

## Terms of Reference

Title of the assignment	Scoping Livelihoods Opportunities to Reduce Negative Coping strategy in South Kordofan
Country	Sudan
Duration	November – December 2021

### 1. Consultancy assignment background

Livelihood support to refugees, IDPs and host community in Sudan remains hampered by the economic downturn, movement restrictions and access to work permits<sup>1</sup>. There is a projected deterioration with estimated 9.7 million likely to be in IPC crisis from September 2021<sup>2</sup>. Despite such challenge, NRC seeks to innovatively work with partners to promote self-reliance and resilience of communities in South Kordofan by promoting economic inclusion, employability and income opportunities to enhance its contribution to durable solution<sup>3</sup>. This is in line with NRC vision “people protected right respected”<sup>4</sup>, this coins well with Government of Sudan 2019 Global Refugee Forum commitment by supporting the market and increase economic activities<sup>5</sup>.

South Kordofan State is deemed a hot spot for conflict, the conflict takes the form of tribal conflict over perceived discriminatory practices against the Nubians and also conflict over natural resources and the prolonged state of insecurity resulting from the conflict between the Government of Sudan and the SPLM-N. This led to several problems especially internal displacement where 217,693<sup>6</sup> or 9% of total IDP in the country, contamination of land with mines/unexploded remnant of war leading to limited access to productive land. Considering that South Kordofan borders with South Sudan the state is hosting 3.7% of South Sudan refugees 31,171 (HCR 30 June 2021). The Juba Peace Talks made some access possible for humanitarian intervention but it’s very constricted and as yet INGOs working on GoS side cannot cross into SPLM-N areas to work. These conflicts over natural resources and intertribal clashes occur especially in the rainy season between farmers and pastoralists and also conflict over natural resource extraction [gold mining especially in Eastern Corridor] all of the above making South Kordofan a fragile state with major needs for humanitarian and early recovery assistance

### 2. Objective and Scope of Work

#### Objectives

The main purpose of the consultancy is:

NRC is seeking for services of a consultancy to conduct scoping of viable livelihoods and food security opportunities with IDPs, refugees, returnees and impacted host communities in South Kordofan. The assessment seeks to address the unsustainable natural resource management by diversification of

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<sup>1</sup> IPC AFIS-2021

<sup>2</sup> S-CRRF 2021

<sup>3</sup> NRC Programme Policy.

<sup>4</sup> NRC Global Strategy.

<sup>5</sup> S-CRRF 2021

<sup>6</sup> UNHCR 2021

livelihoods options (on farm, off-farm, Income Generation Activities, and youth skilling based on context) sustainable livelihoods option (livelihoods asset in sustainable livelihoods framework). Therefore, the Consultant will be required to map viable sustainable livelihoods option in the areas of Kadugli locality related to IDPs as well as relevant host communities, as well as assessing opportunities to invest in affordable energy alternatives for local communities.

The action will require both primary and secondary data to identify opportunities to guide transitioning NRC LFS response from immediate need toward medium and long-term intervention by building self-reliance and resilience. The Consultant will consider existing literature related to natural resource management, existing practices, and population adoption of alternative energy in South Kordofan and possibility of community managed natural resource management in South Kordofan in partnership with government and other stakeholder.

The consultant will also be required to map all existing viable livelihoods opportunities, which can be supported to reduce negative coping strategy of heavy reliance on natural resources to meet immediate livelihoods needs, being cognizant for a safe and inclusive process especially regarding age, gender and diversity in participation to ensure inclusiveness.

### **Scope**

The Consultant will be required to go through existing literature as well conduct primary data collection from host communities as well from IDPs and refugees/returnees in Kadugli locality, engage with government key departments responsible for natural resource management, Ministry of Social Development [?], Ministry of Agriculture/Livestock, as well as the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) to provide direction in relation to government commitment to durable solutions.

The exercise will cover period 1<sup>st</sup> November to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 for desk review, primary data collection, analysis, draft reporting, feedback and final report submission as payment.

Geographical coverage: Kadugli locality

### Key analytical questions:

1. What potential alternative energy sources can be promoted to reduced fuel wood consumption in Kadugli
2. What capacities exist to promote adoption of the alternative sources of energy and what are existing institutions in Kadugli and Khartoum (policy level) to promote these technologies.
3. What are the possible livelihoods diversification options for the community to reduce negative coping strategy in meeting basic needs?
4. What local institution exist and or accessible to promote sustainable livelihood option in South Kordofan for partnership?

### **5. Methodology**

To ensure that all segment of the target population are reached, NRC propose used of both primary and secondary data to capture previous related assessment as well get on time relevant information from communities, leaders, government and other NGOs. Below are some of the suggestions for consideration

- Desk review of existing data and or information: Assessment reports, existing policies and strategies;
- Primary data collection: Key informant interviews and Focus group discussions with target groups and stakeholders;
- Workshops, meetings, brainstorming sessions.

The consultant will capitalize on their long experience and make necessary suggestion and inclusion of additional data collection tools to add value to this project.

## **6. Management of the assessment**

NRC M&E unit will technically support supervise the consultant to ensure validity of the tools; this will be done through pretest and adjustment of the tools before field data collection. All enumerators will be taken through tool administration and interpretation of question to ensure accuracy of data. Necessary step will be taken to ensure participation of all segments of the population through cultural sensitivity and alignment to participants' cultural practices. The voluntary participation is a control measure for information accuracy however probing and assessment team will use other facilitation skills. The technical proposal will outline additional data quality control will be implemented and how data will be processed.

The main contact point for the consultant is Livelihoods and Food Security Project Manager South Kordofan. The PM and M&E department will support the consultant in the process of review of tools, selection of data enumerators, mobilization of population, and arranging logistics considering the presence in the area.

## **7. Data protection and confidentiality**

NRC is compliance to data protection policy (GDPR), this will be adhered to through training of the research assistant on research ethic and professional administration of data collection tool. Every respondent will have informed consent before engagement, participation is voluntary, and all respondents anonymized. Data will be collected and recorded in an electronic system ODK secured in NRC cloud system. For KII and FGD, information recorded in hard copy, necessary steps will be taken to anonymize respondent, and response, names and any personal data, which may compromise protection of participant will not be documented. No pictures will be taken of children/minors during this exercise.

## **8. Deliverables**

The expected deliverables are:

- Detailed work plan with clear key milestones;
- Precise English report in both hard and soft copies. The report must be maximum 30 pages with clear recommendation based on assessment information and appendices;
- A power point presentation for the study to be presented in experts' consultation workshop;
- Incorporate the outcomes of experts meeting in the final report.

Notes (on report design and quality)

- Use visuals to highlight key messages including but not limited to; charts, infographics, maps. Example: <https://www.nrc.no/globalassets/pdf/reports/ukraine/food-security-and-livelihoods-assessment-may-2020/lfs-infographic-english-version.pdf>;

- Apply a standard design and consistently using it through the report such as; charts types and coloring scheme. Example: [https://www.nrc.no/globalassets/pdf/reports/make-or-break--the-implications-of-covid-19-for-crisis-financing/nrc\\_make\\_or\\_break\\_implications\\_covid19\\_crisis\\_financing\\_ov.pdf](https://www.nrc.no/globalassets/pdf/reports/make-or-break--the-implications-of-covid-19-for-crisis-financing/nrc_make_or_break_implications_covid19_crisis_financing_ov.pdf);
- Format charts, tables and graphs to be attractive and easy to understand. Example: <https://www.nrc.no/globalassets/pdf/reports/myanmar-youth-led-assessment-overview/myanmar-yla-overview-2020.pdf>
- Use negative space and images when possible. Example: [https://www.nrc.no/globalassets/pdf/reports/nrc\\_downward-spiral\\_covid-19\\_report.pdf](https://www.nrc.no/globalassets/pdf/reports/nrc_downward-spiral_covid-19_report.pdf)
- Generate maps using modern design. Example: <https://www.nrc.no/news/2020/april/more-than-50-million-people-displaced-within-their-own-country/>
- Pay attention to charts and maps size, so that it is readable.
- Follow NRC design guidelines included he HYPERLINK "<https://1drv.ms/w/s!Al5xEZUMI3LmhJg5XNVgHJwtK1dHYg?e=EwO1aB>"r HYPERLINK "<https://1drv.ms/w/s!Al5xEZUMI3LmhJg5XNVgHJwtK1dHYg?e=EwO1aB>"e **and** mentioned examples above.

## 9. Tentative implementation schedule

Deliverables		Days	Responsible
Orientation meeting		half day	NRC and consultants
Inception report and review of methodology		1 day	Consultants
Desk Review and briefings with relevant NRC staff and other national stakeholders all through assessment period			Consultants
Field work – Key informant interviews and focus group discussions	Organizing local authorities and community leadership appointments	1 day	Consultants
	Training of data collectors and pre-testing	2 days	Consultants and NRC
	Data quality review	1 day	Consultants and NRC
	Data collection	13 days	Consultants
Data analysis		5 days	Consultants
Debriefing with NRC		half day	Consultants and NRC
Draft Report Writing		5 days	Consultants
Draft Report Review		3 days	NRC
Final report		3 day	Consultants
Total Days		35 days	

## 10. Qualification of the consultancy company

The consultant will be responsible for all phases in the implementation of the consultancy, including the design, collection and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data, writing reports, presenting the findings and recommendations to NRC in a workshop, and producing the report. The consultant will also supervise and provide guidance to the enumerators ensuring qualitative data collection.

Mandatory requirements for the consultant or consultancy company

- Minimum 5 years of proven experience in conducting market assessments, livelihoods sub sectors analysis, value chain analysis in emergency/humanitarian or development contexts for livelihood programs;
- Experience of quantitative and qualitative data collection methods and strong analysis capacity. Proven experience in using participatory data collection methodologies;
- In-depth knowledge in economic analysis of humanitarian/development projects;
- Excellent communication and demonstrable team leadership experience;
- An in-depth knowledge and understanding of the political dynamics of the Sudan and its history of relations between tribes, governments, and political organs. Knowledge of the South Kordofan context is desirable;
- Fluency in written and spoken English for all team members;
- Fluency in written and spoken Arabic is mandatory for the data collection team deployed on for the field data collection;
- Experience in integrating conflict sensitivity strategies while carry data collection and analysis;
- Practical application of cross cutting themes like age, gender and diversity and protection mainstreaming;
- Excellent computer skills (word processing, spreadsheets, statistical analysis software application, internet research, etc.);

#### **11. Application process and requirements**

The deadline for the application is: 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021

The title of the email should be “ [SD.procurement@nrc.no](mailto:SD.procurement@nrc.no) ”.

Applications shall include the following:

- 1 technical offer detailing the proposed assessment framework, methods, and the assessment team (max. 3 pages);
- 1 financial offer (Excel) detailing the costs of the assignment (including transport costs, enumerators costs etc.);
- CV of the of team leader demonstrating relevant experience / knowledge and alignment with the specification above (max 4 pages);
- 2 references from recognized organisations, which will be consulted for information about the consultant prior experience in the relevant field of study;
- Please include feasible start date and mention where you found this posting. Preference will be given to applicants who include at least an executive summary or abstract of a similar work conducted;
- Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

#### **12. Intellectual Property**

All information pertaining to this project (documentary, audio, project documents, etc.), which the firm may come into contact within the performance of its duties under this consultancy, shall remain as the property of NRC who has exclusive rights over their use. Except for the purposes of this assignment, the information shall not be disclosed to the public nor be used without written permission of NRC. National and international copyright laws will be applicable.