



AbleChildAfrica

Consultancy: Mid-Term Evaluation of an Inclusive Education Project in Northern Uganda.

Terms of Reference



www.ablechildafrica.org

A Company Limited by Guarantee, Reg in England and Wales, no. 1861434
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Introduction

AbleChildAfrica is a UK based charity working with and alongside partner organisations in Africa to achieve equal rights for children and young people with disabilities. We are the leading UK charity working exclusively with and for children with disabilities in Africa. The children we work with are some of the world's most vulnerable children.

This document outlines the Terms of Reference (ToR) for consultancy work required to design and deliver a mid-term evaluation of a 5-year inclusive education project (2016 - 2021), funded by a Comic Relief's International Grants Fund.

Background

AbleChildAfrica are currently working with our local Ugandan partner Ugandan Society for Disabled Children (USDC) to implement an inclusive education project for children with disabilities in primary schools in Uganda. The project seeks to tackle the attitudinal, environmental and institutional barriers that children with disabilities face in accessing and retaining within quality education. Using an innovative Child-to-Child approach, the project works in 27 government primary schools across three districts in northern Uganda (Lira, Adjumani and Nebbi). By empowering children as powerful agents of change, children themselves identify out-of-school children with disabilities, tackle barriers to their inclusion, and work with communities to ensure their educational access. The project also provides Individual supports, school infrastructure modifications, teacher training on the child-to-child approach and disability rights and works alongside the local government and Kyambogo University to ensure inclusive education is a priority issue and one that is mainstreamed across national primary education services.

Purpose & Scope of Evaluation

The mid-term evaluation for AbleChildAfrica's inclusive education project will assess the progress made by AbleChildAfrica and our partner USDC in fulfilling the project's outcomes to date as stipulated in the project's logframe/MEL framework. Outcomes of the project are as follows:

1. Increased enrolment and attendance of children with disabilities in 27 target schools.
2. Improved inclusion and learning of children with disabilities in 27 target schools (including classroom and play activities).
3. Increased parental capacity to support children with disabilities' access to education in 3 target communities.
4. Improved knowledge, attitudes and practices towards inclusive education by National and District level government officials.
5. Enhanced monitoring, evaluation and learning capacity of partner organisation USDC.

Alongside an analysis on the delivery of project objectives, the consultant will articulate its analysis around the core MEL learning questions:

- To what extent do project activities, including Child-to-Child approach, have different effects across gender and between children with different disabilities?
- How do different project activities influence policy maker's decision-making regarding children with disabilities?
- Which type of project activities most influence a positive attitudinal change amongst parents, teachers and government officials towards disability? How does this change between the different stakeholders?
- What key aspects of the training delivered enables teachers to provide quality inclusive education for children with disabilities?

The evaluation should also take into consideration the success of the project's specific methodology. This should include an assessment of the implementation mechanisms included in the project's design, and the extent to which these have successfully delivered results so far. The evaluation should also consider the project implementer's ability to identify and react to project risks and respond to learnings. Lastly, the evaluation should explore and reflect on the project's suitability for scale up and/or replication.

A core approach to our work with partners in building the capacity of local operations to ensure the sustainability of project outcomes but also to strengthen civil society more generally in the places that we work. We would like the consultant to take this into consideration during the planning and design of the evaluation and ensure the process offers some genuine and meaningful opportunities for our partners to learn and strengthen their own systems through this work.

Deliverables

The evaluations process is likely to be reactive and flexible according to feedback from project stakeholders. Detailed deliverables are outlined below:

1. In consultation with AbleChildAfrica (in the UK), conduct a desk-based review of the quality and consistency of project design, MEL systems and grantee reporting.
2. Develop a full evaluation plan, following the desk-review, which will include:
 - An evaluation framework
 - A detailed methodology to ensure the full inclusion and participation of all project stakeholders, primarily children with disabilities.
 - A detailed work plan including the list of stakeholders to meet during field phase.

This report will be discussed and agreed with both AbleChildAfrica and USDC in-country before commencing research, to guide the overall evaluation process.

3. Conduct an in-country assessment of the project outcomes, evaluating project design and deliverables alongside approaches to data collection and learning.
4. A detailed and fully designed evaluation report. The exact structure and contents of the report will be confirmed during contracting, but it is anticipated that the main body of the report is likely to consist of approximately 30 pages including an executive summary.
5. Prepare a power-point presentation to support the final debriefing, covering the key content of the final report's chapters "findings", "conclusions" and "recommendations" to be delivered with the final report.

Person Specification

Required:

- An academic degree in a discipline relevant to the scope of the evaluation.
- Proven knowledge of Project Cycle Management and Logical Framework approaches.
- Experience of evaluating complex bilateral or multilateral donor funded projects with results-based monitoring (experience evaluating Comic Relief grants is an advantage).
- Experience of using child-centred and child participatory MEL approaches.
- Ability and willingness to travel to Uganda (work experience in Uganda is an advantage).
- Excellent English language, report writing and communication skills.
- An understanding of and commitment to AbleChildAfrica's mission, vision and values.

Desirable:

- Experience working with a small charity with limited resource and capacity.
- Experience of using disability-inclusive MEL approaches.
- Working experience and/or working knowledge of disability and/or education in an East African context.
- Lived experience of being a person with a disability.

Terms

Timelines (Subject to Revision):

Tender Closure	31 st January 2019
Tender Awarded	15 th February 2019
Contract Agreed	22 nd February 2019
Initial Desk Based Review/Development of Evaluation Framework	Approximately 1 day (mid-March 2019)
Field Evaluation (In Uganda)	Approximately 12 days - 3 days per district + 3days in country travel (Early April 2019)
Evaluation Report Write-Up	Approximately 3 days (End of April 2019)

Location: Field work will take place in/around the project districts of Lira, Adjumani and Nebbi, as well as at USDC's head office in Kampala. Remaining work can be carried out remotely at a location of the consultant's choosing. During remote working, continued communication must be maintained with AbleChildAfrica and USDC as required for the completion of works.

Budget: The maximum budget available for the final evaluation is **£8,700**. The budget is inclusive of flights, accommodation, subsistence and any other associated costs for field work for which the consultant will be responsible. Tenders will be reviewed for their competitiveness and ability to offer value for money. Travel time is not considered part of working days.

Payment Terms: 25% upon signing of contract and prior to delivery of work; 75% after successful completion of work. Payment can be made via cheque or BACS transfer.

Application Details

Applicants must provide a fully costed and timed package which incorporates completion of all deliverables as part of the application process. Please include details of the methodology you would use, consultants involved, timescales and an overview level budget with budget notes to indicate the resources needed for your approach. Applicants should also send an up-to-date CV demonstrating their qualifications and experience.

Application Deadline: **Midnight 31st January 2019**. Please send applications alongside CVs in one e-mail entitled "Mid-Term Evaluation - Uganda Inclusive Education Project" to jobs@ablechildafrica.org.uk