



Sweden
Sverige



**Supporting Flood and Conflict-affected Communities in Humanitarian
Emergency, South Sudan (SCHEME II)**

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR MID-TERM EVALUATION

1. Organization's Background

Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) is an international NGO that has been working in South Sudan since 2023 supporting livelihoods of pastoralist, agro-pastoralist and farming communities. Islamic Relief's geographical focus has been in Central Equatoria (Juba, Yei and Kajo-Keji Counties), Eastern Equatoria (Kapoeta East and North Counties), Western Bahr el Ghazal (Wau County) and Warrap (Tonj North and Gogrial East Counties) states. Islamic Relief focuses on preventing and alleviating suffering, disease, and hunger, and contributing to emergency responses, socio-economic development and sustainable environment, in areas where WASH, health, nutrition, protection, livestock, agriculture and related issues play, or could play an important role in improving peoples' health, livelihoods, food and nutrition security and resilience. Islamic Relief endeavour to provide communities with holistic management approaches to Food security and Livelihood, WASH, health and nutrition and protection issues embracing multi-sectoral approach and include: implementation of integrated projects or programs. Further Islamic Relief promotes innovative service delivery approaches including capacity building of livestock keepers and farmers through pastoral/farmer field schools; integrating agriculture and livestock as a sustainable means of increasing livestock and agricultural productivity. In addition, Islamic Relief supports community-based structures through training of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), Water Management Committees (WMCs), Community Based Protection Committees (CBPCs), Community Agriculture Extension Workers (CAEWs) etc. support to cold chain system and provision of vet kits for sustainable animal health services delivery. Islamic Relief mainstreams and integrates cross-cutting issues such as environmental protection, gender equity, climate change, disaster risk reduction and human protection in its program strategies, and applies the principles of Conflict Sensitivity, Do No Harm and Accountability to Affected Populations in its programming.

2. Project Background

In line with its Country strategy, Islamic Relief South Sudan received a 3 years (**1st April 2023-31st March 2026**) grant from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) with support from Islamic Relief Sweden to implement the project titled '**Supporting Flood and Conflict-affected Communities in Humanitarian Emergency, South Sudan (SCHEME II)**' in Western Bahr el Ghazal State (Wau County) and Warrap State (Tonj North County). The project is focusing on the following five outcome areas;

- i) **Outcome 1:** Enhanced food security and access to nutritional food through resilient agriculture and cash-based intervention/food distribution among vulnerable households in Tonj North and Wau.
- ii) **Outcome 2:** Improved access to WASH services including water sources for livestock, creating sustainable water sources and improving health conditions among the target community.
- iii) **Outcome 3:** Increased access to equitable life-saving primary health care services for conflict affected vulnerable IDPs, Returnees, Refugees, and Host Communities in Wau and Tonj North.
- iv) **Outcome 4:** Improved capacity and access of the Wau and Tonj North health system to detect and treat SAM and MAM cases among under-five children and pregnant and lactating women.
- v) **Outcome 5:** Provision of lifesaving, inclusive, safe, and dignified protection services, including prevention and response interventions in Wau and Tonj North.

The project is targeting 67,552 vulnerable people in Wau and Tonj North Counties of Western Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap state respectively, and is in its second year of implementation.

The overall objective of the project is to provide lifesaving support to respond to the protracted crisis through a multi-year approach with the integrated provision of FSL, WASH, Health, Nutrition, and Protection assistance to the most vulnerable communities in the hard-to-reach areas of Warrap (Tonj North County) and Western Bahr el Ghazal (Wau county).

3. Purpose of the Mid-Term Evaluation

3.1 Overall purpose of the mid-term evaluation

To inform Islamic Relief South Sudan, the donor and other project stakeholders on the result of implementation, i.e., the delivery of planned outputs and outcomes as well as progress towards achieving the respective objectives, while highlighting enabling factors and challenges encountered. The mid-term evaluation also seeks to provide a basis for identifying appropriate actions to address particular challenges in project implementation and management and, to reinforce initiatives that demonstrate the potential for project success. To review how the project has delivered effective, efficient, relevant and timely activities to beneficiaries as set out in the project log frame.

3.2 Specific objectives of the mid-term evaluation

The following specific objectives will be pursued by the evaluation consultant(s):

1. To assess the project's theory of change (TOC) in terms of extent of achievement of intermediate outcomes against targets in the logframe.
2. To assess the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the project, by looking at the evidence of impact of the activities of the project on outputs and outcomes.
3. To provide a basis for identifying appropriate actions to address challenges in implementation and management of the project and, to reinforce initiatives that demonstrate the potential for project success.
4. To provide evidence-based recommendations and lessons learnt to improve the design/strategies and, update the log-frame of the project, if and where necessary.
5. To inform resource allocation for a future round of proposals, as well as to inform decisions on scaling-up, replication, and /or continuation, and design an appropriate exit strategy taking into consideration institutions and project synergies in the area.

4. Methodology

The desired methodology for this evaluation is participatory and Islamic Relief South Sudan and the key stakeholders will be part of the mid-term evaluation process. The consultant will however provide leadership and bear responsibility for the process, the findings, the recommendations, and the content of both the first draft and final reports.

The mid-term evaluation methods will be based on quantitative and qualitative data collection methods, literature review of relevant reports (primary and secondary) from reliable and trusted sources, household interviews, key informant interviews (KII), focus group discussion (FGD), observation and case studies and should include detailed data on target beneficiaries. Throughout the evaluation process all

the data collected must be disaggregated in terms of location, sex, resident status, and other vulnerabilities.

The design and implementation of the mid-term evaluation should also ensure that principles of conflict sensitivity, social cohesion, gender equality, inclusion and non-discrimination are considered and acted upon throughout, and that meaningful participation of the most vulnerable groups and other key stakeholders is promoted in the design and implementation processes. Above all, the mid-term evaluation methodology design should be replicable for ongoing monitoring and, the End of Project (EoP) evaluation for the purpose of measuring impact at the end of the project in the target areas.

4.1 Line of Inquiry;

Relevance:

- How relevant were the objectives and activities, implemented by the project, in addressing beneficiaries' needs in the project locations?
- How do beneficiaries perceive the relevance of the project and how have the activities implemented improved their lives? Are there any success stories of positive change at household or community level?
- To what extent was the project able to adapt and provide appropriate responses to context changes and emerging local needs, and the priorities of beneficiaries?

Effectiveness:

- To what extent have the planned objectives in the project log frame been reached, per indicator, disaggregated by sex and location and, where appropriate, by residential status?
- To what extent have the activities of the project contributed to the overall project goal? What were the major factors influencing the achievement of the objectives of the project?
- What opportunities for collaboration have been utilized and how have these contributed to the effectiveness of the project?
- Have proper accountability and risk management framework(s) been in place to minimize risks on implementation of the project?

Efficiency:

- How efficient was the delivery of the project not only in terms of expenditure, but also in terms of implementation of activities and delivery of outputs?
- Were the activities implemented (modality) in a cost-efficient way? While not compromising quality?
- What would have been opportunities within the 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?
- Were alterations made to the project design in terms of collaboration during the implementation phase based on the reality on the ground? How did those work?

Learning:

- Is there any substantial evidence on how project learning was generated and applied to improve the implementation, effectiveness and efficiency of the project?
- Who benefited from shared learning experiences (e.g. joint meetings, joint field visits, workshops provision on best approaches and methodology), mainly the NGOs or also the local actors, community members and beneficiaries?
- How did the different actors learn from these experiences?
- What are the key lessons learnt per project objective? To what extent has the delivery of the activities of the action contributed to effective, efficient, relevant and timely delivery of support and enhanced impact for the beneficiaries?

Complementarity and harmonization:

- Are there any concrete examples of successful models of collaboration of the project with other NGO partners at geographic level, not just in terms of increasing complementarity and integrated programs affecting the reach and impact on beneficiaries?
- To what extent were the activities of the project complementary to the work of other stakeholders, i.e. prevented duplication and contributed to the larger response activities?

Sustainability:

- What strategies are in place for the sustainability of the project? Are the strategies being implemented?
- What mechanisms have Islamic Relief South Sudan put in place in order to sustain the key project outputs and outcomes?
- How has the project worked with local partners to increase their capacity in a sustainable way?

5. Key target groups and stakeholders

- IR South Sudan project team and management
- Government line Ministries and departments (State and County levels); State Ministry of Health, County Health Department etc.
- Local Authorities (Payam and Boma administrators, RRC supervisors) and, other community leaders (women, Youth, traditional, faith based) and beneficiaries.
- Service providers (CNVs, WMCs, HMCs etc.)

6. Scope of Work and expected deliverables:

The scope of the mid-term evaluation is limited to collecting primary and secondary data and, generating information based on the project documents and logical framework that will be used to assess the performance of the project. Particularly for high 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"> Hold a consultative meeting with staff and management; in Juba, and at field level and other key stakeholders including relevant government departments of health, FSL, WASH and gender. 	Inception report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop questionnaires, prepare the sample size, identify, and train the survey enumerators on use of Mobile Data Collection tools (smartphones), and survey methodology 	Data collection tools <i>(Qualitative and Quantitative data collection tools)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding Focus group discussions (FGD), Key informant interviews (KII), conduct household interviews and case studies through use of household questionnaires and interview guides with project direct beneficiaries and stakeholders. 	Raw data <i>(Quantitative data presented in form of analyze excel sheet and qualitative data presented in words documents for possible future use).</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of a detailed mid-term evaluation report. The report should contain detailed values for all project indicators at Impact, Outcome and Output levels with, a table detailing these values presented in a matrix. This should form part of the executive summary of the report. 	Final Mid-term evaluation Report <i>(Including list of Annexes)</i>

7. Reporting:

The consultant will be required to report on regular basis to the MEAL Coordinator on the progress of the evaluation exercise, who will have the overall responsibility of the exercise.

8. Responsibilities of the Consultant:

The consultant is required to perform the following tasks:

- Develop questionnaires and install them onto smart phones after approval by IR South Sudan technical team.
- Prepare the sample of the survey.
- Conduct training of survey enumerators, and pre-test i.e. training materials.
- Coordination and supervision of data collection in target locations.
- Check for data quality conducted throughout the data collection exercise, data entry and final data cleaning.
- Completed data sets for target locations produced.
- Conduct data analysis and draft report write up.
- Collation of inputs from IR South Sudan staff, finalization of recommendations.
- Produce the finalized Mid-term Evaluation report.

9. Responsibilities of Islamic Relief South Sudan:

Islamic Relief South Sudan will be responsible to;

- Provide payment upon completion of the assignment.
- Provide/ assign staff (MEAL Coordinator, MEAL officer and the project team leaders in the field) for coordination and planning of the survey.
- Provide population data for sampling for the target locations.

10. Time frame

This assignment will last approximately for 30 days. The consultant is expected to accomplish the task in the period provided below. The overall work should be completed in not more than 30 days including the final approved report for the mid-term evaluation.

Tentative Breakdown of days- 30 days including weekend

Time period	Activity	Location
Day 1-2	Consultant arrives in South Sudan (if International Consultant) Meeting with IR South Sudan Staff, CD, MEAL Coordinator and HoP etc.	Juba
Day 3	Consultant travel to Wau and Tonj North- Meeting with Field team	Wau and Tonj North
Day 4	Meeting with stakeholders	Wau and Tonj North
Day 5	Enumerators selection process by consultant	Wau and Tonj North
Day 6	Data Enumerators training and pre-test	Wau and Tonj North
Day 7-12	Data collection in Wau and Tonj North.	Wau and Tonj North
Day 13	Consultant returns to Juba	Juba
Day 14	Consultant returns to country of origin- if international consultant	Return
Day 15-21	Consultant shares draft report	Juba
Day 22-30	Final Approved Report (both hard copy and soft copy shared with IR South Sudan)	Juba

11. Qualification and Experience:

The successful candidate should:

- Have an advanced university degree or the equivalent, with advanced education in public health, agriculture, social sciences development studies, and nutrition etc. with at least 10 years of experience in conducting similar research in food security and livelihood (FSL), WASH, health, nutrition and protection, with a specific competency in humanitarian emergencies setting.
- 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 etc.

- 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 distance in rough roads with minimal nutritional support
- Be fluent in English with excellent writing and presentation skills
- Experience in conducting trainings

Desired:

- Previous experience in South Sudan of similar job is added advantage

All Applicants should **present separate technical and financial proposals** in their application:

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 including detailed breakdown of quantitative and qualitative samples.
- 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

Financial proposal: To contain an overall bid value and detailed itemised cost breakdown for accomplishing the assignment.

12. The Evaluation criteria (based on technical and financial criteria):

- 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 per task.

13. Submission

Interested applicants should submit application by email to: IRSS.Tender@islamic-relief.com.ss

The application e-mail should indicate on the subject line the Job Title; SCHEME II Mid-term Evaluation Wau and Tonj North.

Deadline for submission is **4:00pm on 2nd September 2024**

14. Conditions of Work

During the period of this exercise, the consultant(s) will be based in Wau and Tonj North with frequent travel to field locations for data collection, supervision, and monitoring.

The consultant will be required to abide by IR South Sudan's security procedures provided by the security officer and other relevant policies, e.g. Code of Conduct, Conflicts of Interest from the human resources, Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) policy etc. which are outlined in the contract for this Job.

All raw data collected, and reports generated will remain the property of the Islamic Relief South Sudan and the consultant will have no rights of ownership after the end of the survey.