

Terms of Reference

Outcome Evaluation for the Building Resilience in the Education Sector (BRES) project, South Sudan

Background:

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) South Sudan and ADRA Denmark have been working together on several projects and programmes since 1997. The current cooperation involves two different projects, of which one is included in this final evaluation:

- BRES (Building Resilience in the Education Sector)

The BRES projects aims at supporting and building the resilience of the education sector in Upper Nile, South Sudan, and seeks to facilitate the education and protection of conflict-affected children through enhanced access via advocacy, school materials, teacher development, WASH facilities and school infrastructure.

Operating under a triple nexus approach (HUM-DEV-PEACE), the project incorporates a humanitarian response along with sustainability strategies and long-term capacity building approaches into the programme design, for example, by not only ensuring that students have access to an education, in spite of the conflict, in terms of a humanitarian response including provision of school materials, teacher development and school infrastructure, but by also strengthening the capacity of the community members to be actively involved in the education of their children, by supporting Parent-Teacher Associations and School Management Committees with long-term development in mind. These bodies assist the local education authorities to fulfil their role in supporting and monitoring the local schools, as well as holding them accountable for their duties. This approach promotes local ownership, focuses on long-term capacity development and empowerment, enabling communities to become advocates for the protection of children and the importance of access to education, especially for girls and children with disabilities (CWD), to ensure education for their children during and after the crisis, despite the volatile context. Additionally, the project promotes social coherence through conflict sensitivity efforts by collaborating with youth groups and religious leaders on various peace and reconciliation initiatives.

BRES is supported by Danida as part of ADRA Denmark's four-year Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) with Danida. BRES is ending in December 2021 and the outcome evaluation should focus on the current SPA period (2018-2021).

The evaluation will serve to document the outcomes of the intervention and can guide ADRA South Sudan in future Education in Emergencies (EiE) interventions in Upper Nile or other geographical areas of South Sudan.

Objective:

The key objectives of the outcome evaluation are to:

- Assess and document the outcomes of the BRES programme in South Sudan, 2018- 2021 and if possible, also the results on impact level. This will include unexpected as well as negative outcomes.
- Document best practices that ADRA South Sudan and ADRA Denmark can use in future programme design in order to achieve the best possible results
- A particular focus on documenting outcomes of community-led advocacy and other triple nexus efforts

Scope of Work:

The outcome evaluation will focus on documenting the outputs, outcomes, and impact. The outcome statement should include: **Who changed? What changed? When? Where?** By documenting such outcomes, the following questions are expected to be analysed:

- To what extent has the programme been relevant in relation to the context and the needs and priorities of the intended target groups?
- To what extent have the planned or expected objectives been achieved and the intended population reached?
- Could the same results have been achieved differently (e.g. with fewer resources)?
- Has the programme strategy been efficient, in particular the capacity building of PTAs and SMC, and integration of triple nexus components?
- What positive, negative, intended, and unintended outcomes have been produced by the programme?
- To what extent have the community-led advocacy and Triple Nexus efforts included in the BRES programme been successful in influencing decisions and bringing about changes at local, regional, and national level?
- What is the probability of the project intervention leading to long-term impact among the affected communities?
- What are the best practices that ADRA South Sudan and ADRA Denmark can use in future programme design?

Method of Work:

The consultant will work in close collaboration with ADRA Denmark and ADRA South Sudan for the assignment. Part of the task will be carried out in South Sudan at the programme locations. The travel will be coordinated with resource persons in ADRA South Sudan and with the MEAL coordinator of ADRA Denmark, who will be the resource person for the assessment. The MEAL coordinator has experience in outcome harvesting and will be able to guide the consultant in the method and scope of work.

Prior to the field work, the consultant will conduct a desk study of all relevant programme documents, reports, and strategies. The evaluation approach will predominantly be qualitative, and it is expected that the evaluation will use participatory methods including field visits to project sites, discussions with target groups, authorities and other stakeholders, interviews with community members, staff, and relevant stakeholders, and focus group interviews.

The key findings, recommendations and learning will be shared with ADRA South Sudan's programme and management team, at a debriefing in Juba and with ADRA Denmark online.

Outputs:

- Debriefing note to be presented to involved parties at the end of the field visit
- Draft evaluation report (including relevant annexes). The report must follow a 1-3-30 format as outlined in ADRA Denmark's Evaluation Policy
- Final evaluation report not more than a week after receiving comments from ADRA South Sudan and ADRA Denmark

Composition of team:

The evaluation will be carried out by an international consultant assisted by resource persons from ADRA South Sudan and ADRA Denmark.

The international consultant should possess the following skills:

- Knowledge on triple nexus programming
- Experience from working in complex humanitarian contexts
- Sectorial knowledge: EiE, Child Protection, HRBA in collaboration with CBOs
- Experience in conducting evaluations and writing reports
- Experience with Outcome Harvesting will be considered an advantage
- Knowledge on community empowerment and sustainability with a focus on civil society development

- Fluency in English (oral and written)

Timing:

The evaluation will take place in November / December 2021:

Task	Days
Desk study and preparation 24th – 26th November	3
Travel to South Sudan + Field work (In Maiwut) 28th November - 3rd December	6
Debriefing with ADRA South Sudan and with ADRA Denmark (Online) 6th December	1
Report writing 6th – 9th December	4
Total	14

Background information:

The team will be provided with all necessary documents, including:

- ADRA Denmark Evaluation Policy
- Annual Performance Reports (for Danida)
- ADRA Denmark's Approach to Working in the HDP Nexus
- Yearly BRES reports
- Programme documents from BRES