

Terms of Reference (ToR) for Climate Resilience Lead in Local Infrastructure Support Programme (LISP) in Nepal

1. Background

CARE International (CI) is one of the world's leading humanitarian and development organizations. In FY2023, CI worked in 95 countries, reaching more than 65 million people through nearly 900 projects. CI is committed to fighting poverty and injustice and saving lives during disasters and conflicts standing in solidarity with women, girls, and their communities to achieve lasting change. CARE International UK (CIUK) is supporting the Local Infrastructure Support Programme (LISP) in Nepal. The programme aims to enhance legitimacy, accountability, and capability of local and provincial governments through the sustainable delivery of infrastructure services, particularly those addressing the needs of women and marginalized communities.

The Local Infrastructure Support Programme (LISP) in Nepal is funded by the UK Government and led by the Government of Nepal, with technical assistance provided by DT Global, in partnership with CARE Nepal. The programme strengthens the capacity of local and provincial governments—particularly in Karnali and Lumbini provinces—to plan, finance, and deliver inclusive, climate-resilient infrastructure that meets the needs of their communities, especially women, marginalised groups, and persons with disabilities.

LISP addresses Nepal's critical infrastructure gaps by enhancing local infrastructure planning integrating climate resilience, promoting Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI), and improving the cost-effectiveness of infrastructure services. Through targeted technical assistance and capacity building, the programme supports the design and implementation of inclusive infrastructure projects, strengthens financial risk management, promotes good governance, and enables data-driven planning and maintenance across key sectors such as roads, irrigation, water supply, and sanitation.

CIUK is seeking experienced consultants for a Climate Resilience Lead position on a Local Infrastructure Support Programme (LISP) in Nepal.

Project Number	20620
Project Name	Local Infrastructure Support Programme
Country of delivery	Nepal
Client	FCDO
Beneficiary	FCDO/ Government of Nepal (GoN)
LoE	50%

2. Overall Programme Objective

LISP will improve the ability of Nepal's local and provincial governments to respond to the demands of citizens for local infrastructure and increase the legitimacy and accountability of local government to their citizens with an emphasis on the empowerment of women. It will create green recovery jobs to stimulate the local economy and build climate resilience.

3. Programme Summary Overview

MoU between the GoN and BEK	16th March 2023
Grant support	£66 million for capital investment only which is on budget and on treasury
Technical Assistance (TA)	£ 20 million
Innovation, Evidence and Learning	£ 4 million
Provinces	Karnali, Lumbini, and Madhesh
Pilot Phase	Completed in July 2023, managed by WFP
Transition Phase	July 2024 to March 2025 managed by WFP
LISP Implementation	13 November 2024 – 13 August 2029

3. LISP Approach

Our approach is to build on the understanding that as the LISP TA we will need to fulfil three roles to realise the full impact of LISP's Objective:

- 1. Strengthening Infrastructure Governance** Institutionalising inclusive governance mechanisms from risk informed planning, design, implementation, monitoring, operation and maintenance. Integrating the system actors for a holistic planning and delivery to minimise siloed development efforts among different level of governments.
- 2. Capacity building and technical support** To improve the capacity of LGs to deliver local infrastructure services according to strengthened governance systems.
- 3. Quality Assurance of LISP investments** to ensure that FCDO's funds are utilised in accordance with the strengthened governance systems, and with LISP demonstrating the effectiveness of these systems to build confidence and encourage others to invest in the local infrastructure sector in accordance with the improved governance systems.

The programme objective will be achieved through **five critical strands of delivery**:



4. Role of Climate Resilience Lead

4.1. Position Overview

The Climate Resilience Lead (CRL) in the LISP TA team will work closely with the infrastructure team within the LISP TA. The CRL will be responsible for managing interventions on assessing climate risks, developing adaptation strategies (use of resilient and local materials, construction techniques, designing for adaptability and flexibility, nature-based solutions, etc. for small-scale local infrastructure developed by Local Governments (LGs). The CRL will work with federal and (primarily) with subnational governments (LGs) to strengthen capacity in all climate resilience aspects of local infrastructure. The CRL will help to enhance local infrastructure resilience to climate impacts and help to ensure sustainable development. This position is based in the DT-Global Office in Kathmandu with frequent visits to the programme provinces and LGs to build the team's capacity in the above aspects; monitor field activities; strengthen capacity of relevant stakeholders; ensure the climate resilience component of local infrastructure planning is correctly implemented; and provide technical backstopping for programme implementation.

4.2. Required Qualifications and Experiences

- Master's degree (or equivalent) in Environmental Engineering, Civil Engineering, Environmental Science, Climate Change, Natural Resource Management, Disaster Risk Management, Sustainable Development, or a related field.
- At least 8–10 years of relevant professional experience in climate resilient infrastructure development, and climate adaptation planning.
- Demonstrated experience working with LGs in the planning, design, and operations and maintenance (O&M) of infrastructure projects.
- Proven experience in:

- Mainstreaming climate resilience and DRR into infrastructure and local development planning and design.
- Designing, or implementing, nature-based solutions, low-carbon infrastructure, and sustainable materials in public works.
- Supporting, or leading, climate risk assessments, vulnerability assessments, and climate financing strategies.
- Deep understanding of:
 - Climate risk and vulnerability frameworks (e.g. IPCC, NAP processes).
 - Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and climate resilience and its integration into infrastructure design.
 - Climate-smart infrastructure planning and nature-based solutions.
 - National and local policy frameworks in Nepal related to climate change (e.g. NCCSP, NAP, Local Adaptation Plans).
- Knowledge of environmentally friendly construction practices and techniques, local materials, and green procurement standards.
- Experience applying Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) principles within climate or infrastructure programming.
- Strong skills in capacity building, facilitation, and technical assistance delivery at local/provincial levels.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in both Nepali and English.

4.3. Key Responsibilities

- Lead on providing climate resilient and advise for the TA team to maximize climate resilience outcomes to integrate climate change and resilience across the programme, and to maximize climate resilience outcomes in the LG infrastructure investments under LISP.
- Support the wider LISP team in the development of LISP TA's infrastructure governance approaches across the infrastructure project life cycle to ensure mainstreaming climate risk and low carbon emission in the planning, design, management and maintenance of infrastructure projects.
- Take the lead to support the adoption of climate resilience measures to enhance infrastructure's ability to absorb climate and disaster shocks, prevent cascading disasters, and to address vulnerabilities of at-risk populations, and to promote green recovery and social co-benefits. These include the use of resilient and local materials and construction techniques, designing adaptability and flexibility, nature-based solutions, etc.
- Develop, or adapt existing, climate-resilient and DRR infrastructure practical design guidelines, checklists, and frameworks for selection and criteria for design of various infrastructure types. These types include, but are not limited to, road design and construction and rehabilitation/ upgrading works; irrigation schemes; water supply and sanitary schemes (WASH); bridge construction and trail bridges; solid waste management, renewable energy.
- Support the team, where appropriate, to conduct hazard mapping to address disaster and climate risks in the three LISP provinces.
- Help to standardize environmental and social impact assessments (IEE/ EIA/ ESIA) by using existing GoN and/or improved modality guidelines for LGs with inclusive and meaningful participation of local communities, while maintaining the integrity of natural ecosystems.

- Collaborate with the PPFM team to establish climate-sensitive budgeting protocols and provide support to promote the creation of green jobs and ensure continued resilience in impacted communities.
- Working with the IEL team, ensure that the result frameworks and monitoring tools are technically robust for evaluating infrastructure resilience to climate and disaster shocks, green recovery measures, and broader social and environmental impacts.
- Support the team in the GON seven-step planning process to ensure that the climate resilient infrastructure project selection process is followed. Activities could include capacity needs assessment and design, support, and/or deliver training modules on climate resilience for capacity strengthening of relevant stakeholders and staff.
- Represent LISP in relevant forums and networks to promote climate resilience infrastructure, if so, directed by the Team Leader.
- Support provincial and cluster staff to engage with federal and sub-national policymakers and relevant stakeholders to influence the development of supportive policies and regulations for climate resilient infrastructure.
- Provide backstopping and quality assurance to provincial and cluster level staff to ensure climate resilient infrastructure design and implementation, including with relevant environmental safeguarding, climate resilience standards and regulations
- Undertake any additional responsibilities as directed by the Team Leader, and Deputy Team Leader/ Infrastructure lead.

4.4. Lines of Communications

Accountable to:	Primarily: Infrastructure Lead at DT-Global, and Programme Director, CARE Nepal (for non-technical aspects of the role)
Technical support to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure team – Provincial Leads, Cluster engineers and graduate engineers • Governance Lead • GEDSI Lead • Public Procurement and Financial Management Lead • Innovation and Evidence Based Learning Lead and Deputy Lead • Field team – Provincial Governance and GEDSI Lead, PPFM officers, and Governance/ GEDSI officers

5. Key deliverables

- Ensure that 40% of projects selected for LISP co-financing for FY25/26 are GEDSI focused by November 30, 2025.
- Capacity assessment completed and development plans drafted for 15 new LGs by November 30, 2025.
- Validation workshops with 30 of the 35 LGs held on results of capacity assessment by November 30, 2025.
- 50 settlement level inclusive planning process consultation meetings for FY26/27 infrastructure cycle held with communities and wards by March 31, 2026.

6. Evaluation of Proposals

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

Technical: Kindly provide clear scoring criteria for evaluating the technical proposals.

- Understanding and interpretation of the Terms of Reference
- Methodology
- Time and activity schedule
- Organizational/Personnel Capacity Statement
- Relevant experience related to the assignment
- CV with References

Financial: Expression of Interest (EOI) letter including the proposed consultancy fee per day, inclusive of all applicable taxes.

Note: The project is expected to involve frequent travel; accordingly, the associated costs will be covered by DT Global.

7. Time Frame:

The duration of assignment is for 64 working days (Excluding weekend and holidays) starting from 01 September 2025 to 31 March 2026 (7 months) with around 9 working days in each month.

8. Remuneration

Remuneration will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and aligned with market rates for similar consultancy roles in the sector.

9. Terms of payment

The payment will be made on a monthly basis after the submission and approval of the timesheet and deliverables by the supervisor.

10. Required Documents

- Technical and financial proposals separately.
- Sample of similar work done previously.
- Updated CV along with copies of Citizenship, experience letters, and any other relevant documents.
- If any documents/information is not available or not applicable, the reason(s) must be clarified in the proposal form.
- VAT registered certificate and tax clearance certificates.

Note: CARE Nepal will have the right to disqualify the proposals from the selection process if the proposal submission guideline has not been followed.