



**Norwegian People's Aid**



**Project: Expansion of Rural Agricultural Inputs Supply and Extension Services (ERAISE)  
Project (FED/2017/387-2019)**



## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **End of Project Evaluation Consultancy**

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Position:</b>               | End of Project Evaluation Consultancy  |
| <b>Responsible To:</b>         | Head of Sub Office- Rumbek (Operational)<br>Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator (Technical)              |
| <b>Location:</b>               | Lake State in Six Counties (Cueibet, Wulu, Rumbek Centre, Rumbek East, Yirol West and Yirol East Counties) |
| <b>Provisional Time Frame:</b> | 30 Days- Including Weekends for data collection and Final Report   |
| <b>Tentative Start Dates:</b>  | 15 <sup>th</sup> November – 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2021   |

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) South Sudan is an International Non-Governmental Organization involved in humanitarian, relief and long-term development cooperation in South Sudan. NPA has worked in South Sudan since 1986 and currently runs three programmes: Civil Society Development, Rural Development, and Emergency Response. The NPA Rural Development Program implemented a three-year grant funded by European Union, ZEAT- BEAD Programme for a Project entitled 'Expansion of Rural Agricultural Inputs Supply and Extension Services (E-RAISE) in 6 Counties of Cueibet, Rumbek Central, Rumbek East, Wulu, Yirol West and Yirol East in Lakes State. The E-RAISE project is a follow on similar SORUDEV project which was implemented by NPA from 2015 to 2017 in the same State.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:

The overall objective of the Expansion of Rural Agricultural Inputs Supply and Extension Services (E-RAISE) is *“to contribute to improved food security and income of the population of the Republic of South Sudan”* with three main specific outcome results:

1. *Improved conflict mitigation capacities of targeted communities*
2. *Improved food production and productivity*
3. *Diversified income generating opportunities*

The objective of this intervention was to increase agricultural productivity and incomes of smallholder producers through facilitating access to agricultural inputs, extension services and output markets in Lakes State. By achieving these outcomes, this intervention was to greatly contribute to the alleviation of multiple constraints faced by smallholder producers, such as *persistent conflict across smallholder farming communities; minimal level of production and productivity; limited availability and very low uptake of improved agro-inputs and improved agricultural practices/ technologies; High post- harvest losses; and highly undiversified income sources from both on-farm and off-farm livelihood sources.*

To increase agricultural productivity, the project was implementing integrated strategies that increases availability and access to locally produced certified seed of high performing varieties of sorghum, groundnuts and cowpeas as well as improved tools with focused mainly on ox-drawn implements. The project was also focusing on increasing the number of rural enterprises (agro-dealers) selling agricultural inputs to reach smallholder farmers especially those in remote areas. A farmer demand-driven agricultural extension system has been put in place to increase farmers' knowledge and practice for more effective utilization of improved agricultural inputs. To capitalize on productivity gains arising from investments made in increasing smallholder producer access to improved agricultural inputs, the action was involved in strengthening post-harvest management and market linkages, focusing mainly on farmers and fisher folk. Through the action, Women and youth were empowered on resilience with a specific attention paid to climate related issues which will in turn result in higher incomes from increased quantities of produce marketed due to reduced post-harvest losses and linkage to market centres. Furthermore, the project intervention was expected to result in increased household income by supporting targeted households to establish and enhance their on-farm and off-farm livelihoods sources within the target communities.

## **PURPOSE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The purpose of the assignment is to assess the extent the ERAISE project has achieved in delivery of planned outputs and outcomes as well as progress towards achievement of the respective objectives, while highlighting enabling factors and challenges encountered. The end term evaluation also seeks to render accountability to beneficiaries, stakeholders and the EU as the donor.

The evaluation is expected to provide data on the performance of project interventions as per the DAC Criteria (relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability). The findings and recommendations will contribute to a learning process which enables principally ERAISE Partners (NPA & GAIS), the donor (EU) and other project stakeholders (Line ministry and its directorates) and other partners (NGO/ UN Agencies) to draw lessons from its experience in order to improve the quality of service provision to target communities. Through this evaluation, findings will inform the implementing partners (NPA/ GAIS) on the effectiveness of beneficiary accountability system and mechanisms used during the project implementation.

## **METHODOLOGY:**

The desired methodology for this survey is participatory and all the consortium members (Norwegian People's Aid- NPA and Global Agricultural Innovation and Solutions- GAIS) will be part of the evaluation survey process. The consultant will however provide leadership and bear responsibility for the process, the findings, the recommendations and the content of the final report.

The end of project evaluation survey methods will be based on quantitative and qualitative data collection method through literature review of relevant report from reliable and trusted sources, household interviews, key informant interviews (KII) and focus group discussion (FGD) and should include detailed data on target beneficiaries as well as secondary data. Disadvantaged household, age and gender per location must be disaggregated for all data collected through the assessment.

The design and implementation of the end of project evaluation (EoP) should also ensure that principles of gender equality, inclusion and non-discrimination are considered and acted upon throughout, and that the meaningful participation of the most vulnerable groups and other key stakeholders is promoted in the design and implementation processes.

## LINE OF INQUIRY:

During this evaluation, the consultant is expected to consider the following DAC Criteria, as laid out in the DAC principles for evaluation of development assistance. This includes; - Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact and Sustainability as outline below.

### Relevance

- *Were the objectives and activities implemented by the ERAISE project addressing humanitarian needs of small holders' farmers in the target locations?*
- *How do beneficiaries perceive the project and how have the activities implemented improved their lives? Are there any successful stories of change?*
- *To what extent was the project able to adapt and provide appropriate responses to context changes and emerging local needs, and priorities of targeted small holders farmers?*
- *To what extent does the ERAISE project address the identified needs of the community?*
- *How well does the ERAISE project goal and objective align with the national Government and NPA priorities?*

### Effectiveness

- *Is the ERAISE project delivering on outputs and outcomes as planned?*
- *To what extent are the ERAISE project activities contributing to the overall project goal? And what were the major factors influencing the achievement of the objectives of the ERAISE project?*
- *Are the (or were the) activities and their delivery methods been effective? Are there aspects that could have been done differently?*
- *To what extent is the ERAISE project producing worthwhile results (outputs, outcomes) and/or meeting each of its objectives?*
- *What opportunities for collaboration have been utilized and how has these contributed to the project effectiveness?*
- *How has the consortium approach of NPA with GAIS including the related structures been in the project delivery?*
- *How has the initiative influenced the appropriate stakeholder community, and what capacities has it built?*
- *Are the target population been appropriately involved at all stages and empowered throughout the process of ERAISE project implementation?*
- *How far has greater equity been achieved between women and men; boys and girls; and between other groups?*

### Efficiency

- *Has the ERAISE project being delivered on budget?*
- *Do the outcomes of the ERAISE project represent value for money (vfm)?*
- *How was the delivery of ERAISE project not only in terms of expenditure, but also in terms of implementation of activities and delivery of outputs?*

- *Was the ERAISE project activity implementation (modality) cost-efficient, while not compromising quality?*
- *What would have been opportunities within the ERAISE project implementation to reach more beneficiaries with the available budget or reduce costs while reaching at least the same number of beneficiaries without compromising quality?*
- *Was the ERAISE project design timely in responding to the needs on the ground?*
- *Were the activities timely implemented when compared to the project work plan?*
- *Were funds available in time during implementation of the ERAISE project activities?*

## **Impact**

- *To what extent has the ERAISE project achieved the target indicators at outcome levels in the log frame?*
- *To what extent have the planned objectives in the project log frame been reached, per indicator, disaggregated by gender and age and, when appropriate, by residential/ location Status?*
- *Is the ERAISE project impacting positively on key groups and on issues that have been identified as key important in project design – particularly peace and security, food security and nutrition, income activities, gender, youths, and environment?*

## **Sustainability**

- *Is there evidence that the small holders' farmers supported through the ERAISE project are likely to grow – scaling up after the phase out of ERAISE project in Lakes State?*
- *What significant changes have occurred in people's lives (Especially the small holder's farmers, VSLA groups, vegetable groups, seeds producers' group etc) and to what extent are these likely to be sustained?*
- *What strategies are in place for the sustainability of these project activities (VSLA groups, vegetable groups, seeds producers' group and animal traction? Are the strategies being put into action by both NPA and GAIS?*
- *What mechanisms have NPA and partners put into place in order to sustain the key programme Outputs and Outcomes?*
- *How has the programme worked with local partners to increase their capacity in a sustainable way?*

## **SCOPE OF WORK AND EXPECTED DELIVERABLES:**

The scope of ERAIS end of project (EoP) evaluation survey is limited to collecting data and generating information based on the project document and logical framework that will be used to assess the performance of the project. Particularly for impact level indicators, this may also include reference to very credible secondary data sources with time and relevance to the project overall goal. To accomplish the scope of work, the consultant shall;

| Scope of Work   | Expected deliverable   |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a consultative meeting with staff and management of NPA in Juba, implementing partner (GAIS) staffs at field level and other key stakeholders including relevant government departments of Agriculture and rural development.</li> <li>Work with NPA staffs to develop questionnaires, prepare the sample size, identify and train the survey enumerators on use of Mobile Data Collection tools (Tablets/ smartphones), survey questionnaires and methodology</li> </ul> | Inception report   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Holding Focus group discussions (FGD), Key informant interviews (KII) and conduct household interviews through use of household questionnaires with project direct beneficiaries and stakeholders (including in all livelihoods sectors-fisheries, pastoralists, agricultural workers, blacksmith workers, associations of rural women and producer organizations, local women's groups, community leaders and service providers).</li> </ul>                                  | Raw data<br><i>(Quantitative data presented in form of analyse excel sheet and qualitative data presented in words documents for possible future use).</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Validation workshop with NPA, GAIS including key stakeholder's relevant government departments from field office in Rumbek and at Juba office upon completion of data collection processes.</li> </ul>   | Preliminary Report   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of a detailed Final Evaluation report of not more than 30 pages. The report should contain very clearly detailed values for all project indicators at Impact, Outcomes and Outputs level with a table detailing these values presented in a matrix should form part of the executive summary in the report.</li> </ul>   | Final Evaluation Report<br><i>(Including list of Annexes)</i>  |

## Reporting

The consultant will be required to report on regular basis to the Rural Development Program Manager on the progress of the assessment which will have the overall responsibility.

## Conditions of Work

- During the period of this job, the consultant will be based in NPA Field office in Rumbek town with frequent travel to field locations for data collection supervision and monitoring. He/she will be asked to overnight in the far counties of the target project sites (Yirol East and West) under NPA cost if in hotel and with no cost in NPA guest house.

- The consultant will be required to abide by NPA security procedures provided by the NPA safety and security coordinator and other relevant policies, such as Code of Conduct, Conflicts of Interest from the human resources, which are outlined in the contract for this Job.
- All raw data collected and reports generated will remain the property of the Norwegian Peoples Aid- NPA and the consultant will have no any rights of ownership after the end of the survey.

## **Time Frame**

This assignment will last approximately for 30 days starting 15<sup>th</sup> November – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The consultant is expected to accomplish the task in the period provided. The timeframe assumes data collection with electronic handsets, and as such does not include time for data entry. For applicants intending to propose data collection using paper questionnaires please indicate this clearly in the proposal document. The overall work should be completed in not more than 30 days including the final approved report for the End of Project (EoP) Evaluation.

## **Qualifications and Experience**

### **Required**

The successful candidate should:

- Have an advanced university degree or the equivalent, with advanced education in Agriculture, public health, development studies, economics, social sciences qualitative and quantitative research studies, M&E with at least five years of experience in conducting similar research for food security and livelihood (FSL) and nutrition, with a specific competency in humanitarian emergencies setting.
- Experience in conducting Evaluation for EU funded project in South Sudan or else where
- Have significant experience in undertaking nutrition surveys using quantitative and qualitative methods (Design and Methodologies, staff recruitment and training, field supervision and data analysis/write up).
- Be familiar with the use of mobile data collection tools (MDC) and able to upload and manage cloud data as required by the organization.
- Familiar with statistical data analysis tools such as SPSS, STATA
- Able to work in difficult and hostile environment
- Have experience in negotiating tangible ideas with opposing parties
- Able to manage work stress while keeping high performance
- Able to travel long distant in rough roads with minimal nutritional support
- Be fluent in English with excellent writing and presentation skills
- Experience in conducting trainings
- Experience/exposure to similar contexts



## Desired

- Previous experience in South Sudan of similar job is desired
- A South Sudanese local Consultancy firm with competent skills in conducting similar tasks is an added advantage

## **All Applicants Should Include the Following:**

- Technical proposal:  
The technical proposal should include;
  - Brief explanation about the lead and associate consultants with particular emphasis on previous experience in this kind of work
  - Understanding of TOR and the task to be accomplished
  - Proposed methodology
  - Draft work/implementation plan
- Copies of reports of previous work conducted.
- A written submission on understanding of TOR, methodology / approach the consultant will use; time and time-bound activity schedule, financial issues (budget, number of people he/she will hire, costs per activity line – people, logistics etc.)
- Organizational (if it is a company applying) or personal capacity statement (if it is an individual that will hire data collectors)
- Resume and 3 references

## **The evaluation criteria are based on technical and financial criteria**

- Education background of lead/ co associates
- Years of experience in conducting similar tasks
- Known reliability in delivery of timely and quality services
- Relevant field/ country experience
- Relevant sector specific technical experience & qualifications
- Relevant monitoring and evaluation experience
- Cost/ budget

## **Submission**

Interested applicants should submit application by email to [rss-tenders@npaid.org](mailto:rss-tenders@npaid.org)  
Alternatively, hand delivery to the NPA South Sudan Head Office, Martyrs Street (opposite UNICEF) Juba, or to NPA Rumbek Office.

**Applications submitted after 5:00PM on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021, will not be considered.**