

7th December 2021

Terms of Reference for the Mid-term Evaluation of ‘Strengthening Resilience for a Pro-Poor Basic Water Sanitation and Hygiene Service Delivery System in South Sudan’ Project

1. About Amref Health Africa in South Sudan

Amref Health Africa has a long history in South Sudan, from 1972 in what was then the southern region of Sudan. Over the decades, Amref has played critical role in planning and developing the country’s health care system. Working with South Sudan’s Ministry of Health, Amref Health Africa has helped to create a national health care plan, train health care workers as well as develop and implement life changing scalable WASH models. Working together with communities to improve health, particularly in rural and remote areas where health care is nearly impossible to access.

2. Strengthening Resilience for a Pro-Poor Basic Water Sanitation and Hygiene Service Delivery System in South Sudan

This project is implemented in selected urban communities of Gumbo, Torit, Yei and Yambio municipalities to strengthen the knowledge and capacity of households to implement and sustain Safe Water Chains and practice proper hygiene at the household level to avoid and prevent waterborne diseases. The project uses the Safe Water Champions (SWCs) Approach, which involves recruitment and training of women from the community on basic knowledge on Water, Sanitation and hygiene. The trained and equipped SWC are assigned HHs in their neighborhood to reach them on weekly basis with awareness messages on safe handling and storage of water, proper hygiene practices and now with COVID 19 preventive measures messages for a period of 3 months (12 weeks) per cycle. Through this approach, the capacity of the SWC is strengthened to take lead in creating awareness on safe water and sanitation access, water handling and storage and health monitoring. This would help reduce on the occurrence and prevalence of water borne diseases in the communities and improve the WASH practices with regards to the current Covid-19 pandemic. Local community health

monitoring systems has also been initiated and strengthened. Specifically, the project focuses on monitoring household-level WASH-related disease prevalence and facility reported WASH-related case management, on top of establishing of monitoring systems on household level as a way of ensuring that water, sanitation and hygiene knowledge is utilized. Culturally acceptable communication messages on all the information about prevention and management of Water borne diseases will also be created and shared with the SWCs. Overall, the proposed project ultimately aims to lead to Improvement of safe water handling and proper hygienic behaviors at household level.

The project targets to; increase the proportion of households who access water from water vendor Kiosks and boreholes that are considered to be safe sources for use in Gumbo, Yambio, Yei and Torit; lead to improvement in the use of clean jerry-cans and covered storage containers, increase proportion of households (HHs) using latrines, practicing improved hygiene, including hand washing behaviour.

3. Project Context

The SWC model was introduced in Gumbo and Yei for the first time, and consisted of a full SWC Cycle. In Yei and Gumbo, there will be four cycles conducted, each cycle consists of 3 months (12weeks). 200 SWCs (100 SWCs in Yei & 100 SWCs in Gumbo) will be recruited and trained in the two locations with each SWC reaching 20 HHs per cycle. On the other hand, Amref will reactivate preexisting SWC structure and refresh the WASH knowledge and practices in Yambio and Torit in two cycles of 200 SWCs (120 SWCs in Yambio & 80 SWCs in Torit). It is designed that each cycle will have a break of a month and during the one month break, the SWCs, the project team and community leaders will identify a number of HHs in each location per cycle that have significantly excelled and are enhancing safe water handling and good hygiene practices at the HHs. An award ceremony will be organized by Amref Health Africa in each cycle per location and municipality/county staff, community leaders, HH heads, community members, Water and Sanitation Department staff and other WASH partners will be invited for the occasion. During the occasion, more awareness campaigns on safe water handling and good hygiene practices at HHs will be disseminated to the community members. Riddles, poems, dramas and other role plays will be organized relevant to good hygiene practices and safe water handling. In the occasion, prizes will be given to the HHs that excelled

well during the HH visits conducted by the SWCs (this is intended to motivate HHs to continue adhering to Safe Water handling and good hygiene practices at their daily life).

4. Project Background and Description

Earlier in 2016 and 2017, Amref implemented two phased GIZ-funded WASH programs in Equatoria Region, which documented great evidence of success in the targeted project sites of Yambio and Torit. The current third phase builds on the results of the previous programs and includes two new sites (Yei and Gumbo). Prior to the start of the third phase, Amref Health Africa conducted a household water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) baseline survey aiming to provide a detailed assessment and contextual understanding of Gumbo Sharikat, Rajaf County in Central Equatoria State of the Republic of South.

Critical evidence from the baseline study and end of term project evaluations of Phase I and II provided comprehensive information that has been used to design this proposed project. It is targeted to cover four sites across four states in the country aiming to increase WASH awareness on Household level. Overall, the project targets to reach a total of 24,000 households in the three states, directly benefit over 168,000 beneficiaries with differentiated WASH service packages

Project goal

The aim of this project is to strengthen the knowledge and capacity of selected urban communities of Gumbo, Torit, Yei and Yambio municipalities to implement and sustain Safe Water Chains and practice proper hygiene at the household level to avoid and prevent waterborne diseases, by August 2023.

Project Strategic Objectives

1) **S.O. 1: Increase knowledge and awareness of communities on safe water chain practices**

- 1.1 Selection and training of 200 Safe Water Champions (SWC) in Gumbo and Yei (100 in Gumbo, 100 in Yei) on SWC model together with PHASE plus model (Recruitment, training and awareness campaigns by SWCs in Gumbo and Yei) to be able to sensitize and create awareness on good hygiene practices and

safe water chain management (collection, transportation, storage and use) together with COVID-19 basic preventive messages.

1.2 Reorientation of 200 SWCs in Torit and Yambio (80 SWCs in Torit and 120 SWCs in Yambio) on SWC model together with Personal Hygiene and Sanitation Education (PHASE) plus model to be able to sensitize and create awareness on good hygiene practices and safe water chain management (collection, transportation, storage and use) together with COVID-19 basic preventive messages.

1.3 Training of SWC to sensitize targeted communities and individuals on the safe water vending and waste management services so as to create demand for WASH services

2) **S.O. 2: Improved household sanitation and hygiene practices through proper handling of water and supply chain from distribution points to households**

2.1 Selection and orientation of disinfection volunteers in Yambio and Torit (14 Volunteer disinfectants in Yambio and 16 Volunteer disinfectants in Torit) to be able to conduct water transport/collection containers disinfection at Water kiosks

2.2 Recruitment and training of disinfection volunteers in Gumbo and Yei (18 Volunteer disinfectants in Gumbo and 18 Volunteer disinfectants in Yei) to be able to conduct water transport disinfection at Water kiosks

2.3 Training of SWCs in Water storage containers disinfection at HHs in the four project locations.

2.4 Train SWCs and disinfection volunteers in conducting water quality testing, including water treatment services, water collection and storage container disinfection services.

2.5 Conducting Household campaign in Gumbo, Yei, Yambio and Torit Municipalities

2.6 Household water collection and storage container disinfection

3) **S.O. 3: Strengthen Monitoring at HH level on WASH behavior and WASH related diseases**

3.1 Close harmonization of data between GIZ and Amref Health Africa.

3.2 Conduct quarterly Data Quality Analysis to strengthen data capturing and reporting at community

3.3 Collect HH data on WASH behaviour and WASH related diseases by SWCs in the four project locations

3.4 Disseminate data and information on the activities, achievements and challenges of the project in the four locations with key stakeholders like national, state and county departments of Health, Water & Sanitation and use available opportunities for advocacy on WASH services

3.5 Training and capacity development of local authorities i.e. counties/municipalities to advocate for increased access and uptake of WASH services

3.6 Two Mid-term surveys

3.7 End term survey to assess the impact of the interventions

5. Evaluation Object and Scope

The proposed scope of this Mid-Term evaluation (MTE) will focus on the delivery of the project outcomes against the revised results framework. The evaluation will focus on the period from October 2020 to October 2021 (Year1 of the project whose full implementation duration is approximately 14 months (October 2020 – Dec 2021) in the 2 counties. With this mid-term evaluation taking place at the end of the intervention period in Yambio and Torit. The MTE will therefore focus on 2 out of the current 4 intervention sites. It is anticipated that this evaluation will mark a key point of learning and reflection on our progress over the first 12 months of the project. The Evaluators will be invited to work with Amref Health Africa to understand the project's Theory of Change and approach which will further inform the focus and approach of the evaluation.

The purpose of the MTR is to help Amref Health Africa and the donor to assess how well the project Theory of Change and results framework are working to deliver the project and to learn from what works well and less well. The evaluation will be used to inform decisions on how the project results framework may be adjusted and improved over the remaining two years of the project.

The key objectives of the mid-term evaluation are:

- To help Amref Health Africa understand progress made towards achieving the overall project outcomes,
- To provide Amref Health Africa a set of concrete and actionable recommendations for improvement of the project over the remaining duration.
- To assist Amref assess the sustainability of the project benefits beyond the life of the project.

The primary users of the evaluation will be GIZ, Amref Health Africa and other relevant stakeholders.

6. Methodology

The evaluation will comprise two phases:

- 1) Inception phase:** The Consultant will develop and agree with Amref Health Africa the overall focus and approach to the evaluation, as well as the MTR framework, propose methods/tools to be used, and the final outputs, budget and schedule.
- 2) Evaluation phase:** Consultant to implement the agreed evaluation framework and finalize and present the MTR report following consultation with Amref on draft findings and recommendations. This will involve some fieldwork in project sites and an MTR findings validation workshop with Amref and stakeholders before the report is finalised – to test findings and ensure recommendations are practical, relevant and feasible.

Based on this TOR, the evaluator/s shall elaborate on a detailed plan for how to carry out the evaluation during the inception phase with Amref Health Africa. The plan shall include a detailed work- and time plan, and – amongst other relevant matters – an overview of questions, a presentation of the method and basic considerations. The evaluators will carry out tasks using mixed methods, involving:

- Desk-based review and analysis of relevant documents;
- Interviews with Amref GIZ WASH Project project staff;
- Interviews and focus group discussions with project beneficiaries, which should include field visits to Torit and Yambio; Counties
- Interview with selected stakeholders, which may include Urban Water company officials/ staff, area chiefs as well as commissioners in Torit and Yambio..

7. MTR Questions

The mid-term Review shall address the following categories of project progress and answer the underlying questions. The evaluation questions and scope will be finalised upon discussion with the consultants during inception phase of the assignment.

Relevance:

- Do all aspects of the project design continue to be relevant to its stakeholders in the current context? If not, how could these particular aspects be reviewed and implemented for the remainder of the project?
- How well is Amref able to articulate and evidence their approach and success in engaging with their stakeholders?

Effectiveness:

- What progress has the project made so far against the target outcomes and outputs?
- To what extent is the project on track to achieve its outcomes?
- What factors may be limiting or contributing to the achievement of intended results?
- Have the activities and outputs of the project been consistent with the overall outcomes?
- What key lessons and recommendations can be taken into account for the remainder of the project in order to improve effectiveness?

Effectiveness of Amref's support to stakeholder organisations:

- To what extent was Amref's support to project stakeholders useful and effective?
- What are partners' feedbacks and recommendations for Amref to improve support to project stakeholders over the remaining duration of the project?

Efficiency:

- Has the project been managed with reasonable regard for efficiency?
- How effective were the measures taken during planning and implementation to ensure efficient use of resources?

Impact:

- What are the intended and unintended, positive and negative, outcomes and/or impacts of the project so far?
- What do stakeholders affected by the project interventions perceive to be the effects or impacts of the project?
- How relevant and appropriate have the tools developed for this project for assessing progress and impact been?

Sustainability:

- To what extent are the results and achievements expected to be sustainable after Amref's intervention has ended in the 2 municipalities?
- To what extent is Amref able to sustainably generate, share and use learning across the project to strengthen capacity and improve results delivery across its strategic goals?
- What can be done by Amref to improve the sustainability of the project's benefits?

The evaluation should be conducted in a gender-responsive manner, inclusive of all stakeholders, and be mindful of differences in culture, customs, religious beliefs and practices of stakeholders.

8. Conditions and details of assignment

Time Schedule and budget

The mid-term evaluation must be completed by 25th February 2022 and shall take not more than 20 Days

Timetable:

Closing date for submission of proposals: 14th January 2022

Evaluation determination process to be concluded: 25th January 2022

Notification of contract awarded: 25th January 2022

Start of work: 28th January 2022

Final date to complete the evaluation: 25th February 2022

Deliverables

The following deliverables are expected (in English language):

- Inception report, which includes methodology and workplan based on discussion with Amref Health Africa and to be finalised with approval from Amref and GIZ
- In-country field visits to 4 implementation sites. The length of stay and other logistical details are to be finalised based on discussion with Amref
- Draft mid-term evaluation report, which should not exceed 20 pages (excluding annexes) and is expected to include the following sections. The draft report will be reviewed by and finalised with approval from Amref.
 - Executive summary
 - Introduction
 - Methodology
 - Findings
 - Evaluation conclusions
 - Lessons learned
 - Recommendations, which are concrete and actionable for improvement of the project over the remaining duration of the project
 - Annexes including List of people interviewed, list of documents reviewed, etc.

- Final mid-term Review report, addressing any feedback from Amref and GIZ. The final report must be proofread and presented in a way that enables publication without further editing.

Please note that all reports are to be submitted in digital form (in both Word and PDF versions).

Evaluation team qualification and competencies

This mid-term evaluation will be undertaken by a team of one or more independent international consultants with the following expertise and qualifications. One of the evaluators should act as the team leader with overall responsibility of the whole evaluation.

- At least 7 years' experience of carrying out evaluations of large WASH Programmes demonstrable academic and practical experience in evaluation design and implementation
- Knowledge of major evaluation methodologies (e.g. qualitative, mixed method, etc.)
- Relevant experience of evaluating complex multi-year WASH projects in Fragile and Conflict affected environments.
- Relevant experience of working with INGOs, human rights organisations and/or civil society organisations
- Relevant experience conducting evaluations for development-funded projects
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English.
- Master's degree in Public Health, Environmental Science, Economics, Evaluation, social sciences or related subject and practical knowledge of conducting evaluations

Quotation requirements

Interested consultants are requested to submit a proposal, not longer than 10 pages, covering both technical and financial areas, and should include the following:

- An Expression of Interest detailing interpretation of the TOR, an outline of proposed methodology to answer evaluation questions, including methods for any data collection. The chosen method should be described and justified.
- Detailed workplan or schedule for the evaluation with breakdown of activities and timeline.
- Financial quotation or proposed budget in USD (inclusive of VAT and all costs, i.e.

travel)

In addition, please provide the following with your quotation:

- Copies of all relevant Curriculum Vitae (CVs)
- Two professional references (including one from a previous client)
- Examples of similar evaluations undertaken by the consultants

9. Project Documents

Amref Health Africa shall avail to the consultant the following documents for reference and review.

- Project proposal
- Revised Results framework for the project
- Baseline assessment Data and reports for the project (Consultant to focus on results for 2 sites)
- Household Monitoring Data for period covered
- Annual workplan
- Safe Water Champions Pre and post-training feedback reports
- End Term Evaluation Reports for the previous Phases

The consultant will also be expected to interview among others the following categories of respondents;

- Project Manager
- MEL Manager
- Project Officers
- Programme Manager
- Safe Water Champions (Sampled)
- Project Finance Officer
- Area Chiefs/village Headmen/Parish Heads
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10. Application process

Submissions

Technical and Financial proposals should be submitted by **close of business Friday 14th**
January 2022 through Jobs.Southsudan@amref.org