

Nepal Disaster Risk Finance: Impact and Vulnerability Analysis of Communities at Risk of Flooding

Request for Proposals | Monday 16th of June 2025



INTRODUCTION

ABOUT START NETWORK

Start Network is a global network organisation, with over 100 member organizations across five continents, from large international humanitarian agencies to local and national NGOs. Start Network's mission is to create a new era of humanitarian action that will save even more lives. We aim to operationalise this through locally led action, innovation and early and rapid financing, so that humanitarians on the frontline of crisis can provide anticipatory action and early effective responses before and when crises strike.

Start Fund Nepal was launched in 2021. It is a member-led funding mechanism designed, managed, and implemented by local, national, and international organisations. Its aim is to protect and support the most vulnerable communities at risk and affected by floods and other multi-hazard crises. Building on this strong foundation, Start Network members in Nepal have now committed to developing a Disaster Risk Financing (DRF) system for flood that will enable proactive and data driven interventions, through access to Start Ready financing. A DRF system combines scientific hazard modelling, joint development of contingency plans, and pre-arranged financing to enable faster, more predictable, and better-coordinated responses to disasters that happen with a predictable pattern of occurrence.

SCOPE OF CONTRACT

Further information on the scope of work can be found in section 3, **Terms of Reference**.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BIDDING

TIMESCALES

Bidders are requested to review and respond to sections 3 and 4, with completed sections and requested documents submitted via email (no hard copies required) to npl.carenepal@care.org.

Deadline for submission: 16/06/2025

START NETWORK NOT BOUND

This Request for Proposal (RFP) does not constitute an offer and Start Network does not bind itself to accept any proposal. Start Network reserves the right to accept a proposal in part, rather than in full.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact the CARF Technical specialist.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Documentation in relation to this RFP and any proposals received in response to it shall be treated as private and confidential save where the disclosure is required by law.

Bidders shall not:

- Release any information relating to the RFP and the proposal that they intend to make; other than with professional advisers who need to be consulted with regards to the preparation of the proposal;

- Canvass directly or indirectly with any other bidder concerning the award of a contract;
- Canvass directly or indirectly with a member of Start Network's staff (including its consultants and contractors) concerning the award of the contract.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Start Network and any bidders shall declare any conflicts of interest as soon as practicable, to allow for the efficient management of any potential/actual conflicts

CONTRACT

The formal contract will be as mutually agreed.

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

SCOPE OF WORK

Objectives

The overall objective of the study aims to support Start Network Members in identifying priority geographical areas for the Disaster Risk Financing (DRF) system that is currently being developed, which aims to protect communities at risk of floods in Nepal. It will also guide the Start Network team in selecting the most appropriate flood model. The study must provide clear, evidence-based recommendations supported by robust data.

The impact and vulnerability study aims to identify the following:

- Identify areas most frequently affected by flood events and analyse their frequency, seasonality and impact
- Understand population vulnerability by identifying the most affected groups, their geographic locations, and how flood intersects with issues such as poverty, food security, malnutrition, and protection concerns
- Assess existing coping mechanisms, including what strategies communities use, which are sustainable, the role of government system and services, and how these approaches could be enhanced through anticipatory action.
- Evaluate early warning systems and flood models currently available in the affected areas, and their accessibility to humanitarian actors.
- Map current humanitarian actors in anticipatory actions; including who is responding, what actions are being taken, and how inclusive and effective these efforts are.
- The study should be carried out in two stages (i) mapping and inventory of communities at risk within river systems, followed by a joint process with the Start Network team to exclude certain locations based on jointly defined exclusion criteria, including duplication of overlapping areas with other humanitarian actors focusing on anticipatory action; and (ii) a detailed assessment of the selected river systems. In addition to the major river systems, the study may also include other systems that contribute to recurrent flooding and have significant impacts on communities.

The consultant should gather information relevant to the study through Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with key stakeholders, including the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management

Authority (NDRRMA), Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM), the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (UN CERF), the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF), and other relevant actors.

Key Terms of the project

This study aims to generate concrete, evidence-based recommendations that will enable the Start Network to make informed decisions on where to intervene and whom to target regarding flood risk in Nepal. While field verification is not required, the study should draw on the consultant's strong understanding and engagement with Nepal's river systems. The selection of locations will focus on areas that are often overlooked but are critically important for addressing the needs of the most vulnerable populations at flood risk.

The recommendations must be clearly supported by validated evidence from multiple sources and explicitly address: (i) where to target and why (ii) whom to target and why, and (iii) what has already been done and what further interventions are needed.

The Study will be guided by a clear structure to ensure focused and comprehensive analysis. It will be structured around following five key components:

Exposure and Impact

- Identify main river basins and river systems that are most frequently affected by flood
 - Identify the river system and districts within these river basins that experience flood using historical data (using longest available time period, up to 30 years).
- Conduct a flood analysis in the identified provinces/ districts (as appropriate)
 - Frequency of exposure
 - When are these provinces usually affected by a flood
 - Duration of exposure/ impact
- Using historical damages, illustrate the trends in humanitarian impacts due to flood.

2. Vulnerability

- Who are the most affected sectors of the population and what is the proportion of these sectors for the highlighted areas? How are they impacted by it? (impacts can be qualified using humanitarian clusters)
- What is the geographical distribution of these sectors?
- How are these sectors affected by flood.
- Illustrate how cross-sectoral issues emerge from or interact with the impacts of flood such as; gender inequality, poverty, food insecurity, malnutrition, exclusion, protection and others.
 - Identify cases of cross-sectoral issues that emerge during the disaster response phase after a flood
- Are there existing measures and programs that address these cross-sectoral issues? Are these programs shock-responsive? Could the measures be more anticipatory?

3. Coping Mechanism

- What are the existing coping mechanisms for flood? What are sustainable mechanisms that could be built upon versus those that should be avoided? How does coping vary throughout the population?
 - Are there identified triggers that is used to activate these coping mechanisms? What are the factors considered for these mechanisms?
 - Are there existing coping mechanisms for cross-sectoral issues that can be improved by anticipatory humanitarian actions?

4. Early Warning and Flood Modelling

- Are there existing early warning systems in place in the identified areas/districts
- Are there existing flood models available for the identified areas/districts?
- Does DHM have a flood service in identified districts?
 - What are the activities of the center and how advanced are the services available?
 - Can humanitarian actors access the services of the centers?

5. Humanitarian Activities

- Are there flood preparedness activities already being conducted by different actors in these areas?
 - How often does the humanitarian sector conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster response (HADR) activities focused on flood these areas?
- What is the magnitude of HADR flood conducted in these areas?
- Are there any Organisations already focusing on protecting communities at risk of flooding and responding to communities in need due to flooding in the area?
 - What are the response activities that CSOs and other actors conduct after a flood? Who are their target beneficiaries? Are these beneficiaries included in the response planning?
 - What are the activities that CSOs conduct to anticipate flood? What early actions or anticipated actions are already existing?

APPROACH AND DELIVERABLES

For the impact component, it is recommended to conduct the analysis on a national level using various available data, considering how different return periods of flood have different extent of damages. For vulnerability and coping mechanism components, a case study of highly exposed administrative units should be considered.

The DRF Coordinator will be supporting the consultant(s) on:

- Providing access to Start Network's Nepal members if needed
- Final copy editing

Deliverables

- Initial outline of proposed methodology to address the key questions
- Written report of not more than 10 pages per component
- Presentation of results to the Start Network and partners
- 'Back-end' folder of data used in the analysis

MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT

The consultant will work collaboratively with the Start Network team.

The CARF Technical specialist will be the day-to-day focal point and have management oversight.

Start will be supporting the consultant(s) on:

- Providing access to Start Network Members and partners
- Final copy editing

KEY SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Relevant documents for review will be shared at a later stage on request, if required. For a general overview, please refer to our website.

TIMELINE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

The duration for this consultancy is expected to be for **8 weeks beginning first week of July**. Please refer to the table below for the schedule of activities and payment terms which is highlighted in red text.

Activities	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8
Data collection and KIIs undertaken								
Submission of first draft report to Start Network								
Report revision and comment incorporation								
Presentation of Impact and vulnerability analysis to Start Network Members								
Member comment incorporation and submission of final report								

QUALIFICATIONS

The consultant or firm should be able to demonstrate the following competencies:

- Proven experience in conducting flood analyses
- Ability to collect, process, analyze impact and vulnerability data using quantitative and qualitative methodologies
- Ability to collect and analyze various forms of data and present the vulnerability analysis in different angles
- Strong understanding of the Nepal DRRM landscape
- Proven ability to translate complex quantitative analysis clearly and concisely for a non-technical audience

BIDDER'S PROPOSAL

Submission

Please submit the following documents to npl.carenepal@care.org on **Monday 16th of June 2025**)

- Expression of Interest
- CV of consultant(s)
- Initial outline of proposed methodology to address the key questions
- Financial proposal
- All legal documents of a consulting firm (VAT registration, company registration, and latest tax clearance)

The technical (70%) and detailed financial (30%) proposals will be evaluated based on following:

Technical criteria

- Understanding and interpretation of the Terms of reference
- Methodology
- Time and activity schedule
- Organizational/Personnel Capacity Statement
- Relevant experience related to the assignment
- Team Composition
- Curriculum Vitae with relevant references

Financial criteria

1. Budget breakdown in relevant heading.
2. Legal documents (Copy of VAT registration, copy of company registration and latest tax clearance certificate).

