



Norad



Norwegian People's Aid

## TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR END OF PROJECT EVALUATION

PROJECT: PARTNERSHIP FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE AND ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS (BREL- YEAR 4) OF CONFLICT AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS IN SOUTH SUDAN.

<b>Position / Call:</b>	End of Project Evaluation Consultancy
<b>Responsible To:</b>	Programme Manager – Humanitarian and Resilience
<b>Location:</b>	6 Counties- Bor South, Terekeka, Awerial, Yirol East, Yirol West and Mvolo.
<b>Provisional Time Frame:</b>	30 Days- Including weekends for data collection and preparation of the final report.
<b>Tentative Start Dates:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> December 2023

### 1. 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 been working in South Sudan since 1986 and runs two programmes: Civil Society Development, Humanitarian and Resilience.

Since 2020, NPA has implemented a "Partnership for Building Resilience and Enhancing Livelihoods (BREL) of conflict-affected households in South Sudan" project. The project, funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), will run for five years and is scheduled to end on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024. The project is in its fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) year of implementation, ending on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

The BREL project is designed to improve the resilience of target households in 10 counties (Bor South, Terekeka, Awerial, Yirol East, Yirol West, Cueibet, Rumbek Centre, Rumbek East, Wulu and Mvolo) of South Sudan to shocks (economic, natural hazards and conflict-related) and contribute to the enhancement of livelihoods through improved household production and increased/diversified income sources. The project's overarching focus is to implement interventions that promote household/community food security and build the resilience and livelihoods of conflict-affected households in South Sudan. This is done by strengthening the capacity of smallholder farmers, groups, associations and local actors to provide an enabling environment for target households to engage in improved and more sustainable climate-smart agriculture hence contributing to improved household production and productivity.

NPA is doing the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the BREL project in collaboration with local government authorities, local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), National Non-Governmental Organizations (NNGOs), pastoralists/agro-pastoralists, Community Based Organisations (CBOs), fisherfolk groups and households, Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), farmer producer groups, farmer association groups/cooperatives, village and market committees and value chain actors. NPA is working in partnership with 8 national NGOs in this project. The BREL Year 4 project builds on previous BREL projects implemented in 2020 through to 2023 by NPA in the target locations.



## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:

The overall objective of the BREL project is *"Improved food security, livelihoods and incomes of conflict-affected households in South Sudan"* with three specific outcomes:

### **Outcome 1: Improved food production and productivity through the transfer of sustainable agricultural practices and technologies**

To increase agricultural productivity, NPA is implementing integrated strategies that increase the availability and access of locally produced certified seed (sorghum, groundnuts and cowpeas) of high-performing varieties and improved tools, focusing mainly on ox-drawn implements. The project also focuses 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 implemented to increase farmers' knowledge and practice for more effective utilization of improved agricultural inputs.

To capitalize on productivity gains from investments made in increasing smallholder producers' access to improved agricultural inputs, BREL Project aims to strengthen post-harvest management and market linkages focusing on farmers and fisher folk. The project promotes handling, storage, conservation and processing technologies for the post-harvest crop, livestock, fish and non-timber forestry products. Furthermore, the project supports local food production by improving access to improved, diversified and adaptive agricultural inputs. NPA is scaling up seed production through private-sector partnerships to contribute to sustainable seed production and access in the target locations. The project is strengthening the capacity of CSOs to influence by supporting the establishment of agricultural associations, organisations or cooperatives and by also assisting them in improving their management procedures and performance. Given the poverty women face in the South Sudan context, the project is supporting the accelerated use of technologies among women and strengthening the adoption of labour-saving technologies to mitigate the burden on women and improve their access to appropriate and sustainable production post-harvest tools and equipment.

### **Outcome 2: Improved Conflict mitigation, Natural Resource Management capabilities and resilience**

The project aims to enhance the capacity of local government, community structures and traditional leaders to monitor and mitigate conflict along crucial fault lines. The project is building the capacity of peace committees and traditional leadership structures to act as agents of "peace" in the target areas. Through peace conferences, the project is creating platforms for community members to discuss and come up with solutions that generate peace and mitigate conflict. The project facilitates the formation of natural resources management committees (with representation by both men and women) for managing natural resources, conflict mitigation and risk management at the community level. Furthermore, the project is building the capacity of communities and their institutions, including women's groups, to identify risks and hazards as the basis for developing natural resource management plans at the community level. The project seeks to secure women's and men's access rights to land and other resources by enabling communities to actively participate in making policies and decisions affecting their livelihoods. The project is also enhancing the capacity of primary stakeholders to access and improve the existing land and resource use systems and develop new ones (if necessary) for community-based resource management with a focus on sustainability and empowerment of the poor, women and other vulnerable groups.

### **Outcome 3: Increased and Diversified Income for youth and women**

The project supports livelihoods and entrepreneurship through vocational and agriculture training and in-kind support, integrated with peacebuilding and psychosocial support activities for at-risk and vulnerable groups. The project also supports youth groups with revolving funds and exercises on entrepreneurship. The activities contributing to the achievement of this result focus on increasing smallholder producers' ability to reduce post-harvest losses, improve storage, add value, and strengthen linkages with markets. The project promotes improved



grain drying methods and household grain storage facilities constructed with locally available materials. Women farmer groups or mixed groups with 60% women are being prioritized because the processing of the crops targeted by the project is usually done by women, using extraordinarily labour-intensive and time-consuming methods. Therefore, labour-saving technologies can have a very significant positive impact on their livelihoods. The project promotes the fabrication of tools and equipment (agricultural hand tools, ox ploughs, beehives, post-harvest drying and storage structures, livestock shelters, fish-smoking ovens, fuel-efficient stoves, etc.) by local artisans and blacksmiths.

### 3. PURPOSE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The assignment aims to assess the extent to which, in 2023, the BREL project delivered the planned outputs and outcomes as well as progress towards achieving the respective objectives while highlighting enabling factors and challenges encountered. The evaluation also seeks to render accountability to beneficiaries, stakeholders, and Norad as the donor.

**The specific objectives of the evaluation include the following:**

- i. To assess the project's performance and achievements vis-à-vis the project's overall objectives amongst the target beneficiaries in line with the project result framework.
- ii. Develop specific recommendations for major stakeholder groups (Line ministries, local leaders, beneficiaries and NPA/ Partners/ Donors).
- iii. To generate lessons learned from the project activities that will be useful during the implementation of similar projects.

The evaluation is expected to provide data on the performance of project interventions as per the DAC Criteria (relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability) while also updating progress made on the Result Framework. The findings and recommendations will contribute to a learning process which will enable the BREL partners (NPA and its 8 partners), the donor (Norad), other project stakeholders (line ministries and its directorates) and other partners (NGO/ UN Agencies), to draw lessons to improve the quality of service provision to target communities.

### 4. METHODOLOGY:

The anticipated methodology for this evaluation is participatory, entailing both qualitative and quantitative methods. Additionally, the evaluator will use existing literature (primary and secondary sources) to enrich the evaluation findings. The methodology must clearly show what approaches will be used to collect data and how triangulation will be performed to refine the findings and conclusions. The evaluation consultant is expected to provide a detailed description of the evaluation methodology in addressing all the components of the terms of reference. The methodology description will constitute a critical part of the assessment and suitability of the consultant.

NPA and its partners will be part of the evaluation process. However, the consultant will provide leadership and bear responsibility for the final report's methodology, findings, recommendations and content.

The proposed methodology should ensure that all the data collected is disaggregated by Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD). The design and implementation of the evaluation should 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.



### 5. LINE OF INQUIRY:

During this evaluation, the consultant is expected to consider the DAC Criteria (Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact and Sustainability) as outlined below and as laid out in the DAC principles for evaluation of development assistance.

#### Relevance

- To what extent was the project able to adapt and provide appropriate responses to context changes, emerging local needs and priorities of targeted conflict-affected households?
- To what extent did the BREL project address the community's identified needs?

#### Effectiveness

- To what extent are the BREL project activities contributing to the overall project goal, and what were the significant factors influencing the achievement of the project objectives?
- To what extent is the BREL project producing worthwhile results (outputs, outcomes) and meeting each of its objectives?
- What opportunities for collaboration have been utilized, and how have these contributed to the project's effectiveness?
- How have the target populations been involved at all project stages and empowered throughout the project?

#### Efficiency

- Do the outcomes of the BREL project represent value for money?
- Was the project design timely in responding to the needs on the ground?
- Were the activities timely implemented compared to the project work plan?
- Were funds available on time during the implementation of the BREL project activities?

#### Impact

- To what extent have the planned objectives and outcomes in the project log frame been achieved?
- Is the BREL project positively impacting critical groups and issues identified as key in the project design – particularly peace and security, food security and nutrition, income activities, gender, youths, and environment?

### 6. SCOPE OF WORK AND EXPECTED DELIVERABLES:

The scope of the evaluation of the Year 4 of the BREL project across the project locations where NPA and its partners implemented the project. This may include reference to credible secondary data sources with time and relevance to the project's overall goal, particularly for impact-level indicators. 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 NPA staff and management in Juba, staff of implementing partner organizations at the field level and other key stakeholders, including government departments of Agriculture and rural development.</li> <li>• Work with NPA staff to develop questionnaires, prepare the sample size, and identify and train the survey enumerators on mobile data collection tools (tablets/ smartphones), survey questionnaires and methodology.</li> </ul>	<p>Inception report, within one week after signing contract</p>

*End*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), Key Informant Interviews (KII) and conduct household interviews through the use of household questionnaires with direct project beneficiaries and stakeholders (representatives from all livelihoods sectors, i.e. fisheries, pastoralists, agricultural workers, blacksmith workers, associations of rural women and producer organisations, local women's groups, community leaders and service providers).</li> </ul>	<p>Raw data (Quantitative data presented in the form of analyse excel sheet, and qualitative data is presented in Word documents for possible future use).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a validation workshop comprising NPA, key stakeholders, and relevant government departments in the project locations and Juba upon completion of the data collection processes.</li> </ul>	<p>Preliminary report</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a detailed final evaluation report of not more than 30 pages. The information should contain clear and precise values of all project indicators at impact, outcomes and outputs level. These values should be presented in a matrix/table and annexed to the report.</li> </ul>	<p>Final evaluation report with updated Result Framework (Including a list of Annexes)</p>

## 7. Reporting

- The consultant will be required to report on regular basis to the Program Manager - Humanitarian and Resilience.
- All written deliverables produced under this work order shall be submitted as scheduled to NPA Programme Manager – Humanitarian and Resilience or Monitoring and or Evaluation Coordinator in both electronic formats, using MS Word and PDF, and printed hard copies.
- Changes in the scope of work shall require prior discussion and approval by NPA and shall be defined in writing to the Program Manager- Humanitarian and Resilience.

## 8. Conditions of Work

- The consultant will be based in NPA field offices with frequent travel to field locations for data collection supervision and monitoring. He/she will be required to spend nights in far-off counties. NPA will cover the travel and accommodation costs.
- The consultant must abide by NPA security procedures and other relevant policies, such as the Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest outlined in the consultancy contract.
- All raw data collected and reports generated will remain the property of NPA, and the consultant will have no rights of ownership after the end of the evaluation.

## 9. Timeframe

This assignment is expected to take approximately days, starting 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The consultant is expected to accomplish the task in the period specified. The timeframe assumes data collection with electronic handsets and does not include time for data entry.



## 10. Qualifications and Experience

### Required

The successful candidate should:

- Have an advanced university degree or the equivalent, with advanced education in a related field (i.e. 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 specific competency in humanitarian emergencies setting.
- Experience in conducting evaluations for multi-year projects in South Sudan or elsewhere
- Have significant experience undertaking FSL/ nutrition or resilience surveys using quantitative and qualitative methods (Design and Methodologies, staff recruitment and training, field supervision and data analysis/write-up).
- Be familiar with using mobile data collection tools (MDC) and able to upload and manage cloud data as required by the organisation.
- Familiar with statistical data analysis tools such as SPSS, STATA or any other relevant tools
- Able to work in complex and hostile environments
- Able to manage work stress while keeping high performance
- Able to travel long distances on rough roads with minimal nutritional support
- Be fluent in English with excellent writing and presentation skills
- Experience/exposure to similar contexts.

### Desired

- Previous experience in South Sudan in similar job is desired
- A local South Sudanese 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 the following;
    - 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
- Financial proposal
- Copies of reports of previous work conducted.
- Organizational (if it is a company applying) or personal capacity statement (if it is an individual that will hire data collectors)
- Resume and three references, the referees should be from recent engagement.

### 11. The evaluation criteria are based on technical and financial criteria

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

- Relevant monitoring and evaluation experience in a similar programming.
- Cost/ budget.

### **Submission**

Interested applicants should apply 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.

*Applications submitted after 5:00 PM on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023, will not be considered.*

*Note: For the purpose of urgency, applicant will be reviewed on daily basis and NPA reserves the right to terminate this advert before the stated deadline.*