

Early Warning Systems Consultant

About the Centre

The Centre for Disaster Protection (the Centre) is funded by UK Aid and managed through DAI Global UK (DAI), it works to change how the world prepares and pays for disasters. Identifying, planning for and financing disasters before they strike saves lives, reduces suffering and protects livelihoods and economies, especially for the poorest and most vulnerable communities. The Centre brings countries together with international development, humanitarian and private sector organisations to find solutions and advocate for change. We find ways to stop disasters devastating lives by supporting countries and the international system to better manage risks. To do this, the Centre provides advisory services, builds knowledge, catalyses innovation and creates partnerships across the development, humanitarian and financial sectors.

The Centre's technical work is focused on cross-cutting goals as set out in our five-year strategy (2019-2024):

1. **Advice – quality assurance and advisory services and training:** We will have a respected and widely used quality assurance function that has increased the quantity and quality of risk financing products and services. Our effective technical assistance and capacity building will have supported high risk, vulnerable countries to make better disaster risk management decisions through knowledge exchange and genuine skills transfer.
2. **Evidence and Learning:** We will be internationally recognised as driving change through evidence, experimentation and learning which will strengthen the global evidence base on disaster risk financing.
3. **Advocacy and Influencing:** Through advocacy and influencing and being a positive disrupter, we will have improved the quality and quantity of disaster risk financing through the multilateral system.

Additionally, we are focused on building effective systems and processes on people and operations to support the Centre to rapidly yet strategically scale and grow in a way that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion and ensures the organisation is a great place to work.

About the Sahel project

The Centre is currently establishing and implementing a new UK Aid funded [project](#) to support five countries in the Sahel region (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger) to strengthen their adaptive social protection systems.

The Centre will work closely alongside the second phase of the World Bank's Bank's Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Programme (SASPP) to provide support to country teams in laying the foundations for stronger policy, practice and financing for social protection systems in the Sahel that are more adaptive to climate-related shocks. The Centre's efforts will seek to ensure that further improvements to Sahelian social protection systems are informed by principles and practices of good disaster risk financing, and that long-term financing and early warning systems are linked to suitable triggers.

The project is expected to run from July 2022 to December 2026, during which time the Centre will provide high-quality technical assistance, capacity building and evidence support to ensure that:

1. National social protection systems in Sahel countries are better able to adapt to shocks, like droughts or floods.
2. Weather and early warning data are utilised to improve disaster risk preparedness.
3. Financing strategies are put in place for social protection systems.
4. Social protection systems are more inclusive, avoid doing harm and contribute to gender equality.

Context to the role

Sahelian countries have been faced with a complex range of social, economic and climate factors that have heightened fragility and insecurity in recent years, increasing the breadth and depth of vulnerability experienced in particular by poor persons in these countries. With household resilience to shocks such as droughts and floods being comparatively low, and large shares of the population working in agricultural sectors with limited adaptive capabilities, even relatively less severe climate-related shocks can have significant effects on vulnerable persons' livelihoods. This has underscored the need for social protection systems that can adapt and expand to reduce vulnerabilities to climate shocks and respond to emergencies, as well as help build vulnerable peoples' longer-term resilience.

The World Bank is supporting the governments of countries across the Sahel with the objective of providing countries with the tools, programmes and institutional arrangements enabling them to respond to climate shocks in a timely and effective manner. National social safety projects have been helping governments to put in place the foundations for adaptive social protection (ASP) systems. These systems have provided the social safety net infrastructure to provide emergency cash transfers to persons affected by major shocks – notably COVID-19 and food insecurity during the lean 2021 and 2022 lean seasons.

In order for these systems to effectively scale and adapt responses to various types of shocks, and potentially provide support ahead of severe shocks impacting vulnerable persons, stakeholders in social protection need to be able to draw on available climate and early warning data. This data can serve both to monitor and target specific areas and populations exposed or vulnerable to climate shocks, as well as to trigger the implementation of scaled responses to support households in these areas.

Development and humanitarian actors in the Sahel – including the World Bank – have taken steps to integrate the monitoring of food insecurity (notably through the Cadre Harmonisé) and some disaster risk analysis into their short- and longer-term programming. Nascent national social protection systems in these countries are in turn primarily designed to manage and respond to food insecurity. World Bank country teams are currently seeking to better utilise climate models and projections, drawing on satellite and remote sensing data, to complement and enhance the monitoring and response to food insecurity and other climate-related risks in new projects.

About the role

The Centre and DAI are seeking to engage an individual for a **technical consultancy to provide longer-term advisory and quality assurance on drought and flood early warning systems** for shock-responsive finance delivered through adaptive social protection systems.

This consultancy assignment will support the Centre's ongoing work to advise World Bank country teams on integrating climate and early warning data into the design and delivery of social protection responses to vulnerable populations across the Sahel.

The purpose of this role will be to contribute to the conception and lead the delivery of high-quality technical advisory and analysis on drought-and flood-related indicators. This role will also be involved in reviewing and quality assuring other Centre suppliers' ongoing work alongside the Centre's Sahel team.

The assignment is expected to improve the quality and relevance of the country-specific early warning systems for social protection initiatives in the three target countries. The focus of this work is expected to be on Burkina Faso, Chad and Mauritania.

This work is expected to consist largely of desk-based work, including documentary review, data analysis and online discussions with the Centre's Sahel project team, as well as counterparts in the World Bank.

This role is expected to be largely desk-based, with incidental travel to Sahel countries. The level of effort expected for this role is **up to 110 fee days, to be delivered between January 2024 and December 2024.**

Delivering this project will require consistent coordination with the Centre's Sahel project team. The contractor should be able to work closely with the project team and will be expected to attend key meetings or workshops as they relate to the presentation of country level methodologies.

The individual will also be expected to uphold the Centre's values and contribute to building the Centre's external reputation through managing relations with clients and partners across the development, humanitarian, financial and academic sectors.

Required skills & competencies

The ideal candidate should demonstrate the following skills and experience:

- relevant qualifications at master's degree level in geospatial, climate or environmental sciences, disaster risk management, data analysis or similar.
- at least 10 years' experience in researching, analysing, and reporting on climate-related risk and early warning data (notably for droughts and floods) in low-income or fragile setting.
- demonstrable track record in designing, delivering and/or quality assuring drought- and/or flood-related applied research, analysis and evidence to a high standard, preferably in West and Central Africa.
- demonstrated experience advising international and/or humanitarian agencies and/or governments on indicators for assessing and monitoring drought- and/or flood-related risk.
- fluency in French and English is required. Fluency in Arabic will be considered as an asset.

The individual is expected to report to, and work under the day-to-day guidance of the Sahel Project Lead and take part in occasional progress and coordination discussions with CDP and the World Bank SASPP team.

Fee rates, payments & eligibility

Remuneration will be based on individual experience and skills while, as the Centre is a UK aid-funded project, all rates for consultants and staff are subject to controls. Applicants should propose a gross daily fee rate in their submission (see instructions below), which should be inclusive of any applicable taxes. (NB, as one exception, any applicable UK VAT should be separately indicated).

Any applicable expenses approved by the Centre/ DAI will be covered. This includes travel related expenses and others as relevant and mutually agreed. Approved expenses will be billable exclusively on actual costs incurred, as evidenced by receipts.

Payment

Fees will be payable on actual usage of days evidenced by timesheets, subject to completion and approval of key deliverables due at the invoicing point. Any expenses will be paid on actual costs (against receipts) using an agreed invoice and timesheet template.

Correctly submitted invoices will be paid within 30 days of receipt of invoice and/or approval of relevant work (whichever is the later).

Negotiation and finalisation of commercial terms

DAI on behalf of the Centre reserves the right to negotiate on any aspects of the proposed costs and payment and is not bound to accept any offer.

Application Process

Submission mechanism and deadline

Please submit the following by 12pm UK time, on **30 November 2023** through the DAI careers portal at <https://www.dai.com/careers/search>

- Your CV (max. 3 pages).
- Covering letter indicating how your experience and interest aligns with this work, and how you will approach this work (max. 2 pages).
- Indicative gross daily fee rate expectations inclusive of any applicable taxes (except UK VAT which should be separately indicated).

Please note that your data will be stored confidentially on DAI's corporate database, which has restricted access for necessary DAI corporate staff only. DAI takes your privacy seriously. If you choose to, you may opt out of inclusion in our database at any point in time by sending an email togdpr@dai.com. See our Privacy Policy for details. Your data may be held outside of the EU and/or UK by one of the other DAI group companies with sufficient safeguards in place regarding security and use.

DAI Eligibility Criteria

All individual(s) shortlisted will undergo an initial eligibility criteria assessment. This includes vetting of the organisations in line with terrorism checks, company history of improper conduct, any legal acts against the organisation(s) and initial vetting of proposed personnel. Where disqualification factors are discovered, the application may be rejected without notification.

Successful individual(s) will be subject to detailed vetting analysis and relevant reference checks, and, in the case of organisations, also a due diligence assessment through DAI's Management Capacity Assessment Tool (MCAT). This will include an assessment of:

- Organisational details
- Safeguarding policies, procedures and systems
- Financial management policies, procedures, practises and systems
- Duty of care
- Modern Slavery policies and procedures.

Final award of contract will not be confirmed until these checks are complete.

Intellectual property

Any foreground Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) arising out of the performance of project will belong to the Managing Agent of the Centre for the purposes of awarding to the Centre perpetual, irrevocable licence to use, sub-licence or commercially exploit such IPRs in the delivery of its mission and likewise to the Centre's funder, the UK FCDO.



The Management Agent, on behalf of the Centre, will provide the Service Provider right to use such IPRs and other Centre IPRs to the extent needed to perform their obligations under this project. IPRs relating to any background intellectual property drawn upon by the Service Provider in delivery of the assignment shall remain with the Service Provider, who will provide the Centre (through its Managing Agent) and FCDO rights to use such intellectual property to the extent it is integrally required to enjoy their rights to use the results of the Project and the foreground IPRs.