

Terms of Reference for Education Localisation Fund

Review of the funding mechanism architecture given the transition

**IRQ_PPL_EIE Response Continuation_2022-2023 project
November 2022**

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Acronyms:

CwD	Children with Disability
DoE	Directorate of Education
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
MH	Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid
MoE	Ministry of Education
MYRP	Multi-Year Resilience Program
NCCI	National Coordination Committee for Iraq
NFE	Non-Formal Education
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PAT	Partner Assessment Tool
PPL	People's Postcode Lottery
PSS	Psychosocial Support
PTA	Parents- Teachers Association
SAG	Strategic Advisory Group
SCI	Save the Children International
SSDF	Sorouh for Sustainable Development Foundation
TA	Technical Advisor
VOP	Voice of Older People and Family
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WEO	Women Empowerment Organization
KRG	Kurdistan Region Government
FI	Federal Iraq

Project Summary

Name of the project	IRQ_PPL_EiE Response Continuation_2022
Project Start and End dates	Apr 2022-Mar 2023 (Actual start Oct 2022)
Project duration	12 months (Actual 6 months)
Project locations:	Erbil
Thematic areas	Education
Donor	People's Postcode Lottery - UK
Beneficiaries Categories	N\A
Total	N\A
Overall objective of the project	Local and national education actors have increased representation and participation at national and sub-national coordination platforms

Background and Context (Previous project)

Save the Children is co-lead of the Education Cluster, and supports the commitments of the Grand Bargain, it has a localization and partnerships strategy as part of its Country Strategic Plan (CSP), it works in partnership with local and national partners to deliver services to crisis affected population. Iraq is in the midst of transition from humanitarian to longer term development and Nexus oriented approaches and structures with localisation being central to the change. Given the context and need to invest more in localisation, Save the Children is taking steps to strengthen localization, particularly localised approaches to programme implementation and focused support to local and national actors looking at implementation and capacity needs. Localisation is often limited to sub granting with very little flexibility to local and national actors on how they would like to utilise the funds.

Therefore, SCI along with Education Cluster, worked to strengthen localisation within the EiE sector through availability of flexible funding via localisation fund aiming at enhancing their leadership, capacity, and contributions to the Education in Emergency (EiE) sector in Iraq. For more information on the project, please refer to the project proposal documents, draft localisation fund guidance and the other project related-documents.

Intervention under review:

The intervention was proposed by SC in collaboration with the Education Cluster, to support localization, and to improve representation and participation of local/national actors in coordination platforms as progress towards active CSO engagement in national dialogue. To be able to achieve this, the following model was proposed:

- The Education cluster and Save the Children convened a multi-stakeholder committee to define the criteria for the allocation of funding to the local/national organizations. The multi-stakeholder committee included SC, the Education Cluster, National Coordination Committee for Iraq (NCCI), and local representatives of cluster SAG.
- Launched NNGO/local organization competitive identification process for this pilot. The unrestricted funding was categorized for allocation under following gaps, identified through education cluster localization strategy
 - o Institutional capacity (systems Finance, HR, procurement and logistics, safety and security, etc.)
 - o Technical capacity in EiE (programme development, MEAL, etc.)
 - o Operations (programme management)

- Multi-stakeholder committee will define criteria for competitive applications, it could also define funding thresholds to guide the perspective applicants, etc. The criteria will be outlined in the operations guidelines.
- Child safeguarding and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) systems and procedures of NGOs/local organizations are generally weak. Most of the organizations do not have a child safeguarding policy or a PSEA policy and if they do, it is part of their code of conduct. SC will strengthen their capacity to develop child safeguarding and PSEA policies.
- Child participation is a gap across humanitarian service delivery; child consultations are not done for humanitarian response planning. SC will build capacity of participating organizations on child consultations. The added advantage of cluster platform is to have a wider buy-in from the other actors on the importance of children voices in humanitarian response planning. As part of the capacity strengthening, implementing partners will be trained on gender sensitive and inclusive child participation and use of data from the consultation with children to inform the programme design.
- The EiE suffers from a gap in gender mainstreaming programming and poor sensitivity and inclusivity interventions that eventually led to gender unequitable education. This is mainly caused due to lack of gender and diversity sensitive education systems, policies and curriculums. Capacity building of national and local organizations on mainstreaming cross-cutting issues, mainly, gender, GBV, diversity and disability inclusion in education and conflict sensitivity is a priority to ensure design and implementation of gender sensitive programmes and the using of gender lens in the different levels of the education system of the intervention also envisaged to enhance linkages with multi-year resilience programme (MYRP), a three-year programme with intermediate focus on the education response delivery. The programme was expected to define linkages with MYRP for sustainability and scale up. Localization is a focus under MYRP, as commitment towards “Grand Bargain”, an approximate of 25 percent of the funding under MYRP will be allocated to local partners. This investment could have linkages with MYRP as under:
 - If any direct programme activity is implemented, case load could transfer to MYRP.
 - Increased local partner capacity; partners benefitting through this investment could be considered as potential partners under MYRP as and when it expands in scale.

Extended period (6 months - current project)

The extended period involving review, learning and focused consultations will focus on assimilation of the funding mechanism within the new/changed format of cluster coordination in Iraq. The extended project will effectively build on the lessons from the initial pilot and helping us to deliver the below results while facilitate transitioning into a second phase smoothly within the changing context of Iraq in terms of cluster coordination mechanism. This extended period will primarily result in achieving:

1. Review and introduce necessary modifications within the architecture of the mechanism developed during the pilot phase. This would include review of the composition of the funding committee, criteria for rolling out funding support to local/national actors, expansion of the scope of the funding mechanism to ensure wider participation of local/national actors, MEAL expectations, role of national leadership etc.
2. Facilitate informed decision making based on impact assessment of the pilot intervention and identifying key actions/gaps/what more is needed including further research and next steps, particularly from the local partners perspective
3. Dissemination of lessons from the review via direct lessons learnt sessions, cluster and other coordination platforms (NCCI)

Proposed actions would pave the way for a more contextualised and efficient localised funding mechanism adapting to the anticipated changes in the cluster and humanitarian context of Iraq.

Purpose of the consultancy:

This consultancy is being implemented for the period of Dec 2022- end Mar 2023 which is during the bridge project between the pilot PPL project (Sep2021-Sep2022) the second funding cycle (Apr 2023- Apr 2024).

The objectives of the consultancy are:

- Develop methodology and tools for achieving the goal of the consultancy.
- Carry out and steer follow up consultation meetings, interviews, and other data collection activities during Dec 2022 and Jan 2023 with key stakeholders considering their role in the new architecture e.g., MoE, UNICEF, Localisation task force/NCCI, MYRP etc.
- Review evidence and documentation from phase one in relation to the process of fund allocation, proposed structure, governance, associated support requirements and the impact it had on target beneficiaries.
- Finalisation of the Education Localization fund operations guide and translation to Arabic and Kurdish, taking into consideration the requirements of the new coordination structure and role of national and local actors within the education sector
- Generate a report that consolidates the findings and recommendations for improving the process and impact of the fund allocation mechanism. to be considered in the next phase of project implementation.
- Update and finalisation of learning assessment from the pilot project including potential recommendations for a potential roll out in other contexts.

Intended Audience and Use of the consultancy

Stakeholder	Further information
Project donor	PPL
Primary implementing organisation	Save the Children (Operations team; Program Development, TAs, MEAL team, MYRP team, Advocacy and Communications team)
NCCI	
Previous Implementing partners from the pilot	VoP, MH, Darya, WEO, SSDF
Government stakeholders	MoE (KRG & FI)

Consultation methodology

Tools design

The external consultant together with relevant SCI staff are expected to create a suitable methodology in line with the scope and objectives of the consultancy. The detailed method should include but not be limited to the following:

- A robust consultation design to review the flexible funding mechanism through the ongoing transition using mixed data collection methodology (qualitative and quantitative) including the use of secondary data, and utilization and validation of previous assessments and reports findings.
- Data collection tools, protocols and procedures
- Sampling procedures for both qualitative and quantitative methods
- Procedures for analysing data obtained from the qualitative methods.

- How stakeholders in the research will be involved.

It is preferred that evaluation method selected will involve save the children staff, and members of the coordination mechanism replacing the Education Cluster.

The consultant should define the required quantitative and\ or qualitative data collection methods e.g., focus group discussions, case studies, success stories, barriers analysis etc. to produce the best understanding of processes and approaches, perceptions and behaviours and other factors that have contributed to ongoing projects indicators.

Sampling

Since there is no baseline data and that the consultancy is a retrospective study, the project team will support the consultant at the inception phase to come up with an approach that will include the sampling method and the sample size.

Data Sources and Data Collection Methods / Tools

All primary data collected during the consultancy must facilitate disaggregation by sex, age, disability, location or remoteness. Save the Children will review and where possible provide more guidance on tools and classification schemes for this minimum dataset.

A range of project documentation will be made available to the consultant that provides information about the design and changes made in the course of the implementation, implementation and operation of the Program.

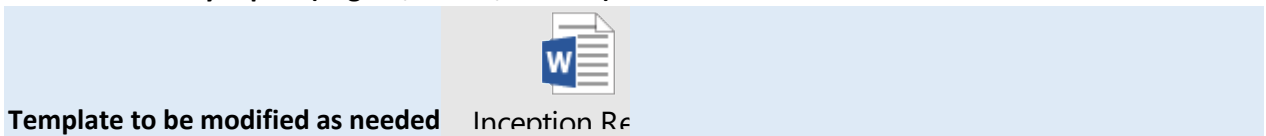
The Consultant is required to adhere to the Save the Children Child Safeguarding; PSEA; Anti-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying; and Data Protection and Privacy policies throughout all the evaluation activities.

Expected Deliverables

1. Final methodology and data collection tools (English, Arabic, Kurdish)

- Survey/ interview tools
- Data collection mechanism/plan

2. Final consultancy report (English, Arabic, Kurdish)



- Overview of the consultancy methodology and data collection methods
- A consolidated set of feedback from key stakeholders
- Scope and focus of the consultancy
- Findings and recommendations

3. Finalized Education Localization fund - Operations Guide

4. Updated and finalised learning assessment from the pilot project including potential recommendations for a potential roll out in other contexts.

Consultancy Management

The consultancy will be contracted by and report to Save the Children – Iraq Country Office. PPL Project Manager will be the mail focal point to link with the MEAL Team, Localization Team, and TAs who will act as the advisory group for the evaluation process. They will provide all the necessary documents. They will also

provide technical assistance (e.g., make practical in-country travel arrangements, oversee/assist in making appointments, assist in finalizing the programme, avail any other documents and information needed etc.). The lead consultant will be responsible for managing the whole consultancy.

Consultancy tentative timeline, with key deliverables. The final timeline and deliverables will be agreed upon the inception phase.

What	Who is responsible	By when	Who else is involved
Consultation PR filled and submitted, and follow up on logistics	Ali	01/Dec/2022	Ops, Supply Chain
Contracting\ vetting	HR/ Supply chain	08/Dec/2022	Consultant
Documentation review, desk research	Consultant	18/Dec/2022	Ali, Yeeshu, Saad
Tools review\ revision	Consultant	25/Dec/2022	Yeeshu, Yasser, Saad, Benjamin
Data collection (Holding review meetings \ calls with stakeholders)	Consultant	12/Jan/2023	Stakeholders, SCI PM, TAs
Data management and analysis (coding, transcriptions, data cleaning, integration and analysis)	Consultant	26/Jan/2023	Benjamin, PM
First submission of: – Draft of the final consultancy report – Draft of finalized Education Localization fund - Operations Guide – Draft of updated learning assessment from the pilot project including potential recommendations for a potential roll out in other contexts.	Consultant	15/Feb/2023	Benjamin and Yeeshu
Review and validation of the draft report including consultancy findings and recommendations	SCUK, Consultant	02/Mar/2023	TAs, PM
Final consultancy report and submission of data and analysis	SC Project Manager, Consultant	12/Mar/2023	TA
Consultancy final report posted on OneNet and disseminated to stakeholders	SC Project Manager, Consultant, SCUK	19/Mar/2023	[SC Peer reviewers]

Understanding of Requirements and Experience for the consultancy

The consultant must have demonstrated skills, expertise and experience in:

- Designing and conducting end line evaluations using mixed approaches
- Conducting Research Studies in Education, localization and partnership
- Leading evaluations or consultancy work in Iraq or similar settings
- Managing and coordinating a range of government, non-government and community groups
- Experience conducting study and assessments in humanitarian contexts
- Extensive experience of theories of change and how they can be used to carry out evaluations
- Strong written and verbal skills in communicating technical and/ or complex findings to non-specialist audiences (especially report writing and presentation skills)
- Ability to communicate with stakeholders in English, Arabic, and Kurdish as needed.

- A track record of open, collaborative working with clients

Financial Proposal

Save the Children seeks value for money in its work. This does not necessarily mean "lowest cost", but quality of the service and reasonableness of the proposed costs. Proposals should be inclusive of personnel allocation (role, number of days, daily rates, taxes), as well as any other applicable costs (travelling if needed –Mostly Erbil-, communications).

Schedule of Payment

30% payment will be made to the consultant using an agreed mode of payment upon methodology and tools review\ revision and approval.

70% payment will be made to the consultant using an agreed mode of payment upon approval of final consultancy report and concluding the information dissemination meetings with stakeholders.

ToR prepared by:	Ali Hussein Azeez
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Date of sign off:	