



Climate Resilient Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (CR WASH) Activity

Annual Program Statement for Microgrants for WASH Activities

I. BACKGROUND

The Ethiopia Climate Resilient Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (CR-WASH) Activity is a five-year USAID-funded project (2023-2028) aimed at expanding access to improved water supply and sanitation services and promoting safe hygiene practices in lowland woredas of Afar, Oromia, Somali, and South Ethiopia Regions. The activity focuses on four Intermediate Results (IRs):

1. Professionalize and expand quality climate-resilient water services.
2. Increase sustainable access to and use of sanitation and hygiene products and services, including Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH).
3. Improve gender power dynamics.
4. Strengthen the enabling environment for climate-resilient water and sanitation services.

The implementation approach includes Collaborating Learning and Adapting (CLA), catalytic/facilitative grants through Grants Under Contract (GUC), piloting and scaling innovative approaches, strategic partnerships, and stakeholder collaboration.

II. MICRO GRANT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of Microgrants is to award individuals or organizations to support specific projects or initiatives. They are often used to fund grassroots efforts, community development projects, and individual endeavors. This Annual Program Statement (APS) invites applications for micro grants to support the implementation of CR WASH activities in the lowland regions of Afar, Somali, Oromia, and South Ethiopia. The maximum amount for micro-grants is between **Ethiopian 500,000 - 1,000,000**. The APS seeks applications from local/regional partners such as micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), Technical Training and Vocational Institutions (e.g., TVETs), other non-government organizations or community-based organizations engaged in WASH activities.

CR WASH announces micro grants to strengthen TVET Colleges, Local Community Based Organizations (CBOs), MSMEs, and all eligible applicants through access to improved practices, technology, technical skills building, and other disciplines that meet its program objectives. The initial micro grant under this APS is intended to support impactful activities and build local capacity.

Note: Most of the micro-grants will be in-kind materials and equipment and skills development (no direct cash assistance and **no construction or construction-related activities**). According to ADS 303, construction is not allowed through grants. Generally, if your intervention involves use of concrete, if it involves removing dirt (soil), if it involves diverting or retaining water, if it involves electricity, if it is something that could collapse, or if it requires changing the configuration of an existing structure, it is considered as construction (whether it is new or rehabilitation).

Illustrative Activities:

- Technical training and mentorships for youth, women, communities, and MSMEs.

- In-kind equipment costs for operations and maintenance (O&M) toolkits and related training. (providing in-kind quick spare parts like a one-stop center for spare parts needed for boreholes/well-supported water schemes at the zone /woreda level)
- In-kind equipment and materials for modified Community Led Total Sanitation and Hygiene (CLTSH) promoters and MSMEs.
- Skills development and training for latrine slab manufacturing and toilet pre-fabs.
- Micro grants for promising innovators and enterprises in the WASH sector.
- Technical support and training for newly established women-led networks and business associations.
- CBOs engaged in strengthening women agency or empowerment.
- Events planning and celebrations for International Women’s Day, World Water Day, Menstrual Hygiene and Health (MHH) Day, World Toilet Day, Environment/Earth Day, etc.
- Raising awareness and changing negative attitudes towards MHH.
- Establishing menstrual health products or dignity kits labs at schools or other community platforms.

III. APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- Must be registered and formally constituted with the GoE at the national or regional/Zonal and Woreda level.
- Minimum 2 individuals in MSME (at least one female).
- No history of gender-based violence or legal penalties for such actions.
- Only one application per prime organization under this APS.
- Demonstrated presence or experience in the Ethiopia lowland regions.
- Not on the Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) and Blocked Persons List.
- Any falsification of application information may result in rejection/cancellation of the award.

APPLICATION MERIT REVIEW/EVALUATION CRITERIA

Criteria	Weight	Description
Technical Approach	50 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alignment with CR WASH Results (20 points), • Relevance of proposed activity (10 points), • Alignment with CR WASH geographic areas (10) points) • Innovative ideas (10 points)
Detailed Activities Implementation and Delivery Plan	20 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity and comprehensiveness of activities (5 points), • Realistic schedule (5 points), • Defined roles and responsibilities (5 points), • Relevant experience and expertise (5 points)
Gender and Social Inclusion	20 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities for Women’s Needs (10 points), • Overcoming Barriers for Women (5 points), • Demonstrating results and impact for women/youth and vulnerable populations (5)

Criteria	Weight	Description
Past and current performance and experience in WASH sector	10 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of existing/past performance (4 points), • Provide examples of at least 3 photos (3 points), • At least one supporting letter of evidence (3 points)

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Concept papers shall be submitted in English and may not exceed three pages excluding annexes. Concept papers adhering to the provided formats/template should be submitted electronically to CR WASH at grants@cr-wash.org and should reference APS No. CR-WASH-MGAPS-001/2024. Late applications will not be considered.

DISCLAIMER:

Issuance of this APS does not constitute an award commitment on behalf of the CR WASH Activity, RTI International, or USAID/Ethiopia, nor does it commit CR WASH to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application or this APS. CR WASH reserves the right to reject any applications received. Applicants who meet the eligibility criteria will be invited to participate in a site assessment based on the evaluation criteria.

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS APS: November 4, 2024

ANTICIPATED AWARD DATE: November 21, 2024

ANNEX A. APS RESPONSE FORM

1	APS Number	CR-WASH-APS-002/2024
2	Application Reference number	Leave it Blank
3	UEI number	If not available leave blank
4	Date Response Submitted	
5	Name of Organization	
6	Organization Representative	Name: _____ Tell: _____ Title: _____ Email: _____
7	Address Location	
8	Organization Website (if available)	
9	Business Type	
10	Registration <i>(Attach copy of registration and business license)</i>	Registration Type: Registration Date: DD/MM/YYYY Business License Renewal Date: DD/MM/YYYY TIN Number:
11	Type of Organization	
12	Name of Authorized Official & Title	
13	Project Title	
14	Business Owner Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple owners of multiple genders <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
15	Business Owner Age	<input type="checkbox"/> 15-29 <input type="checkbox"/> 30+ <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple ages ¹ <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say
16	Age of Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 18 months (about 1 and a half years) <input type="checkbox"/> 18-23 months (about 2 years) <input type="checkbox"/> 24-35 months (about 3 years) <input type="checkbox"/> 36+ months <input type="checkbox"/> Specify number of years in business:
17	Size of Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 4 individuals <input type="checkbox"/> 4 to 10 individuals <input type="checkbox"/> 10-19 individuals <input type="checkbox"/> 20+ individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Specify number of employees
18	Location of Activities	Specify woredas: _____
19	Target Commodities	Specify commodities: _____
20	Letter of Support	Attach letter of support from the reputable organization or zonal/woreda Bureaus.
21	USAID CR WASH Support Requested	USD ETB
22	Applicant contribution	USD ETB
23	Total Project Cost	USD ETB

APPLICATION FORM

A. Organization/SMEs/Company background – Max 1/2 page

Describe your organization/company (you may attach an organization or company profile if available). Provide a profile of the organization that should include a brief description of the organization, its legal authorized business activities, number of years in operation, ownership, and types of activities undertaken in the past.

B. Detailed Activities to be Implemented and Geographic Areas - Max 1 page

Describe how the proposed detailed activities to be implemented in line with USAID CR WASH Activity objectives, demonstrating effectiveness, efficiency, viability (realistic), and any innovation to deliver the approach and deliverables and timelines for the achieving results and impacts.

C. Management and Implementation Delivery Plan – Max 1 page

Describe the overall management approach towards planning and implementation of proposed activities such as geographic areas, names of key technical or business owners (and their expertise) and

- List the results or achievement or impacts (number of individuals) or households to be impacted or reached as result of these activities
 - Number of households or communities with new and improved water or sanitation services
 - Number of women or youth engaged or supported.
- Number of persons to be trained (or reached) disaggregated by gender (men/women)

D. Past Performance - Max 1/4 page

Indicate recent project experience, preferably in private sector/donor funded projects implemented in the last four years.

E. Inclusion of women and youth – Max 1/2 page

Describe how the proposed activities will engage women and youth for long-lasting impact and engagement.

Detailed Budget in ETB – Max 1/2 page

Note: no direct cash; all assistance will be in-kind items and equipment. CR WASH will procure and deliver directly to grantees.

Please fill in all details (as example below for materials and tools for digging tools for CLTSH

Description	Unit	Unit amount (ETB)	Total (ETB)
Hand tools	100 pcs	100 birrs	10,000

Shovels			
Excavation materials			

Dear RTI CR WASH

I, _____ (authorized representative name), the
 _____ (title, Chairman/President/Representative) of
 _____ (name of business / organization) that is
 requesting assistance from the CR WASH for the implementation of the proposed activity certify that all
 the information presented in this EOI is accurate and correct.

Authorized Representative Signature: _____

Date: _____