

Terms of Reference

Review of the localisation workstreams and a mapping of the existing capacity development initiatives in eight countries

The consortium partners of the Localisation Programme “ToGETHER” (Welthungerhilfe, Caritas Germany, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and Malteser International) are seeking to hire a consultant team to review the localisation workstreams and existing capacity development initiatives in eight countries.

Rationale and Background

The humanitarian system seeks adequate answers to the immense and constantly growing humanitarian needs. As part of the local civil society, local actors are usually the first responders after a shock. Effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian action can be improved through local knowledge, trust and other complimentary capacities, giving local actors an increasingly important role. While local and national humanitarian organisations provide an important work, they often still function as mere implementers of strategic and operational decisions taken by international humanitarian organisations.

For supporting local actors in strengthening their capacities in humanitarian response, preparedness, coordination and advocacy as well as for promoting complementarity between local and international actors, four German humanitarian NGOs (Caritas Germany, Deutsche Welthungerhilfe, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and Malteser International) have agreed to work together in a localisation programme.

The programme will be implemented from March 2020 to February 2023 in altogether **eight countries** (Bangladesh, Myanmar, Indonesia, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Congo, Colombia and an eight country (Somalia or another African country tbc) with funding from the German Foreign Office (AA). Each consortium member will have the operational lead in two of the participating countries.

Objectives

The objective of the consultancy is to review the localisation workstreams and capacity development initiatives in the eight countries of operation. The study will serve as a baseline and a thorough assessment of:

- the in-country consensus in terms of understanding and measuring localisation of humanitarian aid
- the progress and significant challenges of local humanitarian actors in terms of the realisation of the focus areas of commitment in the localisation workstream
- the institutional, policy and political dynamics towards localization

and will provide an overview of the ongoing localisation initiatives and programs to avoid overlapping and to use synergies.

Based on the study, a detailed country specific program plan will be developed by the lead organization and the steering committees at country level.

Scope of Work

Under the overall guidance of the Programme Management Unit (PMU), the consultant team shall undertake a general and country-specific literature review and a qualitative field study in each country of operation.

The consultant teams shall comprise of a team leader and at least one local consultant per country.

The consultants should take all reasonable steps to ensure that the study respects and protects the rights of the people and organizations involved and to ensure that it is technically accurate and reliable.

Responsibilities of PMU and the consortium partners:

- Provide the consultant team with all necessary background information about the programme
- Introduction of the consultant team to the counterparts in the field
- Guidance throughout all phases of the assignment

Guiding Questions

The Guiding Questions are based on the localization workstream Conferences:

1. What is **the emerging in-country consensus in terms of understanding and measuring localisation of humanitarian aid**? What is driving this emerging consensus? Is there a range of understanding that exists among humanitarian actors?

2. Where are in-country actors making good **progress and where are significant challenges in terms of the realisation of the focus areas of commitment in the localisation workstream**

- Capacity Building & Strengthening
- Partnerships
- Financing
- Coordination and Complementarity¹
- Gender

What are important drivers or constraints?

3. What are **significant institutional, policy and political dynamics** - at the national level and beyond - that drive these issues and challenges? What are the most urgent strategic issues and challenges that need to be addressed to realise substantive, transformative change?

4. Which **localisation initiatives and programs** took place or are taking place in the specific countries. How can overlapping be avoided and how synergies be used?

¹ See HPG Report: Rethinking capacity and complementarity for more local humanitarian action, Veronique Barbelet, Oct. 2019, p.17: Key questions that inform how complementarity plays out.

Deliverables

The consultant team will produce the following deliverables

1. After one month after signing the consultancy contract: Draft literature review for all 8 countries about the localisation process and ongoing localisation initiatives in the countries and proposal of the way forward for the field study in the 8 countries by taking the desk study results into consideration.
2. Draft field studies for eight countries for review of lead organization and PMU
3. One final publication with the literature review and field studies:
 - Ready for publication in Corporate Design (templates will be provided)
 - No more than 30 pages per country (including pictures)
 - Designed to use as a baseline study as well as for publication

The target audience of the study is

- Internal: to use as baseline study and a monitoring/ evaluation tool
- Externally the primarily audiences are:
 - Localisation actors: international and local NGOs interested in the localisation topic
 - Donors
 - International Organisations (UN)