

Communications and Implementation Plan

Provision of technical assistance for aquifer mapping technologies for Zambia

The communication and implementation of the provision of technical assistance for aquifer mapping technologies for Zambia is designed to ensure that stakeholder inputs are considered at all critical points within the project development cycle. This will ensure that stakeholders retain ownership of the aquifer mapping process, that the process is aligned with the needs and context of the relevant stakeholders and is tailored to be implemented in a way that considers capacity needs potential. Stakeholder validation at pivotal points within the mapping process form the foundation of this, establishing a highly consultative and collaborative approach, that is supplemented by ad-hoc focus group discussions with relevant entities that may not be directly involved in the process but that have important contributions or roles that must be considered. The full communication and implementation process for the technical assistance for aquifer mapping is detailed in Table 1 below, with a timeline view in Table 2 and summarised visually in Figure 1.

Table 1. Communication and implementation steps and timeline.

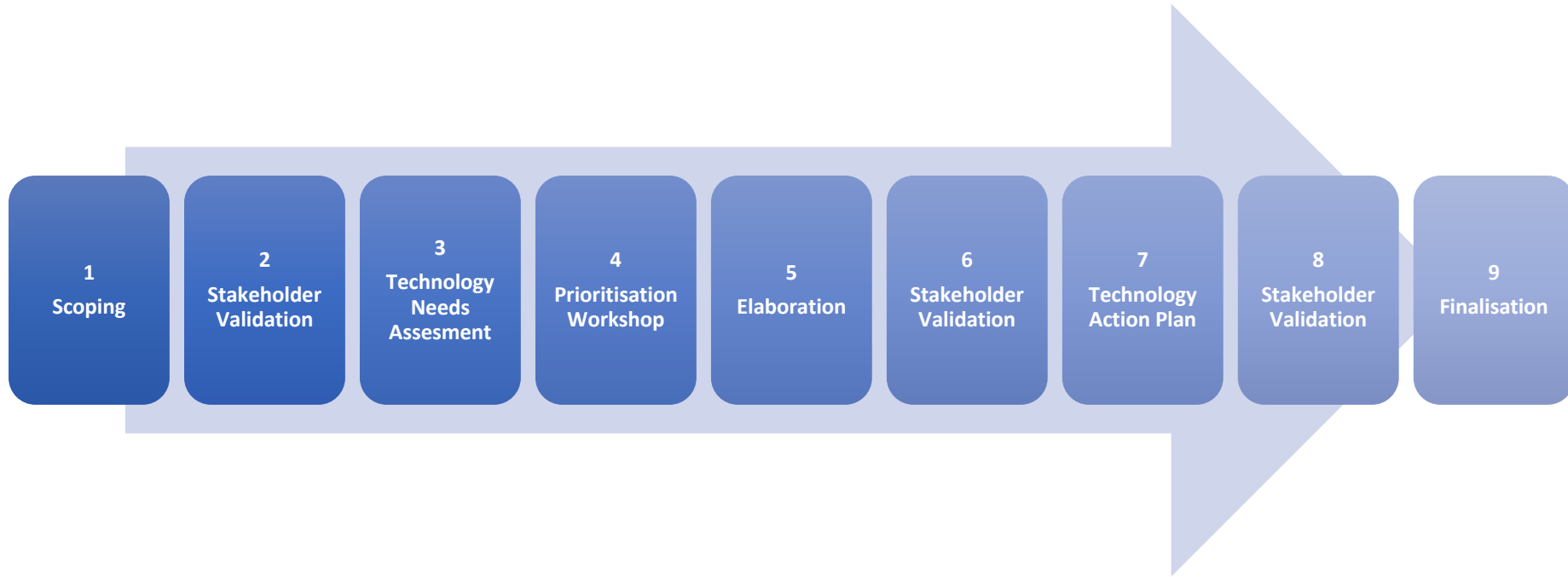
Step	Description	Timeline
1. Scoping	Initial data collection and analysis along with literature review and collation of background information. This will guide the identification of a suite of proposed technologies and approaches.	Month 2
2. Stakeholder Validation	The suite of assistance technologies and approaches is presented to key stakeholders for validation and particularly for preliminary prioritisation, through a facilitated workshop. This will allow the suite to be narrowed to a few suitable/desirable options based on the scoping and stakeholder inputs for aquifer mapping.	Month 3
3. Needs Assessment	The needs assessment works with the narrowed suite of technologies and approaches for assistance to elaborate on the requirements and suitability or applicability of these to aquifer mapping in the Zambian context.	Month 3
4. Prioritisation Workshop	The narrowed suite of technologies and approaches will be taken through a workshop prioritisation process and application of a prioritisation tool (see Appendix I) to rank the options available. This prioritised list will be workshopped with key stakeholders to allow for informed decision making and final selection of the technologies and approaches to pursue that are most suitable for the aquifer mapping process.	Month 4–7
5. Elaboration	The selected technologies and approaches will be elaborated upon to delve into detail on their application to the context	Month 8

	of the needs of Zambia and how best they can be supported, tailored, and sustained. Relevant baseline considerations will be explored to identify any capacity needs that will need to be addressed for the implementation of the selected options.	
6. Stakeholder Validation	The elaborated options will be presented to the key stakeholders for validation, allowing the selected options to be investigated by the stakeholders in greater detail based on the information gathered. Stakeholders will be able to provide input on capacity needs identified and give their recommendations on how best to implement and adapt the technologies and approaches in a way that ensures they can be sustained within the local context.	Month 9
7. Action Plan	The input provided by the stakeholders will inform the development of the action plan for the implementation of the selected technologies and approaches. This plan will detail how best to implement rollout in parallel with the requisite capacity development through training, skills development and acquisition, and resource or infrastructure procurement.	Month 10
8. Stakeholder Validation	During the development of the action plan, a final stakeholder validation will be carried out to ensure that the plan remains aligned with the needs and context of the key stakeholders involved and that they have ownership of the proposed rollout process.	Month 11
9. Finalisation	The plan will be finalised with all stakeholder inputs incorporated. The rollout will account for the Zambian context and the requisite capacity development needs within the involved institutions and bodies.	Month 11–15
<i>Throughout: Focus group discussions.</i>	As the assistance technologies and approaches are identified and their context and needs elaborated upon, specific additional stakeholders will be identified. These stakeholders may not be directly involved in the project but will have important contributions or secondary roles to play as the technical assistance progresses and project rollout begins. These stakeholders will be engaged with as needed, with their full roles only defined following the prioritisation and selection process. These engagements may be once-off or may develop into recurring communications, depending on the role and inputs needed. These discussions will be aligned with the key stakeholder communications to ensure that the input is integrated and validated by key stakeholders.	As needed throughout the process.

Table 2. Timeline of the steps

Step	Month														
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
1. Scoping	X														
2. Stakeholder Validation		X													
3. Needs Assessment		X													
4. Prioritisation Workshop						X									
5. Elaboration							X								
6. Stakeholder Validation								X							
7. Action Plan									X						
8. Stakeholder Validation										X					
9. Finalisation															X
Throughout: Focus group discussions															

Figure 1. Summary of the communication and implementation process.



Appendix I: Technology prioritisation framework template

Attached in accompanying Excel file “20221007-Prioritisation Framework Template.xlsx”