



Chronic Crisis Stream Programme - South Sudan Baseline ToR

Date: March 20th 2023

1.0 About Christian Aid

Christian Aid works globally for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity, and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality. We work with partners to implement an integrated and innovative program to address Poverty, Power including using our Prophetic voices. In South Sudan, through our local partners including ecumenical partners of the ACT Alliance including Caritas network in South Sudan to achieve transformation from violence to peace and saving lives of crisis-affected communities.

2.0 Overview of the Project

Christian Aid South Sudan has received funding from the Irish Government through the Chronic Crisis Stream (CCS) Programme. The impacts of Covid-19 and severe weather conditions in recent years have further contributed to a dire humanitarian situation, with people's livelihoods and access to health, education and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WaSH) services severely impacted. Currently, it is estimated that over two-thirds of South Sudan's population of 8.9 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, an increase of 600,000 on 2022. South Sudan is facing the worst levels of food insecurity since independence, with an estimated 8.3 million people expected to experience severe food insecurity in 2022 at the depth of the lean season (May - July). Negative coping mechanisms, such as child labor and early marriage, are expected to increase. Northern Bahr el Ghazal is among the states most affected by the impacts of extra-ordinary flooding and localized drought on crops and livestock. Continued conflict and instability, coupled with climatic and economic shocks, have also resulted in large-scale internal and cross-border displacement. The cumulative impact of recurrent flooding has also contributed to the destruction and damage to water facilities, leaving vulnerable people in urgent need of WaSH services, and intensified existing vulnerabilities of affected people, which include high poverty rates, limited access to basic services including health and education, high prevalence of disease outbreaks, and widespread displacement. Protection concerns remain high, with intercommunal conflict and violence, including violence over land rights and cattle migration, and GBV against women and girls, widespread, and yet people impacted by violence continue to have limited access to justice. Child marriage remains widespread, with Unicef reporting that more than half (52%) of South Sudanese girls between the ages of 15 and 18 are married, some as young as 12. Humanitarian access remains a particular challenge, as aid workers continue to be attacked, hampering greatly needed aid efforts, with the UN warning that South Sudan was becoming one of the most dangerous places for humanitarian workers to operate.

The CCS Programme will build on the strengths of the HPP, recognizing both the need for longer term investment in fragile chronic crisis contexts for humanitarian action to support local resilience and capacities for peace and the important gains made through the HPP to date in this regard. In contexts such as these, with high levels of violence and characterized by recurrent, protracted and complex crises, humanitarian, development and peacebuilding needs are interlinked. However, actors in those countries, including governments and INGOs continue to work largely in silos, undermining the capacity of local civil society organizations and their communities to meet the interconnected needs of vulnerable people, for whom the distinction between humanitarian, development and peace efforts is artificial. This re-enforces the importance of developing longer-term interventions that capitalize on the comparative advantages of each pillar (HDP) – to the extent of their relevance in the specific context – to reduce vulnerability and the number of unmet needs and address the root causes of conflict. Linked to this, the importance of supporting locally led interventions, where a 'nexus' is already being implemented, is also paramount. However, despite momentum on localization since the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit, actual progress and change has been modest, .



3.0 Purpose of the Programme Baseline Consultancy:

To collect baseline data for the purposes of informing the programme Log frame and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) component of this programme, Christian Aid and Partners seeks to engage the services of a qualified and experienced consultant (s)/consultancy firm to conduct a quick CCS Programme baseline study for the programme in Aweil West County – Northern Bahar-el Ghazal. This comprehensive baseline will document and establish concrete benchmarks that supports how Vulnerable communities affected by protracted humanitarian crises are protected, empowered, and better connected to live more resilient and peaceful lives.

Overall Objective

The main objective of the consultancy is therefore to generate quantitative and qualitative baseline data for project indicators in line with project's log frame and identified impact pathways in the theory of change. The data will be used to establish benchmarks against which achievement of the project milestones will be monitored and evaluated throughout the life of the CCS programme.

Specific objective and scope of the Consultancy

1. In consultations with the CA South Sudan programme management team, technical advisors, and partners, review the current project indicators (output, outcome, and impact) and develop a Theory of Change which interrogates the programme logic (based on available evidence), risks and assumptions made and update the current log frame as necessary.
2. Design and implement a baseline survey to establish baseline values for each of the indicators. For instance
 - i. Document evidence-based information that demonstrate how the complex interconnected needs of crisis and conflict-affected communities are met, risk of violent conflict is reduced, and resilience is fostered through integrated, people-centered approaches which put communities and civil society organizations in the driving seat. (micro, meso, macro)
 - ii. Showcase needs driven methods of responding to Humanitarian Need: The changing priority needs of the most vulnerable women, men, girls and boys in target communities are met in a way that promotes dignity and strengthens social cohesion, agency and gender equality. (micro, meso, macro)
 - iii. Establish benchmarks of Tackling Violence and Building Peace: Communities are engaging in transparent and inclusive peace building and conflict transformation processes and their efforts are linked to regional and national initiatives. (micro, meso, macro)
 - iv. Demonstrate how to engage local actors and community members in Tackling Gender-based Violence: Women, men and duty bearers in target communities individually and collectively tackle harmful gender norms and inequalities and survivors of GBV receive appropriate care and support. (micro, meso, macro)
 - v. Fosters Strengthening Resilience: Target communities have strengthened capacity (including better connections) to prevent, anticipate, organize for and adapt to crises and risks related to conflict, violence and the environment in an inclusive and equitable way. (micro, meso)

4.0 Scope of Baseline - Specific tasks

The scope of work for the consultant will include but not limited to uncovering the following and demonstrate clearly with concrete benchmark information that can be applied during the project implementation period in the report;



1. The acute needs of communities affected by protracted crises, including conflict, are reduced in a way that promotes dignity, improves social cohesion and gender equality, and increases resilience
2. The acute needs of the most vulnerable women, men, girls and boys in target communities affected by crises are reduced in ways that promote self-help and build agency
3. Community mobilisers have the capacity to facilitate and support implementation of the SCLR approach
4. Community self-help groups are formed, propose initiatives and receive microgrants as part of the SCLR approach to enable individuals and communities to respond to humanitarian and protection crises, and Community groups, are supported to take charge of their own responses and implement microprojects that meet their immediate basic needs
5. Vulnerable communities have improved access to safe water, and are aware of key public health risks related to water, sanitation and hygiene, and can adopt individual, household and community
6. The risk of violence, including gender-based violence, in communities is reduced and responded to by driving transparent and inclusive peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts, promoting gender equality, and providing appropriate support services to GBV survivors.
7. Women, girls, men and boys in target communities have increased knowledge of women and girls' rights and collectively tackle harmful gender norms and inequalities, the risk of GBV is reduced and survivors receive appropriate care and support-CH
8. Communities are empowered and better connected to prevent, anticipate and reduce risks related to conflict, violence, climate change and communicable diseases in an inclusive and equitable way by
9. Target community have increased resilience and capacity to anticipate, prevent, prepare for and adapt to crisis and risks related to conflict and environment in coordination with relevant County and State
10. Climate Adaptation: Target communities have reduced vulnerability to current and expected impacts of climate change, including climate variability, by maintaining or increasing
11. Environmental Education / Training: Communities and local leaders have improved knowledge of climate change, the causes and impacts of climate change and the role of adaptation (adaptation score
12. Agriculture: Target households are supported to adopt sustainable climate-resilient farming methods (adaptation score 2), promote diversified agricultural production to reduce climate risk (e.g. growing
13. Flood prevention / control: Communities are supported to put in place flood-protection measures in areas which are becoming increasingly flood-sensitive (e.g. building of dikes) with due consideration for the potential environmental impacts of such measures (adaptation score 2).
14. Cross-Objective 1, 2, 3 and 4 - Dignified, accountable and coordinated: Improved accountability to affected populations and capacity of local partners in recording, managing and reporting community feedback on project, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation

5.0 Methodology and Reporting

The consultant will prepare and conduct field work in coordination with Christian Aid and its partners Smile Again Africa Development Organization (SAADO) and Coalition for Humanity (CH). He/ She will develop and design digital tools and will assume overall responsibility for the leadership of carrying out the Baseline survey, analysis and documenting the results. To provide updated outcome evidence-based information on the project performance benchmarks. The lead consultant will submit an inception report/ evaluation plan outlining the proposed methodology that will include.

5.1. Before the baseline:

1. Review of the log frame to assess its relevance for measuring project progress and propose modifications
2. Development of the TOC
 - a. Context analysis (including stakeholder's analysis) – conducted through desk review and meeting discussions
 - b. Enabling factors needed for the programme to succeed (internal & external to the programme)
 - c. Link between the different outputs, outcomes leading to a better impact

Note that (a) and (b) should be done simultaneously as they will feed in each other.



5.2. Baseline methodology:

- The baseline will be conducted in Aweil West County using both quantitative and qualitative methods.
- Sampling methodology: 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error.
- To maintain the quality of the data, all quantitative data will be collected using Digital Data Gathering Devices. All data, both qualitative and quantitative must also be disaggregated by location, age, sex, disability etc. All raw data collected will be shared with Christian Aid.

5.3 Data Collection:

Review of key documents provided by Christian Aid, Interviews and/ or focus group discussion with primary beneficiaries, secondary beneficiaries, county staffs, stakeholders, partner staff and Christian Aid staff. Interviews, discussions, and de-briefing sessions with Christian Aid & partners. Key informant interviews and/ or focus group discussions with a sample of direct beneficiaries (diversity of age and sex where relevant) from each programme output area. Direct observations through field visits. Interviews with other key actors in the response, such as local government authorities, religious leaders, international organisations etc. Primary data collection will be implemented following a mixed method: on the one hand, a household survey representative at household level in selected villages; and at County level some Focus Group Discussions and Persons with Knowledge to give more in-depth understanding and better details about targeted beneficiaries groups. In order to ensure coordinated and real time data collection and cleaning, the incumbent shall use any appropriate open data platform/ software such as Kobo and Power BI

If there are any interviews with survivors of violence, care should be taken to ensure that the evaluation is carried out in a sensitive, culturally appropriate, and confidential manner whilst still ensuring that relevant information is obtained. Best practice on holding interviews and focus group discussions with women affected by GBV should be used.¹ There should be an appropriate gender balance in the evaluation team to allow for the fact that women are less likely to speak to male members of the team. It is highly preferable that there is a female team member who can lead discussions with female participants

5.4 Reporting

The Baseline report will be informed by data collected, along with the results of the desk review. The analysis will focus on identifying trends and significant findings as they relate to the baseline evaluation criteria and the evaluation questions. All analysis will utilize survey weights, where appropriate, to account for any differences in the probability of household or respondent selection owing to the sample design. Qualitative field notes will also be analysed thoroughly to extract patterns of thought, outliers, and key quotes. The final report structure will be decided upon in collaboration with Christian Aid, and it will include an executive summary, introduction, explanation of the methodology employed, presentation of findings, conclusions & recommendations. The report will present realistic, achievable and action-oriented recommendations. All deliverables will be first submitted for review and comments before producing final documents.

6.0 Expected Outputs (Deliverables)

- A baseline study report clearly outlining the objectives of the project, impact pathways, methodology of the survey, data collection tools and work schedule.
- First draft report to Christian Aid for discussion and comments in the form of PowerPoint presentation with preliminary findings including key recommendations
- Final report (Hard and Soft copy) incorporating feedbacks from Christian Aid and Partners
- The tools and questionnaires used for the data collection
- Raw data in an excel format
- Electronic Photographs of respondents with short description
- Report annexes - ToR, Data collection tools, minutes of key meetings, Household interview database and MEAL tools to monitor performance indicator for the project.

7.0 Responsibilities of Christian Aid and Partners

- **Logistics:** CA and partners will cover the cost of the consultant's flight travel to the field and back including car hire in the field. Feeding will be at the cost of the consulting firm or individual consultant



- **Professional fee:** Interested consultants are expected to provide a detailed budget in their submission, CA will consider proposals that submit budgets within the approved rates as per its policy on professional fees.
- **Tax and insurance:** 20% income tax payable to taxation shall be deducted from the consultant's fee during payment.
- A contract will be signed by the Consultant upon commencement of the Baseline evaluation which will detail additional terms and conditions of service, aspects on inputs and deliverables.
- Mobilizing and coordination by partner project staffs of all project stakeholders targeted under each intervention
- Christian Aid will avail relevant project documents needed for the task and desk review

8.0 Duration of the Consultancy

The actual payment days for this consultancy shall be 15 days. A Work Plan detailing the task will be attached as an annexed to this contract.

9.0 Qualifications & Experience

- At least a master's degree in a relevant field in Humanitarian Action, Agriculture Economics, public policy, development studies,
- At least 5 years professional experience in carrying similar evaluation of multi-sector programme
- Relevant multi-sectoral programme management skills and experience
- Working knowledge of cash-based response and digital platforms, particularly Kobo for data collection
- A deep understanding of the South Sudan context
- Strong track record in in research, policy development, management and programming development, and localization of humanitarian response
- Participatory techniques and approaches
- Ability to work in complex, insecure environments and be flexible.
- Be security conscious.
- Knowledge and experience on localization principles and Survivor Community Led Response and programming will be an added advantage
- In-depth knowledge of South Sudan settings, contextual changes and dynamics in project programming and management

10.0 Application process

The composition of the Baseline evaluation team should be clearly listed and their respective roles each is expected to play. The expected expression of interest to this TOR should detail;

- Clear understanding and interpretation of the TOR and team composition
- Evaluation workplan/ delivery timeline
- Proposed digital data collection and analysis software
- How selection and training of enumerators including pre-testing will be conducted
- Sample and estimate sample size definition of the representative target population using acceptable techniques such as SMART methodology with a random sample of residents
- Data management, quality control and data protection
- Supervision of data team and analysis, lead the synthesis and produce final report
- Attached samples or link of previous similar work and accompanying certified recommendations from potential clients .

Interested and qualified candidates should submit their application package (Expression of Interest, CV, report of similar work, technical Proposal including budget) to JubaProcurement@christian-aid.org not later than 30th March 2023 , at 5:00 PM EAT. However, due to the urgency, applications will be reviewed on rolling basis.

Other Considerations:



Communication: The consultant will report to the CA Head of Programmes as the technical lead and supervisor for this assignment in coordination with MEAL Officer and Programme Officers.

Safeguarding: Christian Aid has a Safeguarding Framework that includes Staff Code of Conduct and a Child Protection Policy which have been developed to ensure the maximum protection of programme participants and to clarify the responsibilities of CA staff, consultants, visitors to the programme and partner organization, and the standards of behavior expected of them. In this regard, it is the responsibility of the consultant to demonstrate a commitment to strictly adhere to Christian Aid's Code of Conduct and Child Protection Policy. The consultant has the responsibility to ensure that any persons hired, used or consulted during the process are made familiar with the policies and commit to abide by them during the execution of this work. Any candidate offered a contract with Christian Aid will be expected to sign a Code of Conduct and Child Protection Policy as an appendix to their contract. By doing so, the consultant acknowledges that they have understood the contents of policies and agree to conduct themselves by the provisions of these two documents. The evaluator will ensure that any person hired, used or consulted during this engagement are made familiar with CA's Staff Code of Conduct and a Child Protection Policy which have been developed to ensure the maximum protection of program participants and to clarify the responsibilities of CA staff, consultants, visitors to the program and partner organization, and the standards of behaviour expected of such persons. Before fieldwork, these two important documents will be provided by Christian Aid to Evaluator for easy dissemination to all individuals who will participate in this Mid-term Evaluation. For focus group discussions, researchers will obtain consent from the participants before taking pictures during the sessions. For each FGD, one consent form with names of all participants will be signed to show consent for taking pictures. On the other hand, consent for taking pictures of household survey participants will be built in ODK; no paper consent forms will be filled for such interviews.

Gender Considerations: Evaluator regards gender as a key component of evaluation, not only as an opportunity to elicit positive change in programming, but also to contribute to the broader base of gender equity and equal opportunity for women and men in development. For this reason, the gendered power dynamics at the household level with regards to dietary decision making and the control over income and other resources that have an impact on household nutrition will also be analysed. The research process must be participatory and safe, lending a voice to project beneficiaries, project staff and stakeholders equally. Therefore, Evaluator's proposed teams of researchers and enumerators will comprise of both male and female staff, and all collected data will be sex disaggregated by age, gender and disability, and analysed using gender-sensitive techniques.
