

**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:**

Terms of Reference for Connecting Women and Youth in Violent Extremist Prone Areas through Empowerment and Skills Acquisition in Benue State Phase II End of Project Evaluation

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| **SUMMARY**  Women Environmental Programme (WEP) is seeking the services of a Research Firm to carry out an end of project evaluation in Benue State.This is part of the deliverables of the “Connecting Women and Youth In Violent Extremist Prone Areas Through Empowerment and Skills Acquisition in Benue State Phase II” Programme.  WEP as an International organisation headquartered in Abuja Nigeria with offices in US, Tunisia, Togo, Burkina Faso and Niger envisions a world where the lives of women and youth around the globe are positively transformed. WEP works to achieve this through Environment, Climate Change, Governance and Peace and Security. |

**Background**

Connecting Women and Youth in Violent Extremist Prone Areas Through Empowerment and Skills Acquisition in Benue State Phase II is a continuation of the Phase 1 programme which held from 2016 to 2018. The Programme seeks to achieve strengthened community resilience to prevent violent extremism in the communities of intervention in **Benue State** particularly and Nigeria in general. The programme addressed the lack of sense of purpose through mentorship and other targeted programming, provided skills training and seed funding through establishment of cooperatives to address poverty, addressed the lack of opportunities for project beneficiaries to reduce their attraction to perceived improvements in status and power and promise of financial gain by joining violent extremist groups which are the major drivers of violent extremism in the target locations. The project engaged young women and young men, local religious leaders, teachers, traditional and administrative leaders to strengthen community systems and structures that support resistance to recruitment and radicalization to violent extremism; enhance livelihood opportunities to reduce individual vulnerability and increase self-confidence and worth among vulnerable youth in the communities. The capacities of communities were also strengthened to enable them come up with self-discerned, community driven initiatives to help them mobilize, organize and represent their own interests and actively engage with authorities on issues that are relevant and matter to them.

**Rationale**

Connecting Women and Youth in Violent Extremist Prone Areas Through Empowerment and Skills Acquisition Phase II programme which started in April 2019 will be winding down in December 2021. It is therefore pertinent for us to measure the impact of the project in line with the Theory of Change (ToC), objectives and results framework indicators and to identify the successes and challenges from the project implementation. The evaluation will also give room to assess the sustainability of the benefits generated and to draw recommendations and conclusions that will inform future design and programming.

**Key review questions formulated under each objective should allow for an assessment of:**

**Processes:** were the processes used to approach the programme the best to prevent violent extremism in Benue State? Are there other approaches that would have given a better outcome?

**Effectiveness:** to what extent were the project outcomes achieved?

**Impact:** did the project achieve any direct and indirect, positive and negative, intended and unintended effects?

**Partnerships:** to what extent were partnerships, alliances, and collaborations at all levels successful/key to the project’s success?

**Sustainability:** to what extent is the sustainability of the project with regards to its financial, technical, and organizational aspects, and to what extent has the project ensured ownership and lasting change beyond the project lifetime?

Within the above objectives of the evaluation, this evaluation will assess the programme “Connecting Women and Youth in Violent Extremist Prone Areas Through Empowerment and Skills Acquisition Phase II contribution towards preventing violent extremism and building community resilience through the three main project outcomes:

* **Outcome A:** Stronger social cohesion through improved engagement with community leaders, local authorities and community members.
* **Outcome B:** Young women and young men's access to alternatives to financial gains offered by Violent Extremist groups increased
* **Outcome C:** Increased self-confidence, self-worth and critical thinking of vulnerable young men and young women.

1. **Methodology**

For this evaluation, WEP intends a mixed method (quantitative and qualitative evaluation). A quantitative questionnaire will be developed using the Kobo Collect Tool deployed on android phones. The qualitative research will include Focus Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews to dig deeper to further support findings on the qualitative work.

This evaluation will measure how effective the project activities were in achieving the theory of change and how various community institutions, stakeholders and individuals who benefited from the activities have imbibed the knowledge and are actively using it to further entrench resilience to violent extremism in their communities and or their sphere of influence. This evaluation will also ascertain how much the project activities have entrenched the GCERF leverage points of promoting Equal Access to Opportunities, enabling communities to mobilize, organize and represent their own interest through Community Agency, promoting a sense of belonging to an inclusive community by building Social Cohesion while creating a Sense of Purpose by which GCERF aims to help individuals become more resilient to radicalisation to violent extremism. A sense of self will improve confidence, critical thinking and other life skills that can enhance the sense of self-worth and resilience of the youth.

1. **Key Documents for Reference**

The following key documents (in English) will be made available to the reviewer: Connecting Women and Youth in Violent Extremist Prone Areas Through Empowerment and Skills Acquisition in Benue State Phase II project proposal, result-frame works, quarterly reports, mid-term project report, manuals and all project reports. Other documents as necessary include research reports, video products, articles, etc

1. **Outline of the Review Report**

The Final Review report should not be more than 20 pages (excluding annexes/impact stories/case studies).

1. Cover page (title of the evaluation report, date)
2. Table of Contents
3. Executive summary of no more than 4 pages outlining the key purpose of the evaluation, main points of analysis, key findings, conclusions, and recommendations
4. An introduction outlining the background to the project and the evaluation
5. Purpose and objectives of the evaluation
6. An analytical framework of the evaluation on preventing violent extremism and ensuring peaceful co-existence in the intervention states.
7. Methodology/approach, indicators used, ethical issues, and limitations of the evaluation
8. Summary results against project ToC and Log-frame indicators
9. Major findings
10. Annexes: details of data collection tools, schedule of field visits and meetings; list of people interviewed; bibliography of key documents consulted; TOR for the Review. Impact Stories and Case studies should also be annexed)
11. **Contract Period**

The contract is for Forty Days (40) days starting from the………………………………

**Timeline**

The duration of this end-of-project evaluation is 60 days. These are broken down into

Suggested timeframe: 40 days

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| **Activity** | **No of Days** |
| 1. Inception meeting and a review of key background documents and existing data collection tools | 1 |
| 1. Detailed inception report including detailed draft methodology and sampling approach for quantitative/qualitative data collection 2. Review of the developed quantitative and qualitative tools finalized in agreement with the programme teams | 3 |
| 1. Pre-testing of data collection tools | 2 |
| 1. Final approval from donor for draft methodology and sampling approach for quantitative and qualitative data collection tools | 1 |
| 1. Recruitment and training of data collectors/enumerators. | 5 |
| 1. FGDs and key informant interviews (KIIs) / quantitative data collection and data entry for the two states | 10 |
| 1. Data analysis and report writing | 10 |
| 1. Submission of Draft Report | 2 |
| 1. Submission of final Report by the research consultant(s) | 1 |
| 1. Dissemination/Validation at End of Project Evaluation Closeout Meeting | 5 |

**Required profile for consultant:**

The consultant (She/he) to be recruited should have the following experiences;

* A good understanding and practical experience of development work including advanced skills in Social Research, Project Impact Evaluation, Humanitarian studies
* Degree in the field Social and Development Work, Social Research, Evaluation or another relevant Social Science subject (Masters/Ph.D. or Professor preferred)
* Have at least a minimum of 7 years’ experience in carrying out such an assignment and capacity for impact evaluation (a report of such work done in the last 2 years is a required evidence)
* Experience in developing tools for Project Impact Evaluations
* Excellent facilitation and writing skills (keeping it simplified)
* Understanding of the role of Monitoring & Evaluation in the programme cycle and experience of conducting learning reviews and evaluation processes, in the international development sector.
* Ability to apply a range of primary and secondary research methods including participatory methods.
* Experience in using qualitative and quantitative data analysis packages (e.g. SPSS and Nvivo).
* Computer literate and able to apply Microsoft Office and other analytical tools efficiently
* An excellent team worker

**Roles and Responsibilities**

The section below outlines key roles and responsibilities to be assigned to the two main parties at the End of the Project Evaluation process, and the consultants.

**WEP Team:**

1. Provide technical oversight to manage and support the overall End of Project Evaluation process e.g. facilitating and providing the required documents, facilitating fieldwork or virtual FGDs or KIIs for data collection, safety, and location of consultant(s), provision of logistical support, etc.

2. Monitor and ensure that the End of Project Evaluation process is followed as per the agreed overall approach, methodology, and timelines.

3. Provide technical input and quality assurance at all stages of the End of Project Evaluation process.

5. Review the quality of the draft reports and provide timely feedback to the consultant.

6. Provide Country Sign off on the End of Project Evaluation by WEP Nigeria’s Executive Director (ED) who will confirm reports satisfactory before balance payments are made.

**Consultants:**

1. Work closely with the Project Manager, M&E Officer, Project Officers, Community Mobilisers on all the End of Project Evaluation processes.

2. Contribute to the design of the End of Project Evaluation Inception Meeting to agree on the overall approach, methodology, framework, questions, methods, and tools for data collection and analysis.

3. Conduct desk review and data collection.

4. Produce consolidated End of Project Evaluation Report.

**Submission of expression of interest**

The selected consultant will sign a contract with WEP and is responsible for acquiring other relevant tools needed for the task. Interested consultants are invited to apply by sending a technical proposal (max 8 sides of A4) for the End of Project Evaluation including data collection methodology and work plan, sampling strategy, and data collection tools; CV detailing competency, links to sample of past works, and any other relevant information, demonstrating skill and experience in this area. **Applicants should include invoice detailing daily rate**.

Applications should be submitted electronically to:

[**info@wepnigeria.net**](mailto:info@wepnigeria.net) copying **wep2002@hotmail.com**

Instructions: The subject line should be: **End of Project Evaluation**

**Date: Friday, 19th November,** 2021.

**Only the selected contractor will be contacted.**