focus

Global outcomes

- Financing conditions of the Green Climate Fund are more favorable to local/smaller solutions.
- Climate resolutions such as at COP26 and the global stocktaking in 2023 include calls and targets for financing locally shaped climate solutions.
- By 2024, local communities' climate action resource needs are informing World Bank's funding.
- Space for local civil society actors to participate at global level has opened up, supported by Alliance partners' position as international CSOs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities pillars 1-4 (general)</th>
<th>Activities pillar 1 (voice)</th>
<th>Activities pillar 2 (movements)</th>
<th>Activities pillar 3 (existing funds)</th>
<th>Activities pillar 4 (new funds)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Build a portfolio/ gather examples</td>
<td>• Organise knowledge sessions</td>
<td>• Identify best/successful interventions of movements</td>
<td>• Connect and liaise with other NGOs globally</td>
<td>• Work with MoFA, GCA, and large finance actors</td>
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<td>• Create strong narratives</td>
<td>• Train ambassadors, representatives and local spokespersons</td>
<td>• Identify needs of movements for global engagement</td>
<td>• Connect with WRI and IIED community networks</td>
<td>• Focus on GCA action track</td>
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<td>• Work with media</td>
<td>• Facilitate peer to peer learning/exchange events</td>
<td>• Identify and connect manifestos</td>
<td>• Review GCF, WB and other funds policies and scan for opportunities.</td>
<td>• Draft a new (or complementary) fund</td>
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<td>• Reach out through side events, policy briefs etc.</td>
<td>• Open and citizens-led data gathering</td>
<td>• Facilitate engagement/ participation of the youth, women and indigenous people in climate events</td>
<td>• Engage and contribute to NGO Finance working UNFCCC by CAN</td>
<td>• Get CEOs supporting</td>
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<td>• Facilitate engagement of local voices at global events</td>
<td>• Support creation and operation of new, unusual and disruptive coalitions</td>
<td>• Mapping of NDCs with RTs</td>
<td>• Lobby for highest possible political commitment (president)</td>
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<td>• Capacity training events</td>
<td>• Youth and women leadership training</td>
<td>• Prepare and influence global stocktaking (2023 UNFCCC)</td>
<td>• Get a commitment for 100M Euro</td>
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<td>• Connect to (youth) think tanks</td>
<td>• Create/ showcase innovative finance mechanism</td>
<td>• By 2025, launch of new fund</td>
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<td>• Connect the various initiatives (capacity sharing)</td>
<td>• CBD COP 15, China</td>
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