

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANT TO CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT OF FAMILIES’ ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE RETURN OF ABDUCTEES AND CHILDREN BORN DURING ABDUCTION (NATIONAL CONSULTANT)**

**OVERVIEW.**

Save the Children has been working in South Sudan for over 20 years and currently delivers programmes in 8 out of 10 states, in Child Protection (CP), Education, Nutrition, Health, Child Rights Governance (CRG), and Food Security & Livelihoods. The CP Programme focuses on strengthening measures and structures to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence affecting children including recruitment into armed forces and armed groups, exploitation and gender-based violence, physical harm, prevention and response to family separation and alleviation of psychosocial distress among affected children. CP represents a critical component of SC’s portfolio in South Sudan and plays a significant role in the broader context of child protection in South Sudan.

**Reconciliation, Stabilization and Resilience (RSRTF)** project aims at reducing violence and intercommunal conflict in Jonglei State and GPAA by preventing the abduction of women and children and facilitating their release and integration into the society. In Jonglei, HRD documented at least 502 abductions (96% women and children) in Jonglei/GPAA.

The project has 3 priority areas/ areas of intervention;

1. Priority area I: Peace building activities
2. Priority Area II: Empowering women and youth.
3. Priority Area III: Strengthening of social services

Save the Children ─ South Sudan with support from the United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Funds is implementing a project aims at reducing violence and intercommunal conflict in Jonglei State and GPAA by preventing the abduction or re-abduction of women and children and facilitating their release and integration into the society. The target areas for this project are Jonglei State (Bor South, Duk & Uror County) and Greater Pibor Administration Area – Pibor (Lekuangole and Gumuruk).

The project objectives include:

**Primary Objective:** To reduce cycles of violence at the community and local level, particularly for women and children, by advocating to prevent the abduction of women and children and support the return and reintegration of the victims willing to return to their families and communities.

The main target group are the victims of abduction, particularly women and children. Beneficiaries include female victims of abduction (including victims of sexual violence); children victims of abduction and/or born during abduction; the families and communities of the abductees; political elites and community leaders.

Output 1.1: Political will is enhanced to prevent and end the abduction, and facilitate the return, of women and children, reducing violence at the community and local level

Output 1.2: Women and girls assume change agent roles to prevent the abduction of women and children, and support former abductees returns, for the peaceful resolution of violence and conflict.

A key pillar of the project is to address these gender inequalities between males and females, the project aims to empower women and girls to gain greater control over their lives, mitigating GBV-related risks and strengthening their leadership roles in target communities. Activities aim to improve women’s and girls’ self-sufficiency and self-confidence by empowering them with relevant skills and knowledge to enhance their economic and socio-cultural standing. The community engagement and sensitization through targeted gender-sensitive communication to shape more equitable gender norms. capacity building community based groups to engage in conflict mitigation, prevention and response to GBV, conduct advocacy and awareness raising and engage in grassroots peacebuilding. Additionally, activities aiming to empower women as change agents in their community will further support in building trust and inform the tracing process. The project further identifies and interview abductees and their families, identifying needs and tracing family members. Moreover, the project aims to organize low profile returns, driven by a survivor-centred approach and tailored to individual needs, with a view to reunify and reinsert victims into their families and communities. Ultimately, with the consent of released women and children, successful experiences will be used to illustrate positive actions and successes.

**PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTANCY**

The primary objective of this consultancy is to conduct a Cross-Sectional Study of “Families’ attitudes and behaviours towards the return of abductees and children” born during abduction at the implementing sites of the project. The location of the assessment will be in Jonglei & GPAA with special focus on the project’s target communities (Pibor, Uror, Bor South, Duk).

**Specific Objectives include:**

* To assess and understand families’ attitudes and behaviours towards the return of abductees and children born during abduction as result of intercommunal violence in Jonglei and GPAA.
* To develop devise realistic methodology of conducting cross-sectional study.
* To develop tools for data collection that will capture the intended outcome of the study with the target population.
* To analysis the data and write the final assessment report.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONSULTANT**

The chosen consultant will liaise with the Program Manager, Child Protection Technical Specialist, Head of MEAL and Research Specialist throughout the period of the consultancy. The consultant will be required to meet the expected deliverables listed below within the period of the consultancy. The consultant will complete the deliverables in a location of their choice, with no requirement or undertaking from SCI to transport them within the designated locations during the execution of the tasks.

**EXPECTED DELIVERABLES**

The consultant will be expected to:

* Submit a detailed work plan and inception report for the consultancy period
* In consultation with SCI, develop and submit drafts report using Child –Centred approach.
* Assessment will be targeted at promoting women’s rights in Social Cohesion
* Revise and refine the content on the findings of the assessment after receiving feedback from SCI
* SCI- will oversee the process and be responsible for accountability and guidance throughout all phases of execution, and approval of all deliverables.

**SAVE THE CHILDREN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Oversee the overall development of the assessment and provide feedback on drafts submitted to Save the Children.

Effect payments on accomplishment of the task according to contract and deliverables met

**TIME-FRAME**

This consultancy is expected to be completed within a month. The consultant will be expected to start working immediately, in November 2021. It is expected that at least 50% of the deliverables will be submitted before the end of November 2021.

**SKILLS & EXPERIENCE**

Education:

* Master’s degree in Social Work, political sciences, International relations, Gender Studies, Development Studies, Social Sciences or related field. Required Experience and Skills
* At least 3 years’ experience in the design and implementation of training materials with a focus on women’s empowerment, Conflict resolution & Management, participation and/or GBV prevention
* Experience or proven knowledge of Child Protection and Social Cohesion/ Peacebuilding
* Excellent knowledge of protection programming in humanitarian emergencies
* Excellent knowledge of women’s participation and empowerment programming
* Excellent knowledge of GBV prevention and response programming
* Previous experience delivering or developing ToT (training of trainers) curricula
* Previous experience working with community based groups
* Previous experience working in the South Sudan context is desirable

**SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL**

The proposal should include:

* Consultant CV including past achievement
* Introduction letter including a brief overview of the assignment as understood by the bidder
* Detailed itemized work plan – including timeframes for submission of drafts
* Detailed itemized budget and price justification

**Annexes:**

1. Any documents, such as work samples, or other information, which the consultant feels will assist proposal review team in evaluating the proposal Prospective consultants should submit a written proposal to jobs.southsudan@savethechildren.org, and Copy Philip.malish@savethechildren.org by 5 p.m. UTC 19th November 2021.

Annex 1. Proposed evaluation report outline (total approx. 20 pages)

1. Executive summary (2 pages)

2. Introduction (1 page)

3. Any changes to the methodology as originally planned (1 page)

4. Results (12 pages)

4.1 Evaluation question 1

5. Conclusions (2 pages)

6. Recommendations (2 pages)