POSITION DESCRIPTION

Various roles – El Niño Response

Position Title	Various roles – El Niño Response
Fields	WASH, Drought Response and Management, Hydrology and Hydrogeology, Climate Resilience and Climate Services, Food Security and Nutrition and Climate Smart Agriculture and Livelihoods.
Work Area	Australia Assists
Supervisor	Deployments Manager
Incumbent	Vacant

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

Australia Assists is an Australian Government program, implemented by Tetra Tech on behalf of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Australia Assists deploys humanitarian expertise to support global partners, including multilateral agencies, governments, and civil society organisations.

As part of Australia's humanitarian action, our goal is to save lives, alleviate suffering, and build resilience with a focus on upholding human rights and human dignity.

The Australia Assists end of program outcomes are:

1. Global partners increasingly access and benefit from timely, effective humanitarian expertise
2. Host organisations strengthen policy, practice, and inclusivity in climate resilient disaster preparedness, response and recovery, and in response to protracted crises.

TETRA TECH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

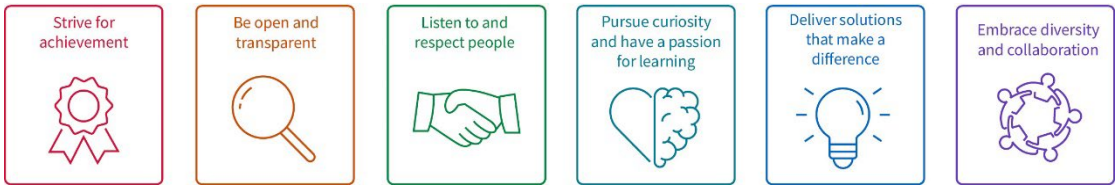
Tetra Tech has a 40-year history in successfully delivering international development projects on behalf of donors right around the world. Our people work side by side with local partners to support stability, economic growth and good governance, positively changing people's lives.

Tetra Tech International Development is part of global consulting firm Tetra Tech. The International Development team implements and manages projects designed to strengthen social and economic infrastructure and improve the lives of people in the Asia Pacific region.

We welcome applicants of all genders, disabilities, ages, ethnicities, and language group.

OUR VALUES

We are a values-based organisation, and our values reflect who we are and what we stand for, and strengthen our engagement with colleagues, partners and clients through our shared values and behaviours.



PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

A very strong El Niño is now established in the Pacific and is forecast to persist into early 2027, alongside a positive Indian Ocean Dipole. Together these are expected to drive drought, water shortages, heat stress, food insecurity, fire and disease risk across much of the Indo-Pacific, while increasing the risk of localised flooding and tropical cyclones elsewhere. These hazards will compound existing vulnerabilities, and impacts are likely to persist well after the El Niño event peaks.

Through this EOI, we seek experienced technical specialists in:

- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Drought Response and Management
- Hydrology and Hydrogeology
- Climate Resilience and Climate Services
- Food Security and Nutrition
- Climate Smart Agriculture and Livelihoods

Successful candidates will join our deployment roster. Roster members may be deployed to support partner governments, regional bodies, UN agencies and civil society organisations to:

- Rapidly scale anticipatory action and preparedness as well as possible response and early recovery
- Protect water, food and livelihood security for affected communities
- Embed climate risk information and resilience into response and recovery, so short-term action reduces longer-term vulnerability
- Strengthen local and national capacity through mentoring, co-design and knowledge transfer

KEY AREAS - RESPONSIBILITIES AND SELECTION CRITERIA

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Key responsibilities include:

1. Emergency and drought WASH needs assessment, response planning and monitoring
2. Emergency water supply: water trucking, distribution points, temporary storage, rationing and demand management
3. Water source rehabilitation and protection (wells, springs, rainwater harvesting, gravity-fed and piped schemes)

KEY AREAS - RESPONSIBILITIES AND SELECTION CRITERIA

4. Water quality testing, household and point-of-use treatment, water safety planning and alternative supply (e.g. small-scale desalination)
5. Sanitation and hygiene promotion in water-scarce settings, including WASH in schools and health facilities
6. Prevention of and response to cholera, diarrhea and vector-borne disease linked to water scarcity and flooding
7. WASH cluster/sector coordination and support to national water utilities and rural water authorities

Selection criteria:

- Minimum 8 years' WASH programming experience, including at least one emergency or drought response
- Qualification in civil/environmental engineering, public health or a related field
- Demonstrated experience designing and delivering emergency water supplies in remote or island contexts
- Desirable: WASH cluster coordination experience; application of Sphere standards; water quality testing competency

DROUGHT RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT

Key responsibilities include:

1. Drought monitoring and early warning (indices, remote sensing, field indicators) and translating these into action
2. Anticipatory action: trigger design, pre-agreed action plans and forecast-based financing
3. Water resource assessment and allocation using water balance and availability assessments, demand forecasting and prioritising use across household, agricultural and commercial needs during scarcity.
4. Water supply system management under drought i.e., reservoir and storage operations, rationing and demand management, and supporting utilities and rural water authorities with drought plans.
5. Catchment and integrated water resource management
6. Water resource monitoring and data processing
7. National and sub-national drought contingency planning, impact assessment and response coordination
8. Multi-sector drought response design linking WASH, food security, nutrition, health and livelihoods
9. Drought-related displacement, protection and shock-responsive social protection
10. Supporting water resource policy, allocation frameworks and institutional arrangements for longer-term water security.

Selection criteria:

- Minimum 8 years' experience in drought or water resource management
- Demonstrated experience leading or contributing to a drought or slow-onset disaster response
- Experience working with national disaster management offices or government systems
- Desirable: anticipatory action or forecast-based financing experience; previous El Niño response experience

HYDROLOGY AND HYDROGEOLOGY

Key responsibilities include:

1. Rapid groundwater resource assessment, hydrogeological mapping and geophysical surveys
2. Borehole sitting, drilling supervision, pump testing, rehabilitation and yield/sustainability assessment
3. Freshwater lens and aquifer management on small islands and atolls, including saline intrusion monitoring
4. Surface water hydrology: catchment, river flow and reservoir modelling, water balance and allocation
5. Flood and flash-flood risk assessment, including rapid-onset rainfall on dry soils as conditions shift
6. Water resources monitoring network design, data management and use of remote sensing

KEY AREAS - RESPONSIBILITIES AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection criteria:

- Degree in hydrology, hydrogeology, geology, water resources engineering or a related field
- Minimum 8 years' applied experience, including field-based groundwater or surface water assessment
- Proven ability to produce practical recommendations for water supply decisions under time pressure
- Desirable: small island/atoll groundwater experience; GIS and hydrological modelling software proficiency

CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND CLIMATE SERVICES

Key responsibilities include:

1. Interpretation and communication of seasonal forecasts and ENSO/IOD outlooks for decisionmakers and communities
2. Climate risk and vulnerability assessment, and integration of climate information into response and recovery planning
3. Impact-based forecasting and multi-hazard early warning systems, including last-mile communication
4. Support to national meteorological and hydrological services
5. Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction planning, including nature-based solutions
6. Resilient recovery (building back better) and links to climate finance and longer-term programs

Selection criteria:

- Qualification in climate science, meteorology, environmental science, disaster risk reduction or a related field
- Minimum 8 years' experience in climate risk, climate services, adaptation or DRR programming
- Demonstrated ability to translate technical climate information into practical guidance for non-specialists
- Desirable: experience in Indo Pacific;

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Key responsibilities include:

1. Food security and livelihoods assessment and analysis (e.g. IPC, HEA, market, crop and livestock assessments)
2. Nutrition surveillance and response linked to drought, including for children and pregnant and lactating women
3. Cash and voucher assistance design and delivery, including market functionality analysis
4. Understanding of agricultural recovery
5. Food security cluster coordination and early recovery of livelihoods

Selection criteria:

- Minimum 8 years' food security and nutrition experience in humanitarian or development settings
- Demonstrated experience in food security assessment and response design during a drought or shock
- Qualification in agriculture, agricultural economics, nutrition, rural development or a related field
- Desirable: IPC certification; cash and voucher assistance experience; experience in subsistence agriculture contexts

CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS

Key responsibilities include:

1. Food security and livelihoods assessment and analysis
2. Climate-resilient crop production such as introducing drought- and heat-tolerant crop varieties, diversifying crops, adjusting planting calendars, and strengthening seed systems (including traditional and local seed banks).

KEY AREAS - RESPONSIBILITIES AND SELECTION CRITERIA

3. Soil and water management on farms such as soil moisture conservation, mulching, conservation agriculture, agroforestry, small-scale and efficient irrigation, and rainwater harvesting for agriculture.
4. Linking climate information to farm decisions, turning seasonal forecasts and ENSO outlooks into agricultural advisories, and supporting agricultural extension services to deliver them to farmers.
5. Fodder and water planning, animal health, managing herd numbers during drought, and adapting fisheries and aquaculture to heat stress and coral bleaching.
6. Agricultural recovery programs that build resilience, working with farmer groups and agricultural ministries, and drawing on traditional knowledge and local food systems.

Selection criteria:

- Qualification in agriculture, agronomy, agricultural science or a related field.
- Minimum 8 years' experience in climate-smart agriculture, agronomy, food security or rural livelihoods
- Demonstrated experience supporting farmers or agricultural services to adapt to drought or climate shocks.
- Desirable: experience in Pacific or Timor-Leste subsistence farming contexts

CODE OF CONDUCT

In accordance with Tetra Tech's Code of Conduct and Client Service Standards, all staff are expected to display professional behaviour, communicate respectfully, and perform their duties responsibly.

CHILD PROTECTION

Tetra Tech is committed to protecting the rights of children. We reserve the right to conduct police checks and other screening procedures to ensure a child-safe environment.

GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Tetra Tech International Development does not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, race, colour, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, veteran status, marital status, or any other identity. We strongly encourage applications from minoritized groups and promise to ensure our application process is accessible and inclusive.

PREVENTING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, ABUSE AND HARASSMENT, MODERN SLAVERY AND SAFEGUARDING

Tetra Tech has a zero-tolerance approach to sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH'), child abuse and exploitation, modern slavery and safeguarding related retaliation, and this zero-tolerance extends to inaction. Tetra Tech is committed to being a child safe organisation, and to promoting a culture that supports gender equality, and addresses the gendered drivers of violence against women and children. It is committed to fostering a culture where we prevent and respond decisively and appropriately to harm against people, and that all people are treated with dignity and respect, irrespective of country, program, or office where we work. This will require compliance with Tetra Tech's Safeguarding and other Codes of Conduct and our associated safeguarding policies (Child Protection and Child Safety, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) policy and procedure, and Modern Slavery. Any successful applicants will be required to undertake satisfactory referee and criminal record checks prior to being appointed to any position.

Tetra Tech does not charge money or any kind of fee at any stage of the recruitment process (this includes applications, interviews, meetings, processing, administration, service and training). Tetra Tech will never ask for your sensitive information, such as bank account or other login details, including username or password.

A position description is not intended to limit the scope of a position but to highlight the key aspects of the position. The requirements of the position may be altered in order to meet the changing operational needs of Tetra Tech International Development.