

# Terms of Reference for Study

## Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA)

May 2026

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# 1. PROJECT SUMMARY

<b>Type of study</b>	Child - Focused Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA)
<b>Name of the project</b>	Integrated Child Protection and Civil Society Strengthening for Durable Solutions and Resilient Communities in Iraq
<b>Project Start and End dates</b>	01 January 2026 to 31 December 2026
<b>Project duration</b>	1 Years
<b>Project locations:</b>	Ninewa - Iraq
<b>Thematic areas</b>	Child protection, Youth, and Climate resilience.
<b>Donor</b>	DANIDA

## 2. INTRODUCTION

This Terms of Reference outlines a consultancy to conduct a participatory and child-centred Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA) in Iraq using Save the Children's Child-Focused CVCA framework and tools.

Climate change is increasingly compounding existing humanitarian and development challenges in Iraq, including protracted displacement, fragility in governance systems, economic pressures, and weakened child protection and social service systems. Within the project "Integrated Child Protection and Civil Society Strengthening for Durable Solutions and Resilient Communities in Iraq," climate risks further undermine safe reintegration, social cohesion, and the well-being of vulnerable children, particularly children on the move, returnees, and marginalized groups. Without adequate child-focused and gender-sensitive solutions, climate hazards are expected to exacerbate inequalities, increase protection risks, and strain already limited service delivery systems, affecting children's mental health, safety, and long-term development.

While the impacts of climate change, such as water scarcity, environmental degradation, and increased pressures on livelihoods are already evident in Iraq, there remains limited localized, child-focused evidence on how these risks affect children's protection, Education, well-being, and access to services. This is particularly critical given the project's focus on strengthening community resilience, supporting reintegration, and enhancing locally led child protection systems.

This study will therefore examine how climate change interacts with pre-existing vulnerabilities to affect children's well-being, protection outcomes, and access to essential services. It will explore how climate-related shocks influence key sectors relevant to the project, including child protection, Education, MHPSS, livelihoods, and community-based services, as well as how these challenges impact reintegration and durable solutions pathways for displaced and returnee children. The CVCA will also analyze community coping mechanisms, local capacities, governance structures, and priority adaptation needs.

The CVCA will combine secondary data analysis with primary qualitative and quantitative research, ensuring meaningful participation of children, caregivers, youth groups, civil society actors, and local authorities at both national and sub-national levels. Special emphasis will be placed on child and youth engagement, gender dynamics, and the inclusion of marginalized groups, in line with the project's localization and participation objectives.

The findings will generate a robust, context-specific evidence base to inform programme design, community action plans, and policy engagement. It will directly support the integration of climate resilience into child protection systems and services, strengthen community-led adaptation practices, and guide Save the Children's programming, advocacy, and child-centred climate resilience strategies in Iraq.

### 3. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Iraq in 2026 continues to face a complex humanitarian-development nexus shaped by the legacy of protracted conflict, large-scale displacement, economic fragility, and environmental pressures. While significant progress has been made toward stabilization, millions of people, particularly children and vulnerable population remain exposed to overlapping risks that undermine their safety, well-being, and long-term development. Within the framework of the project “Integrated Child Protection and Civil Society Strengthening for Durable Solutions and Resilient Communities in Iraq,” these challenges are further compounded by climate change, which is emerging as a critical driver of vulnerability and instability.

Displacement remains a key feature of Iraq’s context. Although many families have returned to their areas of origin, large numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, and children on the move continue to face barriers to safe and sustainable reintegration. Return movements are often directed toward communities with limited infrastructure, weak service delivery systems, and constrained livelihood opportunities, placing additional strain on already fragile social systems.

Children in these contexts are particularly vulnerable to protection risks, including family separation, child labour, early marriage, and psychosocial distress.

Economic pressures further exacerbate these vulnerabilities. Many households struggle with limited income opportunities, rising costs of basic services, and inadequate access to social protection. These constraints reduce families’ capacity to meet essential needs and increase reliance on negative coping mechanisms, directly affecting children’s access to education, protection, and well-being. Such dynamics undermine the sustainability of reintegration efforts and highlight the need for integrated, resilience-focused interventions.

Climate change is increasingly recognized as a major threat multiplier in Iraq, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities and placing additional pressure on natural resources, livelihoods, and service systems. The country is highly exposed to climate hazards including recurrent droughts, water scarcity, rising temperatures, and land degradation. These risks are particularly acute in both federal Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, where declining water availability and environmental stress are affecting livelihoods, agricultural productivity, and access to basic services.

Water scarcity is one of the most pressing challenges. Reduced river flows, groundwater depletion, and inefficient water management systems are limiting access to safe and reliable water, particularly in underserved and displacement-affected areas. These constraints directly impact WASH conditions, increasing public health risks and placing disproportionate burdens on children and caregivers. In parallel, climate-related pressures on livelihoods are contributing to income loss, food insecurity, and increased vulnerability among already marginalized communities.

Climate impacts are also affecting the systems that support children’s development and protection. Disruptions to service delivery are intensified by environmental stressors.

Schools and community spaces may face interruptions due to extreme weather conditions, water shortages, or competing household priorities, increasing the risk of dropout and reduced participation, particularly among girls and vulnerable groups. At the same time, heightened economic and environmental stress contributes to increased protection risks, including exploitation and harmful coping strategies.

Iraq's institutional and governance systems continue to face capacity constraints in effectively addressing these interconnected challenges. While national and local actors are increasingly engaged in strengthening child protection systems and advancing durable solutions, gaps remain in integrating climate risk considerations into planning, service delivery, and policy frameworks. This underscores the importance of building evidence and strengthening coordination across sectors, including child protection, climate resilience, and local governance.

In this context, climate change, child protection risks, service delivery gaps, and durable solutions are deeply interconnected. Understanding these linkages—particularly from the perspectives of children, youth, and affected communities is essential for designing effective, inclusive, and sustainable interventions. A child-centred Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA) will provide critical insights into how climate risks affect children's lives, coping mechanisms, and access to services, while identifying community capacities and priorities for adaptation.

## 4. SCOPE OF STUDY

### 4.1 Purpose, Objectives, and Scope

This study will be conducted to inform Save the Children's climate resilience programming in Iraq at a time when climate stress is increasingly layered onto the effects of protracted displacement, economic fragility, limited service delivery capacity, and evolving governance systems. Within the framework of the project "Integrated Child Protection and Civil Society Strengthening for Durable Solutions and Resilient Communities in Iraq," the study will provide critical insights and an evidence base to support a multi-stakeholder approach aimed at addressing root causes of vulnerability and advancing integrated climate risk management. This includes pathways ranging from anticipatory action (AA), early warning systems (EWS), and child-centred weather and climate information services to climate-resilient services for children, strengthened adaptive capacities through locally led adaptation, and the promotion of child-sensitive climate policies and systems. It will also contribute to building a strong investment case for sustainable, locally led climate resilience programming.

Climate change is increasingly exacerbating risks for children and their families in Iraq, particularly for displaced populations, returnees, and marginalized communities. The primary purpose of this consultancy is to undertake an in-depth, participatory Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA) that generates a detailed, localized understanding of climate risks, vulnerabilities, and adaptive capacities affecting children, their families, and communities. Through a multi-stakeholder and community-driven approach, the study will directly engage children, caregivers, youth groups, and

marginalized populations to identify climate risks, understand differentiated vulnerabilities, and explore locally appropriate adaptation strategies. This will ensure that children's perspectives and lived experiences are central to the analysis and that future interventions are grounded in community priorities and realities.

The study will examine how climate shocks in Iraq, such as drought, water scarcity, extreme temperatures, and environmental degradation affect the lives and well-being of children and their families, including their access to essential services such as child protection, MHPSS, education, and community-based support systems. It will further analyse how these climate risks interact with existing systemic challenges, including displacement dynamics, service delivery gaps, governance constraints, and socio-economic inequalities, to compound vulnerabilities and shape communities' capacity to cope, adapt, and achieve sustainable reintegration. The study will also ensure forward-looking relevance by linking current risks and impacts with climate trends and scenarios to inform solutions across short-, medium-, and long-term time horizons.

In addition to identifying risks, the study will:

- Generate a comprehensive understanding of existing coping mechanisms and adaptive capacities at household, community, and institutional levels, including local knowledge systems and early warning practices.
- Analyse how climate risks and impacts differ across population groups (including girls and boys of different age groups, persons with disabilities, displaced and returnee populations, and other marginalized groups), highlighting barriers to equitable access to services and protection outcomes.
- Examine how current responses and interventions particularly in child protection, MHPSS, education and community-based programming align with locally identified priorities and the extent to which they strengthen children's resilience and support durable solutions.
- Provide an overview of investments and resource allocation relevant to climate-sensitive and child-focused sectors (where feasible), identifying key gaps, barriers, and opportunities for more effective, integrated, and equitable programming.
- Identify priority actions and sectors with the greatest potential to strengthen children's climate resilience, including key pathways for integrated climate risk management, spanning:
  - Anticipatory Action (AA) and Early Warning Systems (EWS);
  - Child-centred, inclusive weather and climate information services;
  - Climate-resilient basic and social services for children;
  - Strengthening adaptive capacities through locally led adaptation;
  - Child-sensitive climate governance, policies, and systems.

- Strengthen a multi-stakeholder approach by mapping relevant actors, institutions, and coordination mechanisms across humanitarian, development, and climate sectors, and identifying opportunities for collaboration, localization, and system strengthening.
- Provide a strong investment and evidence case for sustainable development through locally led adaptation, highlighting cost-effective, scalable, and child-centred solutions that reduce long-term climate, protection, and reintegration risks.

The study will produce actionable, evidence-based recommendations to guide Save the Children's strategic programming in Iraq. This includes informing the design of integrated and child-centred climate resilience interventions, strengthening community-led action planning, and supporting future programme development and policy engagement. It will also contribute to strengthening the evidence base for advocacy, supporting national and global commitments on child-focused climate action, and informing broader frameworks such as anticipatory action planning, climate risk profiling, and durable solutions strategies.

In addition, the study will be guided by Save the Children's Child-Centred CVCA Framework and its structured methodology, ensuring that the process moves beyond data collection toward participatory analysis, validation, and action-oriented outcomes. The CVCA will serve not only as an evidence-generation exercise but also as a foundation for locally led adaptation processes, enabling communities to actively identify, prioritize, and shape climate resilience actions that are inclusive, context-specific, and sustainable.

### **Study Governance and Refinement**

The study team will be required to consult closely with the Save the Children team and the Consultant at the inception phase to further refine and validate the study questions, methodology, and tools.

### **Scope of the Study**

This study will conduct a Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (CVCA) to develop a localized and in-depth understanding of climate risks and their impacts on children and child-focused sectors. It will explore how different population groups, including children (girls and boys at different age groups and abilities), caregivers, and marginalized communities, experience, perceive, and respond to climate-related shocks and stresses.

### The assessment will:

- Identify key climate risks and their impacts on services and child wellbeing.
- Analyze community-level vulnerabilities and capacities, including differentiated risks across gender and social groups.
- Document existing coping and adaptation practices, including local systems and knowledge and linking emerging themes with entry points in existing structures, policy and defining barriers and opportunities.
- Assess gaps, priorities, and opportunities to strengthen child-centered climate resilience programming - Attention should be given to both immediate, medium to longer term risks and impacts on children's wellbeing, development, and future opportunities.

The findings will directly inform climate resilience programming, and climate resilience integrated in education and protection, food systems and livelihoods, ensuring that interventions are context-specific, inclusive, and responsive to the needs and capacities of affected communities.

## 4.2 Intended Audience and Use of the Study

The primary intended audience of this study is the Save the Children Iraq Country Office teams, as well as global technical advisors. Secondary users include humanitarian partners, donors, local authorities, especially the Ministry of Environment, Planning and MoLSA, and the wider international development and humanitarian research community.

The findings will be used to:

- Inform the design and strengthening of climate-resilient and child-centered programming in fragile and conflict-affected settings.
- Enhance integration of climate risk analysis and adaptation strategies across programming and sectoral interventions.
- Support evidence-based advocacy on climate vulnerability, service gaps, and the disproportionate impacts on children and marginalized groups.
- Guide to prioritization of geographic targeting and identification of the most vulnerable populations.
- Strengthen anticipatory action, resilience planning, and adaptive programming approaches.
- Improve understanding of community-level climate risks, vulnerabilities, and coping and adaptation capacities, including child- and gender-differentiated impacts.
- Contribute to future program piloting, refinement, scale-up, and integration of climate-resilience across sectors.

Findings will also be shared with communities, caregivers, and children in accessible, inclusive, and child-friendly formats to ensure transparency, accountability, and meaningful participation of affected populations in line with accountability to affected populations (AAP) principles.

Stakeholder	Further information
Project donor	DANIDA
Primary implementing organisation	Save the Children [(Project team; Program Development, Quality Improvement team; Advocacy and Communications team)]
Implementing partners	SEDO
Government stakeholders	DoLSA, Directorate of Environment
Community groups	CPCs
Beneficiaries	Children and adults involved in the program/project/s and the study
International development/humanitarian research community	TBD

### Dissemination and Accountability Approach

Findings will be shared with Save the Children project teams, CO technical advisors, implementing partners, relevant government line ministries, community representatives, and donors supporting the intervention (including GCF). The study outputs will be used to strengthen adaptive programming, improve targeting, and enhance the design and effectiveness of the projects.

Specifically, the findings will:

- Strengthen evidence-based decision-making for climate-sensitive programming.
- Improve understanding climate risks, vulnerabilities, and community coping mechanisms.
- Enhance integration of resilience and anticipatory approaches into ongoing and future programming.
- Support accountability to affected populations by ensuring community perspectives are reflected in programming decisions.
- Inform future scale-up, adaptation, and refinement of interventions.

The study team will be required to clearly outline how the primary audience will be engaged throughout the study process (including inception, validation, and dissemination phases), and how findings will be communicated to each stakeholder group. Emphasis should be placed on ensuring that feedback to communities, caregivers, and children is delivered in accessible, inclusive, and child-friendly formats, using appropriate communication channels that respect age, literacy, and protection considerations.

## Use of Findings for Adaptation Planning

The CVCA process will aim to inform future adaptation planning by identifying priority actions and potential pathways for strengthening child-centred climate resilience across sectors.

Where feasible, this will include:

- Identification and co-creation of short-, medium-, and long-term adaptation options
- Linkages to existing systems (education, WASH, DRR, early warning systems)
- Consideration of locally led and child-informed solutions

### 4.3 Key Study Questions

The study will be guided by a structured CVCA analytical framework organised around key thematic areas, including: climate hazards and trends, impacts on children, vulnerability drivers, existing capacities, institutional systems, and adaptation opportunities.

These questions will be further refined during the inception phase and adapted to specific CVCA tools (e.g., seasonal calendars, hazard mapping, vulnerability analysis, and community adaptation planning exercises).

Indicative Key Questions include:

- What are the key climate hazards and trends affecting children across the target governorates, and how are these expected to evolve?
- How do climate risks and vulnerabilities vary across seasons (e.g., drought periods, extreme heat, winter conditions), and how do these seasonal patterns affect children's wellbeing, access to services, and household coping strategies?
- What are the key seasonal stress periods for households and children (e.g., water scarcity, disease outbreaks, school disruption), and how are these changing over time?
- How do climate shocks impact children's access to WASH, education, health, and protection services?
- How do specific climate hazards (e.g., drought, heatwaves) translate into impacts on children through different pathways (e.g., water scarcity → health risks → school absenteeism → child labour)?
- Which groups of children (by gender, age, disability, displacement status) are most vulnerable and why?
- What coping strategies and adaptive capacities exist at household, community, and institutional levels?
- How do coping strategies vary across seasons, and to what extent do households rely on negative coping mechanisms affecting children (e.g., reduced food intake, school dropout, child labour)?
- What local knowledge, traditional practices, and informal systems are used by communities to anticipate, respond to, and adapt to climate risks?

- How effective are existing systems (e.g., early warning systems, DRM, service delivery) in protecting children?
- To what extent are essential service systems (WASH, education, health) resilient to climate shocks, and what are the key system-level bottlenecks?
- What are the key barriers and opportunities for strengthening child-centred climate resilience?
- What adaptation actions are communities already implementing, and how effective and sustainable are these efforts?
- What locally appropriate and child-informed adaptation actions can be prioritised?
- What are the priority adaptation actions identified by communities, including children, to strengthen resilience to climate risks?
- What opportunities exist to support community-led and child-informed adaptation planning and implementation?
- What are the key barriers (financial, institutional, social, technical) that limit the adoption and scaling of effective adaptation strategies?
- How do communities perceive future climate risks, and what are their priorities for building resilience over the short, medium, and long term?

## 5. STUDY METHODOLOGY

### 5.1 Study Design

This study will adopt a child-centred, participatory, non-experimental mixed-methods design grounded in Save the Children's CVCA methodology and aligned with the principles of Child-Centred Locally Led Adaptation (CCLLA).

The design will follow the structured CVCA process, including:

- Initial scoping and secondary data review (climate risks, systems, stakeholders)
- Formation and preparation of a multidisciplinary core team (including MEAL, climate, child protection, and local actors)
- Community entry and trust-building processes to ensure local ownership and inclusion
- Participatory data collection through community conversations
- Iterative analysis and sense-making involving the study team and local actors
- Validation of findings with communities and stakeholders
- Translation of findings into adaptation priorities and action-oriented recommendations

The analytical framework will be structured around key CVCA themes, including:

- Climate hazards and trends
- Impacts on children and services
- Vulnerability drivers (social, environmental, institutional)
- Existing capacities and coping mechanisms
- Institutional systems and governance
- Adaptation pathways and opportunities

## 5.2 Sampling

The study will apply a combination of purposive, stratified, and cluster sampling approaches to ensure adequate representation of key population groups across the selected governorate (Ninewa).

Indicative sampling methods include:

- **Household Survey:** Households will be selected across sampled districts within governorate, ensuring inclusion of vulnerable and marginalized groups.
- **Focus Group Discussions (FGDs):** Separate FGDs will be conducted for girls, boys, women, and men, with dedicated child consultations (8–10) participants per group).
- **Key Informant Interviews (KIIs):** Interviews will be conducted with key stakeholders, including community leaders, service providers, local authorities, and technical actors.

Sampling will be aligned with the CVCA approach to “Community Conversations,” emphasizing structured representation of different social groups through sub-group engagement, rather than relying solely on statistical representativeness.

This will include:

- Separate community discussion groups for children (disaggregated by age and gender), women, men, and vulnerable groups (e.g., persons with disabilities, IDPs, and returnees)
- Selection of communities based on climate risk exposure, vulnerability levels, accessibility, and the presence of local actors
- Flexibility to adapt sampling during fieldwork based on emerging findings and access constraints

## 5.3 Data Sources and Data Collection Methods / Tools

### 5.3.1 Community Conversations (Core CVCA Method)

The primary data collection approach will be structured Community Conversations, which are facilitated, participatory dialogues designed to explore climate risks, vulnerabilities, capacities, and adaptation priorities in an inclusive and child-centred manner.

These sessions will:

- Be conducted separately with different groups (children, women, men, youth, and vulnerable groups)
- Use participatory tools such as hazard mapping, seasonal calendars, impact chains, vulnerability matrices, and visioning exercises
- Create safe spaces for children and marginalized groups to express their perspectives
- Emphasize co-learning and joint analysis, rather than extractive data collection

### 5.3.2 Data Sources

The study will draw on both primary and secondary data sources, including:

- Existing climate risk profiles and environmental data.
- Government and partner reports, including climate and environmental data
- Community-level knowledge and lived experiences

Participatory tools will be selected and adapted based on the CVCA Framework and will include:

- Hazard and resource mapping
- Historical timelines and climate trend analysis
- Impact chain analysis (linking climate shocks to child outcomes)
- Vulnerability and capacity matrices
- Photovoice and child-friendly visual tools
- Future visioning and adaptation pathways exercises

### 5.3.3 Primary Data Collection Methods

#### 5.3.3.1 Child Consultations (FGDs)

Child-focused FGDs will be conducted across all targeted locations to ensure meaningful participation of children within the CVCA process.

These consultations will:

- Explore children's understanding of climate risks and their impacts on daily life, wellbeing, safety, and access to services
- Capture child-specific vulnerabilities and capacities, including differences by age and gender
- Identify children's perspectives on coping strategies and potential solutions

Participatory tools will include:

- Hazard mapping
- Vulnerability matrices
- Participatory visual methods (e.g. drawing, storytelling, and photovoice, where feasible)

#### 5.3.3.2 Household Survey

A structured household survey will be conducted across selected communities to:

- Quantify climate-related impacts at the household level
- Assess vulnerability, exposure, and coping strategies
- Capture socio-economic and demographic characteristics

#### 5.3.3.3 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

KIIs will be conducted with stakeholders across targeted locations, including:

- Community leaders and representatives
- Local authorities and service providers
- Humanitarian and development actors

These interviews will provide insights into:

- Institutional capacity, governance, and response systems
- Existing adaptation and risk reduction initiatives
- Gaps, challenges, and opportunities

#### 5.3.3.4 Additional Methods

- Direct observation of environmental and community conditions
- Desk review and institutional analysis, including early warning systems, climate information services, and existing adaptation initiatives relevant to each governorate

#### 5.3.4 Data Management and Analysis

Data analysis will follow a structured CVCA sense-making approach, combining:

- Thematic analysis of qualitative data
- Descriptive statistical analysis of quantitative data
- Triangulation across methods and locations
- Participatory sense-making sessions involving field teams and local actors

Analysis will explicitly examine:

- Differentiated impacts on children across gender, age, and vulnerability status
- Interactions between climate risks and socio-economic and institutional factors
- Existing resilience capacities and gaps
- System-level constraints and opportunities (e.g., governance, services, early warning systems)

## 5.4 Ethical Considerations

The study will adhere to Save the Children's ethical standards and safeguarding policies, ensuring that all activities are child-safe, inclusive, and respectful.

Key principles include:

- Child safeguarding and protection: Ensuring no harm to participants and having referral mechanisms in place.
- Meaningful child participation: In line with the 9 Basic Requirements for ethical child participation.
- Informed consent and assent: From caregivers and children.
- Confidentiality and data protection: Secure handling of all data.
- Inclusion and non-discrimination: Ensuring participation of marginalized and vulnerable groups.
- Do no harm and conflict sensitivity: Particularly in fragile and displacement-affected contexts.

All data collection tools and approaches must be age-appropriate, gender-sensitive, and culturally appropriate. Special attention will be given to ensuring meaningful and safe child participation throughout the CVCA process, including child-friendly facilitation methods, trained facilitators, and appropriate safeguarding measures during community conversations and validation sessions.

## 5.5 Known limitations [Optional]

Potential limitations may include:

- Access constraints in insecure or hard-to-reach areas.
- Limited availability of localized climate data.
- Seasonal or mobility-related constraints affecting participation.
- Potential response bias in self-reported data.

The study team is expected to propose practical mitigation measures, including adaptive sampling, triangulation of data sources, and flexible fieldwork planning. Mitigation strategies will include:

- Adaptive planning and flexible fieldwork sequencing
- Use of local facilitators to enhance access and trust
- Triangulation of primary and secondary data
- Continuous reflection and adjustment through daily field debriefs

## 6. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

The study will be conducted by a consultant/team contracted through Save the Children (SCI). All deliverables and timelines will be agreed upon during the inception phase between the Consultancy Team Lead and the Save the Children Study Project Manager. In addition to standard reporting outputs, the study is expected to produce:

- A clear synthesis of priority climate risks and vulnerabilities affecting children
- A set of child-centred adaptation priorities and entry points for programming
- Inputs to community-level or programme-level adaptation planning (where feasible)
- Child-friendly and community-accessible dissemination products

### Key Deliverables Description

#### Inception Report

Prepared by the consultant/team, including:

- Refined study objectives and questions.
- Detailed CVCA-aligned methodology and sampling strategy.
- Data collection tools (aligned with SCI child-focused CVCA tools)
- Data analysis plan.
- Risk mitigation and ethical protocols (including safeguarding).
- Stakeholder engagement plan (including child participation).
- Workplan and resource allocation.

#### Interim Brief

A concise update highlighting:

- Emerging findings.
- Operational or contextual challenges.
- Required adjustments to methodology (if any).

#### Draft and Final Study Report

The consultant team will deliver a comprehensive report including:

- Context and methodology
- Findings aligned to study questions
- Analysis of climate risks, vulnerabilities, and adaptive capacities
- A clear synthesis of priority climate risks and vulnerabilities affecting children
- Child-centred adaptation priorities and entry points for programming
- Inputs to community-level or programme-level adaptation planning (where feasible)
- Conclusions and actionable recommendations
- Annexes and supporting documentation

**Once the final report is agreed**

The Consultant team will deliver:

- One 4–6-page external facing brief/summary for advocacy and policy/donor engagement with 2-6 case stories.
- Short creative product for/with children.

**Data and Knowledge Products**

- Cleaned datasets and analysis files.
- Transcripts and qualitative coding outputs.
- PowerPoint presentation.
- Evidence-to-Action Brief.
- Child-friendly and community-accessible dissemination products.

All outputs must comply with SCI quality standards and reporting formats and include provisions for a minimum of two feedback loops with Save the Children.

**Validation and Feedback**

The study will include a dedicated validation phase, where preliminary findings are shared with communities, children, and stakeholders to:

- Confirm accuracy of findings
- Identify gaps or misinterpretations
- Strengthen ownership and accountability
- Refine recommendations based on local perspectives

## 7. REPORTING AND GOVERNANCE

The consultancy team will operate independently but under the overall coordination and oversight of Save the Children.

**Management and Reporting Line**

- The consultancy team will report directly to the SCI MEAL team (Head of REALM).
- The PDQ and technical teams will provide additional technical guidance and review.

**Study Working Group**

SCI will establish a Study Working Group to provide oversight and ensure quality assurance. This group will include:

- MEAL team representatives.
- Technical advisors (climate resilience, Child Protection, global/regional specialists).
- Programme management staff.
- Field representatives.

**The Working Group will:**

- Provide technical input and feedback.
- Review and approve key deliverables.
- Support validation of findings.
- Ensure alignment with SCI strategies and program priorities.

**Reporting Requirements (Consultancy Team)**

The consultancy team will be responsible for:

- Bi-weekly written progress updates (1–2 pages).
- Regular coordination meetings (monthly or more frequent during key phases).
- Immediate escalation of risks, delays, or access constraints.

## 8. STUDY MANAGEMENT

The study will be managed by the Save the Children Study group, who will oversee implementation, ensure quality assurance, and approve all deliverables.

Study Tentative Timeline, with key deliverables in bold. The final timeline and deliverables will be agreed upon the inception phase.

What	Who is responsible	By when	Who else is involved
Study tender submissions	SCI	18 June	
Tender review and selection of study team	SCI	25 June	
Contracting	SCI	1 July	
Consultation and kick off	SCI - Consultant	5 July	
<b>Inception report and tools</b>	Consultant	12 July	
Review of inception report and tools	SCI	19 July	
Development of <b>Data collection tools</b>	Consultant	21 July	
<b>Ethics submission</b>	SCI	23 July	
Data collection	Consultant	20 August	
<b>First draft of the Final study report</b>	Consultant	31 Aug	
Review of first draft report	SCI	10 Sep	
Second round of review	SCI	20 Sep	
<b>Final study report and submission of data and analyses</b>	Consultant	30 Sep	

## 9. STUDY TEAM AND SELECTION CRITERIA

The study will be conducted by a qualified consultancy team with strong expertise in climate vulnerability assessments and child-focused research.

### Required Expertise and Experience

The consultant/team must demonstrate:

- Proven experience in evaluations or independent assessments in humanitarian contexts.
- Strong experience in child-focused CVCA or similar participatory climate assessments.

- Expertise climate change adaptation, DRR, resilience, and/or humanitarian programming.
- Demonstrated experience working in fragile, conflict-affected, and access-constrained environments.
- Strong capacity in participatory and child-inclusive methodologies.
- Expertise in mixed-methods research and data triangulation.
- Familiarity with data collection and analysis tools (e.g. Kobo).
- Strong understanding of gender, inclusion, and safeguarding principles.
- Excellent analytical, reporting, and communication skills.

### **Team Composition**

- A Team Leader with extensive experience in leading complex Assessments or evaluation assignments.
- A multidisciplinary team with expertise in climate, social research, and child-focused programming.
- Capacity to deploy trained field teams/enumerators across the targeted governorates.
- Ability to operate independently while coordinating effectively with SCI.

### **Financial Proposal**

Proposals must demonstrate value for money, considering:

- Personnel costs (roles, level of effort, daily rates).
- Fieldwork the cost per (KII, Survey, and FGDs) and logistics.
- Data collection and analysis costs.
- Applicable taxes and overheads.

## **10. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENT**

Payments to the consultancy team will be made upon satisfactory completion of deliverables:

- 40% upon submission of the Draft Study Report
- 60% upon approval of the Final Study Report and all deliverables

## **11. HOW TO APPLY**

Interested bidders are invited to submit both a **Technical Proposal** and a **Financial Proposal**.

**The Technical Proposal should include:**

- Understanding of the assignment and proposed approach.
- Detailed methodology, including data collection and analysis methods.
- Consultation and participation approach, including child-inclusive methodologies.
- Proposed work plan and implementation timeline.
- Proposed outline/table of contents for the CVCA report and key deliverables.
- Team composition, roles, and CVs of key personnel.

- Description of quality assurance, ethical considerations, safeguarding measures, and data protection procedures.
- Company profile and relevant organizational experience, with examples of at least two similar assignments completed in the last five years. To be added as an annex.

**The Financial Proposal should include:**

- Personnel costs (roles, level of effort, daily rates, communication, etc.).
- Operational and fieldwork, and logistics.
- Data collection, cleaning, and analysis costs.
- Applicable taxes, administrative, and overheads.
- Any other costs that the study may require.

Only complete applications submitted by the stated deadline in the advertisement will be considered.

## 12. ANNEXES

### Annex 1: Child-Focused CVCA detailed questionnaire

ToR prepared by:	
ToR approved by:	
Date of sign off:	