

TERMS OF REFERENCE

MID-TERM PROGRAM REVIEW FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE OF CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY CONFLICT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION IN THE EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA PROGRAMME (2022 – 2025).

1.0 Introduction.

For 100 years, Save the Children has been making a difference in children's lives in more than 120 countries. We are the world's largest independent child rights organization, underpinned by a vision, a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development, and participation. Our mission is to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children, and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives. In line with our Vision, Save The Children through the Regional Programs is implementing a program under DANIDA Strategic Partnership Agreement addressing the Rights of children, Protection and building resilience of children and young people affected by conflicts, climate change and Migrations in Horn of Africa in partnership with regional partners with an intended outcome of having the rights of children and youth, including refugees, IDPs and CYOM, to protection, participation and learning, are respected, fulfilled and promoted by duty bearers in the East and HoA, leading to decreased vulnerability and marginalization, increased access to basic services and improved resilience and wellbeing of communities

Save the Children is an organization for talented people with different backgrounds and perspectives. We are proud that our people are representative of the children we work with, and we thrive on our diversity. We are an equal opportunity organization dedicated to our core values of Accountability, Ambition, Collaboration, Creativity and Integrity. Our culture is embedded in these values, along with a strong commitment to our Child Safeguarding Protocol, ensuring that all representatives of Save the Children demonstrate the highest standards of behavior towards children both in their private and professional lives.

1.1 Project Background.

Save The Children Regional Programmes (RP) in partnership with three regional partners (Horn of Africa youth Network, REPSSI, and Children Voices Today) are implementing a four-year programme under the DANIDA Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) 2022 – 2025. The programme, *Building Resilience of Children, Young People, Families and Communities Affected by Conflict, Climate Change and Migration in the East and Horn of Africa*, seeks to address pertinent issues impacting the rights of children and youth including conflict, climate change, migration, and displacement, and constricted civic and democratic space in the East and Horn of Africa. **The overall intended impact of the programme is to see that the rights of children and youth, including refugees, IDPs and Children and Youth on move are protected, and respected.** It also aims at ensuring increased capacity of regional accountability mechanisms, Governments, COs and Partners to provide access to conflict-and-climate –crisis-prepared quality services (health, education, protection, social, MHPSS) for affected children and youth including CYOM, IDPs and refugees.

Programme partners.

- **Horn of Africa Youth Network (HoAYN)** is a regional network of youth serving organizations that is working to foster sustainable, equitable and youth development in East and Horn of Africa region. HoAYN's mission is to provide an inclusive platform for Civil Society Organizations to promote inclusive policies and democratic governance for the wellbeing of children and youth while her vision is to have an integrated community that guarantees social economic development and human rights for Children and Youth. In collaboration with Save the Children International Regional Programmes with funding from DANIDA through Save the Children Denmark, HoAYN is currently implementing a regional youth program dubbed "*Building Resilience of Children, Young People, Families and Communities Affected by Conflict, Climate Change and Migration in the East and Horn of Africa*" aimed at strengthening the advocacy and the organisational capacities of regional civil society organisations and youth networks to contribute to realising youth's rights (girls and boys) to protection and participation. The membership of the HoAYN is drawn from youth-led and youth-focused civil society organizations from ten countries in the East and Horn of Africa including: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Somaliland, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Eritrea, Tanzania and Djibouti, which strongly links to the proposed action. Essentially, the networks foster collaboration with governments, line ministries responsible for IGAD affairs, organs of the African Union Commission and the East African Community Secretariat. It therefore provides an inclusive platform for Civil Society Organizations to promote inclusive policies and democratic governance for the well-being of Children and Youth.
- **REPSSI** is a regional network, present in 13 countries in Africa including HoA whose goal is to respond to the psychosocial, mental health and social protection needs of children and families affected by conflict, poverty, and social strife. REPSSI works closely with the Regional RECS including the East African Community (EAC), SADC, the African Union as well as with governments, academic institutions, civil society organisations, researchers, and mental health professionals. It also focuses on building and strengthening capacities of the civil societies in Mental Health, Psychosocial Support and policies influencing in the Region. REPSSI is leading on MHPSS Advocacy, policy influencing, capacity strengthening of the CSOs and some research work on child participation, MHPSS & localisation at national and regional levels.
- **Children Voices Today (CVT)**. Children's Voice Today (CVT) is leading the implementation of the child-led initiative under the DANIDA LOT DEV strand of work aimed to advance children engagement at regional, Pan-African governance, and international platforms through creating spaces for children to voice out their views. It supports and strengthens child-led initiatives in Somalia, South Sudan, and Rwanda. The project aims to increase the capacity of children in preparedness, addressing and voicing out issues affecting them.

Key stakeholders.

- Continental and regional intergovernmental bodies as well as national governments- Somalia/Somaliland and South Sudan (African Union organs including the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), the Youth Division of the African Commission, and the Peace and Security Council, Intergovernmental Authority and Development (IGAD), East Africa Community (EAC).
- Civil Society Organizations, Regional CSO Networks and Human Rights Institutions i.e Horn of African Youth Network (HoAYN), Network of African Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI), Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA), Humanitarian Working Groups, Regional Child Protection Network (RCPN), REPSSI.
- CSO forum to the African Union.
- Children, Youth, families, Communities,
- Media.

1.2. Purpose and scope of the mid-term evaluation.

The key focus of this mid-term Review is to document programmatic challenges, lessons learnt and key recommendations for program improvement.

More broadly, the mid-term review is aimed at examining whether the project interventions and expected program outcomes are on track and to make recommendations on how best to meet objectives in the remaining project period. The mid-term evaluation will be used to identify which outputs are being delivered according to the plan, which is being exceeded, and whether any activities are falling behind timelines as well as reasons for backlog. It is also important to assess whether the achievements to date are on course to achieve the intended outcome/impact. The mid-term evaluation will also check whether outputs are being delivered in the most efficient and effective way i.e. whether program management and communication arrangements are efficient, and whether the outputs are likely to lead to intended outcomes or if a different strategy is required. By this, the mid-term evaluation will provide a view of whether the intended objectives and activities are still relevant (e.g. because of changes in the context or availability of new information). Furthermore, the MTR will be a tool to test whether current monitoring and evaluation arrangements will be adequate to demonstrate results by the end of the programme. It will test the veracity of the Results Framework and the Logical Framework to inform the programme implementation team on the status of planned milestones based on observed results. This mid-term evaluation will be restricted to the implementing countries and will not be expected to measure intended project impact. However, by understanding the project status, it is expected that potential impacts will be highlighted. Key to this, the mid-term evaluation will be as participatory as possible with key partners playing key roles to ensure a high degree of ownership, accountability and transparency.

While OECD-DAC criteria can be used as a guide, this TOR is focused on providing information against the key questions needed to support intervention for the remaining period. However, key evaluation criteria will cover, effectiveness, efficiency, co-ordination and linkages, sustainability and economy.

Effectiveness

-To what extent has the collaboration with key stakeholders contributed to the programme's achievements? What specific contributions or impacts have these stakeholders made towards the program's objectives?

-To what degree has the programme's implementation methodology and process been efficient?

-What lessons have been learned, and what best practices or recommendations should be considered by the program moving forward.

Efficiency

-Has the programme been designed and implemented in a cost-efficient manner? -Are the activities cost-efficient? (What is the cost

-How do programme beneficiaries perceive the programme's value for the resources invested in relation to the services provided?

- How can their active input and feedback help us better understand the programme's cost-effectiveness and efficiency?

-Did the programme's activities and outputs align with the intended outcomes and impact?

-How effectively did the programme anticipate and adapt to changes in the operational environment?

Sustainability

-To what extent has the programme advanced in building mechanisms to sustain the benefits produced so far? What are the main factors behind this?

-Are the positive effects or impacts of the intervention expected to be enduring?

-How will we assess the sustainability or permanence of the intervention and its resulting effects?

-How effectively has the programme garnered support for a lasting community and stakeholder commitment to programme interventions?

2. Program results framework.

The below figure shows top line program results framework, and this mid-term evaluation will help assess the progress being made towards their achievements.

Objectives	Description	Indicators
PROGRAM IMPACT	The rights of children and youth, including refugees, IDPs and CYOM, to protection, participation and learning, are respected, fulfilled and promoted by duty bearers in the East and HoA, leading to decreased vulnerability and marginalization, increased access to basic services and improved resilience and wellbeing of communities.	Percentage of governments and regional mechanisms in East and HoA that have put in place measures that are protecting the rights of children and youth including refugee and CYOM and are contributing to decreased vulnerability, marginalization and increased access to basic services.
OUTCOME 1	Regional policies and legal frameworks are comprehensive and holistic in addressing the rights of children and youth in the East and HoA.	Number of regional policies and legal frameworks that are mainstreamed in national policies and legal frameworks reflect the comprehensive and holistic rights of children and youth in the East and HoA.
OUTCOME 2	Strengthened capacities of regional CSOs/ accountability mechanisms, CO's and partners on inclusive preparedness, Protection, and advocacy towards promotion of child and youth rights and access to quality services in both development and humanitarian settings	Number of regional CSO/ accountability mechanism (<i>RECS i.e IGAD, EAC and governments</i>) that have their capacity strengthened in humanitarian preparedness, protection and advocacy.
		Proportion of regional CSO/ accountability mechanisms that have included access to protection services in both humanitarian and development setting.
OUTCOME 3	Strengthened regional & cross-border coordination mechanisms on the promotion and protection of the rights of children and youth including IDPS, refugees and C/YOM	% of regional cross border mechanisms promoting the rights of children.
OUTCOME 4	Increased availability and utilization of gender sensitive evidence, information & learning at	Number policies advocated for that are informed by gender sensitive evidence produced by the program.

	regional level to inform processes, decision making and adapt emerging trends in the HoA.	Number of programme and or initiatives (supported by the programme) that apply adaptive Management or have adaptive mechanisms in place.
--	---	--

3. The specific objectives of the mid-term review.

The specific objectives of this mid-term evaluation are:

- Assess the extent to which save the children Regional DANIDA programme objectives and core activities are relevant to the targeted beneficiaries including the coherence in line with wider Child right governance and child protection issues in the region, policies, programmes and priorities in the region. This will be done by assessing the level of achievement of the expected results as outlined in the logical framework and results framework.
- Assess the approach taken by the programme and the extent to which the activities are delivering attainment of the intended objectives of the DANIDA programme, the alignment of the activities with the DANIDA regional program outcome results.
- Assess the relevance of partnerships with regional partners (HoAYN/REPSSI/CVT) to achieving the intended objectives of the program.
- Assess the level of efficiency of the DANIDA Programme compared to the inputs.
- Document programmatic challenges, lessons learnt and key recommendations for programme improvement.
- Assess the extent to which the programme has ensured gender mainstreaming in programme approaches.
- Review the log frame and provide necessary recommendations for adaptive programming.
- Recommend any aspect of the results framework that needs to be reviewed and updated based on the programme implementation context.
- -Provide recommendations to enhance the successful implementation of the remaining period of the programme.
- Assess program exit strategy and potential needed changes/adaptations that comes out of data collection, feedback and analysis with key stakeholders.
- Identify any innovations used by the programme in achievement of results.

The Mid-Term Evaluation will also look at the effectiveness and efficiency of the nexus programming between development and humanitarian intervention as integrated within the DANIDA Program design.

4. Mid Term Evaluation Methodology.

Technique/ Data Tools.

The mid-term review will employ a mixed- method, and data/ information will be triangulated from all possible sources. A set of broad mid-term review questions with relevant sub-questions, will be formulated with a view to provide information about the extent to which programme's objectives/results have been achieved so far. Quantitative data (e.g. on outputs and outcomes achieved to date) will be sourced primarily from the information provided in the monitoring reports including the result-based framework and annual reports. The firm/consultant will suggest a rigorous methodology that will be able to provide the project management with robust information based on the objectives sought. To guide the process, the suggested methodology is expected to be making use of both qualitative and quantitative methods to answer the

evaluation questions. The methodology will also be expected to reveal and understand not only the “what” and the “how”, but also to place more emphasis on exploring the “why”? The firm/consultant will have a list of themes, questions and evaluation tools and approaches focussing on collecting and documenting learning with/from partners and key stakeholders. The approach should be able to ensure a broad outreach of stakeholders involved, allow for cross-validation of the findings as the Mid-Term review progress and, equally important, eventually contribute to a higher buy-in of the Mid-Term Evaluation findings by all stakeholders involved.

Principal tools will include:

- **Desk review of programme documents** - Special attention will be paid to the following documents among others, programme proposal narrative, budgets, expenditure reports, Monitoring and Evaluation framework, progress reports, field visit reports among other key documents. The evaluators will refer to reports against the Results Framework, including 2022 and 2023 annual reports, to obtain quantitative data on progress against outcomes and outputs.
- **Key Informant Interviews** - One-on-one interviews with key informants’ interviews with key stakeholders including project implementing partners, SCI, and other stakeholders.
- **Outcome harvesting workshop** - Outcome harvesting workshop with partners’ implementing staff and other key project stakeholders.

Major deliverables of the mid-term evaluation

Deliverables under this consultancy will include the following.

- **An inception report:** The firm/consultant will share the inception report that details the study design (rationale, methodology), data collection tools, and a detailed work plan within 5 days of engagement, to be approved by Save the children and its implementing partner.
- **Data collection tools:** Develop the data collection tools and have them approved by Save the children and its program implementing partners before data collection.
- **Draft Mid – term Evaluation report:** The firm/consultant will prepare a draft evaluation report with details of findings, recommendations and lessons learnt for review by Save the children and its program implementing partners.
- **Validation workshop:** Hold a validation workshop/meeting with relevant Implementing partners and SCI programme staff.
- **Final Evaluation report:** The firm/consultant will share a final evaluation report (Max 25 pages including annexes) after incorporating the comments from SCI and program implementing partners. This will be both in electronic and hard copy (MS Word document, PowerPoint slides).

5. Timeframe and budget.

The duration of the assignment will be agreed upon signing the mid-term evaluation contract. This evaluation study will begin in the month of October 2024 and ends in 2nd week of December. The final report incorporating feedback from SCI and its program partners will be submitted 10 days after presentation of the preliminary findings.

The consultant expected to submit the budget with the daily rates and any relevant cost including tax.

6. Ethics, Safeguarding and Code of Conduct

As the firm/consultant working on behalf of Save the Children and its program implementing partners and will be required to sign and adhere to the child Safeguarding Policy and ethical guidelines. The firm/consultant will make clear to all participating stakeholders of all ages that they are under no obligation to participate in the exercise and that it is purely voluntary. All participants will be assured that there will be no negative consequences if they choose not to participate. The firm/consultant must obtain informed consent from all participants. The firm/consultant must receive prior permission for taking and use of visual still/ moving images for specific purposes. The firm/consultant will assure the participants the anonymity, confidentiality and will assure visual data is protected and used for agreed purposes only. As regards the documentation, the title rights, copyrights and all other rights of whatever nature in any materials used or generated under the provisions of this consultancy will exclusively be vested with Save the Children.

7. Qualifications, skills and experience required.

The consultant should have the following skills:

- An advanced University Degree in Economics, Development Studies, International Relations, Law or any relevant discipline.
- Proven track record in the development of policy frameworks, business support strategies and implementation.
- Extensive and advanced baseline survey and evaluation skills and experience in programme monitoring and evaluation in related fields.
- Extensive hands-on experience around policy analysis and research, strategic planning and monitoring and evaluation processes.
- Demonstrated Knowledge of policy analysis and research management at international level.
- Demonstrated technical expertise, methodology and tools in measuring and evaluating advocacy results/outcomes.
- Technical skills in policy gaps analysis.
- Demonstrate the ability to work independently and deliver on time.
- Familiarity in child and youth rights programming.
- Training and knowledge on child safeguarding are an asset/ experience working with children.
- Prior experience of researching child and youth open governance in the EHoA regional context, ideally specific experience in Somalia, South Sudan,
- Familiar with participatory and partnership approaches, empowerment of civil society.
- In-depth understanding of child rights monitoring and advocacy at national, regional/sub-regional, international and Pan African levels and previous work in the field of Pan-African advocacy is an asset.

8. How to apply.

Applications should consist of:

- Cover letter.
- Short proposal, detailing proposed methodology, timeframe, and illustrative budget including a daily rate. (max. - pages)
- Examples of similar work done Samples of previous work in similar consultancy work (assessment/survey/monitoring/evaluation)
- A financial proposal based on activities/ requirements of the Consultant/Consulting firm.
- Completed consultant EOI Form.
- Samples of previous work in similar consultancy work (assessment/survey/monitoring/evaluation)
- Applications must be sent electronically to esarpu.bid@savethechildren.org on or before 24th September 2024.
- For questions or clarifications please contact esaro.procurement@savethechildren.org with Euniejoy.nyawira@savethechildren.org in copy.