

TERMS OF REFERENCE TO SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR SANITATION FACILITIES IN KASESE AND NTOROKO UNDER THE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES TO HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE HAZARDS IN UGANDA (RCHCH-U) PROJECT IN UGANDA.

In cooperation with: Funded by:



Federal Ministry
 Labour, Social Affairs, Health,
 Care and Consumer Protection
 Republic of Austria

Submit your Expression of Interest (EOI) to: Environmental Alert. Plot 475/523 Sonko Lane, Kabalagala P.o Box, 11259, Kampala, Uganda

Email: <u>info@envalert.org</u> and cc: <u>jancinta.nekesa@envalert.org</u>

TEL.: 0414510547

1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Environmental Alert in partnership with Südwind plans to implement a project titled "Resilient Communities to Health and Climate Change Hazards in Uganda (RCHCH-U)" in Kasese and Ntoroko districts funded by Austrian Ministry of Social Affairs. The project aims at supporting health centers, schools and communities especially women, children in schools and the elderly – in the disaster prone and conflict districts of Kasese and Ntoroko of Rwenzori region – that are faced with climate induced disasters such as mudslides, bursting of river banks and flooding.

Rwenzori region, specifically the districts of Kasese and Ntoroko are largely endowed with natural resources such as mountains, rivers, and lakes. The two districts border with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which harbors the rebel group of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) that continuously attacks Uganda. The armed conflict has had social, economic and environmental impact on the wellbeing of communities including disease outbreaks (such as Ebola); break-down of the health and education systems; food scarcity; and destruction of property leading to loss of livelihoods and hence increased poverty levels especially for women, children and the elderly. Notably, the displaced people have been forced into Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) camps some of which are hosted by schools hence placing pressure on the already inadequate WASH facilities in the institutions.

The two districts also experience climate induced disasters such as floods and landslides and bursting of river banks (with the recent ones being River Semliki in Ntoroko in May 2023 that displaced over 600 people in 10 villages; and Rivers Nyamwamba, Mubuku and Nyamughasana in Kasese in May 2024). As a result, many people continue to experience internal displacements; destruction of farmlands and water sources; and destruction of health and education facilities (e.g. Kilembe Mines Hospital adjacent to Mt. Rwenzori in May 2020). The increase in population and the noted influx of refugees from DRC have led to overdependence on natural resources, characterized with unsustainable farming practices, dependency on rain fed agriculture and destruction of forest reserves to meet the high energy demands, among others, all of which have increased vulnerability and exacerbated the climate change crisis.

The project proposes to improve WASH services in schools, health centers and communities through construction and/or rehabilitation of WASH facilities, community awareness and education; and promote livelihood options to reduce poverty and food scarcity through capacity enhancement of communities and direct support. It is expected that improving WASH infrastructure in the selected institutions in the two districts and targeted communities will reduce WASH related disease outbreak.

For the project to kick start its implementation a detailed baseline study was conducted to assess and analyze the situation to inform the kind of interventions needed by the communities in question. It's against this background that Environmental Alert is advancing to construct sanitation facilities in the selected project sub counties in Ntoroko and Kasese Districts to attain project objectives.

Construction of sanitation facilities in these institutions will greatly improve sanitation, reduce disease outbreaks and spread, but also promote regular and continuous attendance of school for both boys and girls.

During the construction phase, monthly site meetings will be conducted with stakeholders. These meetings are key to maintaining project momentum and quality, allowing for the monitoring of progress and documentation of any emerging issues requiring corrective action, in close coordination with the sub-contractor, District and Sub-County Local Governments, and School Management Committee Members (SMC) and Head Teachers/School Administrators.

2. JUSTIFICATION

With emphasis from the baseline survey results, the selected schools reported heightened needs for sanitation facilities, and many pupils remain vulnerable due to reliance on inadequate toilet stances. The shared and insufficient sanitation facilities particularly for girls highlight serious gaps and readiness in case of disasters. In schools, safe sanitation creates a healthier and more dignified learning environment for children. Ultimately, this contributes to a more resilient community better equipped to face environmental challenges. Providing these facilities is a fundamental step towards improving overall well-being and building resilience.

3. OBJECTIVES

The main objective is to improve health services in schools through the provision of adequate and resilient pit latrine facilities in Kasese and Ntoroko districts.

Specifically, the interventions should;

- i) Construct 5 pit latrines that are resilient to the impacts of climate change through appropriate design and material selection.
- ii) Increase access to safe and hygienic sanitation facilities in 4 primary schools and 1 health centre as guided by the baseline survey.

4. SCOPE

Overview:

Prior to construction works, pre-construction meetings are to be held to discuss roles and responsibilities, share and discuss approved drawings and introduce the contractors to the respective stakeholders. The contractor shall undertake the construction of sanitation facilities at four (05) selected primary schools and 1 health centre on behalf of Environmental Alert. This comprehensive construction work includes, for each school, a Girl's five-stance drainable lined pit latrine, an integrated washroom, a water tank for hygiene purposes, and an incinerator for waste management. The selected primary schools and their respective locations are listed below:

Primary School (PS)	Location
Bweramule PS	Bweramule, Ntoroko district
Kyabikuha PS	Maliba, Kasese district
Kaghorwe PS	Kyondo, Kasese district
Itojo PS	Karugutu, Ntoroko district.
Bwethe HC II	Kyondo Sub county, Kasese District

Drawings and designs:

The project execution will be based on detailed engineering drawings and designs provided to the contractor within the bidding documents by Environmental Alert. Prior to commencing construction, the contractor is mandated to conduct thorough site visits to verify existing conditions and confirm constructability. All construction activities, from excavation and foundation works to superstructure, finishing, and installation of all specified components, must strictly adhere to the provided designs, material specifications, and relevant national building codes.

Operation & Maintenance:

Environmental Alert's appointed technical personnel will conduct monthly site visits to monitor progress and ensure adherence to quality and specifications throughout the construction period.

5. KEY DELIVERABLES

The Contractor shall deliver the following:

- a) Site Assessment Report (at contractor's own expense)
- b) Construction Work Plan
- c) Completed 5 Drainable Lined Pit Latrine Facilities
- d) Quality Assurance Reports
- e) Monthly progress reports.

Notable: All deliverables shall be submitted in softcopy in an editable format.

6. GENERAL TIME SCHEDULE

The construction works must be completed within three (03) months from the date of handover to the contractor. The contractor is expected to make site visits at their own expense to assess the initial conditions at the respective project sites both in Kasese and Ntoroko districts.

Activity	Latest Expected date
Contract Awarding & Signing	14 th July 2025
Pre-construction meetings	21st July 2025
Commencement of Construction works	25 th July 2025
Site handover	25 th October 2025

7. REQUIREMENTS

Interested and eligible contractors must submit the following information:

- I. Cover letter expressing interest for pre-qualification
- II. Company profile i.e. the type of business engaged in, the Directors of the Company number of years in business, area/locations of business, etc.
- III. Certified copy of the company's licenses to operate the business (company registration certificate, articles of incorporation).
- IV. A certified copy of certificate of incorporation with the URSB Stamp.

The contractors **MUST** have the capacity and willingness to deliver on the assignment in remote areas of Kasese and Ntoroko districts.

8. HOW TO APPLY:

a) Submission Guidelines

Environmental Alert invites eligible bidders to submit their expressions of interest by submitting the requirement as listed in section 7 above.

Questions/Request for Clarification:

Any questions and/or requests for clarification concerning these TORs must be submitted in writing via e-mail to <u>jacinta.nekesa@envalert.org</u> or <u>carolyne.kirabo@envalert.com</u>.

The **expressions of interest shall be submitted in English** and typed on letter-size A4 paper, single-spaced with each page numbered consecutively and signed by an authorised person where necessary.

b) Submission deadline:

Closing date and time: all responses to these ToRs must be received by Environmental Alert no later than **12.00 Noon of 30**th **June 2025**, in soft copies to envalert.org and copies to Jacinta.nekesa@envalert.org Responses which are submitted late, are incomplete or do not fully respond to these ToRs may not be considered in the review process.

Environmental Alert reserves the right to reject any or all the documents received. And also assumes no obligation or responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the participating firms for any expenses or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of the documents. Submission of an Expression of Interest does not guarantee that an award will be made to any participating company.

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