

**Provision of Technical Consultancy Services for the Northwest Climate-Peace Hubs**

Procurement Process :	RFP – Request for proposal
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Development Area :	OTHER
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Introduction :Nigeria has continued to experience multidimensional escalating violent conflict and security challenges resulting in records of daily deaths, injuries, displacements and loss of properties, with the government finding it challenging to deal with the conflicts. According to the report of Nextier SPD<sup>1</sup> from October 2020 to September 2021, the North-West zone of Nigeria has become the most violent part of the country with 274 incidents (31 percent) of the incidents in the period. While violent incidents relating to banditry is the most reported peace and security challenge, farmer-herder conflict and violent extremism are the second and third most reported conflict. The mix of the three is evident in the North West zone of Nigeria. The North West zone encompasses seven states – namely, Jigawa, Kano, Kebbi, Sokoto, Zamfara, Katsina and Kaduna. Despite its high population, expansive land mass and economic potential, the North West has some of the worst development indicators in Nigeria[2]. This includes the highest poverty and illiteracy rates of any geopolitical region, a higher unemployment rate than the national average, the highest fertility rate, and some of the most alarming statistics on gender inequality. As of 2020, all the seven states in the zone had poverty levels above the national average of 40.1 per cent, led by Sokoto (87.7 per cent), Jigawa (87 per cent) and Zamfara (74 per cent)[3].

For over a decade, degradation of the environment and climate change has changed agricultural grazing pastures in the Northwest region of Nigeria. Climate stressors and shocks have increased in frequency and intensity: upending lives and livelihoods, increasing competition for natural resources, triggering displacement, and driving food insecurity have compounded the existing drivers of insecurity facing the region. The adverse effects of climate change on natural resource availability and scarcity have been identified among the root causes of the conflict. The violent conflict has altered the local coping capacities of the rural communities to deal with climatic risks affecting their livelihoods, creating a vicious cycle where natural disasters hit harder, aggravating existing tensions and leading to new conflicts. The region is highly vulnerable to and affected by the impacts of climate change which is compounding existing drivers of insecurity. Communities in Katsina, Sokoto and Zamfara are amongst the worst affected by a growing crisis exacerbated by climate change risks.

In 2022, UNDP Nigeria in collaboration with other partners used the Weathering Risk methodology to carry-out the first integrated climate security assessment to respond to the herder-farmer crisis in North West Nigeria and also conducted a mission to the North West region to identify and validate concrete strategies and responses to the socio-economic drivers and root causes of instability related to climate and environment. Using the Weathering Risk methodology, especially participatory and qualitative methods, UNDP Nigeria facilitated engagements with local stakeholders in Sokoto, Zamfara and Katsina, including government, academia, civil society organizations and journalist to identify entry points for deepening foundations for peace, natural resource management, and climate security-focused solutions. The participatory approaches allowed the team to complement existing climatic data with community perceptions about the adverse effects of climate change as a cause for tensions.

As a result, the **North West Climate-Peace Hubs: A Climate Security Approach to Conflict Prevention** project with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs was designed to utilize a climate action and sustainable livelihoods approach to conflict prevention, in response to the herder-farmer tensions in the region. The program has been launched with a 6-month inception phase at the beginning of Year-1 implementation (December – May), for deep engagement with communities, civil societies, and local authorities.

The North West Climate-Peace Hubs project aims at addressing the local climate and conflict risks and enhancing prospects for resilient development and sustainable peace at the community level. The project is focused on deploying strategies to promote economically, ecologically, and socially climate-conflict resilient livelihoods. The Climate-Peace Hubs is designed on the basis of climate-peace pathways (i.e resilient information system, conflict-sensitive climate adaptation through nature-based solutions, and climate-smart agriculture and livelihood, and also the platform for natural resource management) and will play an important complementary role, which includes the establishment of a place for ongoing dialogue on natural resource management and serves as a platform to incubate and test locally adapted solutions in order to address climate security risks. The project is been implemented in Jibia and Ilela Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Katsina and Sokoto States of North West Nigeria.

To foster resilience against climate and security risks, this project will through a conflict-sensitive manner contribute towards:

1. Improved access to data to support decision-making for anticipatory actions to climate and conflict risks.
2. Increased access to conflict sensitive and climate resilient livelihoods and green jobs
3. Strengthened systems and practices for communal management of natural resources.

In the next two years, UNDP intends to engage the services of renowned globally known climate security focused organization or firm to support in the implementation of the project in line with global best practices.

#### SCOPE OF THE TENDER

As a part of the strategy for the project implementation, UNDP is seeking to engage competent and qualified international organisation or firm with expertise on climate security to support the implementation of the North West Climate-Peace Hubs project in target LGAs in Sokoto and Katsina States of North West Nigeria. The objectives for the consultancy are:

- Support in the technical development of program strategies and documents, inform learning and adaptation of the program, as appropriate, during the post-inception phase.
- Provide technical support, guidance and capacity building during project implementation.
- Support UNDP, partners and local stakeholders in the monitoring, evaluation & learning of program impacts and outcomes throughout implementation.

Please refer to the Terms of Reference for detailed scope of work.

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