



**End of Program Evaluation
Terms of Reference for Consultant**

“Enhancing Women’s Resilience to Shocks of Exclusion, Poverty, and Traumatic Stressors of Hunger and Malnutrition in Ngora and Amuria Districts”

December 2019

EVALUATION SUMMARY

Program Goal	Civic consciousness and competence among the public of Uganda built particularly among the vulnerable and disadvantaged populations that influences positive change at community level.
Program Purpose	Enhancing Women's Resilience to Shocks of Exclusion, Poverty, and Traumatic Stressors of Hunger and Malnutrition in Ngora and Amuria Districts
Evaluation period	April 2016 – December 2019
Evaluation Type	End of Program Evaluation
Evaluation purpose	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Assess the progress made towards achieving the program goal and project purposes based on the project design and strategy (Relevance, Effectiveness, Impact, Sustainability and Efficiency) in order to better inform future FRA programming and identify potential gaps and area-specific opportunities/focus for programme planning and improvement.2. To come out with recommendations to guide future programming.3. To render accountability to donor and stakeholders
Evaluation Start and End Dates	
Anticipated Evaluation Report Release Date	00 January 2020

INTRODUCTION AND PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The world's commitment is to end hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition by 2030. However, global efforts aimed at achieving this goal have been greatly derailed by increasing levels of poverty, the adverse effects of climate change on agriculture and environmental degradation.

Whereas the government of Uganda has taken numerous initiatives including programs, strategies and setting up institutions aimed at addressing the country's food and nutrition security needs such as the National Development Plan 2, the Uganda Nutrition Action Plan

(UNAP), the Agricultural Strategy and Investment Plan among others, the state of food and nutrition security in the country is still wanting. The agricultural sector which is key to overall economic growth and development of Uganda contributes 20.9 percent of the National Gross Domestic Product and 80 percent of the export earnings. However, the rising population has increased the demand for food and agro processed products, putting increased pressure on the environment amid frequent and severe climate conditions made worse by the continued dependence on rain fed agriculture. Combined with poor agricultural practices, low technological adoption, insecurity over land ownership, poor access to extension services, low quality inputs, and lack of credit, the agriculture sector continues to be hindered from realizing its full potential. (World Bank, 2018).

Uganda remains among the world's poorest countries with recent studies by Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) showing more Ugandans slipping into poverty, with the number of poor people increasing from 6.6 million in 2012/13 (19.7%) to 10 million in 2016/17 (21.4%). Poverty incidences remain higher in the rural areas; with the poor in the rural areas representing 31% of the population compared to 15% in the urban areas. It is estimated that 17.01 million Ugandans will be below the poverty line by 2030.

According to the Uganda National Household Survey, progress in reducing poverty has been much slower in Northern and Eastern Uganda. The high levels of poverty in Teso sub-region have greatly been attributed to a protracted civil conflict that lasted for over two decades, with the displacement of virtually the entire population to Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps. As a result, livelihoods (predominantly agriculture-based) have been decimated by decades of conflict and disruption, raiding by Karimojong, and natural calamities such as floods leading to high levels of poverty and food insecurity among the population.

Poverty in this region is prominently exacerbated by tenure insecurity and poor natural resources governance as the vast majority of economic activities that are a source of livelihood and income security are conducted on land. Teso sub-region is characterised by regular occurrences of food insecurity sometimes scaling from severe to acute. Furthermore, land tenure insecurity is a growing phenomenon causing higher risks more

to women due to their vulnerability caused by tradition and customs that dictate land ownership and control.

Since 2015, Food Rights Alliance in partnership with War on Want NI with financial support from Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung has been implementing a program aimed to enhance Women's Resilience to Shocks of Exclusion, Poverty, and Traumatic Stressors of Hunger and Malnutrition in Ngora and Amuria Districts – Teso sub-region. The five year program has been grounded on learnings from a baseline study that established that despite the enormous contribution of rural women to the agricultural sector and to food production and security, they have not been given due recognition in economic development. Specifically the study established that:

i. The plight of women in the two case districts of Ngora and Amuria is explained by their inherent exclusion from resources, limiting the resources that they use, they control, and those they are entitled to in order to live a life with dignity. This exclusion was found to be a result of a patriarchal society that they live in, the neoliberal agenda that informs government policy and planning, the absence of the state to meet its duty and obligations and the social conflicts at households and community levels.

ii. The phase also established that pockets of the communities suffer from chronic hunger partly caused by the exclusion of women and also emergences of disaster caused by floods and droughts routinely experienced in the region. These have made the woman in particular and other vulnerable sects of society displaced from the resources cycle, dispossessed of their resources and entitlements, criminalized by those that are supposed to address their challenges, stigmatized by those that have dispossessed them and practically invisible in taking part in planning interventions either by Government or Non State Actors

iii. It further established that the women and the vulnerable people in these communities have lost hope. They aren't living in dignity as many of them fall short of the agreed welfare indicators and have lost self-confidence. In this case, they could hardly engage or position themselves to benefit from any programme or contribute to decisions aimed at transforming their households, communities and country at large.

The key drivers that were found to foster and engage these variables included:

- The patriarchal system in which males hold primary power and hold control and ownership of productive resources such as land (only 6.8% and 6.6% of women in Amuria and Ngora respectively own land).
- From the political and leadership perspective, the affirmative action had realised no significant increase in women's participation in decision-making processes with women politicians at the local levels rarely influencing political decisions due to low literacy levels and largely due to community perception.
- Although government is implementing programmes to directly or indirectly address exclusion of women, poverty and hunger, few women are participating in these due to exclusion in the selection processes of beneficiaries, limited access to information about such programmes and limited capacity to constructively participate and negotiate for their share.
- There is no unified action plan or platform by non-state actors (NGOS, faith based Organizations, Private Sector) to aid collective action to address the issues of women exclusion, poverty and hunger.
- The two districts were unable to address the challenges women faced including strengthening their resilience to exclusion and traumatic stressors, due to inadequate funding, inadequate human resource, ineffective implementing of policies and programmes and absence of home grown policy frameworks to guide action.

To address these critical gaps, FRA over the last five years has undertaken interventions that recognize the various players for collective action. These interventions have been structured as annual projects each building on previous learnings with the following objectives:

Phase one (2015): Research study to identify the critical gaps that increase women's vulnerability to shocks of poverty, hunger and malnutrition in Ngora and Amuria district.

Phase two (2016): Leveraging Local Resources to Improve the Livelihoods of Vulnerable Communities in Ngora and Amuria Districts

Phase three (2017): Building a Vibrant Exodus towards Tapping Women’s Full Potential in Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Transformation in Uganda

Phase four (2018): Accelerating the Momentum of Building a Vibrant Exodus towards Tapping Women’s Full Potential in Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Transformation in Uganda, the case of Ngora and Amuria Districts

Phase five (2019): Harnessing Citizen Action to Enhance Equitable Resource Use and Resource Governance in Ngora and Amuria Districts.

These interventions have aimed to consciously respond to the underlying poverty and hunger issues identified through addressing the immediate needs of the people; adopting participatory approaches to cause change; building self-confidence of the communities; and undertaking actions to increase their self and critical awareness.

The program has provided technical support to lower local governments in the project districts to establish policy frameworks that will guide their actions in addressing issues of women, poverty and hunger. As a measure to realize a holistic approach to social transformation of the target communities, the project further strengthened linkages through which national policy making processes would be informed by the project experiences and communities in the target districts, and leaders were equally informed about the national processes.

PURPOSE OF THE EVALUATION

The purpose of this evaluation is to establish and document the impact and effectiveness of project interventions to render accountability to the donor and stakeholders. Informed by the overall program goal and the specific annual project purposes over the last four years, the evaluation is expected to provide data on the performance, impact and sustainability of project interventions. The findings and recommendations will contribute to a learning process which enables Food Rights Alliance to draw lessons from its experience in order to improve the quality of future programs and projects. The evaluation will further help to assess the effectiveness of beneficiary accountability system and mechanisms that were

used during the project implementation period. The consultant will be expected to align the evaluation recommendations to FRA's two strategic focus areas: Promoting sustainable farming systems and Promoting justice in the food system as per her strategic plan 2019 – 2023.

SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION

The program evaluation will assess the five year program implementation period from 2015 to 2019 in the project areas of Ngora and Amuria districts. It will focus on the performance against the overall program goal of building civic consciousness and competence among the public of Uganda particularly among the vulnerable and disadvantaged populations that influence positive change at community level; and on the four specific project purposes over this period of time.

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. The methodology design should be developed by the consultant in consideration of the information outlined in this ToR to ensure accuracy and rigour. A detailed methodology and data collection methods should be included in the technical proposal. Modalities of communication, feedback mechanisms and contact with stakeholders will be discussed further during the inception phase.

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

- **Inception Report:** Deadline: One weeks before the data collection starts. 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, questions to be answered and detailed work plan for the entire exercise. The inception report will need to be approved by Food Rights Alliance.
- **Evaluation methodology and respective tools** should be developed by the consultant and will be reviewed and approved by Food Rights Alliance.
- **Preliminary Evaluation Report:** submitted by 00st of January 2019.

The consultant will submit a draft evaluation report to Food Rights Alliance. The draft report will be reviewed, and comments provided on the report within a week of submission.

- **A two-pager summary fact sheet** providing a brief background to the problem, the program, a highlight of the key findings (making use of infographics) and key recommendations.

- **Final evaluation Report:** 00 of January 2019

The consultant will submit a detailed final report 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 Food Rights Alliance and partners to attempt to address the issues identified. The final report should address the evaluation objectives set out above.

The report should contain (but not limited to) the following:

- Executive Summary presenting the major findings and recommendations
- Evaluation aims, objectives, and scope
- Assessment of the project's underlying impact logic
- Description of the methodology used
- Limitations
- Description of the assessment context and process including its constraints and challenges
- Detailed findings (related to the objectives and structured considering DAC criteria and questions)
- Analysis of the findings (following the key questions outlined in the ToR)
- Conclusions
- Recommendations for the project approach
- Lessons learned
- Reports on the capitalization of good practices.

The annexes of the report should contain (but not be limited to):

- List of interviewed people, with affiliation, contact details, bibliography and signed interview consent forms
- Raw collected data and the data base on SPSS, STATA, Excel as an attached file
- Quality pictorial documentation from the exercise

QUOTATION REQUIREMENTS

The consultant is expected to submit technical and financial proposals, separately comprising the following components:

- a) The consultants understanding of the Terms of Reference.
- b) A clear and elaborate work plan.
- c) Proposed evaluation budget that includes the schedule of payments.
- d) Organizational capacity statement, experience and activities related to Project Evaluations.
- e) Curriculum Vitae for all the consultants and proposed capacity of any complementary staff (CVs submitted should be of staff that will be on this assignment).
- f) Names, addresses, telephone numbers of three organizations that will act as professional referees.
- g) Copies of relevant work undertaken in the last 3 years (to be returned after evaluation of bids).
- h) Full names, post office box, telephone numbers, e-mail address, physical address and contact person of the consultancy

BUDGET

The consultant will develop a detailed budget and work plan based on the details in the TOR.

Deadline for CVs, references and work samples:

Applications should be submitted electronically to Food Rights Alliance using the following e-mail address: frauganda@gmail.com Cc. carolinesheila05@gmail.com, tildanakawungu@gmail.com, agneskrb09@gmail.com by 5th December 2019.