

Terms of Reference:

Expression of Interest for Consultancy Service in evidence-based Research, Advocacy and Capacity Strengthening

Geographical Location: Marsabit County, Moyale Sub County and at National level.

Organization: Strategies for Northern Development (SND) and Terre des Hommes Germany.

Theme: Research, Lobby and Advocacy, and Partner Capacity Strengthening/Development in addressing child exploitation.

Duration: 27 Months

Background and aim of the Consultancy: The Strategies for Northern Development (SND) is a local non-governmental organization working with nomadic pastoralist communities in Northern Kenya and Southern Ethiopia. SND was registered in Kenya with the NGO coordination Board as a fully-fledged NGO on 6th December, 2007, and with the agency for civil society organization in Ethiopia on 21st October 2019. The Organization is driven by a vision to see a society where all pastoralist communities are resilient and live a dignified life and a mission to empower and transform pastoralist communities to be self-resilient in life. Key areas of focus are (i) Peacebuilding and governance, (ii) Food Security, Sustainable Livelihoods and Resilience, (iii) Child Protection and Education, (iv) Water, Sanitation, and Health, and (v) Humanitarian assistance. SND, in partnership with Terre des Hommes Germany, has received 3 years (2022-2025) funding from German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to implement the project called **Building Foundation for Ending Child Exploitation (*Harmful traditional practices, Child trafficking and unsafe migration of children*) in Pastoral Communities of Marsabit County- Northern Kenya**. The project's overall objective is to contribute to the strengthening of the child protection system in Kenya that prevents and responds to the exploitation of children while promoting their physical, mental, and social well-being by September 2025. This objective will be achieved through a strategy based on TdH and its partner's (SND) expertise, UN INSPIRE, and the Government of Kenya's policies and priorities. The strategy includes four main components: A. Prevention of child exploitation through innovative Social and Behaviour Change approaches discouraging negative beliefs and behaviours that contribute to the violation of child rights and increasing the capacity of the target communities to protect their children. B. Child Participation and Empowerment, through Child Rights clubs and peer to peer education, C. Child Protection System strengthening to enhance the quality, coordination, and inclusiveness of integrated services through the provision of technical support to the Department of Children Services and other critical stakeholders in the referral system. D. Evidence-based Research and advocacy to expose hidden child exploitation, analyse specific gaps in child protection and support advocacy actions at national and county level.

The specific objectives (SOs) of the project include the following:

- To influence the abandonment of harmful traditional practices and encourage the adoption of positive norms that prevent child trafficking and unsafe migration of children in Marsabit county by 2025
- To Strengthen the capacities of existing child protection institutions and structures and facilitate the creation of others to effectively prevent and respond to the exploitation of children in Marsabit County by September 2025.
- To enhance evidence-based programming, knowledge management, and advocacy in addressing child exploitation in Kenya by September 2025
- To facilitate coordination, collaboration, networking, and partnerships to effectively provide services to vulnerable children or victims of child abuse in Marsabit County by September 2025.

SND is seeking to engage the services of a competent firm to support in evidence generation, lobby and advocacy and capacity building.

Objectives of the Consultancy Service

- To conduct research on child trafficking and unsafe migration with a cross-border angle to expose hidden child exploitations in Marsabit and neighboring counties/countries
- Disseminate the research findings and evidence on child trafficking trends to key stakeholders, including the government, to influence prevention practice
- Mobilize and build the capacity of CSOs in child exploitation and lobby and advocacy to address child exploitation
- Support County and national level advocacy around legislation development, review, and implementation to address child exploitation, e.g., support adoption and implementation of the national plan of action for combating human trafficking

Key Deliverables

The consultant will be required to successfully deliver the following:

- A draft inception report which responds to the scope of work with a methodology, survey instruments, detailed work plan and budget.
- A field work implementation plan (to be submitted before field work begins). This field work plan should be presented to SND and TdH Germany for comments and revised as necessary prior to commencing field work.
- A final Assessment report incorporating feedback from SND and TdH Germany. The Revised Report will synthesize all data, identify conclusions, and make recommendations (Taking into account ALL comments and additions from SND and TdH-Germany following submission of the Draft Report).
- Oral Presentation/Meeting and debrief with project staff: The consultant will make a presentation to SND and TdH-Germany staff of the findings of the assessment, including lessons for project improvement. The debriefing meeting will be an opportunity to clarify outstanding aspects of the assessment before finalisation of the end line report.
- The Final Report: The consultant will be expected to produce a final report, with comments from the debriefing taken into account. While the substantive content of the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the report shall be determined by the evaluator, the report is subject to final approval by TdH-Germany in terms of whether or not the report meets the conditions of the ToR and expected standards.

- The consultant will be required to submit all validated and anonymous data sets used for analysis, any scripts or instructions on data management as well as transcripts gathered as appendices to the final report.
- Dissemination Workshop: After the assessment report is finalised, SND will organise a dissemination workshop with its key stakeholders. The consultant is expected to co-facilitate the workshop and present the results of the assessment.
- Final reports submitted in a printed/publishable format and a summarized power point presentation of the assessment findings for dissemination.

Other deliverables;

- Identify and develop partnerships with 10 local CSOs who are doing work in the prevention of child exploitation and combating child trafficking. Based on evidence from the research, the consultant will support the local CSOs' partnership in developing an advocacy plan targeting to improve efforts in combating child trafficking. The consultant will further build the capacity of local CSOs in lobby and advocacy to ensure that they effectively engage in evidence-based policy dialogue, influencing, and programming.
- Develop CSO capacity assessment tool, mobilise like-minded local CSOs, and conduct the rigorous capacity assessment for them to identify the capacity or knowledge gaps, develop a capacity development plan (CDP) and support its implementation to enhance institutional capacity, structure, and processes to improve CSOs ability to develop strategic partnerships, consolidate local knowledge and evidence on child exploitation and conduct lobby and advocacy to address the vice.

Management of the assignment

The consultant will report to and liaise with SND and TdH Germany for support on a regular basis. The entire research and capacity development process will be supervised, guided and closely monitored by SND and TdH-Germany through the leadership of the SND Executive Director based in Moyale, Marsabit County, by providing continuous review, comments and thematic inputs support when needed. General coordination, monitoring and support will be provided by the SND head of programmes based in Moyale. On-ground support for mobilization and coordination will be facilitated by SND-BMZ project coordination unit. This includes setting up interviews and meetings with the target audience, beneficiaries and other stakeholders. SND and TdH-Germany are the executive producers of the research and has the “final say” in the conducting, publishing and dissemination of research as well as CSO capacity strengthening activities.

Terms, Conditions and Expected Timelines

- The consultant is responsible for delivering the activities of the **ENTIRE OUTPUT** known in this case as “**output 4**” and accordingly must comply with reporting on these activities according to SND/TdH/BMZ standard. The consultant shall advise the project in constant accompaniment.
- The consultant shall commence the work as soon as possible, immediately upon signing the contract.
- The consultant should adhere to general principles of professionalism and maintain confidentiality while handling sensitive information.

- The assignment will be implemented for a duration of 27 months starting **01th February 2023** to be finished completely by **30th April 2025**.
- A Gantt chart clearly detailing the project plan, timeline and draft outline should be submitted **within 14 days** of signing the contract.
- The rough draft of every phase of the research and capacity strengthening activities should be provided to the Executive Director i.e., SND Moyale Office for review, comments and approval by **SND and TdH Germany**.
- All final drafts of research work, training reports, capacity assessment tools, advocacy plans and materials (including print) associated with the project **must have a written approval from SND and TdH-Germany** ahead of production, dissemination or distribution.
- The final product, that is; final research work as well as advocacy materials, project files and associated final reports should be delivered to SND on an external HDD not later than **30th April 2025**. **Any queries by SND or TdH Germany should be fully addressed and/ responded to by 30th April 2025** or before, based on the needs.

Proprietary rights

Outputs delivered under this consultancy contract will remain the property of SND and TdH-Germany as per SND's and TdH Germany General Conditions of Contract for Consultants and Individual Contractors.

Ethics and child safeguarding

The consultant and associates must sign and demonstrate commitment and strictly adhere to SND's and TdH's Child Safeguarding Policy. It is also the responsibility of the consultant to ensure that all persons hired by her/him sign the policy and agree to abide by it during the execution of this work. An assessment of the child safeguarding risks will be undertaken with the team to ensure no harm is done to a child and young person while undertaking this assignment.

Qualifications, Key Competencies and Eligibility Criteria

The consultant or organisation engaged to undertake the assignment must fulfill the following requirements:

The team for this assignment will consist of the consultant(s) who will have overall responsibility for designing, implementing, and coordinating the entire protection assessment guided by the ToR.

The knowledge, skills, and expertise required areas are as outlined below:

- The lead consultant or coordinator is required to have a Master's Degree in Social Sciences, Community Development, or other related fields.
- At least 5 years' experience conducting data collection and analysis in ASAL or cross border context in Kenya,
- Sound understanding of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Code of Conduct, and UN Global Compact.
- A minimum of five years of experience working in child protection programmes and more specifically addressing child exploitation.

- A strong commitment to and proven experience in utilizing child participatory methodologies.
- Extensive experience in gender and protection analysis is the core profile of the consultant.
- Has proven experience in conducting evaluations and research using various methodologies such as in-depth interviews, Focus Group Discussions, etc.
- Experience in working with NGOs, CBOs, and beneficiary communities.
- Has excellent communication skills in writing and spoken English and Kiswahili.
- Excellent interpersonal and teamwork skills.
- Excellent analytical and report writing skills.
- Is familiar with social and cultural norms, and attitudes especially in relation to child protection.
- Previous experience of carrying out related activities in Marsabit County or Moyale sub county and ability/license to operate across the border in Ethiopia is an asset.

Application Process

Qualified and interested applicants to submit Technical and Financial proposals electronically in PDF formats, addressed to “The Selection Committee”, with subject line clearly marked **“Building Foundation for Ending Child Exploitation (Harmful traditional practices, Child trafficking and unsafe migration of children) in Pastoral Communities of Marsabit County- Northern Kenya”** via email on or before **20/01/2022** at 1700 hrs (EAT) to: **procurement@sndafrica.org** with the aim to select the consultant by **25/01/2023** and start the assignment by **01/02/2023**.

All applications should include the following:

- Technical proposal (max. 10 pages) outlining their motivation for the application, the methodological approach on how to conduct the assignment, and the resources required
- A proposed activities schedule/ work plan with a time frame.
- Financial proposal in KES detailing itemized fees, data collection, logistical and administrative and training costs.
- A copy of the CV of the lead consultant who will undertake the assessment or certificate of registration in case of a firm/organization.
- Copies of similar assessment reports conducted by the applicant where possible and or a recommendation letter from an NGO’s who the consultant/organisation has worked with before.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Only shortlisted candidates or organisations will be invited to further present and clarify their ideas.

SND and TdH Germany are committed to keeping children safe. We therefore implement child safeguarding measures as part of our selection and recruitment process.