Government of the Netherlands

TERMS OF REFERENCE – Dutch Risk Reduction and Surge Support (DRRS) – Scoping floodings Bali, Indonesia, October 2025

Introduction

The Government of Indonesia has requested the support of the DRRS programme to discuss potential scoping of an expert team to support the flooding in Bali, Indonesia. The Government of Indonesia wishes to gain a better understanding of flood risk management measures. Emergency responses have been effectively deployed by local actors. A potential DRRS scoping will therefore place emphasis on the recovery process and future resilience of the island.

The official request comes from Mr. Dody Hanggodo, Minister of Public Works from Indonesia. It was channeled to RVO by the Embassy of the Netherlands in Indonesia.

Background

Torrential rains have caused severe flooding across most of the island of Bali, Indonesia, in the month of September. According to the BBC, the death toll stands at 14, with authorities searching for more survivors. Homes have been submerged, and roads have been shut by landslides.

Flooding in Bali has become increasingly problematic due to a combination of natural and human factors. The island's rivers are short and flow quickly to the delta, leaving little time or space for water to drain naturally. Over the past ten years, rapid urbanization has replaced rice fields with houses and infrastructure, significantly reducing the land's ability to absorb rainwater. During periods of intense rainfall — which have become more extreme due to changing weather patterns — this lack of space causes rivers to overflow. Additionally, the rivers are often filled with waste and plastic, clogging drains and filters, which further worsens the flooding situation.

To address these challenges, a collaborative effort involving local authorities and external advisors is essential. A shared, integrated vision is needed to support long-term socio-economic development, with improved flood resilience as foundational components.

RVO has already identified and contracted a team leader to do a quick scan for the island of Bali in cooperation with the to be identified small team of (preferably local) experts to analyse the situation in cooperation with local stakeholders to determine the capacities, gaps, challenges and potential DRRS follow up activities for the region at this stage.

Expected output

a. Scope and objectives

1. RVO is requesting a small team of experts for a potential second deployment in December 2025 to build upon the results of the initial scoping mission and further conversations with local and national stakeholders regarding flood risk management and resilience building.

b. Activities

Phase 1: Scoping visit to Bali

1. Conduct the necessary preparations in the Netherlands, which include reviewing existing diagnostic studies and inventorise spatial plans that potentially influence future flood risk in Bali, conducting a preliminary impact assessment based on reports and FloodTags data, and making all necessary preparations for the different activities in both Jakarta and Bali.
2. Meet with ministries in Jakarta to inventorise policy priorities on flood management, water resources management and affiliated sectors such as solid waste management, tourism, agriculture and urban development and housing. Attempt to link national water-affiliated strategies to prioritized short term measures.
3. Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the impacts of the Bali floods, including analysis of root causes, vulnerability mapping, and identification of both immediate and medium-term

technical needs. This includes on-site inspections and assessment of causes and impacts of recent flooding, including affected communities' perspectives.
4. Facilitate a focus group discussion in Bali to discuss recent and past floods, assess sense of urgency, co-create ideas to improve resilience, and start prioritizing possible short-term actions.
5. Organise/participate in field visits and close stakeholder engagements in Bali in order to formulate short-term measures and suggestions for strengthening long-term resilience in a rapidly urbanizing landscape.

c. Deliverables after initial scoping phase

1. A concise report for RVO, with clear findings, conclusions, recommendations, and input for a possible Terms of Reference (ToR) in case a DRRS-Team intervention is advisable.
2. Visual communication materials that has been used in stakeholder engagement during the field work and proposed focus group discussions.
3. A strategy for possible follow-up actions.
4. Follow up call to present the findings with the Indonesian government, Netherlands Embassy and RVO and other relevant stakeholders.
5. An advice for a go/no-go on the formation of a full team and deployment to Indonesia.

With regards to the report, the following standards are maintained:

- The findings and recommendations shall be presented in a reader friendly and professional manner, and may include illustrations and photos;
- The report will be made up according to the standard DRRS-Team format/lay-out. The standard formats will be made available;
- Peer review using the DRRS Think Tank is to be part of the process;
- The report will be written in the English language;
- The report shall be concise and include a summary.

d. Required expertise

Based on the available information, the necessary expert profiles will be drafted together with the selected team leader:

Role	***Expertise***
Flood management expert	An operations-focused practical-oriented flood management expert. This expert is experienced in river basin monitoring, data analysis, and has experience with the engineering and implementation of both grey and green flood protection measures, preferably in Indonesia. The expert has a solutions-driven attitude and is able to quicky asses pros and cons of possible measures (expert judgements). Since interaction with local experts is needed, he/she is preferably bilingual in English/Bahasa Indonesia.
Communications expert	A storyteller/visualization expert, to support communication on site and in the focus group discussion on findings and recommendations. The expert is experienced with the concept of design thinking and understands the basics of flood management in an Asian context.

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General requirements (applicable for all for all team members):

- Able to rapidly assess situations and data and provide conceptual and practical solutions;
- Experience in and knowledge of the local/regional context;
- Ability to be a relevant sparring partner for the local officials and to provide feedback on the existing plans and ideas, as well as provide input for suitable alternatives;
- Excellent presentation and reporting skills in English;
- Good communication skills in English;
- Familiarity and practical experience with complex (governance) systems;
- Familiarity and practical experience with climate adaptation;
- Working proficiency in Bahasa is an asset.

Flood management expert requirements:

- Experience in river basin monitoring, data analysis, and engineering and implementation of both grey and green flood protection measures, preferably in Indonesia;
- Solutions-driven attitude;
- Able to quicky asses pros and cons of possible measures (expert judgements);
- Since interaction with local experts is needed, he/she is preferably bilingual in English/Bahasa Indonesia.

Communications expert requirements:

- Expert on storytelling and visualisation techniques;
- Able to support communication on site and in the focus group discussion on findings and recommendations.
- Experienced with the concept of design thinking and understands the basics of flood management in an Asian context.

Additional expertise—such as a financial specialist, spatial planner, or nature-based solutions (NbS) expert—can be brought in for future phases.

Timing

The maximum number of (on site) working days is for phase 1 (scoping): 9 including travel days.
The intention is to schedule the deployment in the last week of October 2025.
An estimated time schedule would be:

- Phase 1: Scoping
  - 1-day preparation, conducting the necessary remote desk studies and discussions
  - 7 day visit to Jakarta/Bali
    - Day 1: International travel
    - Day 2: Coordinated meetings with ministries in Jakarta
    - Day 3: Meetings with BWS and regional/local authorities in Bali
    - Day 4: Field visits and preparations for focus group discussions in Bali
    - Day 5: Focus group discussions
    - Day 6: Wrap up and travel to Jakarta
    - Day 7: International travel
  - 1 day finalization

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- Go/No go advice for further intervention

Budget

Kindly use the (attached) 'financial proposal' when submitting an offer. The maximum budget for this deployment is conform DRRS tariffs.