**South Sudan - Political Economy Analysis for South Sudan**

1. **Brief context**

South Sudan gained its independence form the Republic of Sudan in 2011. With a population of 12 million, South Sudan has suffered from ethnic violence and has been in a civil war since 2013. While the signing of a peace agreement in September 2018 formally put an end to the conflict in South Sudan, humanitarian situation remains dire. The multidimensional crisis is characterized by continued violence, severe food and nutrition insecurity, economic upheaval and disease outbreaks. This is due to the cumulative effects of years of conflict and violence against civilians, which have destroyed people’s livelihoods and forced 4.2 million people to flee their homes – nearly 2 million inside and nearly 2.2 million outside the country. The number of people who require humanitarian or protection assistance in 2019 remains high at seven million – the same as in 2018. Women and children continue to be the most affected. Some 2.2 million children are out of school and nearly 600,000 pregnant and lactating women will be acutely malnourished in 2019.

The latest IPC estimates that in May-July 2019 6.96 million people1 (61% of the population) are likely to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) acute food insecurity or worse, out of which an estimated 1.82 million people will face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) acute food insecurity and 21,000 will likely be in Catastrophe (IPC phase 5). This is historically the highest number of people in South Sudan ever to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) acute food insecurity or worse.

Oxfam has been working in South Sudan since 1983, devoted to empowering people against poverty. In 2018, the organisation consolidated its efforts to meet the needs of the most vulnerable and has reached over 600,000 people across South Sudan with life-saving sustainable assistance. Oxfam programme currently operates through field bases in Lankien, Akobo, Pibor, Wau, Rumbeck, Twic East, Malakal and Juba and through its partners in Torit and Kapoeta. Additionally, Oxfam has the capacity to respond nationwide to humanitarian emergencies through its Emergency Preparedness and Response team. Oxfam is working on WASH, EFSVL, Protection, Governance, Education, Gender Justice and resilience programming. Oxfam will continue increasing the work through partnerships where possible and increasing the number of women’s rights organizations partnered.

The engagement in a PEA is to enable the country programme to be strategic in its work and to be agile and adaptive in its programming in order to meet the needs and rights of South Sudanese women, men and children to live in a society that is free from poverty and violence.

**2. Purpose of the Political Economy Analysis(PEA)**

Oxfam South Sudan is embarking in the development of its country strategy for the next period with a ten-year horizon and three year milestones. The purpose of the political and Economic Analysis is to deepen understanding of the prevailing context and changing dynamics with the key factors that shape decisions regarding development, and this understanding would orient Oxfam’s operations and engagement at country level.

The specific objectives of the PEA are to:

* Describe mega trends and drivers within the country impacting South Sudan and those that may have significant implications on Oxfam’s operational and programmatic presence.
* Identify and reflect on key regional dynamics and trends which will likely influence South Sudan over the next decade, including those related to displacement/refugee movements, cross-border threats related to conflict, natural disasters, or health emergencies;
* Critically analyse and document key actors and structures, formal and informal institutions of the political economies (focusing on prioritized themes) and how these shape decision-making and development in the country, to better understand the type and source of challenges associated with working in a volatile socio-economic context of South Sudan.
* Describe likely political and socio-economic scenarios and trends for the next decade impacting South Sudan and their implications for Oxfam’s added value to its development and humanitarian work and operational models within South Sudan;
* Identify and analyse the root causes of the current crisis in South Sudan as seen from a political-economy and conflict perspective, which can be used to inform and shape Oxfam’s engagement both in terms of conflict-sensitivity and in terms of programmatic efforts geared towards addressing or ameliorating root causes;
* Better understand the potential of civil society in South Sudan and the advantages and risks (operational, legal and financial) for Oxfam engaged in working mainly through CSOs;
* Recommend areas for engagement on policy advocacy as well as strategies for Oxfam to deepen its influence and impact in the country.

**3. Scope of Work**

The consultant is expected to be able to:

* Hold consultative meetings with relevant stakeholders (internal and external) including partners and develop a suitable framework of analysis as well as a work plan for the assignment.
* Undertake a preliminary analysis of megatrends and their drivers and validate with the country programme/Regional Platform, Oxfam and partners for subsequent prioritization into 3-4 themes for focused analysis. This strand of work could draw from and validate recent analyses in the country.
* Conduct extensive information gathering including review of literature around the prioritized trends/themes including an analysis of geopolitical factors and power mapping of key actors and institutions that shape decisions within the country or sub-regions within it. This analysis should also examine the political economy of relationships between regional institutions, regional intergovernmental bodies (AU, EAC, IGAD) and the States and civil societies including women’s rights organizations. It should also assess key influential economic players (governments, bilateral and multilateral institutions and corporations) that influence governments and regional institutions decision-making in key thematic areas of Oxfam’s focus.
* Hold brief consultations with key selected stakeholders (national institutions, government, CSOs especially women rights organizations, private sectors) and present likely socio-political scenarios for the country and their implications for Oxfam’s value add and possible business operating models and footprint in the country or sub-regions within it.
* Produce a synthesised draft report on political economy analysis of the Country program for sharing with various stakeholders focused on the prioritized trends and Oxfam areas of strategic interests and to further inform Oxfam country strategy going forward.
* Present and validate findings and recommendations with key stakeholders in a national event/meeting to be organized and attended by Oxfam and partners
* Finalize and produce final report for wider circulation

**4. Deliverables**

i. An inception report (no more than 10 pages), 3 days after the commencement of the assignment presenting agreed framework of analysis and work plan to be approved by Oxfam South Sudan programme team.

ii. A draft PEA report - main report no more than 35 pages, answering the above core and supporting questions

iii. A Power Point concise presentation highlighting the key findings and recommendations to be presented to Oxfam and its partners

iv. A final report validated after integration of all the comments on the draft report exchanged during the presentations and comments shared on the draft PEA report.

**5. Required Consultant’s Profile**

* Advanced degree in political science, governance, economics or related disciplines
* At least 10 years of relevant work experience in international development, governance or related studies within a fragile country preferably in the Horn, East and Central Africa region.
* Demonstrated understanding of major development sectors and issues within the South Sudan context and the region including humanitarian crises and conflicts, displacement and women’s rights dynamics.
* Demonstrated experience in engaging with high level government officials and private sector actors and INGOs
* Demonstrated or established networks to support engagement with key stakeholders required for the study
* Good understanding of Oxfam’s work and development issues within the country and the region is desirable

**6. Conditions**

* The candidate selected will be governed by and subject to Oxfam’s general terms and conditions for individual contracts.
* Travel to South Sudan is required
* Payment is made against approved deliverables. No advance payment is allowed unless in exceptional circumstances
* The drafts and final documents, as well related data, will be the property of Oxfam after completion.
* Oxfam has a zero-tolerance policy on conduct that is incompatible with its Code of Conduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination. Oxfam also adheres to strict child safeguarding principles. All selected candidates will, therefore, undergo rigorous reference and background checks, and will be expected to adhere to these standards and principles.
* Oxfam is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages all candidates, irrespective of gender, nationality, religious and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities, to apply to become a part of the organization.
* Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and advance to the next stage of the selection process.

**To apply for this Opportunity**

Please send a technical and financial proposal, which includes the approach, methodology and time frame for the study and the CVs of the consultants by **26th July 2019** to the following Email addresses: PZangabeyo@oxfam.org.uk