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TERMS OF REFERENCE

FOR

CONSULTANCY TO CONDUCT AN END OF PROJECT EVALUATION

(EXTERNAL PROJECT REVIEW)

Background Information

Islamic Relief South Sudan (IRSS) is an international humanitarian organization that has been working with vulnerable communities in South Sudan since 2004. With funding from Islamic Relief Worldwide-UK; IRSS is currently implementing Warrap Resilience and Adaptation Project (WRAP) to conflict and flood affected population of Tonj North County, Warrap State. This is a follow-up nine months' project of the previous RESRAP project implemented in the same location. The proposed project comprised mainly of capacity building software activities to ensure maximization of the project impact to beneficiary communities in four payams (Alabek, Raulabet, Awul and Akop) of Tonj North County. The project is aimed at Improving gender-responsive Community resilience to livelihood shocks and hazards in Tonj North that targeted 2,000 Households (12,000 individuals) who have experienced shocks and aggravated a spiraling food insecurity situation and impacted households' coping capacities and livelihoods. Those dependent on livestock and agriculture have seen their productive assets depleted, limiting their ability to recover and increasing their reliance on humanitarian aid. WRAP will enable the target population access enough food to meet their daily needs. In the long run it aims at contributing towards the reduction of hunger, poverty and malnutrition through promoting sustainable food production and alternative livelihoods for 2000 highly vulnerable House Holds within the target areas.

Islamic Relief South Sudan (IRSS) implemented Recovery and Strengthening the Resilience of Agro-Pastoralists (RESRAP) project in Tonj North from March 2018 to Feb 2019. This was an emergency early recovery response to the conflict and drought affected people of greater Tonj North County, Warrap State. The aim of the project was to contribute towards the reduction of hunger and poverty by promoting sustainable food production and alternative livelihoods for 3000 highly vulnerable households. The intended impact was to improve community resiliency during the times of conflict and drought, since the two are the most prevalent hazards in the area. As a result of this project, pastoralist and pre-urban communities attained improved food security through increased agricultural and animal productivity.

Due to the delayed implementation, major RESRAP components were implemented towards the end of the project. Hardware interventions on livelihoods, WASH and Food Security had

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not yet produced outcomes by the time the project ended. Key activities like the solar powered mini-irrigation systems require more time to realize impact. There was no sufficient time to implement the necessary capacity building and follow up software activities for the project to fully realize the intended outcomes. In terms of sustainability and replicability of emerging good practices and lessons, the activities implemented under RESRAP put in place solid infrastructure with the potential to serve the beneficiary communities for a longer period of time to come. Hence the need for a follow up project to consolidate the gains made and maximize on utilization of the installations to improve livelihoods of communities in Tonj North, Warrap State. The sustainability of key interventions notably in WASH/ Irrigation requires the Government (GoSS), Communities and other key players in the relevant sectors to have the necessary technical and financial capacity to effectively utilize the infrastructure. At the moment, this capacity is limited and lacking in most of the places. During evaluation, discussions with project beneficiaries and key stakeholders including the government provided positive feedback on the anticipated impacts from the project interventions. Following up in this recommendation and in order to build on the gains made in the RESRAP deliverables, IR-SS is Implementing Warrap Resilience and Adaptation project(WRAP) a follow-up nine months' project. The proposed project mainly comprises of capacity building software activities to ensure maximization of the project impact to beneficiary communities in four Payams (Alabek, Raulabet, Awul and Akop) in Tonj North. Although the areas have experienced mild flooding in the ongoing rains, the proposed project will focus more on early recovery and resilience as opposed to emergency programming approaches.

Although largely FSL, the implemented project had adopted an integrated approach software aspect of WASH and Health & Nutrition. Capacity building for the relevant government departments, local peace and conflict mitigation together with Community Managed Disaster and Risk Reduction and Communication Based Natural Resources Management as cross-cutting themes. Through this project, the various components that aimed at early recovery and building resiliency to various livelihoods shocks had been introduced. Farmers groups in the five mini-irrigation systems were supported with vegetable seeds, and fruit seeds to maximize dry vegetable farming in the forthcoming dry season expected to run from November 2020 to May 2021 and have access to various fruit seed to enhance their family nutrition Status. The farmer's groups have been supported with start-up vegetable kits, trained on an improved agronomic practices and organized into Group Savings and Loan Associations (GSLAs) for economic strengthening. Livestock being the mainstay of the economy of Tonj North, the project had provided a refresher training and equipping of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) with startup-kits to enhance animal health. Refresher training on

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irrigation methods & engineering to ensure the irrigation systems are well utilized and sustained. Demonstration farm for Hay and Fodder Crops were established in the four payam of Tonj North to enhance access to an improved animal feeds hence improving the quality of their products. The project had revitalized the already formed Peace Initiative Committees (PIC) to promote reconciliation and peace building thereby reduce conflicts that has hampered development in parts of the County. As art of integration water management committees and pump mechanics have been trained on repair, maintenance and operation of hand pumps. 10 Community Hygiene promoters have been recruited and trained to facilitate hygiene and sanitation awareness in the four payam of Tonj North County.

Project Impact:

The population in Tonj North has long been affected by conflict and flood. *The impact of the project is to Improve gender-responsive Community resilience to livelihoods shocks and hazards in Tonj North.* Through this intervention, it is expected that the conflict and flood affected communities of Tonj North will live in peace and have improved food security and livelihood through increased agricultural productivity and economic strengthening.

The Project Outcome includes:

- Outcome 1. Pastoral and Peri-urban communities will have improved food security
- Outcome 2. Peaceful co-existence in the target community will be enhanced
- Outcome 3. Improved resilience to shocks and hazards in the target communities

Purpose of project Evaluation:

Islamic Relief South Sudan (IRSS) intends to have an external evaluation to assess the project implementation process, review the efficiency and effectiveness of the project's implementation in terms of achieving the project's objective, outcomes and delivering outputs. its effects to the served population in Warrap, Greater Tonj North County. Also to identify any barriers to the successful implementation of this project, and to provide recommendations for future intervention related to similar integrated projects. The assessment of the timeliness, quality, and appropriateness of the implementation of this project will help Islamic Relief South Sudan efforts to demonstrate accountability to IR-UK who provided resources for the project implementation and will provide the rationale, learnings and insights for the formulation of a subsequent proposal.

Objectives:



The Consultant will conduct an end of project evaluation, as an external review assessment; this will address the overall intervention, the impact of the project to the lives of the affected communities, he/she will measure these impacts against the project outcomes highlighted above. The evaluation will include both qualitative and quantitative assessments.

Specific Objectives:

- Analyze the groundwork that was put in place for implementation of project including needs assessments, recruitment of project staff and procurement of project activity supplies and materials.
- Using the DAC Criteria analyze the:
 - **Relevance** – the extent to which the objectives were consistent with beneficiaries’ needs and priorities;
 - **Effectiveness** – the extent to which the targeted project objectives were achieved (or are expected to be achieved);
 - **Efficiency** – how economically resources/inputs were converted into results;
 - **Sustainability** – the extent to which the benefits are likely to continue after the project.
- Analyze the project’s effects on the lives of drought conflict affected population (outputs, outcomes and Impact) – where possible, the long-term effects produced by the project (directly, indirectly, intended, unintended, positive and negative).
- Extract emerging good practices and lessons learned for upscaling and replication.

Scope of Evaluation

- The evaluation assessment will be conducted in the four payams of Tonj North County i.e. Awul, Rulabet, Akop and Alabek) where the project was implemented.
- The evaluation assessment will be conducted from **1st December 2020** after the end of project and the evaluation report will be written, completed and submitted no later than **17th December 2020**.

Methods of Evaluation

The Consultant will collect qualitative data through participatory and non-participatory observations, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and undertake a document review of secondary information. IRSS will provide the Consultant with



quantitative data collected from baseline, need assessments, monthly reports and project final report.

At minimum, data collection will include the following:

- Key Informant Interviews and Focus Group Discussions: Including IRSS staff and community leaders, beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries as well as other stakeholders who can provide information about the project.
- Document Review: The Consultant will conduct a document review including proposal document, monthly reports, budget reports, and need assessments. The document review should commence prior to the field site visit and before any field evaluation assessments are conducted as the document review will help inform the creation of the key informants.

Deliverables

The Consultant will be expected to provide a written evaluation work plan along with data collection and analysis tools prior to the start of the evaluation. Upon completion, a final evaluation report will be written and submitted along with data sets. All documents are to be written in English.

The documents are expected to contain the following:

1. An evaluation work plan:

- A. Evaluation methodology.
- B. Evaluation Framework.
- C. Data collection and analysis tools.
- D. Reporting.
- E. Work Scheduling.
- F. Detailed Evaluation Budget in USD.

2. An evaluation report is required and should include the following information:

- A. Executive Summary
- B. Background and Context
- C. Objectives
- D. Methodology
- E. Results

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- F. Discussion
- G. Recommendations
- H. Conclusions
- I. References
- J. Annexes

3. All collected quantitative and qualitative data should be submitted along with the report, as well as the raw datasets.

Evaluator Qualifications and Competencies

The Consultant will be required to demonstrate the following qualifications and competencies:

- Relevant academic documents.
- Prior field implementation and project management experience in South Sudan.
- Track record in developing and conducting project evaluations including qualitative and quantitative data collection for international NGOs working in South Sudan.
- Strong cross cultural communication skills with previous experience of working in a cross-cultural setting with an ability to respond to comments and questions in a timely, appropriate manner.

Data Ownership and Confidentiality

All datasets and documents passed to the Consultant remain the property of IRSS and are under the strictest confidence. The data sets and documents must not, under any circumstance, be shared with a third party without the prior agreement of the IRSS Country Director.

Employment of Minors

The consultant shall not employ children in executing the contract. The Consultant shall observe International conventions relating to child labor namely the UN Convention No.182 on worst forms of child labor and convention No. 138 on the minimum age for admission to employment.

Criminal Act

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The consultant undertakes to comply with all applicable laws and to ensure that engage in any kind of criminal activity including but not limited to bribery, fraud, corruption, terrorism and to maintain ethical business practices as well as not to commit any Prohibited Acts defined as:

- i) To offer, promise or give any person a financial or other advantage;
- ii) To request, agree to receive or accept any financial or other advantage not expressly provided for as an inducement or a reward for the performance of any function or activity in connection with this Agreement;

And/or

Provided for as an inducement or a reward for the performance of any function or activity in connection with this Agreement;

Summary

This is an open and competitive selection process. The successful candidate will be selected following the review of each bidding Consultant's proposal documents which shall include the following;

- A. A cost analysis bid broken out by cost per line item in USD.
- B. Technical proposal that briefly outlines methodology, logistics plan, and work schedule at a high level.
- C. An example of the Consultant's past work, such as a written evaluation report
- D. A minimum of two written references.

Kindly submit your EOI with financial proposal latest by 10th Nov. 2020 hard copies to IRW-South Sudan tender box by set date.

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