



# **NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID**

## **actalliance**

### **NCA SOUTH SUDAN PROGRAMME**

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **Conducting a scoping study on economic and food security value chains in Upper Nile, Warrap, Western Bahr El Ghazal, Central Equatoria, and Eastern Equatoria states**

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#### **1. Background and Context**

NCA started operations in South Sudan in 1972, providing long term development and humanitarian assistance. The objective of Norwegian Church Aid Programme in South Sudan is to strengthen civil society to contribute to peaceful and inclusive South Sudan where citizens co-exist and experience equitable development within a secure environment. To achieve this objective, in 2020-2024 strategic period, NCA's interventions focus on three thematic areas: Peacebuilding, Gender-Based Violence and Adolescents Reproductive Health Rights (GBV-ASRH) and Climate Resilient Water Sanitation and Hygiene (CL WASH) and contextualised project in Education and Inclusion. NCA also supports extensive emergency preparedness and response to address immediate humanitarian needs in South Sudan.

This study aims to provide a holistic perspective on economic development and food security strategies in the South Sudan context. The study will critically examine sustainable methodologies pertaining to economic development and food security landscape in South Sudan, particularly in NCA operational areas in Eastern Equatoria, Upper Nile, Warrap, and Western Bahr El Ghazal states.

#### **2. Purpose**

The purpose of the study is to conduct a rigorous assessment of the current economic sectors and their corresponding value chains. This entails analyzing the relevant market system frameworks, market players, supporting institutional systems, and regulatory structures, identify gaps, risks, opportunities, and trends. The consultancy aims to present a report with recommendations for sustainable economically viable sectors and value chains suitable for economic development and food value chain activities.

#### **3. Objectives**

The main objectives of this consultancy are the following.

1. Map-out growth areas in the various economic and food security sectors and carry out value chain selection based on set criteria including potential for employment generation, potential for increase in household incomes for communities, unmet demand in the market for products and services, and existence of market linkages.
2. Conduct a comprehensive value-chain analysis for each of the selected value chains. This analysis should involve the identification of opportunities, limitations, and gaps in the selected value chains.

3. Identify key markets available for locally produced products in targeted states by assessing consumer demand, market trends, distribution channels, and competitive landscapes within South Sudan.
4. Identify the sustainable economic development initiatives of interest for rights holders in targeted locations (identifying the gaps and underlying causes) and market opportunities.
5. Identify the various courses of interest (vocational and professional) for the communities that are marketable in South Sudan
6. Identify risks that could affect economic development and food security interventions and mitigation strategies.
7. Assess the role of value chain actors and their relationships: producers, consumers, retail traders, wholesale traders, transporters, processors, middlemen / brokers, input-suppliers, employers, among others.
8. Conduct a Knowledge, Attitude and Practice study to provide baseline information for valuation of economic development and food security in targeted areas/regions.
9. Map out economic activities within the targeted locations

#### **4. Scope**

The consultancy team will travel to selected locations to interact with people, all stakeholders, and economic structures in South Sudan. The scoping study should provide quantitative and qualitative information including disaggregated data based on relevant analytical frameworks specifically at national and subnational levels. Additionally, the study will also analyse risks that could impact economic development and food security in South Sudan.

#### **5. Methodology**

The consultancy will use mix of qualitative and quantitative methods of research to secure inclusion of all the stakeholders in the scoping study. Therefore, a detailed methodology to carry out the scoping study will be developed by the consultancy team. The consultant(s) is expected to embrace participatory research methodologies that engage the local community, government, private sector, and other market actors.

The team is expected to develop a detailed methodology, all necessary tools, and determine the outlines/structure of the report in line with the proposed sections in the scope of work above.

- The team is required to conduct a literature review of all relevant documents and other secondary references. All references need to be listed in the final report.
- The team is required to use relevant mix of economic development and food security analysis frameworks responsive to dynamic context of South Sudan
- The language of the proposals and reports shall be English

#### **6. Key outputs/deliverables**

- Detailed budget.
- Soft copy of the final report.
- Study materials including soft copies of all data sets both quantitative and qualitative.
- List of key informants/interviewees (to be agreed with NCA)

- Draft Report; maximum 30 pages excluding annexes.

The Final Report should be written in English and follow the 1-3-25 rule of thumb– One page: Key recommendations; three pages: Executive Summary (3 pages); and 30 pages: detailed presentation of findings.

**7. Timeframe and estimated working days**

The timeframe for this consultancy is 35 days, from the time of signing the contract. The consultant must commit to finish the consultancy within the specified timeframe. The proposed time is divided as follows.

#	Task/Deliverable	Estimated No of Days
01	Inception Report	02
02	Preparation of schedule for field work (approvals)	05
03	Field work	15
04	Data Entry, Cleaning, Code, and Analysis	06
05	Draft Report	03
06	Presentation of Findings/Validation	01
07	Consultations, Feedback, and final reporting	02
08	Submission of final report	01

**8. Desired Profile and Qualifications of the Lead Consultant (firm)**

The consultant (firm) must have expertise and grounded experience in carrying out scoping studies. The consultant must be able to demonstrate a very good experience on participatory research methods and data collections/analysis tools. He/she should be competent in organizing and interpreting quantitative and qualitative data and information. S/he should have the following academic qualifications and experience.

- ❖ The Lead Consultant should have a minimum post-graduate degree (Masters) in Economics, Business Administration, Social Science, Development or Entrepreneurship any other related development field with minimum 7 years experiences in undertaking similar type of studies.
- ❖ Diverse experience in Market Research, Value-chain Development and Management; Business Development Services, Food Security aspects and Livelihoods in general
- ❖ In-depth knowledge and experience on research methods
- ❖ Team Members must have at least five years of experience in conducting market research with international NGOs/INGOs, private sector, etc.
- ❖ Knowledge of and familiarity with South Sudan context
- ❖ Consultants(s) should have comprehensive understanding of the tools development and draw the information from the baseline data and analytical report writing skills.
- ❖ Excellent research and analysis skills; Communication and interpersonal skills
- ❖ Language Capabilities: Excellent written and spoken English, good understanding of Juba Arabic or local languages.

Annex 1

- ❖ Excellent report writing, data collection and analysis skills.

Note:

- *NCA is an equal opportunity employer with zero discrimination policy.*
- *NCA has zero tolerance concerning aid diversion and illegal actions and may screen potential applicants, contractors, suppliers, consultants, etc. against international lists to ensure due diligence and compliance with Anti-money laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism requirements.*