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**FARM STEW South Sudan**

**Advertisement for baseline survey**

**Introduction**

FARM STEW South Sudan is a registered National NGO working in South Sudan since 2018. It is part of an international network partnered with FARM STEW International headquartered in the United States. FARM STEW South Sudan (FS-SS) began its operations in December 2018 with funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and FARM STEW International.

The mission of FS-SS is to improve the health and well-being of poor families and vulnerable people by sharing the recipe of abundant life throughout the world. FARM STEW trains local leaders in holistic community development with 8 "ingredients" in a "recipe" for a healthy lifestyle. It's an acronym standing for organic sustainable Farming, positive Attitude, Rest, whole-foods plant-based Meals, Sanitation & hygiene, Temperance, Enterprise, and clean Water.

**The Quest**

FS-SS is looking for a competent consultant who will carry out baseline survey for the extended project entitled Recipe for a Health and Abundant life that was funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The project has additional 700 beneficiaries within the same area of operation (Magwi, Obo and Mugali). The project focused on contributing to the transformation of the lives of the rural farmer through training them in organic sustainable Farming, positive Attitude, Rest, whole-foods plant-based Meals, Sanitation & hygiene, Temperance, Enterprise, and clean Water.

**Location**

The location of the consultancy is Magwi County comprising of Magwi, Obbo, and Mugali Payams. Thus, the consultant is expected to travel outside Juba to these locations.

**Consultant experience**

This assignment is open towards qualified individuals and consultancy firm. The consultant should meet the following criteria:

* Minimum of university degree in International Development or nutrition and agronomy, as well as public health, social sciences or related field.
* Strong and documented experience in conducting participatory qualitative assessments related to agriculture, public health and/or behavioural change.
* Proven experience in conducting end of project evaluation
* Demonstrable knowledge of and ability to use participatory tools to explore qualitative issues at the community level
* Documented experience in conducting quantitative assessment and in undertaking appropriate statistical analysis of the results.
* Ability to respond to comments and questions in a timely and appropriate manner
* Able to provide evidence of producing high-quality assessment/evaluation reports in English

**Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Evaluation**.

1. **Introduction to the project**

***Project title: Recipe for a Healthy and Abundant Life in Magwi Payam, Obbo Payam and Mugali Payam of Magwi County, Eastern Equatoria State, South Sudan’.***

The project aims to support vulnerable rural farming households through holistic approaches that lead to a healthy and abundant life. A primary objective is to reduce malnutrition among rural children under the age of five. These trainings would be carried out at the household level with an emphasis on women to take charge of their hygiene and nutritional issues and encouraging and equipping men to contribute to the family wellbeing. Thus, the beneficiaries include the entire targeted households.

***Overall Objective:*** *Reduced Malnutrition and improved hygiene*

***Specific Objective 1:*** *Reduced Malnutrition among the targeted households for children under five years by introducing nutrient-dense soy and other vegetables*

***Specific Objective 2****: Improved sanitation, hygiene, temperance and income among target households through basic training in sanitation, temperance and enterprise*

***Outcome indicators*** /**Outputs**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | Project Summary | | Indicators | |
| Goal | | To reduce vulnerability to hunger, disease, such as COVID-19, and poverty and improve the health and well-being of poor families and vulnerable people in South Sudan by sharing the recipe of abundant life. | | Our project goals for the two years include:  Of the 700 new HH, certify 70% (490) as FARM STEW Home  Hunger:  20% decrease in moderate and severely malnourished children (6 mo. - 5 years old)  Disease: 20% increase in those eating a diverse diet 80% practice  Poverty:  20% decrease in those experiencing food insecurity | |
| Outcomes | | 1. Farming: to increase the variety of vegetables and legumes with 700 additional farming HH plant as well as to increase the acreage (feddans) of land they plant by June 2022.  2. Enterprise: strengthen the ability of the 700 HH to save and invest by integrating VSLAs and cooperatives in the farming groups by June 2021.  3. Sanitation: to strengthen COVID – 19 awareness and disease prevention in the project area amongst the 700 farming HH by August of 2020 with ongoing education to prevent all related respiratory infections and sanitation-related diseases by June 2022.  4. Meals and Temperance: to increase the amount and variety of vegetables and legumes consumed and to strengthen the knowledge of meal preparation and temperance to fight diseases and malnutrition for 700 additional farming HH by June 2022. This includes the reduction of alcohol consumption and manufacture. | | 1. a. An increase in the number of different vegetable and legume crops grown.  b. An increase in total acreage planted.  2. a. Number of HH participating in a VSLA; total in savings in VSLAs  b. Number of HH participating in a cooperative  3. Number of HH who participate in COVID-19 and sanitation awareness and ongoing education    4. a. Increase in the number of HH eating a greater variety of foods (dietary diversity)  b. Increase the number of HH that are more food secure.  c. The decrease in the number of HHs that produce home-brewed alcohol. | |
| Output | | 1. 100% HH are taught all  elements of certified FS Homes.   * 1. 90% of the farming HH have increased crop variety being planted   2. 90% of the farming HH have been taught techniques of vegetable planting   3. 70% of the farming HH have included tree planting in their farming practices   4. 70% of the farming HH have increased acres (feddans) being planted  1. 60% of farming HH are saving money each month 2. 100% of the farming HH are invited to be part of a cooperative group 3. % of families with a kitchen garden that is currently producing vegetable 4. % of families participating in the production of soy and corn 5. % of families who have a compost pile for garden use that is free of trash 6. % of households whose children are eating legumes more than three times per week 7. % of farmers trained and owns ox- ploughs or using ox- ploughs 8. 90% of the farming HH are participating in value addition 9. 100% of farming HH with a tippy-tap 10. 100% of the farming HH have participated in COVID -19 awareness training 11. 80% of the farming HH are practicing hand washing correctly as part of COVID-19 awareness 12. 90% of the farming HH are practicing good sanitation practices such as having latrines and keeping their environment clean and safe 13. % of families with a dish drying rack as part of sanitation promotion 14. 100% of the farming HH have received training in cooking 15. 100% have received training on attitude change 16. % of families homes with reduced violence 17. 100% of the farming HH have participated in seminars on temperance | | 1. FARM STEW trainers with volunteers visit and survey each home to teach certification of FARM STEW Home  1.1. Improved crop yields  1.2. Numbers of trees distributed  1.3. Amount of tilled land  1.4. Number of farming HH practicing at least in one of the following: Conservation Agriculture/GMCC/growing vegetables/planting trees  2.1 Number of HHs engaged in a cooperative  2.2 Number of HHS engaged  in value addition  3.3Number of people trained in COVID-19 awareness | |

***Expected Outputs***

1. **Objectives of Project Evaluation**

* To provide verifiable data on the current status of planned outputs and outcomes which will act as benchmarks against which Progress on set targets and milestones will be continually assessed during project implementation and the end of the project
* To document new knowledge and relevant findings that would affect and have implications on the project outcomes
* To provide specific and practical recommendations and document lessons to be utilized for future programming
* The baseline study will also be expected to collect data on other key areas to enable further conceptualization in terms of measurements and reporting on the key indicators being baselined.
* To provide specific and practical recommendations and document lessons learned to be utilized for future programming
* The baseline study will also be expected to collect data on cross-cutting issues such as gender and disabilities with regards to level of participation, inclusiveness of marginalized groups.

***The Scope of Evaluation***

The survey will cover the 3 Payams of Magwi county where the project is being implemented. Thus all the 3 Payams (Magwi, Obo and Mugali) and the Bomas within each of the Payams will be selected and included in the study. Selection of vulnerable households from the Farmer groups and Bomas/Villages will be done using PPS guidance to ensure it meets the criteria for statistical representation. The key respondents for the study will be households, Farmer, Women groups, the County authorities and Sector heads at the Local government department of Agriculture; Health (Nutrition). The study sample will be drawn from the 700 vulnerable households which are organized in farmer groups under the Farmer Field School (FFS) model. Some of the project activities are targeting the whole household e.g seed, tools distribution; while others directly target farmers, for example training of farming groups, seed multiplication initiatives. The other target category is the mothers and caregivers will be train on nutrition and food preparation. Given that the different beneficiary categories are from within the households, there will be no need to have a parallel sampling for the different beneficiary categories. The survey will thus focus on the households as unit of measurement

1. **Proposed Evaluation Methods**

FARM STEW seeks to use the Framework for Program Evaluation (<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr4811.pdf>) as the basis for all evaluation efforts, including the 6 steps and 30 standards outlined in it (please see attached FARM STEW Evaluation Guidelines).

The Evaluation will be carried out by a team of stakeholders, led by the Consultant. The team will consist of the following full members:

1. Team Leader – Consultant
2. Consultant co assistants
3. FS-SS Executive Director
4. FS-SS Training coordinator

In addition, the following stakeholder representatives may be asked to participate as needed and/or when appropriate:

1. FS-International representative
2. FS-SS Board Chair or Representative
3. Swiss Development Corporation
4. Faith-Based Representative (SDA, other)
5. Ministry Representative (esp. MoH, MoA&F)
6. Local government Representative, chiefs
7. UN Representative? NGO

Representative? Others?

The evaluation process will be participatory involving children, youth, men, women, government, and other partners in the project area. Data sources will be the project beneficiaries and institutions in the project area. Methods of data collection will involve the use of questionnaire interviews with key informants, focus groups, documentary reviews, most significant change stories, and observations. However, the Consultant is free to come up with an appropriate methodology that will make the Evaluation successful.

A significant portion of the Evaluation will be devoted to doing a household survey. The survey will use:

* A randomized selection of homes from each FS group, as well as a randomized selection of homes from communities not yet targeted but included in plans for FS-SS program expansion.
* Standardized instruments including:
  + Minimum Dietary Diversity Survey for Women (MDD-W from the FAO)
  + Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES from the FAO)
  + Middle Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC)
  + FARM STEW Household Certification

Additional key methods will include, but not be limited to;

* Literature review of existing documents including the project proposal, quarterly monitoring reports and project review reports
* Focus Group Discussions (FGD) involving primary project beneficiaries and beneficiaries’ observations during site field visits to the target areas
* Key Informant Interviews with FS-SS staff, partners, other NGOs, leaders.
* Field visits, observations
* Report writing and debriefing with the FS-SS project team
* Reflection and feedback sessions with staff and partners

1. **Evaluation deliverables**

* The Evaluation methodology prior to the selection of the Consultant (Technical Proposal).
* Evaluation Work Plan and Budget based on the estimated period
* Evaluation Tools to be developed after contractual agreement and reviewed by FS-SS and approved before the commencement of the Evaluation
* Short inception report on the proposed assessment one week into the Evaluation at field level.
* A PowerPoint debriefing on Evaluation findings and recommendations in Juba
* Draft and Final Report (FS-SS will provide inputs in the draft report)

1. **Consultant Experience**

This assignment is open to qualified individuals, consultancy firms, and universities. The Consultant should meet the following criteria:

* Minimum of University degree in International Development, public health, social sciences or related
* Documented experience in leading quantitative and qualitative assessments and in undertaking appropriate statistical analysis of the results.
* Strong and documented experience in conducting participatory qualitative assessments related to nutrition, public health and/or behavioural change
* Proven experience in conducting baseline survey
* Demonstrable knowledge of and ability to use participatory tools to explore qualitative issues at the community level
* Ability to respond to comments and questions in a timely and appropriate manner
* Able to provide evidence of producing high-quality assessment/evaluation reports in English

**How to apply**

Interested consultants and consultancy firms are required to submit their application clearly marked “Application for baseline survey: *Recipe for a Healthy and Abundant life*” by email to [Lasu@farmstew.org and Joy@farmstew.org](mailto:Doreen@farmstew.org)  by 17:00 (East African Time) on Friday, 3rd July, 2020. NB. Only successful candidates / firms will be contacted. The evaluation process will tentatively run from July 6th to August 10th 2020