

CARE International in Sudan

Terms of Reference (TOR): A comprehensive land tenure review and an understanding of women's access to land and productive assets in South Kordofan.

Required: International Consultant.

Project Title: Promoting Economic Empowerment and Gender Equity through Strengthened Market Systems (PEGESMAS).

Donor: The Dutch Embassy

Duration of Appointment: 32 days

Expected Start Date: 1 November 2023

1. Background of CARE

CARE International is a global confederation that is working in 104 countries around the world to save lives, end poverty, and fight social injustice. CARE has been operating in Sudan since 1979, implementing humanitarian and development programs focused on women's and girls' empowerment, gender justice, humanitarian action, and resilience building. CARE works in partnership with 12 national NGOs, line ministries, and community-based organizations. CARE has over 176 staff members located across its sub-offices South Kordofan, Kassala, Medani, East Darfur, Gedaref, and South Darfur.

CARE has strong experience in Sudan and has established long-standing relationships with local authorities and communities. A key strength of CARE is that we focus on increasing community ownership, by working closely with local community structures and establishing long-term partnerships. The complex and protracted nature of the context in Sudan requires an integrated response from CARE. Therefore, we are working under a dual mandate of humanitarian- and development work, to address more comprehensively a wide variability of needs and challenges. CARE's Our Humanitarian Action program enables us to quickly respond to emerging crises, addressing immediate needs. Our humanitarian interventions aim to provide timely life-saving assistance to crisis-affected populations and ensure a protective environment for women and girls. CARE's humanitarian work is focused on WASH, Health, Nutrition, and Food Security. In the same states, however, our humanitarian work is complemented by longer-term development investments, focusing on Women, Peace, and Governance. Our development program aims to build the foundations for peaceful, inclusive, and resilient communities in Sudan, specifically targeting women and youth. Our development interventions are promoting transformative change by addressing critical barriers to poverty reduction. Our work in this pillar is focused on livelihoods, peacebuilding, inclusive governance, and gender justice. Both our humanitarian and development pillars converge and eventually contribute to common outcomes

The national partners include SADO, SODAVR, JMCO, WOD, SHOA, NAHA, and Babiker Badri Scientific Association for Women Studies. Line ministries with whom CARE collaborates closely include Ministries for agriculture, animal resources, water, health, and social. CARE's donors include the Dutch, Canadian, German (BMZ, GIZ), Luxembourg, and United States Governments, as well as the European Union and UN Agencies.

2. Background to the project:

Sudan, and South Kordofan State in particular, is characterized by widespread poverty and socioeconomic marginalization, especially among remote rural farming communities. Recent economic, and political stress and the ongoing conflict have exacerbated the long-standing vulnerabilities of smallholder farmers in South Kordofan, who have been affected by decades of conflict, displacement, and limited access to agricultural inputs, training, and markets. Women farmers are disproportionately affected, as gender inequality is pervasive across South Kordofan's agricultural sector. While women represent the majority of smallholder farmers, they are typically disempowered to fully participate in key agricultural value chains such as mango, food crops, and vegetables, and

to realize their entrepreneurial potential. Due to the prevailing patriarchal social norms and customs, women have limited access to land, decision-making roles within community governance mechanisms, and finance. Combined, these factors have long hindered the professionalization of South Kordofan's agricultural sector and the development of key value chains based on viable market-based approaches that could benefit local communities as well as the national economy.

The PEGESMAS project seeks to empower women smallholder farmers to gain greater control over and access to key agricultural resources and markets, as a basis for women's entrepreneurship to contribute to improved food security at the community and household level. To achieve this, the project will foster economic opportunities for female smallholder farmers in South Kordofan's mango and vegetable value chains, while simultaneously building the capacity of key actors in these value chains and strengthening business linkages between women-led farmer groups and the private sector. In this regard, the project will also focus on establishing a more conducive environment for women to actively participate in more inclusive markets, by improving their access to finance, addressing harmful gender norms, and tackling gender-based violence. Throughout the project's implementation, not only women but also men and boys within the target communities will be actively engaged as allies, change agents, and champions for women's socioeconomic empowerment, promoting positive social norms and equitable participation in livelihoods and grassroots entrepreneurship.

The project's specific objectives and outcomes are:

Specific objective: Increase women's control and access to agricultural resources and markets and enable women to contribute to and benefit from improved food security.

Outcome 1: Improved economic opportunities and agricultural production for female smallholder farmers in mango and vegetable value chains

Outcome 2: Improved functioning of value chains and business linkages between female smallholder farmers and the private sector.

Outcome 3: Improved enabling environment for women to actively participate in more inclusive markets by addressing harmful gender norms and gender-based violence.

3. Purpose/objectives of a comprehensive land tenure review exercise and an understanding of women's access to land and productive assets in the South Kordofan state of Sudan:

The most common challenge for female smallholder farmers is access to land and other productive resources, therefore the project intends to conduct a study to assess the barriers that women face, the possible options for women to access land and other productive resources, and draw recommendations to advocate for women's access to land and other livelihood resources. A notable barrier to women's engagement in the value chains and other economic activities within South Kordofan is access to land and other assets. Land is the most important asset for households and women especially to be able to equitably engage in the agriculture production and processing value chains. The study will explore different methods of supporting women in this process, to ensure that women are truly empowered with complete control over the value chain process from production to price setting of their produce. The findings of the study will be shared with different stakeholders including the government of Sudan line ministries, South Kordofan state authorities, other INGOs, donors, the Dutch Embassy, and local leaders. The results will also help to inform future projects during and post-conflict.

The analysis will also provide quality input and strategic guidance for CARE to effectively engage or mainstream gender issues at the community level and influence women's access and control over agriculture resources and other productive resources. Specific objectives of the assessment shall include the following:

- Conduct an in-depth review of land tenure systems in Sudan with a focus on South Kordofan.

- Understand the women’s access to land and the barriers women face when trying to gain control over land.
- Assess the potential enablers for women’s control and access to agricultural resources and markets. Also, drivers that enable women to contribute to and benefit from improved food security.
- Identify other resources that are key for women’s self-reliance and self-sufficiency.
- Understand how gender norms in target communities influence people’s behavior towards women’s access to agricultural resources and engagement in economic activities.
- Determine the level of support that is required by different social groups to enhance women’s access to agriculture resources and other economic resources.
- Identify critical current challenges and barriers to women's and youth's meaningful participation in economic activities including agriculture.
- Develop recommendations to enable women’s control and access to agricultural resources and markets. Also, drivers that enable women to contribute to and benefit from improved food security.

4. Methodology of the assessment:

The assessment should follow a mix of quantitative and qualitative methodologies to collect pertinent data/information where possible. These methodologies include, but are not limited to Secondary Data Review, Key Informant Interviews, and Focus Group discussions. The consultant should conduct an in-depth literature review to exhaust the subject matter.

CARE International’s field team will conduct the data collection at the field level and the consultant will do the data analysis and write the report. The data collection team should include both male and female members to avoid cultural barriers, moreover, local language speakers should be considered among the team. When selecting the respondents/interviewees, proper representation should be ensured in terms of women, men, youth, adults, disabled, and all other structures.

5. Scope of Work:

Geographical scope: Geographic scope: The geographical scope of the analysis is Abu-Jubeiha and Rashad localities in South Kordofan. CARE is therefore looking for an expert consultant who can work with the CARE International field teams to carry out the mentioned exercise.

The exercise will address the following issues:

- Assess the existing land tenure systems in South Kordofan (Rashad and Abujubeiha), and how women can benefit from these systems.
- Identify the stakeholders involved within the land and natural resources arenas and the involvement of women.
- Provide an understanding of the nature of land tenure in South Kordofan State Laws and Customs.
- Identify the role of local customs and culture in women’s access to land, economic opportunities, and other resources.
- Fully examine the current land use options, problems, and obstacles that women face.
- Provide an understanding of other key resources that can enhance women’s livelihoods and resilience.
- The consultant should also look at the above objectives and establish more issues that this project should focus on.

5. Tasks:

The consultant/firm will undertake the following tasks:

- Lead the development and design of the methodology, assigning appropriate roles to the overall consultancy and project team.
- Conduct desk reviews of secondary information and documents pertinent to the exercise.
- Design the overall assessment questions and develop the survey tools. The assessment questions should be geared towards the main objectives and key issues above.
- Develop the inception report, including data collection tools and the number of KIIs, and FGDs to be conducted in the project area.
- Obtain feedback on data collection tools from key program staff and finalize draft data collection tools to be tested by the CARE Team in South Kordofan.
- Train assessment team members (CARE Field teams) who will also pre-test data collection tools. If necessary, make final adjustments to data collection tools in consultation with the program team.
- Guide CARE field teams in carrying out data collection (primary data and review of secondary data).
- Analyze and synthesize data and prepare the report.
- Presentation of findings and recommendations to and validation by the key program team.
- Finalize the report incorporating feedback and submission of the final report.
- The report should be in English language.

6. Expected Deliverables and Timeframe

The consultant is required to deliver the following:

- Inception report: 5 days after signing the contract; the consultant should submit an inception report including the operational methodology and detailed work plan (indicating all the stages of the study process and timelines; sample size including sampling methodology) and data collection tools (survey questionnaires, etc.) attached to the report.
- Draft and final report which includes:
 - Stand-alone executive summary (focus on summarizing the main survey findings).
 - Description of the methodology and data analysis tools used, and research ethics and protocol followed.
 - Brief justification of the methods and techniques used (including relevant underlying values and assumptions/ theories) with a justification of the selections made (e.g., of people interviewed).
 - Analysis and findings.
 - Recommendations and policy interventions.
 - The report should not be more than **35 pages** including bibliography/endnotes.

Proposed Work Plan and Activity Timeframe

Activity	No. of days
Development of inception report including methodology and tools	5 days
Review of secondary information and finalization of tools by the consultant team	3 days
Conduct primary data collection -Fieldwork – To be done by CARE Field teams and enumerators.	10 days
Data entering, cleaning, and analysis	5 days
Draft and submit the first report for review/comments.	4 days
Comments from stakeholders (Care & partners)	3 days

Finalization and submission of the final report	2 days
Total	32 days

7. Proposal Content:

Those interested in the consultancy must include in their application a detailed technical and financial proposal with the following components:

Technical

- Technical proposal for conducting the survey based on the given information and including methodology and work plan schedules.

Financial

- The consultant should provide the daily rate for the tasks that he/she will conduct excluding fieldwork since the CARE field team will take the lead.

Other conditions:

- Must adhere to the CARE Code of Conduct and CARE Security Protocol during the entire duration of conducting the assignment.

8. Qualification and Experience

- Master's degree in economics, development studies, peacebuilding, sociology, policy, or a related social science field.
- 5 years of experience conducting similar studies or research in volatile contexts like Sudan.
- Experience in peacebuilding, gender, disaster risk reduction, and any other relevant background.
- Knowledge and demonstrated experience and skills in designing, facilitating, and conducting conflict analysis exercises.
- Demonstrated proof of conducting similar exercises in the past possible, share reports from previous tasks.
- Strong knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods and sampling.
- Statistical analysis skills and strong proficiency with data analysis packages such as SPSS or STATA and qualitative data analysis software
- Fluency (verbal and written) in English and Arabic is an added advantage.
- If working as a team the proposal should outline the roles and the CVs must be included

For any questions or inquiries regarding the assignment feel free to contact the below via email:

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