**Terms of Reference**

**Study: Political Economy Analysis of Child Migration in Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan**

**1. Background: Children on the move in East and the Horn of Africa**

The last decade has seen a dramatic increase in the global mobility of people. The number of people globally who live outside of their country of birth had reached 258 million by late 2017.[[1]](#footnote-2) Irregular migrants from the Global South, often not captured in official data, are of particular concern from a development and humanitarian perspective: they are often amongst the most vulnerable populations. Internationally, children constitute approximately 15% of migrants. This proportion is dramatically larger in East and Southern Africa, where 28.2% of recorded migrants are children.[[2]](#footnote-3)

Within the target countries of this project, Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan, data from 2018 highlights increased levels of population movements to and within Ethiopia, with internal displacement and increasing movement of Eritreans into the country driving this increase. From the end of 2017 to June 2018, the number of IDPs in Ethiopia increased from nearly 1.1M to 1.4M[[3]](#footnote-4) persons with around 35,000 more refugees and asylum seekers registered, for a total of 928,663.[[4]](#footnote-5) Sudan is host to nearly 2M IDPs and nearly 1M refugees and asylum seekers, largely from South Sudan, but also comprising of over 100,000 Eritreans[[5]](#footnote-6). With 230,000 refugees, Egypt has by far the smallest population of concern.[[6]](#footnote-7) There are only small numbers of Egyptians migrating to Europe and no departures emanating from the country. Egypt’s ability to effectively curb migration to Europe has resulted in the European Union’s desire to promote the ‘Egypt Model’ in spite some concerns about the conditions of refugees in the country.[[7]](#footnote-8)

Following the reopening of the border crossing points between Eritrea and Ethiopia, the number of Eritreans coming to Ethiopia has increased significantly, with over 9,900 newly registered Eritrean refugees only between the 3rd – 12th October 2018, over 77% being below the age of 24 years. Within Ethiopia, there are an increasing number of unaccompanied child migrants and reports indicate that the death of one or both of parents, the separation or remarriage of a parent, abuse or violence within home (including issues of child marriage) and/or domestic disputes within the household are among the push factors for children to migrate[[8]](#footnote-9). Conflict continues to be another key driver of displacement, with 700,000 people having been displaced from Oromia and SNPP communities since April 2018[[9]](#footnote-10).

Although there has been a decrease in the number of migrants arriving to Europe from East Africa, Eritreans continue to be significantly represented amongst those arriving in Italy, second only to Tunisians. Migrants and refugees from Sudan have been the third highest arrival group in Italy thus far in 2018[[10]](#footnote-11). There were 751 Sudanese migrants arriving to Italy by sea in June 2018, which was an increase from 201 in May, in addition to 1,628 Sudanese migrants who were intercepted at sea by the Libyan coast guard in the first half of 2018[[11]](#footnote-12).

Child and youth migration is historically linked to stages of societal and economic development in Africa[[12]](#footnote-13). Save the Children recognises that safe migration can be an important avenue for realising individual aspirations and enabling access to education or decent work. However, children who migrate alone are vulnerable to a variety of risks, including physical and sexual violence, harmful work, and foregoing the very services they have migrated to access in the first place. In many countries in East and Southern Africa clear child protection legislation is in place, but often it is only implicitly and by extension protecting migrant children, failing to recognize their specific risks.

**2.** **East African Migration Routes Project**

Save the Children is implementing a four-year project funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) focused on protection and self-reliance of children and youth in vulnerable displacement situations in three countries: Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan.

The 14 months Inception Phase (2019-2020) of the project focuses on piloting test activities, developing detailed programme implementation plans, establishing baselines, and conducting four key research/study outputs:

* Conflict sensitivity audit of planned intervention strategy
* Mapping of existing child protection initiatives and partners
* Study on gender in displacement situations
* Political economy analysis of migrant flows
* Baselines

The three-year Implementation Phase (2020-2023) of the project – building on the Inception Phase - has four main Outcomes:

1. Children and youth in vulnerable situations have their rights respected and possess sound self-reliance capacities that allow them to improve their life perspectives.
2. National and community organizations provide effective protection and life self-reliance support services for children and youth.
3. Migration policies and strategies are inclusive and needs focused, addressing the vulnerabilities of children and youth through holistic protection protocols and treating support for self-reliance as integral part of protection.
4. Switzerland profiles itself as a champion for the protection of children and youth in vulnerable displacement situations and promotes the corresponding agendas in national and regional coordination and policy fora.

Outcomes 1 and 2 will be achieved at country level through Save the Children offices in the three focus countries with cross-country and regional coordination and technical support being provided by the Save the Children Switzerland, Save the Children’s Global Migration and Displacement Initiative (MDI), and the two regional offices covering the three countries: the Middle East and Eastern Europe Regional Office (MEEERO) and the East and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO). SDC offices in the three focus countries will significantly contribute to outcomes 3 and 4 and to knowledge capitalisation and diffusion, through a Services Platform based in Cairo.

**3. Political Economy Analysis of Child Migration Routes in Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan**

Save the Children is seeking a consultant to conduct a **political economy analysis of child migration flows,** regionally and at country level, in order to inform Save the Children’s programme and policy design during Inception Phase of the East African Migration Route Project. This study will provide Save the Children project leads with a systematic, synthesised analysis of the prevailing political and economic processes, incentives, and power relations between relevant groups that shape migration dynamics for child and youth migrants and their families across the East Africa region, with a specific country focus on Egypt, Ethiopia, and Sudan. It will particularly address the political economy of **children and youth as primary agents of change**,amongst other key stakeholders, in regional-specific migratory decision-making processes. **Recommendations** will inform programme design and policy by identifying where positive change is likely to occur given prevailing interests, and where Children on The Move (CoM) interventions are likely to have the greatest impact.

*3.1. Objective and Research Questions*

The study will investigate the political economy of child, youth and familymigration both within and between the three target countries: Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan, and the wider region. Drawing from best available evidence[[13]](#footnote-14), it will analyse key political and economic dynamics which shape decision-making of this focus population across contexts of origin, transit, destinations, and return, including interests, incentives and disincentives facing child migrants and potential migrants and their families, and the influence of formal institutions and informal social, political and cultural norms.

In particular, the research will answer the **following questions**:

1. How do political economy factors impact decision-making, motivations and pressures to migrate for children and their families at geographies of origin, transit, destination and return - regionally, and with specific focus on the three countries of study? Analysis should include detailed consideration of:
	1. **Long-term contextual factors** relevant to child migration – e.g. relevant economic and social structures, demographics, historical legacies, climate change, urbanisation, conflict/post-conflict contexts.
	2. The role of formal and informal economic, political and social **institutions** (e.g. rule of law, socio-political and cultural norms, values and ideas; markets; composition of aid and main donors) in shaping key migration decisions for migrant children and their families.
	3. **Primary stakeholders** at regional and country level, and how they influence the migration space. How are decisions made around service delivery for children on the move? Once made, are decisions implemented – if not, where are the key bottlenecks and are they related to political-economy reasons? What is the balance between central/local migration authorities (e.g. police, social services, etc) in provision of services and responsibilities?
	4. **Available programs, strategies and legislature addressing child migration:** What programmes and strategies (i.e. rural and urban job creation programmes; social protection programmes; durable solutions frameworks and strategies, DRR, etc) and/or key policy frameworks relevant to addressing child migrant vulnerabilities, are available regionally and at country-specific level? To what extent are they currently addressing particular vulnerabilities of migrant children and bringing durable solutions to migrants/would-be migrants?
	5. **Potential for reform:** Who are likely to be the ‘winners’ and ‘losers’ from particular efforts to improve protection and support for children on the move? Are there key reform champions, who is likely to resist reforms and why? Where do key opportunities for advocacy lie?
2. How do the above factors disaggregate for **specific child migrant’s groups**, particularly girls and young women; for **phases of migration** (i.e. pre-departure, transit, destination); for **urban/rural** contexts; and for differing **socio-economic background** of children/youth’s families?
3. **Problem and Opportunity analysis,** identifying barriers and opportunities related to political economy for improving protection and support of child migrants and their families. (This analysis should speak to, and emphasise synergies in the parallel inception studies, particularly the mapping of opportunities for reinforcing peace outcomes to be identified by the Conflict Sensitivity Audit.)

Consultants may also wish to consider an analytical framework framing the political economy analysis at three levels:

1. Macro-level regional and country-specific political economy assessment – e.g. relevant economic and social structures, demographics, historical legacies, climate change, urbanisation, conflict/post-conflict contexts.
2. Thematic analysis of core child migration drivers, issues, and reform
3. Political economy analysis focused on specific programme design considerations relevant to the East Africa Migration Routes Project

The main objective of this analysis will be to, first, generate new **insights** into the political economy of child migration in the region and three countries of interest, including a power analysis of stakeholders at regional/national levels who inform policy influencing child migration reforms policies. Second, the analysis will draw on these insights to provide targeted **recommendations** on what key political economy factors should be priority consideration in programme design; where important data and knowledge gaps exist; and, given the political economic realities identified by the study, which protective factors can be realistically strengthened through programming in order to attain better programme outcomes for protecting and supporting children on the move during the different stages of the journey.

*3.2 Geographic Scope and Timeframe*

The political economy analysis will include a regional component covering the Horn of Africa and key North African countries, where appropriate and relevant. The focus on the fieldwork is on the three implementing countries: Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan.

* Mid-June: commencement of work
* Early July: inception report
* June to September: data collection
* Mid-August: review of preliminary findings and progress
* Early October: first draft submission
* November: validation of revised outputs at workshop

*3.3. Methodology*

Methodology is envisioned as largely qualitative, but innovative use of mixed methods approaches, informed wherever possible by the direct views of migrant and displaced children and their families in target areas (region and three project countries – Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan), are encouraged.

Analysis will utilize a combination of:

1. Desk-based research to review available literature related the political economy of migration in East Africa, drawing on best-available, child-specific migration data within/across Egypt, Ethiopia, and Sudan. This should include a review of gaps in different national strategies, policy frameworks, and programs for addressing child migration.
2. Key informant interviews/focus-group discussions, to be carried out in-country and over skype with relevant respondents, including migrant children and their family-members.

Consultants will also need to liaise with research leads preparing the other three studies (conflict sensitivity audit; mapping of existing child protection initiatives and partners; study on gender in displacement situations), to coordinate emerging findings and, where appropriate, reinforce synergies in recommendations.

A detailed study design, including political economy analysis framework, should be articulated by the Consultants in the Inception Report. This detailed methodology should include proposed data sources, key stakeholder to be consulted, proposed instruments, protocol for data collection, and methods for data analysis. It should, to this end, provide a detailed sampling strategy, explaining anticipated levels of involvement per stakeholder group and participatory approach for beneficiaries, children/youth, and community-members.

*3.4. Outputs/Deliverables*

Outputs will include a report and consultative process including the following deliverables:

1. Inception Report (including proposed methodology per component, intended instruments, data collection plan; overall work plan on GANTT chart);
2. Research report, including:
	* Literature Review with bibliography (component 1);
	* Political Economy Analysis; Report, including regional- and country-level analysis, and problem and opportunity analysis.
3. Presentation of results at validation/dissemination workshop (at country- and regional-levels).
4. Attendance of Reference Group meetings/calls
5. Google drive or similar containing all instruments, collected data and analysis for internal documentation

**4. Roles and Responsibilities**

The Consultant:

1. Professional and independent delivery of all above listed outputs in line with specifications given within the Terms of Reference within agreed upon timeframe.
2. Quality written outputs that are of publishable quality.
3. Regular and transparent reporting on progress to Save the Children, including any delays or challenges as they develop.
4. Expectation to work with a national with national resource persons.
5. Commitment to presenting results in a professional and accessible manner.
6. Commitment to Save the Children’s Child Safeguarding Policy

Save the Children:

1. Supporting the Consultant in accessing programme related documents and research;
2. Support with logistics for field work, including access to participants;
3. Actively engaging the Consultant throughout the research and review process;
4. Being available for feedback and review of drafts.

**5. Competencies**

This consultancy is open to both **individuals and consultancy firms** who meet the following criteria:

1. Advanced University degree in Social Sciences, Development Studies, or related area;
2. Demonstrate experience of political economy analysis. Research conducted in the field of migration would be an advantage;
3. At least 5 years relevant professional experience working on similar political economy analysis assignments;
4. Demonstrate experience of gender-sensitive research. Research conducted in the field of gender and migration would be an advantage
5. Prior experience of researching child migration in the East African regional context, ideally including specific experience in Ethiopia, Egypt and Sudan.
6. Demonstrate experience in applied research, especially literature reviews;
7. Familiarity with child rights programming;
8. Experience of child participatory research;
9. Demonstrate experience working with INGOs;
10. Demonstrate analytical and conceptual ability, good communication and facilitation skills;
11. Demonstrate strong report writing skills, a track record of delivering high-quality written outputs, and be able to share examples of previous work;
12. Demonstrate ability to work independently and deliver on time.

**6. How to apply**

Applications should consist of:

1. Cover letter
2. Short proposal, detailing proposed methodology, including illustrative budget (max 4 pages)
3. Examples of similar work already conducted
1. UN DESA, International Migration Report 2017 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Using UN DESA Migration Stock Data. Includes Botswana, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Somalia, Sudan, South Africa, South Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. IDMC [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. For 2017 figures, UNHCR Data portal data for November, 2017, accessed 27 Oct. 2018. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. For Sudan, data on IDPs and refugees and asylum seekers from UNHCR - <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/2535#_ga=2.96842719.1354421523.1540622267-1947470501.1532431498>, accessed 27 Oct. 2018. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. UNHCR, Egypt Country Focus, <http://reporting.unhcr.org/egypt> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. EU Observer. EU promotes 'Egypt model' to reduce migrant numbers. 2018. <https://euobserver.com/migration/142878> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. Save the Children & Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat. Young and on the Move-Children and Youth in Mixed Migration Flows within and from the Horn of Africa. 2016 [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. http://www.mixedmigration.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/ms-ea-1806.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. http://www.unhcr.org/desperatejourneys/ [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. http://www.mixedmigration.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/ms-ea-1807.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Yaqub, Shahin (2009), ‘Independent Child Migrants in Developing Countries: Unexplored Links in Migration and Development’, Innocenti Working Paper No. 2009-01. Florence, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. See, for instance, Save the Children. ‘Why Children Stay’. 2018, at <https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/library/why-children-stay> ; Save the Children & Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat, 2016.’ Young and on the Move-Children and Youth in Mixed Migration Flows within and from the Horn of Africa’, 2016, <https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/library/young-and-move-children-and-youth-mixed-migration-flows-within-and-horn-africa> [↑](#footnote-ref-14)