



PEACE, PROSPERITY AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

**HORN OF AFRICA GROUNDWATER FOR RESILIENCE
PROJECT (P174867)**

GRANT ID: IDA/R2022-0179

TERMS OF REFERENCE

FOR

**Consultant Assisting Team Leader with the Preparation of
the 3rd IGAD Water Forum**

IGAD-WATER UNIT

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Background:

The Horn of Africa Groundwater for Resilience (HoA GW4R) Program aims to increase sustainable access and management of groundwater (GW) in the Horn of Africa as a key contribution to strengthen the climate resilience of targeted communities. The Program has one overarching development objective and a common structure for the connected projects. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to increase groundwater's sustainable access and management in the Horn of Africa's borderlands. Three countries, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Republic of Kenya, the Federal Republic of Somalia, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), are included in the current Project, which constitutes Phase I of the Regional Program.

IGAD's component of the Project aims to increase the sustainable use and management of groundwater in the Horn of Africa through the strengthening of regional information, capacity and collaboration. The progress to the PDO will be measured by the following outcome indicator: regional groundwater institutions with increased access to improved information critical for sustainable GW management. Intermediate indicators include, among others: (a) new policies, bylaws, regulations, guidelines or regional agreements prepared or adapted for sustainable groundwater management and use in participating countries, (b) Horn of Africa Groundwater Information System (HoA-GWIS) established and operational, and (c) Regional Platform for Groundwater Collaboration (PGWC) functioning among participating countries. The HoA-GWIS will be essential for sustainable GW management as it will allow countries to generate and share data on transboundary aquifers, adding value to inform decision-making and joint planning. The PGWC will serve as a key collaborative mechanism among IGAD and Member States (MS) to agree on and prioritize joint groundwater activities, decide on their scope and modalities, and support the implementation and validation of regional outputs.

The primary project beneficiaries will be decision-makers, civil servants, and groundwater management professionals of regional and national institutions involved in the planning, development and management of groundwater resources in the IGAD region, through strengthened capacity, increased availability of relevant information, improved policies and strengthened regional collaboration. The project will also benefit scientists and experts of universities, professional institutions and companies in the region that work on groundwater at the transboundary, national, and sub-national levels and indirectly also the inhabitants of the IGAD region that will benefit from more sustainable groundwater management and increased resilience to climate shocks. The project has the following components:

Component 1. Strengthening Regional Capacity & Information for Sustainable Groundwater Management

Component 2. Promoting Regional Integration and Collaboration

Component 3. Regional Program Coordination, Monitoring & Evaluation

The 3rd IGAD Water forum is one the activities of the second component of the project which promotes regional integration policies, guidelines and standards for groundwater development and management, and support enhanced collaboration in the study, planning and management of shared groundwater resources in the HoA. The Forum is expected to take place in December 2024 (date to be confirmed) . The event will be closely tied to issues that are critical to ensure an

effective implementation of groundwater for resilience initiatives, and consequently inform and strengthen the HoA GW4R regional program.

Two previous Forums have been conducted (Kenya and Uganda), focused on water for regional cooperation and Groundwater For resilience, respectively ;

2. Objectives

The objective of this TOR is to recruit an expert in groundwater related sciences with demonstrated experience in the planning and implementation of international events, to assist in preparing the 3rd IGAD Water Forum. The focus of the event will be on sustainable groundwater management with an emphasis on innovative solutions for assessing, exploiting and managing groundwater resources, and maximizing the use of remote sensing in data-scarce regions.

3. Tasks

- **Networking and Consultation:** Identify key stakeholders among the UN family, development partners and other regional and international stakeholders to support, contribute and co-finance the 3rd IGAD Water Forum.
- **Forum Program and Call for Papers:** Develop a comprehensive Program for the Forum, in close coordination with IGAD, the World Bank and other key stakeholders, and prepare an international Call for Papers focusing on advancing groundwater research and technologies that contribute to strengthen Groundwater for Resilience Projects' implementation. This task involves developing the selection criteria for the Call for Papers integrating comments and feedback from the event's organizers, coordinating a robust peer-review process by a panel of international experts, and coordinating the final selection of presenters.
- **Forum Sessions' Planning:** Based on the Forum's objectives and program, design session formats and organize sessions on groundwater resilience, sustainable management, regional cooperation, remote sensing applications for groundwater assessment and management, and capacity building on groundwater management, among others.
- **High-Level Policy Session:** Organize and facilitate a high-level session on regional water policy and transboundary aquifer management.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Engage diverse stakeholders in the planning and implementation of the Forum, including government, NGOs, and industry experts. Assist

with the identification and establishment of various committees, organize committee meetings, and keep record of committee meetings, etc.

- **Reporting and Recommendations:** Prepare a report summarizing the forum's discussions and recommendations, including concrete lessons to strengthen the Groundwater for Resilience project's implementation in the HoA.
- **Support Logistics:** Support IGAD in the coordination of logistical arrangements for the Forum, as required.

4. Meetings Schedule

- **Bi-weekly Meetings:** Conduct bi-weekly coordination meetings with relevant stakeholders involved in the Forum's preparation.
- **Weekly Meetings:** Increase to weekly meetings as the forum date in October 2024 approaches.

5. Qualifications

- Advanced degree in Hydrogeology, Environmental Science, or related field.
- Minimum of 20 years of experience in water resources management and groundwater related sciences.
- Expertise in remote sensing technologies and their application in hydro(geo)logy.
- Proven experience in organizing large international forums and/or conferences, including Call for Proposals and peer-review processes.
- Strong networking skills within the water management community and development partners.
- Excellent communication and organizational skills.
- Fluency in English; additional regional languages are an advantage.

6. Duration and Location

The consultancy is home-based and will last for 4 months, beginning in August 2024.