  

**United Nations Volunteers, UNFPA and Ahfad University for Women (AUW)**

***in collaboration with* SNCTP & SUNAF**

**UNV volunteers support to Combat Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) in Sudan**

**Terms of Reference for Final Evaluation**

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| **Background:**   * 1. **Project Background:**   **This UNVs pilot project aimed at combating Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting in Sudan by drawing on Volunteerism and local community action. The project complements the government efforts, UNFPA, UNDP and International/Regional Institutions working to eradicate FGM/C, in line with the Sudan National Strategy to Abolish FGM/C (September 2001).  The project target areas are block 14 and 15 in Abu Seeid, on the Western bank of the White Nile South of Omdurman, 15 kilometers away from Khartoum. The population composes tribes from different parts of Sudan, mainly Darfur and North Kordofan. The targeted area had never been exposed to any type of advocacy or campaign concerning FGM/C before this pilot. The prevalence of FGM/C in the area is very high (91.4%, Khartoum State) as indicated by SMS (Safe Motherhood Survey) 1999 report, and supported by the baseline survey done by the project in the area in 2006.  The approaches of the project include bottom up approach capitalizing on volunteerism, involvement of men and youth and use of sex education as an approach for mobilizing the community towards the abandonment of the practice of FGM. The project also works with women, religious leaders, teachers and school children.**   * 1. **Project Structure:  The project is a partnership between the UNV programme (Executing Agency), Ahfad University for Women, UNFPA and the UNICEF (Implementing partners). The UNV allocates funds for project staff, the UNFPA and UNICEF provide funds for the project activities as well as technical assistance to the project staff. The AUW is the implementing and hosting agency where the project offices are situated and training activities are run. AUW also has a supervisory role with the technical support required.  The project staff include five UNVs: an international UNV Project Manager; NUNV Development Research Specialist; NUNV Community Development Specialist; NUNV FGM Specialist and NUNV Data Base Specialist.**   2. **Project Duration:  The initial pilot phase of the project was 18 months, extended upon the recommendations by a Tripartite Review Partners meeting for another six months. At the end of the initial two years (2006-2008) an end of term evaluation was carried out which has recommended another extension of one year (2009). Funds for the extension were provided by the UNV Programme, UNFPA and UNICEF.   1.4. Project objectives and components:**   ***1.4.1. The Expected Outcome(s)/ Indicator(s) of the Pilot Project (2006-2008)***   1. **Capacity to design, develops, and disseminate quality gender and culturally sensitive information. Communication and advocacy materials on FGM strengthened.** 2. **Community mobilised and awareness raised against FGM.** 3. **Sustainable access to reliable information on FGM through a designated database system achieved.**   ***1.4.2. The Expected Output(s)/ Indicator(s):***   1. **New communication and advocacy materials, including training manuals, brochures, and video produced.** 2. **Solid Training of 30 community workers conducted.** 3. **Approximately 18,000 community members made aware of the negative impact of FGM on girls, women, and their partners’ sexuality, and made aware of abuse of human rights.** 4. **Database on FGM and related population issues established.** 5. **Information to the main partners circulated on quarterly basis.** 6. **Capacities of national Database Associates improved.**   **1.4.2. The Expected Outcome(s)/ Indicator(s) of the Extension Phase of the Project (2009):  Responses to gender-based violence, particularly domestic and sexual violence, expanded through improved policies, protection systems, legal enforcement and sexual and reproductive health and HIV prevention services, including in-emergency and post emergency situations.  Expected Output:  1. Responses to gender based violence, including female genital mutilation and early marriage are strengthened through improved policies, security and protection systems and community mobilization including in emergency and post emergency situations  2. The capacity of Manath (community volunteers) and partners strengthened in designing, developing and disseminating quality gender and culturally sensitive information, communication and advocacy material on FGM through an integrated development approach.  3. Manath is recognized as a competent local NGO entrusted with carrying-out the project implementation as the local sustainable partner for the implementation of campaigns in the target areas.**  **Expected Output Indicators:  1. % increase in national partnership that raise awareness of gender based violence including FGM/C  2. % increase in number of people opposing female genital mutilation/cutting  2. Objectives and Activities of the Consultancy:  2.1. The objective of the consultancy is to conduct the project evaluation for the period 2008-2009.**  **Duties and responsibilities:**  **The activities will include the following:  2.2.1. Final Evaluation: The evaluation’s main goals are to: (i) determine whether the objectives, outcomes and impact as stated in the project plan for 2008-2009 were achieved; (ii) identify lessons learned and provide recommendations for future activities to be followed up by the partners; and (iii) assess the UNV volunteers, community volunteers and other partners’ roles in the project. The report will take into account the project’s relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and lessons learned. Specifically the evaluation will examine the following aspects:  ¬ Is the project’s design adequate to address the issue of FGM in the target area? What internal and external factors have influenced the ability of beneficiary groups and the implementing agencies (UNV, UNFPA, UNICEF & AUW) to meet projected targets? Were the project objectives and design relevant given the community context and sensitivity of the problem?  ¬ Results in terms of outputs achieved (effectiveness): Did the project reach the expected number of beneficiaries? Are the beneficiaries satisfied with the quality and delivery of information? If not, in what way did the services not meet with beneficiary expectations and why? What concrete improvements and changes have taken place [among the target beneficiary group] as a direct result of the project? ¬ Assessment of outcome/impact (effectiveness): How has the project contributed towards project’s goal? To what extent has the project contributed to the capacity of the volunteers and beneficiary groups (e.g. men, youth, and women groups)? How could the project’s impact have been improved?  ¬ Achievement of projected performance indicators and targets (effectiveness): What has been the UNV/UNFPA/UNICEF/AUW performance with respect to their projected performance indicators and agreed responsibilities with respect to program implementation? Did the project achieve the targeted number of individual activities e.g. training programs, production of IEC and visibility materials, conduction of studies, etc as originally planned? Provide information on the difficulties faced by the project staff (UNV volunteers) and action taken to overcome them (administrative, operational, financial, social, etc.) ¬ Assessment of the added value of volunteerism and volunteers assess the UNV volunteers, community volunteers inputs and distinctive contribution to the project ¬ Use of project resources to achieve results (efficiency): Were the project activities implemented in a cost-effective manner? Were the project resources used in a rational manner? Were there any resources that were wasted (e.g. investments in activities that had no concrete return)? Could the project activities be implemented with a lower amount of resources, in case an alternative approach had been adopted? ¬ Sustainability: The report should assess the level of the project’s sustainability. Will the project’s effects remain over time? Will the project’s activities/services continue to be provided after the UNV, UNFPA and UNICEF funds have completely been expended? Did the project staff devise a sustainability strategy/plan?  ¬ Lessons learned: The consultant should provide information and documentation of the conditions that should exist, required stakeholder participation, and other factors that should be in place to for the purpose of informing the design of future similar projects or replicability and other innovative approaches used by the project. ¬ Future recommendations: that can be outlined based on the evaluation. The recommendations should be clear and realistic, considering that the partners involved in the project will need to prepare a management response on how they will implement the recommendations.  3. Methodology:  The overall methodology of the evaluation will be complemented according to the guidance from the UNEG Task Force in November, 2009. However, the overall procedures may include:  3.1. Review of project documentation: Review, as necessary, of project materials including progress reports, action plans, and other information available either in the project office. 3.2. Field visits and interviews: : (i) Site visits to the project area to carry out in depth interviews, and analysis of the project activities; (ii) interviews with project staff, local stakeholders, partners and project beneficiaries. 3.3. Collection of data. Data generated from the end line survey of the project and regular studies will be provided by the project as another source of information.  3.4. Feedback to stakeholders: This will include feedback meetings with the project stakeholders after the conduction of the evaluation.   4. Output and Schedule:  The duration of the consultancy is three weeks starting January to February, 2010 divided as following:  - 3-5 working days for reading background materials, improving and agreeing on the final methodology, receiving guidance for piloting the UNEG tools - 5-7 working days for the field visit and starting to draft the report and meeting with stakeholders - 5-7 working days for presenting the draft report, receiving feedback and preparing the final version.  The consultant is expected to present the draft of the final report within one week after the site visits and data collection (including interviews). Comments and feedback from the project staff and implementing agencies have to be integrated in the final report and submitted to the project manager. Transportation to the project site will be provided by the project.  5. Management of the evaluation:  The evaluation will be managed by the UNV Program Khartoum Office and will be facilitated by the project manager. The consultant is expected to respond to the UNV PO in Khartoum. The project manager and the UNV Office in Khartoum will liaise with the consultant and the UNV PO. This evaluation will be done according to the attached herewith UNEG norms and standards (all the UN agencies in this TOR are members of UNEG).**  **Minimum Qualification, Skills and Experience Required:**  **1-The consultant must have an advanced university degree 2- At least five years of work experience in the field of development, gender and health with particular focus on gender, female genital mutilation and behavioral change communication. 3- He/she should have sound knowledge and understanding of traditional practices and social norms in Sudan, and have a previous experience in conducting project evaluation** |