**Terms of Reference**

**Review/Development of Resilience Programming Strategy in South Sudan**

**Background**

South Sudan is the world’s newest nation and nearly six years since independence 2011. However, the humanitarian situation in South Sudan is dire and continues to deteriorate. The recurrent armed conflict compounded by drought and associated worsening food insecurity and prevailing malnutrition in the country have severely affected the children and their families in South Sudan. Most of the children are already contending with violence in their everyday lives. As per the IPC (May 2019) report 6.96 million people (61%) of the population in South Sudan are in need of humanitarian assistance.

Save the Children has been operating in South Sudan since 1989 through implementation of various programmes of both emergency and development interventions. In response to the ongoing crisis, Save the Children is currently operational in five out of the ten States of South Sudan. Among the key sectoral interventions is implementation of the food security and livelihood based projects that focus on addressing the underlying causes and hence improving the food and nutrition security, building resilience and reducing vulnerability of the community and households to potential shocks and risks. Most of the projects sit within the wider strategic and programmatic work around resilient livelihoods which also embed and address emergency needs in South Sudan.

Most of the projects are designed towards ensuring recovery, building resilience, and reducing vulnerability to food insecurity, malnutrition and other disaster risks/shocks faced by poor children and their families. To mention the key programming approaches:

* + Livelihoods based emergency and recovery interventions integrated with other sectoral interventions
	+ Nutrition sensitive agriculture/livelihood interventions combined with positive attitude changes in improved farming and feeding practices (including integration with nutrition and WASH)
	+ Enhancing market oriented agriculture productions
	+ Demand driven livelihood skills for out of school and marginalized youth and vulnerable households
	+ Youth resilience programming related to protection

**General objective of the assignment**

This consultant will review and develop a resilience strategy to the Country Office based on thorough analysis of the ongoing efforts /initiatives, capacity, gaps and potentials in the design and implementation of resilience building programmes and hence in brining lasting impact in children and their families who are vulnerable to food insecurity, malnutrition and disaster risks/shocks.

**Specific Objectives of the assignment**

The report is intended to inform SCI South Sudan Country Office’s planning, systems, processes and structures. It aims to influence routines to ensure greatest possible resilience and sustainability across programmes in South Sudan. It does this by:

* Providing an overview of the ‘Resilience’ state of affairs within Save the Children in South Sudan
* Outlining the donor landscape for DRM and Resilience especially with focus on children and the policy context in South Sudan
* Developing/proposing comprehensive approach to child-focussed resilience programming in South Sudan that feed into the global resilience framework/agenda
* Recommending priorities of actions for embedding resilience into the country programme

**Methodology**

1. Conduct a review and provide inputs to the previous and current phases of Country Strategic Plan and their sensitiveness towards building resilience
2. Conduct mapping and review of the efforts by the Country Office which include the recently completed and ongoing ‘Livelihood based Resilience Projects’ funded by various donors – which include the design SC/sector agreed technical standards, sensitiveness (children, gender, conflict), quality of implementation, monitoring, alignment with and synergies with other similar resilience programs
3. Conduct field visit to selected projects and capture evidences - to support the documentation and dissemination of learning and broader country and regional strategic thinking around resilience and livelihoods
4. Based on the assessment of the country office capacity and gaps, highlight the existing potentials, challenges and then propose key areas of priorities of actions to be taken by the Country Office
5. Develop the CO resilience strategy/approach based on the above analysis

**Key Activities and Deliverables**

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| Days | Activity | Deliverables |
| 8 days  | Meetings with various organizations and platform focal points that support / implement programs with resilience agenda | * Desk review (CSPs, RTR, Projects and evaluation reports)
* Collect and analyse inputs from SMT and technical focal points of the CO, members who have projects in SSD and regional office
* Resilience meeting discussion notes with different partners at Juba level (cluster including inter-agency, donor group platforms for building resilience, PfRR, Resilience Exchange Network)
* Review and status update on the livelihoods based resilience portfolio projects of Save the Children
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| 12 days  | Consultant TA visit to project sites | * Write up of program/technical review including gaps identified and key recommendations
* Feedback to the field project staff
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| 5 days  | Preparation of the draft report and Plan for Resilience strategy | * First draft report shared to the FSL and other relevant TAs for inputs
* Draft plan for the resilience strategy/framework
* Revised draft report after incorporating the first round inputs
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| 1 day  | Organize feedback session | * Presentation of the findings to SMT and relevant departments and collect inputs
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| 4 days  | Submit final Strategy Paper | * Incorporate the key inputs provided by participants
* Submit final strategy of both hard and electronic copy (max. 10 pages)
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**Resources**

Progress and Evaluation documents of livelihoods based programs implemented by Save the Children in South Sudan which have been funded by various donors; Situation analysis (any national level survey in 2018/2019 including FSNMS, HRP); Nutrition studies; Social Protection policy and strategy documents; Social cash transfer programme pilots document and evaluation reports; Disaster Risk Management Policy; Save the Children’s assessment/evaluation works of high relevance to resilience programming; Save the Children’s Country Strategic Plans: (Year 2016-2018) and (Year 2019-2021).

**Roles and Responsibilities**

The assessment/study will be conducted by an ***external consultant*** recruited according the Save the Children International – South Sudan program external consultancy policy guidelines. Food Security and Livelihoods Technical Specialist will be responsible for the overall process of the consultancy while global and regional level Technical Advisers will be responsible for technical backstopping the review team on the methodology, ensuring that the study task becomes learning, taking informed decisions, sharing process and advocacy among stakeholders.

**Responsibilities of the Consultant**

* Submit technical and financial proposal with clear statement of the proposed methodologies
* Establish contacts with pre-identified organizations and explaining the objective of the work
* Lead consultations with all informants of the study
* Review of relevant documents of Save the Children, other and literature
* Request feedback and incorporate comments into the report
* Conduct feedback workshop
* Provide 10 pager final reports as per the pre-agreed reporting structure and timeframe of the study

**Responsibilities of Save the Children**

* Ensure involvement of the relevant stakeholders as a members of the study as informants
* Provide transport to and from areas of the study
* Facilitate consultations with the relevant informants
* Ensure contacts in areas of the study both at national and field level where SCI is operational
* Avail relevant Save the Children documents, including strategies and program documents
* Review the draft report and provide feedback to the consultant
* Disburse payment of the service as per the contract agreement.

**Timeframe**

The number of days allocated for the consultancy will be 30 calendar days (including travel and reporting) from signature of the contract.

**Payment modality**

The payment modality will be 30% in advance up on submission of an inception proposal following the signing of the contractual agreement; 40% up on submission and presentation of the first draft report to the review panel members of the CO at Juba level; and the remaining 30% up on successful completion of the assignment as per the agreement. (NB. There is no per diem payment).

**Level of access to Children**

The consultant will have access to the children whenever necessary while discussing their needs and interests in the schools and in the communities. Recruited consultant should be briefed and signatory of children safe guarding policy and therefore, must have clear understanding on and abided with.

**Consultant Specifications**

The required expertise/experience for this consultancy services are:

* Advanced degree in economics, agro-economics, development studies, livelihoods, rural development or any other related qualifications;
* In-depth understanding of livelihoods based resilience frameworks and programming, social protection policy, strategy and investment programmes and donors
* Previous knowledge and experience in evaluation of similar action of similar scopes – both international and national in Livelihoods programming including Social Protection, Disaster Risk Management Policy and related works
* Strong facilitation, analytical and presentation experience and skills
* At least five years of working/research/study/evaluation experience on Livelihoods based resilience programming including Social Protection and related works preferably in children

**Guiding Principles and Values**

Adherence to Save the Children Code of conduct, Child Safeguarding practices and confidentiality when interviewing or photographing children. Gender mainstreaming is key to Save the Children and the donor; therefore, the lead consultant will have to ensure that the research team is gender balanced, ensuring that females are available to interact with female beneficiaries and vice versa. The consultant will also take into account principles of impartiality, independence, objectivity, participation, collaboration, transparency, reliability, privacy, and utility throughout the process.

**Selection process**

Save the Children will use its internal guidance, checklists and an interview process to select the successful consultant. The guidelines require consultant to submit a proposal explaining their comprehension of the ToR and how they would approach this assignment with a summary of their methodology especially in terms of how they plan to meet the objectives, including a time planning and budget. This should include a team composition with a lead consultant and at least one other experienced evaluator and a CV of each person to be involved in the assignment, including relevant experience, a detailed budget and time availability.

**Submission of the proposal**

Along with their CV interested candidates should submit:

* A technical proposal explaining their comprehension of the ToR and how they would approach this assignment, summarising the methodologies and approaches they plan to use, including a timeline.
* Two samples of similar previous assignments
* Their availability
* A financial proposal outlining their expected fees, costs of return flights, visas, meals and life insurance. Save the Children will cover the in-country accommodation and all operation and field logistics costs. In their proposal, candidates should consider that the budget will cover approximately 30 consultant days from the date of contractual signature by both parties.

Interested candidates/institutions should submit a technical and financial proposal and two samples of similar previous assignments. Applications should be submitted to ***Juba.Procurement@savethechildren.org****no later than 23rd* ***September 2019.***

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