



Terms of Reference (TOR) for the development of a Localization Strategy for Transforming Household Resilience Through Inclusive Economic Development in South Sudan (THRIVE) Consortium Programme.

1. Introduction

Transforming Household Resilience Through Inclusive Economic Development in South Sudan (THRIVE) is a consortium programme of GOAL, CAFOD, Mercy Corps, and VHF Swiss with local implementing partners in the Greater Upper Nile (GUN) to foster sustainable and inclusive economic development and build household resilience using a triple nexus approach. The programme design is centred on solutions driven by and developed from within communities themselves which are locally appropriate, feasible and sustainable in the long term. Thus the key outcomes envisaged because of the integrated intervention strategies are: (1) Increased incomes among individuals and micro/small-scale businesses engaged in the fishing, livestock and agro/non-timber forestry sectors, (2) Improved food security among households targeted with livelihoods and women/youth empowerment activities, (3) Strengthened disaster preparedness & coping capacities to climate and conflict shocks and stresses, (4) Improved social cohesion and conflict resolution capacities among target communities and (5) Women and youth economic empowerment, including financial inclusion and improved gender equality.

1. Thematic Focus areas of THRIVE Programme

In the implementation of the THRIVE Programme communities will be capacitated and empowered to lead and sustain integrated environment and DRR, NRM, conflict resolution, social cohesion, and economic empowerment initiatives among others, through a variety of approaches – including the formation and strengthening of community and enterprise groups and building capacity of community ‘champions’ who will cascade learning down for further capacity development within their community. The programme works on areas like: Gender-responsive and inclusive livelihoods development, market system strengthening, financial inclusion, women’s economic empowerment, climate adaptation, and social cohesion activities

2. THRIVE’s Localisation Commitment

THRIVE programme promotes community-based planning and local ownership of activities across all programme outputs, prioritising participation and involvement of community groups, traditional and faith leaders, local civil society, and local government in the design and implementation of all activities. These is THRIVE consortium members commitment to promote localisation of aid across the programme.

Recognising local systems are made up of multiple actors that are the principal catalysts of change, THRIVE will work alongside these permanent local actors, knowing that they will remain in the system long after project partners have departed.

This ensures that our efforts support established local systems and avoid duplicating work already being carried out by resident actors. Thus, the programme will operate within the local systems, including existing private sector, market, community and government structures for the design and implementation of solutions. It will leverage indigenous knowledge and practices that have been central to community capacity to prepare for and cope with shocks and stresses for generations.

3. Objective of the assignment:

- To ensure THRIVE Programme commitment for localisation is strategically linked with existing local systems relevant and appropriate for the different thematic focus areas of the programme.
- THRIVE programme's overall implementation is better coordinated with local, regional and national level community led initiatives in a complementarity, while avoiding duplication of efforts.
- To develop a comprehensive, THRIVE Localisation Strategy that will provide guidance towards local leadership, voice and influence for the local NNGOs and local communities

4. Geographical coverage

THRIVE Programme implementation targets the Greater Upper Nile (GUN) in South Sudan specifically targeting eight priority counties .

5. Deliverables of the assignment:

The main deliverable for this assignment is developing a localisation strategy for THRIVE programme clearly defining the ways of engagement and collaboration with local and national NGOs, Consortium member INGOs, Institutional Donors, INGOs, relevant coordination mechanisms, networks and/or clusters, government structures, the private sector, etc as implementing partners. Thus, the localisation strategy development process will be based on multiple participatory engagements with stakeholders in doing:

- Mapping and analyse of local actors in programme operational counties and at the national level.
- Mapping of relevant actors in line with the programme's thematic focus areas with the lens of the localisation strategy like Gender-responsive and inclusive livelihoods development, market system strengthening, financial inclusion, women's economic empowerment, climate adaptation, and social cohesion activities.
- Development of a comprehensive localisation strategy with key recommendation for the THRIVE Consortium Programme
- Co-create with the local structures and multiple other stakeholders on ways for the strategic engagement on networking collaboration, cohesion and advocacy.

6. Methodology

Methodological thoroughness in this assignment will be highly valued to ensure the assessment is comprehensive and robust. The consultant is expected to develop an appropriate study design as part of the inception report. The THRIVE management committee will set up agreed key stages and milestones for timely feedback: validation and approval of the inception report, data collection tools, the final work plan, and methodology before the fieldwork phase.

Additionally, there should be a briefing by the consultant on the preliminary results and an opportunity for providing comments on the draft report and recommendations by THRIVE management before final approval. This will be agreed after the adoption of the methodology and workplan.

The THRIVE management team, provide relevant reference documents and other logistical support, access to structures and communities that the consultant (s) may need during the analysis.

In line with a participatory methodological approach and the scope for meaningful participation, opportunities for the involvement of partner organisations with lived experience in each county, and community members directly involved in the project, will be explored to complement the consultant methodology. This will be discussed and agreed at the inception meeting and aligned to the consultants work plan.

Selected consultant(s) will be expected to sign and abide by CAFOD values and key policies on Safeguarding. Selected consultant(s) will also be expected to make a commitment to the work over the full term of the project and to maintain their availability at key times.

All materials from the analysis will remain the property of THRIVE.

7. Timing and Reporting

The assignment is expected to start not later than **20th February 2025**. The final report must be submitted by **20th March 2025**. It is foreseen that the analysis can take maximum of 30 days from the time of signing the contract and this is inclusive of inception, data collection and analysis, validation, and report finalization.

The following staff members of THRIVE will coordinate the consultancy.

Name	Position	Organisation	Email
Tichaona	Mashodo	CAFOD	tmashodo@cafod.org.uk
(Lead)			

The Consultant will report to and is accountable to **Tichaona Mashodo (CAFOD – Head of Programmes)**.

Quality assurance will be provided through THRIVE internal mechanisms. Quality assurance of evaluation products will take place for: Terms of Reference, Inception Report, methodology, draft, and final report.

8. Responsibilities of CAFOD

- Make sure the consultant is briefed about the assignment by the consortium members in line with the broader project context and how it is expected to align with the overall programme goal.
- CTP will organise and cover costs related to consultation and validation workshops with stakeholders on the first draft submission of localisation strategy and its accompanying documents,
- Paying the consultancy fee as per the instalment to be stated in the service agreement

9. Consultant's Competencies

The lead consultant is expected to hold a master's/ doctorate degree in Organisational Development , Public Administration , Development Studies, Social Sciences, or a related field, or equivalent experience, is required. The candidate must have a minimum of 7 years of progressively responsible experience in similar consultancies with demonstrable results. They should possess extensive and proven knowledge of gender, conflict, security, livelihoods, localisation and environmental issues in South Sudan or comparable fragile contexts. The candidate must have a successful record in coordinating complex research processes across multiple locations in various counties. Strong expertise in qualitative research methods and qualitative data analysis is essential, along with a solid understanding of conflict analysis approaches in fragile environments and community participatory methodologies. **Understanding and knowledge of Charter for Change (C4C) and Grand Bargain commitments and frameworks will be an added advantage**

10 Application Procedure

Interested consultants should submit their proposal (both technical and financial) as (detailed below) including updated CVs, Copies of certified sample reports for similar work and references in soft copy to ctpsupply@cafod.org.uk and cc bcharles@cafod.org.uk with subject line “**Localisation Strategy Development** ” by the **18th of February 2025** not later than **4:00 PM (Central African time)**. Proposals received after the deadline shall not be considered.

10.1 Technical Proposal

The **Technical Proposal** (not exceeding fifteen pages) should include:

- Organisational profile.
- Detail of previous experience of similar assignments with traceable references
- Proposed methodology for the delivery of assignment as outlined in the ToR.
- Proposed team composition, including qualifications and relevant experience of the team (please attach CVs).
- Proposed workplan with timelines
- Contact details of key persons.

10.2 The Financial Proposal should include:

- The all-inclusive fixed total professional fees supported by a breakdown of costs: daily rates and number of days to be spent on the consultancy; disbursements if any; any other related costs contributing to the overall total cost.
- **The cost must include VAT price and payment terms.** The financial proposal must be stated in USD (\$). The consultant proposal will be evaluated based on the technical proposal, financial proposal, and general understanding of the TOR requirements.

Confidentiality

All the information and approaches outlined in the proposal including the personal information of the consultant will be treated in strict confidence and remains the property of THRIVE.