



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR

Conducting an Integrated Assessment of climate vulnerabilities and capacities of ecosystems and agricultural systems in 6 watersheds of Taiz Governorate, Yemen

23/08/2026

The WASL project aims to strengthen climate-resilient livelihoods through integrated watershed management and sustainable agricultural development in selected districts of Taiz Governorate. To support evidence-based planning and implementation, Solidarités International is commissioning this integrated assessment to generate the technical evidence required to identify climate risks, assess natural resources and agricultural systems, and prioritize context-appropriate interventions. The assessment will also provide complementary evidence to inform related project components on climate resilience, agroecology, and sustainable livelihoods.

Base/Area: Taiz base / Taiz Governorate

Districts: Al-Ma'afer, Jabal Habashy, Al Misrakh

Source of Funding: Directorate-General for the Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf (DG MENA) / European Union

Duration of Mission: 08 October 2026 – 16 December 2026 (50 working days)

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1. ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AAP	Accountability to Affected Populations
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
CVRA	Climate Vulnerability and Risk Assessment
DoAI	Department of Agriculture and Irrigation
DoWE	Department of Water and Environment
EU	European Union
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GIS	Geographic Information System
GRWSP	General Rural Water Supply Projects
ICNR-CSA	Integrated Climate, Natural Resources, Climate-Smart Agriculture and Agroecology Assessment
ICRA	Integrated Climate and Resource Assessment
KII	Key Informant Interview
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NWRA	National Water Resources Authority
RTFH	Resilient Training Farming Hub
SI	Solidarités International
ToR	Terms of Reference
WUA	Water User Association

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 BACKGROUND TO THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Yemen continues to face one of the world's most protracted humanitarian crises. More than a decade of conflict, economic decline, institutional weakening, and climate change have severely affected rural livelihoods and increased food insecurity. Agriculture remains the main source of income for a large proportion of rural households, yet the sector faces declining productivity due to water scarcity, land degradation, soil erosion, unsustainable natural resource management, limited access to agricultural services, and increasing climate variability.

Climate change is further intensifying these challenges through more frequent droughts, erratic rainfall, flash floods, rising temperatures, and prolonged dry spells. These pressures have accelerated the degradation of watersheds and ecosystems, reduced the productivity of agricultural land, and increased competition over increasingly scarce natural resources. Women, youth, landless households, and other vulnerable groups are disproportionately affected due to unequal access to land, water, productive assets, extension services, and decision-making processes.

2.2 PROGRAM CONTEXT

The WASL project, funded by the European Union (DG MENA), aims to strengthen climate-resilient livelihoods and promote inclusive, sustainable agricultural development in selected districts of Taiz Governorate through an integrated watershed management approach. The project recognizes that resilient livelihoods depend on healthy natural resources, productive agricultural systems, effective local institutions, and functioning support services.

The project combines watershed restoration, sustainable land and water management, climate adaptation, climate-smart agriculture, agroecological approaches, agricultural extension, and livelihood diversification to improve the resilience of farming and herding communities. These interventions will be complemented by activities implemented under the SDC-funded THRIVE project, particularly in the areas of value chain development, enterprise support, financial inclusion, and women's economic empowerment.

Although several assessments have been undertaken in the project area, there is currently no integrated evidence base linking climate risks, watershed conditions, natural resources, agricultural production systems, and institutional capacities. Such an understanding is essential for identifying technically sound, environmentally sustainable, and locally appropriate interventions that can be implemented under the WASL project. This consultancy has therefore been commissioned to generate the integrated technical evidence required to support project design, implementation, and adaptive management.

2.3 PRESENTATION OF SOLIDARITES INTERNATIONAL

Solidarités International (SI) is an international humanitarian organization that has been providing life-saving assistance and supporting vulnerable populations affected by conflict, disasters, and climate-related crises for more than 40 years. SI specializes in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), food security and livelihoods (FSL), shelter, and disaster risk reduction, while promoting integrated approaches that strengthen resilience and support sustainable recovery. SI has been operating in Yemen since 2017, implementing humanitarian, early recovery, and resilience programmes in partnership with national authorities, local organizations, and communities. Through its integrated programming, SI supports vulnerable households by improving access to water resources, strengthening agricultural production systems, restoring natural resources, promoting climate-resilient livelihoods, and enhancing local capacities for sustainable resource management.

This consultancy is commissioned under the WASL Project, funded by the European Union (DG MENA). WASL is implemented alongside the SDC-funded THRIVE Project, which adopts a complementary lens to strengthen inclusive agriculture and market systems. While financed under the WASL project, this assessment is designed to generate complementary agronomic and environmental evidence that will inform the implementation of both projects, ensuring a coherent and integrated approach to agroecological transition, climate adaptation, and resilient livelihood development across the target districts

3. RATIONALE FOR THE ASSESSMENT

Agricultural livelihoods in Taiz Governorate are increasingly affected by climate change, water scarcity, land degradation, declining soil fertility, and unsustainable natural resource management. These interconnected challenges reduce agricultural productivity, undermine the resilience of farming and livestock systems, and require integrated approaches that simultaneously address climate risks, watershed systems, natural resources, and agricultural production. To support evidence-based planning and implementation under the WASL project, an integrated assessment is required to generate the technical evidence needed to identify priority interventions, strengthen climate resilience, improve natural resource management, and promote context-appropriate Climate-Smart Agriculture and agroecological approaches.

The assessment will provide practical recommendations to guide project implementation and will complement the separate Value Chain, Capacity Needs and Barrier Analysis by focusing on the technical, environmental, institutional, and socio-economic dimensions of climate-resilient agriculture and sustainable natural resource management.

4. PURPOSE OF THE ASSESSMENT

The purpose of this assessment is to generate the technical, environmental, institutional, and socio-economic evidence required to design and implement integrated watershed management and climate-resilient agricultural interventions under the WASL project. The assessment will provide a comprehensive understanding of the interactions between climate risks, natural resources, watershed conditions, agricultural production systems, and local institutions to identify practical opportunities for strengthening the resilience, productivity, and sustainability of rural livelihoods.

The assessment will move beyond a descriptive diagnosis by identifying practical, technically feasible, economically viable, and environmentally sustainable interventions that respond to the specific conditions of the target watersheds and farming systems. Recommendations shall be evidence-based and reflect local capacities, available resources, existing knowledge, and the needs and priorities of different groups of farmers and livestock keepers. The assessment will generate the evidence required to support integrated interventions across four interrelated areas:

- Climate adaptation and resilience.
- Sustainable natural resources and watershed management.
- Climate-Smart Agriculture and agroecological approaches.
- Strengthening agricultural support systems and local institutions.

It will also assess the technical, environmental, institutional, and socio-economic factors influencing the adoption and long-term sustainability of recommended interventions, with particular attention to barriers and opportunities affecting women, youth, landless households, sharecroppers, Muhamasheen communities, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups.

The findings will provide the technical foundation for prioritizing and designing integrated watershed management, sustainable natural resource management, Climate-Smart Agriculture, agroecological approaches, agricultural extension, and community capacity-strengthening interventions under the WASL project. The assessment will complement the Value Chain, Capacity Needs and Barrier Analysis by providing the technical evidence required to support coordinated and evidence-based project implementation.

The assessment shall adopt an integrated landscape approach, recognizing the interdependence between climate, water resources, land, ecosystems, agriculture, livestock production, and rural livelihoods. All analyses and recommendations shall consider these systems as interconnected and promote integrated, sustainable, and climate-resilient development.

4.1 OBJECTIVES

Overall Objective

The overall objective of this consultancy is to conduct an integrated assessment of climate, natural resources, watershed systems, agricultural production, and institutional capacities to generate the evidence required to design and implement integrated watershed management and climate-resilient agricultural interventions under the WASL project.

Objective 1. Assess climate, natural resources and watershed systems

Assess the status, condition, and management of climate, natural resources, and watershed systems to identify the key constraints, risks, and opportunities for strengthening climate resilience, sustainable natural resource management, and ecosystem restoration.

Objective 2. Assess agricultural and livestock production systems

Assess agricultural and livestock production systems to analyze their climate vulnerability by assessing their exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity to current and future climate hazards, and identifying the technical, environmental, institutional, and socio-economic factors influencing their productivity, resilience, sustainability, and climate adaptation

Objective 3. Identify climate-resilient agricultural and natural resource management interventions

Identify and prioritize context-appropriate interventions that strengthen climate resilience, restore natural resources, and improve the sustainability and productivity of agricultural and livestock systems

Objective 4. Assess institutional capacities and enabling environment

Assess the capacities of institutions, governance systems, service providers, and community organizations, and identify the institutional, technical, and socio-economic factors that influence the implementation and sustainability of integrated climate-resilient interventions.

Objective 5. Develop an integrated implementation framework

Develop an implementation framework that translates the assessment findings into practical recommendations for prioritizing, sequencing, and implementing integrated watershed management and climate-resilient agricultural interventions under the WASL project.

4.2 SCOPE OF WORK

The Consultant shall undertake an integrated assessment of climate, natural resources, watershed systems, agricultural production, and institutional capacities to identify practical and evidence-based interventions that strengthen climate resilience, sustainable natural resource management, and agricultural livelihoods. The assessment shall adopt a systems approach, recognizing the interdependence between climate, water resources, land, ecosystems, agriculture, livestock production, and rural livelihoods. Findings from

each component shall inform the subsequent analyses and contribute to a single integrated implementation framework.

4.2.1 Climate, Natural Resources and Watershed Assessment:

This component aims to establish a comprehensive understanding of the biophysical characteristics of the target watersheds (6 watersheds) and the key environmental factors affecting agricultural production and rural livelihoods. It will provide the baseline for identifying priority interventions related to watershed restoration, sustainable land and water management, and climate adaptation. The Consultant shall:

A. Assess climate conditions and climate risks

- Analyze historical and current climate patterns and variability.
- Assess the main climate hazards affecting the target areas, including droughts, floods, erratic rainfall, heat stress, and prolonged dry spells.
- Assess the exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity of farming and livestock systems to climate-related hazards.
- Review existing climate adaptation and risk management practices adopted by local communities.
- Assess access to and use of climate information and early warning systems.

B. Assess watershed characteristics and water resources

- Delineate watershed boundaries and analyze catchment characteristics.
- Assess surface and groundwater resources, seasonal water availability, recharge potential, and current abstraction patterns.
- Analyze watershed hydrology, drainage systems, runoff, and water flow dynamics.
- Identify critical water-related challenges affecting agricultural production and ecosystem health.

C. Assess land, soil, and ecosystem conditions

- Assess soil characteristics, soil health, fertility, erosion, and other forms of land degradation.
- Analyze land use and land cover, vegetation, biodiversity, and ecosystem services.
- Identify environmentally sensitive areas and opportunities for ecosystem restoration and improved landscape management.

D. Assess natural resource governance

- Review existing governance arrangements for managing land, water, and other natural resources.
- Assess the roles and capacities of Water User Associations, community committees, and relevant government institutions responsible for natural resource management.
- Identify governance gaps, coordination challenges, and resource-related conflicts that may influence project implementation.

4.2.2 Agricultural Production Systems Assessment

This component will assess the key farming and livestock production systems and relevant to the project's priority value chains and intervention areas. During the inception phase, the consultant shall identify and agree with SI on the priority farming and livestock systems for detailed assessment, based on their importance to local livelihoods, climate vulnerability, and relevance to the project's objectives. The assessment shall then analyze the technical, environmental, and socio-economic factors affecting the productivity, resilience, and sustainability of these priority systems to inform the identification of appropriate climate-resilient interventions. The Consultant shall:

A. Assess farming systems

- Characterize the main farming system typologies and cropping patterns.
- Assess seeds system security, agricultural inputs markets
- Assess seasonal production calendars, farm sizes, land tenure arrangements, and sharecropping systems.
- Assess current crop production practices, productivity levels, and production constraints and main uses for each crop (commercial, own consumption, etc.).
- Assess the roles division among household members (men, women, children) in farming activities
- Assess the contribution of crop production to household livelihoods, including livelihood strategies, seasonal labor patterns, and diversification within the priority farming systems

B. Assess livestock production systems

- Characterize the main livestock production systems and management practices and main uses for each livestock/livestock byproduct (commercial, own consumption, etc.).
- Assess water, feed and fodder availability, grazing systems, livestock infrastructures (barns, water points), animal health services, and livestock productivity.
- Assess livestock related input markets
- Identify the major constraints affecting livestock production and resilience.
- Assess the roles division among household members (men, women, children) in livestock breeding
-

C. Assess agricultural water and soil management

- Assess irrigation systems, agricultural water management practices, and water-use efficiency.
- Assess soil fertility management, nutrient management, conservation agriculture practices, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- Assess post-harvest handling and storage practices.

4.2.3 Climate-Resilient Agriculture, Natural Resource Management and Agroecological Transition

This component will identify and prioritize integrated interventions that strengthen climate resilience, restore natural resources, improve agricultural productivity, and enhance the

sustainability of farming and livestock systems. Building on the findings of the climate, natural resource, and agricultural systems assessments, the Consultant shall evaluate practical solutions that are technically feasible, environmentally sustainable, socially inclusive, and economically realistic for the target areas and for the targeted farming and livestock systems. The Consultant shall:

A. Assess existing climate-resilient and agroecological practices

- Assess the existing use of CSA, agroecological approaches, sustainable land management, and sustainable water management practices.
- Identify indigenous knowledge and traditional practices that contribute to climate resilience and sustainable resource management.
- Assess farmers' and livestock keepers' awareness, perceptions, and current adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices.
- Identify successful local innovations and good practices that could be strengthened or scaled up through the project.

B. Identify and prioritize integrated technical interventions

Based on the assessment findings, identify and prioritize context-appropriate interventions that contribute to climate resilience, sustainable natural resource management, and resilient livelihoods. The assessment shall consider interventions including, but not limited to:

- Climate-Smart Agriculture.
- Agroecological approaches.
- Sustainable land and water management.
- Watershed management and restoration.
- Ecosystem restoration.
- Nature-based Solutions.
- Soil and water conservation measures.
- Climate adaptation measures.
- Water-use efficiency improvements.
- Crop diversification and integrated crop-livestock systems.
- Sustainable rangeland management.
- Alternative livelihood opportunities and sustainable diversification from qat where technically and economically feasible.

C. Assess technical feasibility and environmental suitability

For each priority intervention, assess:

- Technical suitability under different agroecological and farming system conditions.
- Climate resilience and adaptation benefits.
- Environmental sustainability and potential environmental risks.
- Water requirements and expected impacts on water resources.
- Labor, skills, equipment, and input requirements.
- Operation and maintenance requirements.
- Expected productivity and livelihood benefits.
- Risks and limitations affecting successful implementation.

D. Assess adoption, institutional, and socio-economic feasibility

Assess the factors influencing the adoption and long-term sustainability of recommended interventions, including:

- Affordability and investment requirements.
- Access to agricultural inputs, equipment, and technical services.
- Availability of repair and maintenance services.
- Access to agricultural extension and advisory services.
- Land tenure and sharecropping arrangements.
- Gender-specific barriers and opportunities.
- Social inclusion considerations affecting vulnerable groups.
- Institutional and policy constraints influence adoption.

E. Prioritize interventions for project implementation

Develop a transparent prioritization framework to rank recommended interventions according to agreed technical and implementation criteria. Prioritization should be considered as appropriate:

- Climate resilience.
- Environmental sustainability.
- Technical feasibility.
- Cost-effectiveness.
- Adoption potential.
- Water-use efficiency.
- Institutional feasibility.
- Gender responsiveness.
- Scalability and long-term sustainability.

Recommendations should distinguish between interventions suitable for immediate implementation, those requiring further piloting or validation, and those requiring complementary investments or enabling conditions before implementation.

4.2.4 Institutional Capacity, Governance and Enabling Environment Assessment

This component will assess the institutional, governance, and service delivery systems that support sustainable natural resource management and climate-resilient agricultural development. The assessment shall identify the capacities, coordination mechanisms, and enabling conditions required to implement and sustain integrated watershed management, CSA, and agroecological interventions beyond the life of the project. The Consultant shall:

A. Assess institutional capacities

Assess the roles, technical capacities, and coordination mechanisms of relevant public institutions involved in agriculture, water resources, natural resource management, and local development, including:

- Department of Agriculture and Irrigation (DoAI).
- Department of Water and Environment (DoWE).

- National Water Resources Authority (NWRA).
- General Rural Water Supply Projects (GRWSP).
- Local authorities and district-level institutions.
- Other relevant technical departments and public institutions.

The assessment shall identify institutional strengths, capacity gaps, coordination challenges, and opportunities to strengthen technical and operational collaboration.

B. Assess natural resource governance

Assess existing governance arrangements for managing land, water, watersheds, and other shared natural resources. The assessment shall examine:

- Water User Associations (WUAs).
- Community-based natural resource management committees.
- Traditional and customary resource management systems.
- Existing watershed governance mechanisms.
- Community participation in natural resource management.
- Local conflict resolution mechanisms related to land and water resources.

The assessment shall identify opportunities to strengthen inclusive, transparent, and sustainable governance arrangements.

C. Assess agricultural support and service delivery systems

Assess the availability, accessibility, quality, and effectiveness of agricultural support services required for the adoption and long-term sustainability of recommended interventions. The assessment shall include:

- Agricultural extension services.
- Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and demonstration approaches.
- Farmer-to-farmer learning mechanisms.
- Private agricultural advisory services.
- Veterinary and livestock services.
- Input suppliers.
- Irrigation service providers.
- Equipment suppliers and repair services.
- Technical support providers.

The assessment shall identify service gaps and recommend practical approaches to improve service delivery within the project area.

D. Assess community organizations and producer institutions

Assess the roles, capacities, and functionality of:

- Cooperatives.
- Producer groups.
- Farmer organizations.
- Women's groups.
- Youth groups.
- Community-based organizations.

The assessment shall identify opportunities to strengthen their participation in watershed management, agricultural development, extension activities, and community-based climate adaptation.

E. Assess cross-cutting enabling factors

Assess the social, institutional, and contextual factors that may influence the successful implementation and sustainability of project interventions. This shall include an assessment of:

- Gender equality and women's participation.
- Youth engagement.
- Inclusion of marginalized and vulnerable groups.
- Conflict sensitivity related to land, water, and natural resources.
- Local ownership and community participation.
- Institutional sustainability.
- Risks that may affect implementation.

Recommendations shall identify practical measures to promote inclusive participation, strengthen local ownership, reduce implementation risks, and support long-term sustainability.

4.2.5 Development of an Integrated Implementation Framework:

Building on the findings and recommendations from the assessment components, the Consultant shall develop a practical implementation framework to guide the phased delivery of the proposed interventions under the WASL project. The framework should prioritize and sequence interventions across the selected watersheds and priority farming and livestock systems, identify implementation packages and indicative timelines, clarify the roles of key stakeholders, and provide practical guidance for implementation, coordination, and monitoring. The Consultant shall:

A. Develop recommendations for prioritizing interventions based on agreed technical, environmental, institutional, and socio-economic criteria

Develop a transparent framework for prioritizing recommended interventions based on agreed technical, environmental, institutional, and socio-economic criteria. The framework should be considered as appropriate:

- Climate resilience and adaptation benefits.
- Contribution to sustainable natural resource management.
- Technical feasibility.
- Environmental sustainability.
- Water-use efficiency.
- Cost-effectiveness.
- Adoption potential.
- Institutional readiness.
- Gender and social inclusion.
- Scalability and long-term sustainability.

The framework shall support the selection and sequencing of interventions throughout the project implementation period.

B. Apply watershed and farming system typologies for intervention planning

Building on the typologies developed under Sections 4.2.1 and 4.2.2, identify the watershed, farming system, and farmer categories that are most suitable for the recommended interventions and use them to guide targeting and implementation planning.

C. Develop recommendations for implementation pathways that support the progressive adoption and scaling of recommended interventions

Develop practical implementation pathways that describe how different categories of farmers, communities, and institutions can progressively adopt and sustain recommended interventions. The implementation pathways should:

- Identify the technical and institutional conditions required for adoption.
- Define the sequence of technical support required.
- Identify capacity development needs.
- Recommend appropriate extension approaches.
- Identify referral mechanisms to complementary project components where relevant.
- Implementation pathways should remain flexible and recognize that different communities and farming systems may require different approaches.

D. Develop recommendations for Resilient Training Farming Hubs (RTFHs)

Based on the assessment findings, provide recommendations for the establishment and operation of the Resilient Training Farming Hubs. Recommendations should address:

- Technical focus areas.
- Demonstration priorities.
- Farmer learning approaches.
- Integration with agricultural extension services.
- Linkages with watershed restoration activities.
- Institutional roles and responsibilities.
- Sustainability considerations.

The recommendations should provide practical guidance for integrating RTFHs within the broader implementation approach of the WASL project.

- **E. Recommend monitoring considerations for adaptive project implementation and learning** Based on the assessment findings, recommend a set of practical monitoring considerations and indicative indicators to support adaptive implementation and learning during the WASL project. Recommendations may include:
 - Suggested environmental indicators.
 - Suggested agricultural performance indicators.
 - Suggested climate resilience indicators.
 - Suggested natural resource management indicators.
 - Suggested institutional performance indicators.

- Suggested adoption indicators for recommended practices.

These recommendations should inform the development of the project's monitoring framework by the WASL program team and should support evidence-based decision-making and adaptive management throughout implementation

5. METHODOLOGY AND ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

The Consultant shall propose a robust, participatory, and interdisciplinary methodology that combines quantitative and qualitative approaches to assess climate, natural resources, watershed systems, agricultural production, and institutional capacities. The methodology shall demonstrate how information from different data sources and technical disciplines will be triangulated and integrated to produce a coherent evidence base for project planning and implementation.

5.1 INCEPTION PHASE:

The inception phase shall confirm the scope of the assessment, refine the methodology, and establish a common understanding of the assessment objectives with Solidarités International and relevant stakeholders. The Consultant shall:

- Review all relevant project documents, reports, policies, and existing assessments.
- Prepare a detailed inception report describing the methodology, workplan, sampling strategy, data collection tools, and quality assurance measures.
- Identify data gaps and information needs.
- Participate in an inception meeting with SI and relevant stakeholders.

5.2 SECONDARY DATA REVIEW, SPATIAL ANALYSIS AND EVIDENCE GAP ASSESSMENT

The Consultant shall conduct a comprehensive review of existing information to establish the assessment baseline and avoid duplication of previous studies. This should include where available:

- Climate and meteorological data.
- Hydrological information.
- Watershed and catchment data.
- Soil and land capability maps.
- Land use and land cover information.
- Satellite imagery and remote sensing data.
- Agricultural production statistics.

- Existing vulnerability and risk assessments.
- Previous watershed and natural resource studies.
- Relevant national strategies, policies, and technical guidelines.

The Consultant **should use** **land and spatial** analysis, where appropriate, to support watershed characterization and intervention planning.

5.3 SAMPLING STRATEGY:

The Consultant shall develop a technical sound and representative sampling strategy to guide the collection of primary data. The sampling approach shall be aligned with the assessment objectives and adequately represent the diversity of watersheds, farming systems, livelihood groups, and socio-economic conditions across the target areas. The proposed sampling strategy shall:

- Clearly justify the proposed sample size and sampling methodology.
- Ensure adequate representation of different watershed conditions, agroecological zones, farming and livestock systems, and livelihood typologies.
- Ensure meaningful representation of women, men, youth, persons with disabilities, internally displaced persons (where relevant), and other vulnerable or marginalized groups.
- Include an appropriate balance of quantitative and qualitative data collection methods.
- Explain the criteria for selecting communities, key informants, and field observation sites.
- Describe the quality assurance measures that will be applied during data collection.

The final sampling strategy shall be reviewed and approved by Solidarités International during the inception phase before field data collection begins.

5.4 PRIMARY DATA COLLECTION

Primary data collection shall validate and complement secondary information through field-based assessments and participatory consultations. The methodology shall combine appropriate quantitative and qualitative approaches. As a minimum, the assessment should include:

Household and farm-level assessments

- Household surveys.
- Farm observations.
- Agricultural production assessments.
- Natural resource observations.

Key Informant Interviews

- Interviews with relevant stakeholders, including:
- Government institutions.
- Water authorities.
- Agricultural extension services.
- Community leaders.
- Water User Associations.
- Cooperatives.
- Producer groups.
- Private agricultural service providers.
- Women's representatives.
- Youth representatives.

Focus Group Discussions: Separate discussions should be conducted, where appropriate, with:

- Women.
- Men.
- Youth.
- Farmers.
- Livestock keepers.
- Vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Participatory field assessments including:

- Participatory watershed mapping.
- Resource mapping.
- Seasonal calendars.
- Hazard mapping.
- Transect walks.
- Community validation exercises.

5.5 INTEGRATED ANALYSIS

The Consultant shall integrate findings from the climate, natural resources, watershed, agricultural, and institutional assessments to identify the key drivers of vulnerability, resilience, and sustainable livelihood opportunities. The analysis should:

- Triangulate information from different sources.
- Identify relationships between climate, natural resources, and agricultural systems.
- Analyze the underlying causes of environmental degradation and livelihood vulnerability.
- Identify priority intervention opportunities.
- Assess trade-offs and synergies between recommended interventions.

5.6 PRIORITIZATION OF INTERVENTIONS

The Consultant shall apply transparent and evidence-based criteria to prioritize recommended interventions. The prioritization methodology should consider:

- Technical feasibility.
- Climate resilience.
- Environmental sustainability.
- Cost-effectiveness.
- Water-use efficiency.
- Institutional capacity.
- Gender and social inclusion.
- Scalability.
- Sustainability.

The Consultant shall clearly explain how prioritization decisions were made.

5.7 STAKEHOLDER VALIDATION

The draft findings and recommendations shall be presented to Solidarités International and relevant stakeholders through a validation workshop. The workshop shall:

- Present preliminary findings.
- Validate technical recommendations.
- Review proposed intervention priorities.
- Gather stakeholder feedback.
- Identify any remaining information gaps.

The Consultant shall revise the draft report based on agreed comments.

5.8 FINALIZATION:

The Consultant shall incorporate all agreed comments and submit the final report together with all supporting outputs described under the Deliverables section.

6. DELIVERABLES

The Consultant shall submit all deliverables in English in editable Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and PDF formats, together with all datasets, analytical tools, GIS layers (where applicable), and supporting documentation generated during the assignment. All deliverables shall be subject to technical review and approval by SI before final acceptance. All reports, frameworks, and implementation tools shall be practical, implementation-oriented, and directly applicable to the WASL project. Recommendations

should be evidence-based, context-specific, and presented in a format that facilitates project planning, implementation, and monitoring. Academic or purely descriptive outputs are not expected.

1. Inception Report (approximately 10–15 pages, excluding annexes)

The Consultant shall submit an Inception Report for approval by Solidarités International. The report shall include:

- Refined methodology.
- Detailed workplan and timeline.
- Sampling strategy.
- Data collection tools.
- Stakeholder engagement plan.
- Quality assurance approach.
- GIS and spatial analysis methodology (where applicable).
- Risk management and mitigation measures.

2. Assessment Tools

The Consultant shall develop and submit all assessment tools before field data collection. This shall include, as appropriate:

- Household survey questionnaires.
- Key Informant Interview guides.
- Focus Group Discussion guides.
- Observation checklists.
- Participatory mapping tools.
- Environmental assessment tools.
- Data collection protocols.
- Data analysis tools/matrix

All tools shall be reviewed and approved by SI before field deployment.

3. Progress Brief (approximately 4–5 pages)

Midway through the consultancy, the Consultant shall submit a brief progress update summarizing:

- Activities completed.
- Preliminary observations.
- Challenges encountered.
- Proposed adjustments to the methodology or workplan.
- Remaining activities.

4. Draft Integrated Technical Assessment Report (approximately 60–80 pages, excluding annexes)

The Consultant shall submit a draft report presenting the assessment findings. The report shall include:

- Executive Summary.
- Climate Assessment.
- Natural Resource Assessment.
- Watershed Assessment.
- Agricultural and Livestock Systems Assessment.
- Climate Risk Assessment.
- CSA and Agroecology Assessment.
- Institutional and Governance Assessment.
- Prioritized recommendations.
- Conclusions.

5. Validation Workshop

The Consultant shall facilitate a validation workshop with SI and relevant stakeholders to:

- Present findings.
- Validate conclusions.
- Review recommendations.
- Agree on priority interventions.

The Consultant shall document comments and recommendations for incorporation into the final report.

6. Final Integrated Technical Assessment and Implementation Package

Final Assessment Report. The report shall include:

- Executive Summary.
- Methodology.
- Climate and environmental assessment.
- Watershed assessment.
- Natural resource assessment.
- Agricultural production systems assessment.
- Climate risks and vulnerability analysis.
- CSA and agroecological assessment.
- Institutional assessment.
- Conclusions.
- Prioritized recommendations.

Implementation Package

The Consultant shall also submit an implementation package containing:

A. Intervention Prioritization Framework

Prioritized interventions with justification and implementation considerations.

B. Watershed Restoration and Natural Resource Management Framework

- Priority restoration measures.
- Natural Resource Management recommendations.
- Landscape restoration priorities.

C. Climate-Resilient Agriculture Framework

- Priority CSA and agroecological interventions.
- Technical recommendations.
- Adoption considerations.

D. RTFH Technical Framework

Recommendations for:

- Technical themes.
- Demonstration activities.
- Learning approaches.
- Institutional arrangements.

E. Agricultural Extension and Capacity Development Framework

Recommendations for:

- Extension approaches.
- Capacity development priorities.
- Farmer coaching.
- Institutional strengthening.

F. Adoption and Implementation Pathways

Guidance for sequencing interventions and supporting different farmer categories.

G. Monitoring Framework

Recommended monitoring indicators covering:

- Natural resources.

- Watershed health.
- Agricultural productivity.
- Adoption of practices.
- Institutional performance.
- Climate resilience.

7. Final Data Package

The Consultant shall submit:

- GIS layers.
- Spatial datasets.
- Assessment database.
- Survey datasets.
- Maps.
- Photographs.
- Data collection tools.
- Metadata.
- Any models developed during the consultancy.

The consultant is expected to complete the assessment work by **16 December 2026**. Tentative assignments must be completed in **no more than 50 working days**. The timeline below provides an indicative allocation of working days and may be refined during the inception phase, subject to SI approval and without extending the overall assignment completion date of 16 December 2026

Tentative evaluation Timeline	
Activity	Days
1. Evaluation briefing with Mission, and coordination team (Teams, Face-to-face)	1
2. Preparation of document request checklist, work plan, and assessment framework	2
3. Collection and review of secondary data and existing assessments	4
4. Desk review and preparation of the Inception Report	4
5. Review and finalization of the Inception Report	2
6. Primary data collection (surveys, KIs, FGDs, etc.)	18
7. Data cleaning, analysis, and preparation of preliminary findings	7

8. Draft Assessment Report and implementation tools	6
9. Validation workshop and incorporation of feedback	2
10. Final Assessment Report, implementation package, and presentation	4
Total working days	50

7. CONSULTANT PROFILE

The assessment shall be undertaken by a firm with demonstrated experience in climate change adaptation, watershed management, natural resource management, climate-resilient agriculture, and rural livelihoods in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. The proposed team should collectively demonstrate expertise in climate science, hydrology, agriculture, agroecology, natural resource management, socio-economic analysis, gender and social inclusion, GIS, and participatory assessment methodologies. Experience in Yemen or contexts with similar environmental and institutional conditions will be considered a strong advantage. The proposed team shall include, at a minimum, the following key experts.

The proposed team shall ensure physical presence in Yemen during primary data collection and field verification. At least one senior international and/or regional technical expert shall participate directly in fieldwork, stakeholder consultations, field verification and interpretation of primary data. The proposal should clearly identify the experts who will be physically deployed and their level of field participation.

1- Minimum Core Team: The proposed team shall include, at a minimum, the expertise listed below. One expert may fulfil more than one role, provided they demonstrate the required qualifications and experience for each area of expertise. The Consultant shall ensure that the overall team possesses all the competencies required to complete the assignment:

The consultant shall demonstrate experience in institutional capacity assessment, governance, organizational development, systems strengthening, public-sector or community institution capacity development, and sustainable technical service delivery systems.

Team leader/ Senior Climate and Natural Resource Management Specialist

The team leader shall:

- Hold an advanced university degree in Natural Resource Management, Environmental Science, Climate Change, Water Resources, Agriculture, or a related field.

- Have at least 5 years of professional experience leading integrated climate, watershed, or natural resource management assessments.
- Demonstrate experience managing multidisciplinary assessment teams.
- Have proven experience preparing high-quality technical reports for international organizations.
- Demonstrate excellent analytical, facilitation, and report-writing skills.

Climate Change and Watershed Specialist: The specialist should have demonstrated experience in:

- Climate risk assessment.
- Hydrology and watershed management.
- Water resource assessment.
- Climate adaptation.
- GIS and spatial analysis (desirable).

Agronomist / Climate-Smart Agriculture, Agroecology and Farming Systems Specialist

The specialist should have demonstrated experience in:

- Climate-Smart Agriculture (.).
- Agroecological approaches.
- Sustainable agricultural production.
- Sustainable land and water management.
- Irrigation systems.
- Agricultural extension.
- Smallholder farming systems.
- Farming systems analysis.
- Socio-economic assessment of farming systems.
- Household livelihood resilience.
- Economic feasibility and adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices.

Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist

The specialist should demonstrate experience in:

- Gender analysis.
- Women's economic participation.
- Social inclusion.

GIS and Data Management Specialist (recommended)

The specialist should demonstrate experience in:

- GIS.
- Remote sensing.
- Spatial analysis.
- Database management.
- Map production.

Organizational Experience

The consultants/firm should demonstrate:

- At least 5 years of experience conducting climate, agriculture, or natural resource assessments.
- Experience implementing similar assignments funded by international donors.
- Experience working in fragile or conflict-affected contexts.
- Demonstrated capacity to mobilize multidisciplinary technical teams.
- Excellent report-writing and communication skills in English.
- Experience in Yemen or the Middle East will be considered an asset.

8. SELECTION PROCEDURE

The procedure will be as follows:

1. Inviting services providers to submit a proposal based on this ToR.
2. Evaluation of the proposals by the evaluation committee. The evaluation committee will evaluate the proposals based on the selection criteria as published in this ToR.
3. Decision on selection of the service provider.
4. Inception meeting with the selected service provider

The schedule below indicates the timeline for the tender procedure

Tender process	Timeline
ToR published	23 August 2026
Deadline for submission of proposals	08 September 2026
Contracting with the service provider	04 October 2026
Start of assignment	08 October 2026

Proposals submitted after the deadline will be returned and will not be considered in the tender procedure. The proposals will first be tested for completeness. The absence of the documents referred to in **Section 9** of this document can lead to exclusion from further participation in the tender procedure. This is also the case when minimum requirements listed in this ToR are not met. The assignment will be awarded to the service provider with the most economically advantageous tender, determined based on price and quality. SI will reject the proposal if any illegal or corrupt practices have taken place in connection with the award or the tender procedure.

9. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

SI is requesting the service providers to hand in a proposal of maximum 15 pages excluding annexes, CVs, financial proposal, and supporting documentation. The proposal must be handed in a Word or PowerPoint version next to a PDF submission to facilitate any copy-and-pasting of content that we may need during evaluation.

Technical and Administrative Content Requirements:

- 1- A succinct, well-documented approach addressing the requirements set out in this ToR, matching the selection criteria closely.
- 2- Maximum of three client references and a sample of previous work relevant to the deliverables in this ToR
- 3- An overview of the project team, including the CVs of the project team members.
- 4- The proposal shall also indicate the proposed field deployment plan, including the senior international/regional expert(s) who will be physically present in Yemen during primary data collection
- 5- Budget presented in Euros (including VAT) with a breakdown of days/rate per project team member
- 6- Statement on Ground for exclusion (see section 10 below).
- 7- Copy of most recent (audited) financial accounts
- 8- Statement of acceptance draft contract
- 9- Written confirmation agreeing to the exclusion criteria outlined in Section 10.1
- 10- List of reference check

The proposal must be submitted to tender@solidarites-yemen.org COB 08 September. 2026

10. TESTING AND WEIGHING

The assignment will be awarded to the service provider with the most economically advantageous tender, determined based on the evaluation criteria of price and quality

10.1 EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Service providers shall be excluded from participation in this tender procedure if:

- a) They are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations.
- b) They or persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control over them have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata.

c) They have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the SI can justify.

d) They or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over them have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization, money laundering or any other illegal activity.

Service providers must confirm in writing that they are not in one of the situations listed above.

10.2 ETHICAL AND LABOR STANDARD

Service providers shall not make use of child labor or forced labor and/or practice discrimination, and they shall respect the right to freedom of association and the right to organize and engage in collective bargaining, in accordance with the core conventions of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

10.3 PREFERRED EXPERIENCE AND CAPACITIES

1) Relevant Technical Experience

The service provider shall demonstrate relevant experience in conducting integrated assessments related to climate adaptation, watershed management, natural resource management, Climate-Smart Agriculture, agroecological approaches, agricultural and livestock production systems, climate resilience, institutional capacity assessments, or other related agricultural and rural development studies.

2) Integrated Assessment Experience

The service provider shall have successfully completed at least two (2) comparable assignments within the last five (5) years involving integrated assessments covering climate change, natural resource management, watershed systems, agricultural production, institutional capacity, and socio-economic or livelihood analysis. Experience in producing implementation-oriented recommendations for donor-funded programmes will be considered an asset.

3) Experience in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Contexts

The service provider shall demonstrate experience implementing similar assignments in fragile, conflict-affected, or climate-vulnerable contexts. Previous experience in Yemen or the Middle East will be considered a strong advantage.

4) Field Presence and Operational Capacity

The service provider shall demonstrate an operational presence in Yemen or the capacity to mobilize qualified multidisciplinary field teams to undertake primary data collection, agricultural and environmental field assessments, stakeholder consultations, institutional assessments, and participatory community engagement within the project area.

5) Technical Capacity

The proposed team shall collectively demonstrate expertise in the following areas, at a minimum:

- Climate change adaptation and climate risk assessment.
- Watershed management and hydrology.
- Natural resource management and ecosystem restoration.
- Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) and agroecological approaches.
- Agricultural and livestock production systems.
- Sustainable land and water management.
- Institutional capacity assessment and governance.
- Gender equality and social inclusion.
- GIS, remote sensing, and spatial analysis.
- Quantitative and qualitative research methodologies.

6) Language Proficiency

The service provider shall demonstrate excellent written and spoken English for technical reporting and communication. The proposed team shall include qualified Arabic-speaking personnel to support field data collection, stakeholder consultations, and engagement with communities and government institutions.

7) Technical Reporting and Quality Assurance

The service provider shall demonstrate experience in preparing high-quality technical assessment reports and implementation-oriented recommendations for donor-funded programmes. The proposal shall include a clear quality assurance approach describing how data quality, technical review, triangulation, and report quality will be ensured throughout the assignment.

10.4 SCORING AND WEIGHING

The evaluation criteria are compared and weighed according to the procedure below. This concerns a general outline of the scoring methodology, and an explanation of how the service provider can demonstrate compliance with the requirements.

Step 1 - Criterion Quality

Evaluation scores will be awarded for each of the components. The evaluation committee will score each component unanimously.

Criteria	Assessment	Max. Grading: 75 %
Understanding of the Assignment	• A clear understanding of the objectives and scope of the consultancy. • Understanding of the links between climate, natural resources, watershed management, agriculture, and rural livelihoods. • Understanding of the operational context in Yemen.	5



Methodology and workplan	• A clear and logical assessment approach. • Integration of climate, watershed, natural resources, agricultural, and institutional analyses. • Appropriate sampling strategy. • Robust data collection and analysis methods. • GIS and spatial analysis approach (where applicable). • Stakeholder engagement and validation process. • Realistic workplan	10
Relevant Technical Experience	• Experience conducting similar integrated assessments. • Experience with climate adaptation, watershed management, natural resource management, or Climate-Smart Agriculture. • Experience working in fragile or conflict-affected contexts. • Experience with international donor-funded projects	30
Qualifications of the Team	• Technical qualifications. • Relevant professional experience. • Experience leading similar assessments. • Experience in multidisciplinary assignments. • Regional and Yemen experience (where applicable)	15
Field work	• Feasibility of Field deployment plan, • Direct participation of proposed expert(s) in fieldwork and primary data collection • Stakeholder and community engagement	10
Quality Assurance	• Internal quality assurance procedures. • Data verification and triangulation. • Risk management during fieldwork. • Ethical considerations. • Conflict-sensitive data collection	5

The evaluation committee will unanimously score each component by assigning scores from 0 to the maximum grading, with the maximum grading representing optimal performance on the component and 0 representing extremely poor performance on the respective component.

Step 2 - Criterion price

A combined price in Euros (including VAT) is to be presented. This is to be broken down by team member rate and hours. The criterion of assessment is “the best price for the proposed level of quality”.

Step 3 - Weighting

The final score will be weighted 75% on Quality and 25% on Price. If scores of service providers are equal, priority will be based on the total scores that were given for the Criterion Quality. The assignment will be awarded to the service provider that has received the highest score for the Criterion Quality. If the evaluation of the Criterion Quality does not lead to a distinction, the score for the component “Proposal overall” will be decisive. If this does not lead to a distinction, the ranking will be determined by the drawing of lots.

10.5 AWARD

Once SI has decided which Service provider it intends to award the assignment, a written notification thereof is sent to all Service providers participating in the tender procedure.

10 COMMUNICATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The Service provider will ensure that all its contacts with SI, with regards to the tender, during the tender procedure take place exclusively in writing by e-mail to tender@solidarites-yemen.org.

The Service provider is thus explicitly prohibited, to prevent discrimination of the other Service providers and to ensure the diligence of the procedure, to have any contact whatsoever regarding the tender with any other persons of SI than the person stated in the first sentence of this paragraph. The documents provided by or on behalf of SI will be handled confidentially. The Service provider will also impose a duty of confidentiality on any parties that it engages. Any breach of the duty of confidentiality by the Service provider or the engaged third parties will give SI grounds for exclusion of the Service provider, without requiring any prior written or verbal warning. All information, documents and other requested or provided data submitted by the Service providers will be handled with due care and confidentiality by SI. The information provided will after evaluation by SI be filed as confidential. The provided information will not be returned to the Service provider.

11 COST OF ACTIVITIES

11.1 PROCEDURES AND LOGISTICS

All associated costs for planning, conducting (field work) and reporting of the proposed survey will be borne by the consultant. No data can be used by the consultant concerning this study without the written permission of SI for a duration of 5 years. The consultant acting as service provider will make sure to present himself as such for all discussions held within the framework of the consultancy. The consultant immediately agrees to respect all specific security instructions at SI and based on SI’s security analysis and knowledge of the zone and those involved there. In case of an incident encountered during the consultancy, the consultant agrees to contact SI as quickly as possible

11.2 OTHER COSTS

Budget for the proposed study is dependent on the quality of technical and financial proposal and relevant experience of the consultants applying for this assignment with SI. Consultant(s) is expected to provide a detailed financial offer. This offer details the number of days worked in relation to the specific assignments and includes all relevant costs so that SI can evaluate and compare the various offers.

Activities	Day(s)	Person(s)	Unit 2 cost (EUR)	Total Cost (EUR)
Inception, field work, enumerators				
Analysis and reporting team/tasks				
Quality assurance, project management team				
Tools/Equipment/materials/stationeries				
Total (USD)				

12 DISCLAIMER

SI reserves the right to update, change, extend, postpone, withdraw, or suspend the ToR, this tender procedure, or any decision regarding the selection or contract award. SI is not obliged in this tender procedure to make a contract award decision or to conclude a contract with a participant. Participants in the tender procedure cannot claim compensation from SI, any affiliated persons or entities, in any way, in case any of the afore-mentioned situations occur. By handing in a proposal, participants accept all terms and reservations made in this ToR, and subsequent information and documentation in this tender procedure.