

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

Food Security Through Agribusiness Development Program Outcome harvesting 2022

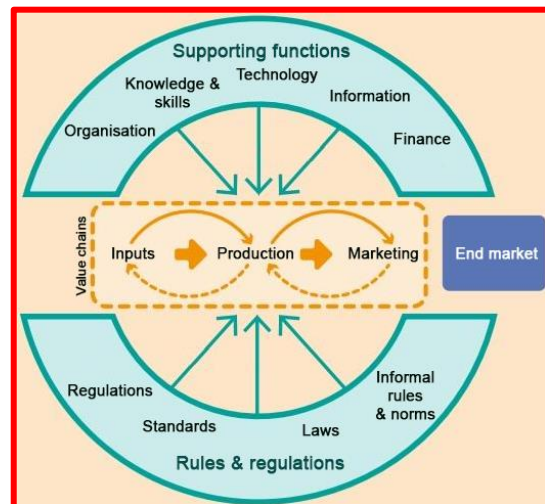
ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND:

Stitching CORDAID is an international NGO registered in the Netherlands with over a century-long history of emergency and development aid in several countries, including South Sudan. The organization is implementing programs on resilience and livelihoods, agriculture and food security, emergency response and recovery, health, and Peace and Justice in South Sudan. The experience and knowledge gained in the target counties have been used for the development of this project (SSADP II).

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Food Security Through Agribusiness in South Sudan Project (SSADP II) is a five-year project that runs from late 2018 to July 2023 funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN) in South Sudan. The overall goal of the project is to improve food security, income, and employment of 10,000 farmer households in selected Counties, based on the Making Markets Work for the Poor (M4P) approach and aims at enhancing food security, purchasing power, and employment position of vulnerable population in Yambio, Torit and Bor Counties. It supports the strengthening of market functions and market players to make the local markets more inclusive and more enabling for agribusiness to thrive. Moreover, the project strives to increase farmers' and agribusiness' (MSMEs, Cooperative, VSLA) access to the organization, technology, markets, and finance.

This project is being implemented by the following international organizations; Cordaid, Agriterra, and SPARK. Cordaid is the lead agency, and it works closely with the relevant line ministries of the Government of South Sudan, and key stakeholders, including local and international NGOs, UN agencies, and the private sector. Through this project, 10,000 farmers will directly benefit from increased production and productivity through Farmers Economy and Market Association (FEMA), 1000 youths & women and 750 MSMEs will benefit from Business Development Services, 230 Farmers Cooperatives, and 120 Village Economy, Market and Social Association (VEMSA) will directly benefit from Cooperative Development and VEMSA Development Support. Also, the project will creating access to finance in partnership with Rural Finance Institute (RUF) in a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) scheme for agribusiness development in the project target counties. The selected value chain includes Maize, Sorghum, Cassava, and Groundnuts. The conceptual model of the project is shown in the diagram above.



Project Outcomes

1. Improved inclusive agri-business market functioning
2. Enhanced sustainable production and productivity

3. Improved performance of cooperatives and Agri-MSMEs and new jobs are created
4. Farmers and Agri-businesses more resilient to shocks and hazards – both natural and conflict related.

THE ASSIGNMENT

Cordaid South Sudan would like to hire a consultancy firm or an individual consultant to carry out “Outcome Harvesting” for its “Food Security through Agribusiness project in South Sudan”. This assignment is meant to capture both intended and unintended outcomes of the project interventions, which is being implemented in an environment where multiple factors are at play. Critically, the assessment is intended to generate outcome data to inform project performance to foster cross learning across the entire project

GENERAL PURPOSE FOR THE OUTCOME HARVESTING

The purpose of this Outcome Harvesting is expected to inform the project management team on the level at which the project is achieving its medium- and long-term results (outcomes). It will also support learning about those achievements and failures. (Exactly!)

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The following will be the specific objectives to be pursued by the consultant

- Take a suitable sample to assess performance/ achievement of the outcome indicators
- To measure the levels of targeted intended and unintended outcome achievements
- Measure the project intervention contributions to the outcomes.
- Document lesson learnt and provide appropriate recommendations.

Location for the assignment.

The study will be conducted in Torit, Bor and Yambio County. The beneficiaries list will be shared with the consultant.

SCOPE OF WORK/TASK

The consultant firm/individual scope of work will include:

- Develop an Outcome Harvesting approach which is customized to the specific needs of the project.
- Design and propose the Outcome Harvesting methodology and tools that will be agreed upon prior to data collection.
- Review all relevant project documents i.e., project reports, study reports and databases necessary to complete the report.
- Document change agents/influencers such as those who; inspired and encouraged change, facilitated change, and supported any change. The consultant will also engage with informants within the project implementers in formulating outcome descriptions
- Review final documented outcomes and select those viable for verification and validation, to increase the accuracy and credibility of the findings.
- The harvester will also obtain the views of a few individuals who are independent of the intervention (third party) but knowledgeable about one or more of the outcomes and the change agent’s contribution.
- Analyze and interpret: the Harvester will classify all outcomes in aligning with the outcome indicators in consultation with the project informants.

- Support use of findings: Harvesters propose issues for discussion to harvest users grounded in the evidence-based answers to the harvesting questions. They facilitate discussions with users, which may include how they can make use of the findings.
- Reporting and dissemination of the findings to the stakeholders in an organized fora as deemed appropriate

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY THE OUTCOME HARVESTING CONSULTANT

The outcome harvesting is expected to shed light on the following questions about observed project outcomes which can attributed to the project interventions or other factors.

1. What were the anticipated and/or unanticipated outcomes?
2. How were the outcomes achieved?
3. Did the intervention(s) and/or other factors contribute to the outcomes?
4. How can the findings of the outcomes harvesting inform future programming decisions?

KEY RESULTS OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The results of the assignment will include.

- Inception report: the detailed description of the methodology
- Data collection tools developed in consultation with project implementation Team.
- Present survey findings for validation
- Submit comprehensive report to Cordaid South Sudan
- Submit all data sets to Cordaid South Sudan

ANTICIPATED SUPPORT REQUIRED FROM CORDAID SOUTH SUDAN

Cordaid South Sudan will provide the following facilitation to enable successful completion of the assignment.

- All relevant project documents.
- Linkage to the beneficiaries and key stakeholders within the areas of the study.
- Identification of training Venue and Lunch Allowance for participants
- Facilitation of transport within the field locations
- Reimbursement of costs related to flights, visa, accommodation, and meals

THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL MUST INCLUDE.

- Clear explanation of the consultant's understanding of the Terms of Reference
- Proposed approaches and Methodology to be used and work plan/timetable
- Updated CVs with at least 3 referees of the lead consultant and partners (if any)
- Copies of a similar assignment recently completed
- Timeline
- Cost

DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Considering the diverse spread of the geographical areas of the project locations of Bor, Torit and Yambio, the outcome harvesting will take? at most 21 days from the date of its commencement. The consultant will be required to travel to all the field locations of Bor, Torit and Yambio for data

collection. Therefore, based on an agreed methodology, the consultant will develop a comprehensive workplan/timetable for the execution of the assignment as presented in the table below

KEY ACTIVITY	# OF DAYS PROPOSED
Designing the outcome harvesting (Harvest questions and Outcome description scope)	
Reviewing documentations and draft outcome descriptions (draft outcome descriptions)	
Engage with informants in formulating outcome descriptions (data collection), in Bor, Torit and Yambio	
Substantiating (verify the accuracy and credibility of the final outcomes)	
Analysis and interpretation of outcomes (outcome descriptions + contributions + Significance).	
Facilitating use of findings (use of findings) Using outcome harvesting as a basis for adaptive management can be further facilitated by adopting a strong framework for analyzing the outcomes	

A GUIDE TO THE BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

Item description	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Total cost in USD	Remarks
Professional fees cost					
Travel cost (for both International and local flights-Torit, Bor Yambio)					
Accommodation and meals					
Taxes (applicable to international consultants, which is 15% of the cost of the assignment)					

Note: Local Road transport at the project Locations will be covered by Cordaid South Sudan.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF THE CONSULTANT

- The consultant shall have the following skills and experience:
- A master's degree or equivalent experience in international development; agribusiness; social sciences; gender studies, economics or a related field
- At least 5 years' experience working in development programming, including experience working within the agricultural sector and livelihoods development of rural poor
- A demonstrated understanding of working with a gender transformative approach within the agricultural sector in international development.
- Proven experience in designing executing outcome harvesting
- High quality communication skills, including the ability to speak and write effectively, listen to and document findings from cross-cultural contexts.
- Strong time management skills: ability to work with limited supervision.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Potential candidates are advised to follow the below guidelines.

- A detailed technical proposal document including sample experience in harvesting outcome
- Detailed financial proposal with detailed budget clearly broken down per clear headings.
- Curriculum Vitae of the head consultant (s), and 3 references/referees preferably previous organizations for whom the consultant worked.
- Profile of the consultancy firm- with proof of compliance to South Sudan legal operation of companies. Applications should be submitted to tendercordaidsouthsudan@cordaid.org on or before November 21, 2022 (South Sudan time), with the subject title of “FSABSS outcome Harvesting”, in a zipped folder.
- Due to the anticipated high volume of applications, kindly note that only short-listed applicants will be contacted