

SCM/Tender Ref #:	RFP 02 – 2024/25
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Request for proposal to:	Appoint a service provider to conduct research and develop a Research Report on the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities in South Africa and their inclusion in climate action, adaptation, and mitigation strategies.
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1. BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

1.1 People with disabilities in low and middle-income countries (LMIC) continue to experience socioeconomic vulnerability to the effects of climate change beyond the physical vulnerability experienced by their broader communities. Previous literature has begun to identify the differential impacts of climate change for persons with disabilities which required further examination. For example, climate change threatens persons with disabilities' living standards and health such that, "climate change scenarios will result in a range of worsening health impacts, including greater risks of injury, diseases, and death due to more intense heat waves and fires, increased risk of under-nutrition from diminished food production; increased risk of food-, water-, and vector-borne diseases (Jodoin et al, p.85)

1.2 The Ministry for the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD) has identified the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities as a priority and included a research project on its annual performance plan. The aim of the research is to identify the impact climate change has on persons with disabilities and further to ensure that all climate action, mitigation and adaptation strategies are inclusive of persons with disabilities. To this end, the DWYPD has agreed to collaborate with several international and national governmental and non-governmental organisations and structures. One of these collaborations includes a partnership with the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD). This project involves a collaboration to strengthen the inclusion of persons with Disabilities in the Climate Change Agenda. The

department will also collaborate with other government departments, namely the DFFE and organisations promoting disability and environmental rights on climate change action and its impacts on persons with disabilities. The DWYPD has provided comments to the Portfolio Committee of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment to highlight the challenges in the Climate Change Bill in terms of its limited reference to persons with disabilities. The Department has also engaged with the DFFE to determine a way forward to ensure that we collaborate with the department in terms of consultations, policies, strategies etc around climate change and climate action. The DWYPD also identifies the Presidential Climate Commission as a key stakeholder who needs to ensure that disability rights are included and protected in the climate change agenda.

1.3 The DWYPD has included in its 2024-2025 Annual Performance plan the development of a Research Report on the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities which provides recommendations on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in climate action, adaptation, and mitigation strategies.

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT / PURPOSE

2.1 The failure to include persons with disabilities in the efforts to combat the climate crisis has drastic consequences. People with disabilities are left behind in relief and response efforts due to inaccessible disaster preparedness plans, systematic discrimination, and widespread poverty. The impacts of climate change from rapid onset disasters such as typhoons, flooding, and wildfires, to more gradual changes such as droughts, temperature increase, dams with potable water drying up and sea level rise, have disproportionate effects on the lives, well-being and livelihoods of persons with disabilities all over the world.

2.2 Persons with Disabilities are among those most adversely affected in an emergency, sustaining disproportionately higher rates of morbidity and mortality

and at the same time being among those least to have access to emergency support.

2.3 The consequences of climate change are especially severe for members of the disability community that experience intersecting forms of discrimination, including women, children, indigenous peoples, older persons, displaced populations and other marginalized groups for those experiencing poverty and for underrepresented groups of persons with disabilities, such as persons with intellectual disabilities, persons with psychosocial disabilities, persons with albinism and persons with deaf-blindness.

2.4 Persons with disabilities are overrepresented in low- and middle-income countries and rural areas with higher reliance on agricultural activities and street-begging, and they face heightened risks posed by climate change because of being exposed to the harsh summer conditions in South Africa.

2.5 The main themes that have the greatest impact on persons with disabilities in relation to climate change are health, food security, access to education, adequate housing, water and sanitation, livelihoods, decent work, access to information and human mobility.

3. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF PROJECT

3.1 The objective for the research project is to gather information in order to understand the impact that climate change has on the lives and livelihoods of persons with disabilities in South Africa, and to provide recommendations on how they can be included in climate action, adaptation and mitigation strategies.

3.2 This report will highlight the situation of climate change in South Africa ranging from legislation, policies, environment, socio-economic consequences, health and mortality and the voice of persons with disabilities.

3.3 The scope of the project will include:

- 3.3.1 To conduct research on the effects of climate change on persons with disabilities.
 - 3.3.2 To provide reliable data on the effects of climate change on persons with disabilities.
 - 3.3.3 To provide recommendations on how to ensure that all climate action response measures, policies, and strategies address the needs of persons with disabilities; and
 - 3.3.4 To produce a research report on the impact of Climate Change on persons with disabilities in South Africa.
- 3.4 The scope of the project is to work towards gathering information from stakeholders in 4 (four) provinces as listed below, which have experienced natural disasters due to climate change, by undertaking a desktop research, interviews with at least 80 persons with disabilities, interviews with at least 12 (twelve) NGO's dealing with persons with disabilities and further conducting an online survey. Questions will have to be formulated to elicit responses that provide data regarding the effects of climate change and its impact on persons with disabilities highlighting inclusion in climate action strategies. The project shall extend for 6 (six) months. The project shall be conducted in the following provinces:
- 3.4.1 Limpopo province – due to its vulnerability to heatwaves;
 - 3.4.2 Kwa-Zulu Natal – due to the persistent occurrences of floods;
 - 3.4.3 Gauteng– due to changing patterns of temperatures and flooding; and
 - 3.4.4 Western Cape – due to high levels of wildfires, flooding, and the unpredictable patterns of occurrences of cyclones and cold fronts.

4. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY / APPROACH

- 4.1 The research will involve qualitative and quantitative methodologies to collect data.
- 4.2 A review of International, African, and South African strategies and perspectives on experiences and responses will be conducted to inform recommendations.

5. DELIVERABLES AND TIME FRAMES

Description	Expected date	% Payment of project
Sign Service Level Agreement	31 August 2024	
Develop Inception Report and Project Plan	14 September 2024	15%
Develop Literature review	07 October 2024	
Develop Data Collection Tools	21 October 2024	15%
Status Report on Research	30 November 2024	15%
Draft Research report	25 January 2025	15%
Validation of the Research report (incl. presentation & development of validation report)	15 February 2025	10%
Final Research report and Summary	28 February 2025	20%
Develop PowerPoint presentation and cab memo	15 March 2025	10%

6. PROJECT MANAGEMENT / REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

6.1 The DWYPD will appoint a Project Steering Committee to oversee and advise on the Climate Change research project. The Chief Director: Governance and Regulations – Rights of Disabilities Branch of the (DWYPD) will be the Project leader and chair of the project steering committee. The service provider shall account to the Chief Director: Governance and Regulation as Chair of the Steering Committee.

6.2 All reports compiled by the service provider in respect of this project shall serve at the Steering Committee meetings for consideration and endorsement.

7. MEETINGS

7.1 The DWYPD shall convene the meetings of the Project Steering Committee and other team meetings with the service provider. These meetings will deliberate on

reports and other relevant documents and deliverables that need to serve before the Steering Committee for consideration.