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für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



End of Project Evaluation Terms of Reference

**Food security for refugees and neighbouring communities in
Gedaref and Kassala State in the Republic of Sudan**

**Increasing Farmers Production and Income by Adapting
Farming Systems to Promote Rural Urban Value Addition and
Employment Project in Gedaref and Kassala States**

ZOA International Organization

March 2023

Agronomy's & Phrases:

ARCs	Agricultural Research Centers
COR	Commissioner for Refugees
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
EU	European Union
CSA	Climate smart agriculture
FAs	Farmers Associations
FAAB	Farming as a Business
FFS	Farmers Field Schools
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
IMPROVE	Integrated Measures to Promote Rural – Urban Value Additions and Employment
HAC	Humanitarian Aid Commission
MoPER	Ministry of Production and Economic Recourse
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
TA	Technical agreement
TTED	Technology Transfer & Extension Department
BRDO	Building Resilience Development Organization
ZWD	Zenab for Women Development Organization

Evaluation Summary

Project Title	Increasing farmers production and income by adapting farming systems to promote rural urban value addition and employment project
Project Duration	July 2021 – March 2023
Evaluation Type	End of Project Evaluation
Evaluation Purpose	The external evaluation, which is a mandatory requirement from the donor, which will serve both as an external accountability as well as internal learning. The evaluation aims to assess the achievements of the project objectives, result and output indicators. Documentation of best practices and lessons learnt shall be considered throughout the course of evaluation.
Evaluation Start and End Dates	2 nd April up to 1 st June 2023
Anticipated Evaluation Report Release Date	1 st June 2023

1. Background

In 2021, ZOA was awarded a twenty-one month’s project “Increasing farmers production and income by adapting farming systems to promote rural urban value addition and employment in Gedaref and Kassala States” funded by the GIZ. The project objectives were to increase farmers’ production and income by adapting farming systems to market and climate variabilities, promote rural urban value addition and employment in the localities targeted by the project, the objectives were to be realized through the following four set of interventions aimed at:

1. Providing farmers with new technologies to improve productivity and production. This will be focused on identifying, assessing & mobilizing potential farmers associations, assessing accessibility and availability of high-quality seeds adapted to climate, and agricultural inputs, and build capacity of the target farmers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) based on sustainable agriculture.
2. Promoting rural-urban value-addition and employment by addressing Post-harvest Losses significantly and building capacity of the target farmers on value addition.
3. Increasing income of the target farmers significantly through developing capacity of the target farmers on commodity marketing and marketing negotiation.
4. Providing viable solution to adapt farming systems to market and climate variability through building capacity of the target farmers on market-oriented production and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), and training illiterate association members in basic Arabic and mathematics.

Smallholder producers in Gedaref and Kassala face similar organizational limitations. Most people living in both states are fully dependent on their small production to survive, whether it is in farming, animal producing or fishing. All small holders deal with structural challenges that prevent them from, inter alia, increasing their production, increasing their profit margin, bargain for better deals/prices. Taking into account the food deficiency in both states and the high level of malnutrition, it is crucial that the structural impediments and lacks in capacities must be addressed by organising small producers into recognisable groups. Their formal organization is also an eligibility requirement for accessing formal finance (banks, micro-finance institutions), as well as

being fundamental to have the capability for collective action to engage and negotiate with service providers (public and private sectors). In addition to that Small-producers are not well positioned into the production cycle and so have limited participation in developing local plans that are directly related to their welfare, absence of skills in agro-processing and processing of products, which limits storage of surplus and value-adding. Also, small-producers commonly have a weak bargaining position in the market-chain in addition to dependency on traders for pre-financing of production activities and marketing of produce at prices lower than the prevailing market prices.

The intervention logic is that increased income for small-scale farmers can be achieved through integrated interventions in agriculture and livestock based on the value chain approach combined with the diversification of production and climate smart agricultural actions including an improved water conservation and erosion control. The logical framework of the project can be found in the table below (for further details see Annex 1).

The project targeted, in total, 1,900 small-scale farmers (Refugee and Host communities), in twenty (20) locations (16 locations in Gedaref state and 4 locations in Kassala state) in four (4) localities (3 in Gedaref State and 1 in Kassala State), namely, Galabat Ash-Shargiah, Al Galabat Al Gharbyah, Al Fashaga and Reifi Wad Elhilaiw, respectively. In these localities, there are different numbers of organized farmer associations with varying capacities. The majority of associations are in Galabat Ash-Shargiah and Al Galabat Al Gharbyah, around 400), which received support from ZOA and its local partners under EU supported projects implemented between 2014 – 2020. In Al Fashaga and Reifi Wad Elhilaiw, the number of small rain-fed farmer associations is small i.e., around 4 & 16, respectively.

2. Planned Impact matrix (objectives and indicators)

Table 1: Increasing farmers production and income by adapting farming systems to promote rural urban value addition and employment project Logical framework

Intervention logic		
Overall objective	Contribute to improved livelihoods of refugees, migrant workers and host communities in Eastern Sudan	
Specific objectives	1. Increase farmers' income;	
	2. Provide viable solutions to adapt farming systems to market and climate variability;	
	3. Provide farmers with new techniques to increase their production; and	
	4. Promote rural-urban value addition and employment.	
	Descriptions	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement
Results 1:	Innovation in the Value Chains are introduced	
Outcome 1.	Farmers Provided with New Techniques to Increase Crop Productivity & Production (Linked to objective 1.3 above)	Indicator R1.1. % of farmers using improved agricultural practices taught in FFS (in last harvest season)
Outcome 2.	Rural-Urban Value-Addition and Employment promoted	Indicator R1.2.1 % increased income among targeted farmers
		Indicator R1.2.2 % of farmers who report reduction in post-harvest losses > %5
Outcome 3.	Income of Target Farmers Increased Significantly	Indicator R1.3 % increased income among targeted farmers

RESULT 2:	Farmers Integrate Measures of Climate Smart Agriculture	% of farmers using measures of climate smart agriculture
Outcome 4.	Viable Solution to Adapt Farming Systems to Market and Climate Variability Provided (Linked to Objective 1.2 Above).	# of farmers with increased access to viable solutions to adapt farming systems to market and climate variability

3. Evaluation Purpose and Objectives

The external evaluation, which is a mandatory requirement from the donor, will both serve external accountability as well as internal learning. The evaluation aims to assess the achievements of the project objectives and result indicators. Documentation of best practices and lessons learnt shall be considered throughout the course of evaluation. The evaluation shall seek to address the following set of objectives as well:

- Assess the performance, impact and sustainability of project interventions including any other changes the project have contributed towards.
 - Assess the project progress and achievement against set of indicators and specific IP targets. The analysis should also include achievement against specific donor targets.
 - Generate and identify critical lessons learnt in order to improve the quality service to farmers associations and scale the value addition services approach and provide specific recommendation for similar future projects.
 - Document new knowledge and important topics for further inquiry, action, lobbying or influence.
 - Assess the effectiveness of beneficiary accountability system and mechanisms that were used during the project implementation period.
 - Investigate challenges and difficulties been faced during the implementation and what can be learnt from these challenges and document strengths and weaknesses of the project implementation and approach.
 - Assess coverage: looking at which groups are included in or excluded from a project, and the differential impact on those included and excluded. (Who and how many people are we reached?) Where their groups of people that, although being in need, were systematically excluded because of the way the project was designed? Or because of the way the project was implemented?
 - Generate case studies of successful Thematic areas for farmers associations (e.g., good governance, operating of small business grants for value addition, etc.).
- The evaluation will be carried out in light of OECD specific evaluation criteria that will eventually provide a framework to assess the achievements:
1. Relevance / Appropriateness
 2. Effectiveness
 3. Coherence
 4. Efficiency
 5. Impact
 6. Connectedness and sustainability

4. Evaluation scope

The targeted audience for the evaluation will include involved farmers associations networks (FAs), small-scale farmers associations, Farmer Field Schools members, local government, community leaders within the targeted communities/localities (farmers, and local value chain coordination groups). In addition to other stakeholders such as implementing partners GIZ and national non-governmental implementing organizations as (service providers) for the project, Commissioner for Refugees, agro-business in Gedaref, and value addition services companies.

The evaluation will be carried out at the following project targeted locations:

- Gedaref State: East Al-Galabat and West Al-Galabat and Al-Fashaga Localities.
- Kassala State: Wad Al-Helew Locality.

5. Evaluation Methodology

The evaluation should follow a collaborative and participatory mixed methods approach that draws on both existing and new quantitative and qualitative data to answer the evaluation questions.

It is expected that the consultant will assess the quality of the projects and sub grants impact logic and if necessary to develop realistic impact logic based upon on the conducted interventions. The methodology design should be developed by the consultant in consideration of the information outlined in this ToR to ensure accuracy and rigor. Detailed data collection methods proposed will include but not limited to Desk review, key informant interviews (KIIs); focus group discussions (FGDs), Most significant change (MSC) methods. The consultant will report to ZOA's Program Quality team.

In this evaluation, getting feedbacks directly from the communities, targeting committees, and appeal committees, field and head office level project implementor and donor is very essential. There needs to be clear and direct discussion and consultations with key stakeholders and beneficiary groups on different aspects of the response, conclusions should largely be drawn from findings of the direct discussions with the communities and key stakeholders.

Sources:

The evaluator must make reference to the following reports and documents:

- Project proposal/ project design document
- Project progress reports
- Assessments reports
- Monitoring Reports
- Evaluation reports and Baseline survey.
- Any other appropriate additional information that may be required to supplement what is provided by the project, including assessments and evaluation reports by other humanitarian actors and UN agencies.

6. Ethical considerations

The consultant must use measures to ensure compliance with the ZOA's code of conduct including measures to safeguard the rights, safety and confidentiality of the individual and communities interviewed, particularly secure permissions needed to interview or gather information about children and young people and provisions to store and maintain security of collected information and protocols to ensure anonymity and confidentiality. The

consultant shall respect differences in culture, local customs, religious beliefs and practices, while applying needs assessment methods and tools. ZOA code of conduct (which includes the child protection and PSEA policies) will be shared with the consultant during the contracting stage and the consultant is obligated to adhere to the code of conduct and adhere to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

7. Consultant’s Roles and Responsibilities

Secondary information analysis:

- Desk review of project documents and reports such as proposals, assessments, project budget, monitoring reports.
- Establish working contacts with all the relevant stakeholders in the targeted locations/communities.
- Prepare and submit the evaluation proposal and the inception report including methodology to be used, work plans and schedules for both quantitative and qualitative aspect of the assignment for review and feedback and approval by ZOA.

Primary information analysis:

- Field visits to selected sites; among other surveys, interviews and/or focus group discussions with farmers associations, value chains coordination groups, farmers field schools’ members, Local Authorities, local partners, community members, community groups and other stakeholders by the evaluator.
- Evaluator will submit an inception report (with detailed methodology, research tools and timeline/logistics) for further discussion.
- Evaluator will lead a kick-off workshop, train his/her team in new tools used.
- Design data collection tools.
- Collect the survey data through mobile data collection tools such as KOBO.
- Interview selected respondents during the evaluation.
- Hire and train the data collection team.
- Lead and supervise the data collection.
- Conducting entry and exit meetings with ZOA staff and key stakeholders at Khartoum and Field level.
- Submission of draft evaluation report and finalize it based on the feedback from ZOA.
- Submission of lessons learnt and recommendations.

ZOA Roles and Responsibilities

- Briefing of the evaluator.
- Review and approve the study tools and methodology.
- Brief stakeholders about the purpose of the evaluation.
- Support in logistical arrangements to the consultant such as approval from the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC).
- Assist in organizing meetings with stakeholders.

8. Evaluation Deliverables

Deliverable	Deadline	Description
Inception Report	One week after signing contract	The consultant will prepare and submit an inception report detailing how the evaluation will be carried out from his/her

		point of view. The report will outline the evaluation design, sampling methods to be used and questions to be answered and detailed work plan for the entire exercise. Draft questionnaires, interview guides and other data collection tools will be submitted for review and approval before data collection starts.
Preliminary/Draft Evaluation Report	16 th May 2023	The consultant will submit draft evaluation report. The draft report will be reviewed, and comments provided on the report within a week of submission.
2 pagers summary fact sheet	1 st June 2023	(In English and Arabic)
Final evaluation Report	1 st June 2023	The consultant will submit detailed final report in English outlining the evaluation methodology, findings, lessons learned and recommendations. The report shall incorporate specific simple and achievable recommendations, including the most appropriate strategies that can be undertaken and/or incorporated by ZOA and partner (GIZ) to attempt to address the issues identified. The final report should address the issues and questions raised in this ToR and correspond to the evaluation objectives set out above.
PowerPoint presentation	1 st June 2023	A power point presentation (part of the exit interview) and data set must be submitted.

9. Budget/Logistic

The consultant will develop a detailed budget (in addition to the consultancy fee) and work plan based on the details in the ToR with all needed logistics to secure preparation needed throughout the whole process of the evaluation such: transport arrangements, stationary procurements, training facilities for recruited team, communication.

10. Supervision and Management

ZOA will supervise and support with a conflict analysis team that will be assigned for this task at Khartoum, South, East and Central Darfur and South Kordofan. The consultant is expected to work and closely interact with the relevant staff assigned at the different levels on a continuous basis.

11. Consultants Qualifications and Selection Criteria

The consultant must have undertaken similar works in Sudan and should have the following:

Academic Qualifications:

Master's degree or equivalent in Agriculture, Economics, business development, marketing management or social sciences. Executive degree in livelihoods administration with specialization in agricultural sciences and/or value addition chains concept is an asset.

Experience Qualifications:

- Professional experience in socio-economic, food security and livelihoods support, business entrepreneurship and business planning, small-scale farmers organizations support, and gender.
- Professional experience at a national and/or international level in program planning, monitoring, reporting and communication.
- A good understanding of Sudan context socially, politically and economically in addition to the community structure and setting.
- Experience in multi-methodological and interdisciplinary approaches and data collection and analysis techniques in evaluation of livelihoods programs.
- Demonstrate experience (at least 5 years) in assessing food security programs and livelihoods interventions, reviewing, editing knowledge products related livelihoods capacity building, e.g., papers and briefing notes.
- Strong background about eastern regions context in Sudan in addition to the refugees' structure and setting in Camps.
- Ability to conduct high quality projects research/evaluation, meet deadlines and respond to requests and feedback provided timely and appropriately.
- Excellent track record in designing and conducting quantitative and qualitative research, analysis and evaluation.
- Familiarity with quality and accountability standards applied in development cooperation.
- Strong analytical and conceptual skills to clearly synthesize and present findings, draw practical conclusions, make recommendations and to prepare well-written reports in a timely manner
- Excellent facilitation skills, coordination, negotiation skills and oral and written communication skills in English (particularly report writing) and spoken communications skills in English and Arabic.
- Experience in assessing communities/farmers associations capacity building and gaps and ability to recommend the corrective measures.
- Demonstrated capacity to work both independently and as a team.

12. Quotation Requirements

The consultant is expected to submit:

- Technical proposal that includes: Workplan, CV of the lead consultant, explanation why the consultant is best suited for this assignment, proposed methodology.
- Financial proposals: resources needed and associated costs
- 3 references and if allowed to share a publication of previous work (in soft copy)
- If applying through a firm, the application should include the firm profile and evidence of tax payments.

13. Tender

- Tenders/offers will be accepted from consultants as well as from commercial companies, NGOs or academics.
- Duration of evaluation: It is anticipated that the evaluation will last 35 - 40 working days.

- The evaluation team is responsible for its own travel itinerary. ZOA will help and facilitate HAC procedures in the Gedaref and Kassala States.
- The selection of the best offer from the candidates will be based on a Combined Scoring method where the technical proposal will be weighted a maximum of 70 points and combined with the price offer which will be weighted a max of 30 points out of 100 points. The technical proposal evaluation will take into account:
 - The consultant background and qualification 30%
 - Relevant experience in sector and country 25%
 - Proposed methodology 25%
 - Timeliness of the workplan 20%

14. Deadline

Applications should be submitted electronically to ZOA quality department using the following e-mail address: abubaker.abdelgader@zoa.ngo by **30 March 2023**.

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Annex 1

Project objectives					
1. Increase farmers' income;					
2. Provide viable solutions to adapt farming systems to market and climate variability;					
3. Provide farmers with new techniques to increase production; and					
4. Promote rural-urban value addition and employment.					
	Performance Indicator	Baseline	Target	Means of verification/ Data Source	Extra notes from the Baseline
Result One: INNOVATION IN THE VALUE CHAINS ARE INTRODUCED					
OUTCOME-1: Farmers Provided with New Techniques to Increase Crop Productivity & Production (Linked to objective 1.3 above)	% of farmers using improved agricultural practices taught in FFS (in last harvest season)	59%	TBD	Baseline and final evaluation	100% of those participated in FFS and learnt a topic used at least one of the practices in the last harvest Lets discuss further
OUTPUT-1.1: Potential Farmers Associations (FAs) in Gedaref and Kassala Identified, Assessed and Mobilized	# of small scale farmers engaged & mobilized to join FAs (disaggregated by gender)	0	1,100	Monitoring reports and project database.	
	# of farmer associations registered	0			
OUTPUT-1.2: High Quality Seeds Adapted to Climate, OPV and Other Agricultural Inputs Accessible and Available to Small-Scale Farmers	# of reliable agro-service providers identified	0	TBD		Only 10% were aware of agro-service providers in their area (n=37)
OUTPUT-1.3: Capacity of Target Farmers Build on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Based on Sustainable Agriculture	# of farmers familiar with good agricultural practices based on sustainable agriculture.	0	1,900	Baseline and final evaluation	79% were aware about GAP most common known and used practices were: Improved seeds Timing of farming practice (planning, change in feeding quantities and times,

					mechanization) Crop diversification
OUTCOME-2: Rural-Urban Value-Addition and Employment promoted	% increased income among targeted farmers	0	20%	Baseline and final evaluation	<1000 SDGs 9% 1001 - 5000 SDGs 15% 5001 - 10,000 SDGs 22% 10,001 - 25,000 SDGs 24% >25,000 SDGs 31%
	% of farmers who report reduction in post-harvest losses > %5	47%	TBD	Baseline and final evaluation	51% farmers reported a reduction in post harvest losses and 47% farmers reported a reduction of >%5
OUTPUT-2.1: Post-Harvest Losses of Target Farmers Reduced Significantly	# of storage technologies introduced/enabled at FA level	0	TBD	Baseline and final evaluation	83% of farmers were familiar with storage technologies. Most common technologies are: Plastic containers (49%) Sacks(43%) Local granaries (39%) Modified granary (11%)
OUTPUT-2.2: Capacity of Target Farmers Built on Value-Addition	# of farmers with improved knowledge, skills, and accessibility to value addition	0	1,900	Baseline and final evaluation	32% of farmers were familiar with strategies, skills to be applied in order to add value. Common values were: Cleaning and sorting (27%) Packaging (17%)
	# of target farmer associations, who received small business grants for their submitted value addition project proposals	0	10	Baseline and final evaluation	

OUTCOME-3: Income of Target Farmers Increased Significantly	% increased income among targeted farmers	0	20%	First season report and final evaluation	Check outcome 2
OUTPUT-3.1: Capacity of Target Farmers Developed on Commodity Marketing and Marketing Negotiation	# of farmers with improved marketing & negotiation skills	0	1,900	Baseline and final evaluation	45% of farmers were aware of marketing strategies and 25% were aware of negotiation strategies
RESULT 2: FARMERS INTEGRATE MEASURES OF CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE	% of farmers using measures of climate smart agriculture	27%	25%	Baseline and final evaluation	34% of farmers were aware of any measures to cope with and/or reduce impact of climate change. Most common are: Use of quality seeds and planting materials of well- adapted crops and varieties (29%) Pest and disease management (21%) 27% were using the measures. common used are: Use of quality seeds and planting materials of well- adapted crops and varieties (22%) Pest and disease management (16%)
OUTCOME-4: Viable Solution to Adapt Farming Systems to Market and Climate Variability Provided (Linked to Objective 1.2 Above)	# of farmers with increased access to viable solutions to adapt farming systems to market and climate variability	0	1,900	Baseline and final evaluation	

OUTPUT-4.1: Capacity of Target Farmers Build on Market-Oriented Production and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)	# of farmers with improved knowledge, skills, and accessibility to market oriented production	0	1,900	Baseline and final evaluation	21% farmers were aware of strategies for a market oriented production (most common is Reducing of transportation costs & market charges)
OUTPUT 4.2: Illiterate association members received training in Arabic and basic mathematics	# of association members who received literacy support	0	600	Monitoring reports and final evaluation report	