

Ugeafi Union des groupes d'études et d'actions pour le développement de Fizi-Itombwe

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A STUDY / ANALYSIS OF THE WASH ECOSYSTEM FROM A TECHNICAL, SOCIO-ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE, INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL PERSPECTIVE.

PROJECT OF WASH SERVICES AVAILABILITY TO PANYIJIAR COMMUNITIES.

Funded by VITOL FOUNDATION.

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I. STUDY CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION

UGEAFI is a non-profit organization that practices community development in South Sudan and in the Eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo. It intervenes in the following three main sectors: education, health and sustainable agriculture. In its all sectors of intervention, it focuses on the following cross-cutting themes: WASH (Water, Hygiene and Sanitation), environmental protection, youth empowerment and women's self-promotion as well as peace building and reconciliation.

In South Sudan, UGEAFI launched its intervention with a focus on the WASH sector. UGEAFI is currently implementing a programme that aims to avail wash services to communities in Payinjiar County, Unity State through integrated programming that works: (a) in strong collaboration with local health actors to ensure that WASH programming impacts health outcomes; and (b) to deliver a combination of interventions that targets access, quality and sustainability of water services. This includes rehabilitation and DRR mainstreaming of boreholes / water infrastructure, chlorine production and distribution in support to public services and community sanitation, and improvement of awareness and behavioural change around personal and family health hygiene and maintaining health and hygiene during external risk events – particularly flooding.

Recognising that the overall prevailing state of WASH services and local knowledge and behaviours is extremely limited with far-reaching and interconnected implications, UGEAFI focuses on four key drivers: (1) boreholes damaged by recurrent flood events, (2) the lack of sustainable and properly developed systems capable of managing operations and maintenance of water services at Boma and Payam levels; (3) limited community knowledge and poor practices around sanitation and hygiene; and (4) limited access to products that can help communities manage their water and sanitation needs – a priori, water purifiers.

In order to address the above issues, a formal strategic framework for UGEAFI's WASH response in Unity state alongside addressing the potable water needs of communities must be designed. To do so, UGEAFI is commissioning a study that specifically aims at:

- Mapping all the stakeholders involved in the provision of WASH services and their roles, capacities, track record of service delivery, and relevance (i.e. county/Payam structures, mechanics, merchants of spare parts, government schemes, community committees, etc.);
- Understanding the technology used (i.e. the hand pump types, suitability, supply chain for spare parts, relevance to the local geological and water conditions, and whether the choice of solution is driven by market factors or suitability)
- Analysing the role of Payams, their capacity to support, and areas that they themselves need capacity support with;
- Understanding the capacity of private sector service providers (i.e. mechanics) serving the local market (what their training is, when they last had training, what technologies they have been trained on, tools that they have available, their business model / costs, etc.);
- Analysing the market for spare parts and how the supply chain into Nyal is structured, where potential blockages are (i.e. logistics during flooding), who the primary wholesalers and merchants are, how pricing is set, what technology is supplied and what drivers are influencing product availability;

- Quantifying the financial resources required for operational cost recovery of different existing and potential systems available in the targeted Payams and understanding variations across time and/or geography.
- Quantifying the financial costs associated with capital maintenance of existing and planned infrastructure and understanding variations across time and/or geography;
- Examining the capacity and potential for cost recovery with an economic model based on market and household income data.

II. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Globally, the study aims at building up a formal strategic framework for UGEAFI's WASH response in Unity state alongside addressing the potable water needs of communities.

DELIVERABLES:

- Production of a clear overview of the state of the potable water sources as well as water sources for livelihood needs in communities across Payinjiar county and how their livelihoods are impacted;
- Report setting out a clear basis of future interventions that accurately address the potable water needs of target communities. This basis should clarify the following aspects: (1) identification of existing stakeholders in unity state WASH sector (their roles and responsibilities, their capacities, SWOT analysis, and needs); (2) definition of technical aspects of WASH interventions and opportunities for innovation and experimentation that could enhance WASH services; and 3) definition of economic aspects related to both beneficiaries of WASH services and spare parts required to instal, manage and maintain hydraulic infrastructure.

EXPECTED RESULTS

By the end of the study, UGEAFI anticipates achieving the following results:

- Data related to actual potable water needs and their impacts on communities in Payinjiar county are produced and made publicly available (including presented at relevant WASH clusters and other relevant national and regional fora);
- Mapping all WASH stakeholders in terms of their geographic service coverage, service capacity and limitations, responsibilities across private, public and community levels (vertical – i.e. from National to State, County and Payam / Boma levels - and horizontal across stakeholder groups, NGOs, Payams, Businesses, etc.)
- Mapping market linkages, trader networks, relationships with local suppliers, stock flows and technologies offered, price points and supply-chain weaknesses / challenges;
- Technical life-cycle analysis of the suitability of existing waterpoint technology (i.e. handpump hardware) and factors that drive corrosion / damage to key component parts to inform decision-making with associated technical recommendations to increase component lifespans and reduce waterpoint downtime;
- Technical recommendations and best practices for WASH interventions are defined and supporting resources, models and actors that have a role to play in their longerterm sustainability are identified and analysed;
- Economic costs to both beneficiaries of WASH services and spare parts required to install and maintain hydraulic infrastructure are defined.

III. STUDY AREA

The study will be carried out in Unity State, with a focus on Panyijar County. The consultant should explore the interactions between State, County and Payam level actors (private and public) and explore market systems at the County and State levels. However specific fieldwork analysing the technical status of water and sanitation infrastructure, or community dynamics at the Payam and Boma levels should ensure that Kol and Nyal Payams are targeted. The focus will be mainly WASH services notably clean water, hygiene and sanitation of the communities.

IV. <u>METHODOLOGY</u>

An external consultant with skills that meet the requirements outlined in this call will be hired to carry out this study. The consultant is expected to independently design and structure the workplan required to meet the objectives of this study, with input from UGEAFI and its partners. The consultant will be required to undertake this study through:

- In person / virtual interviews at National (Juba), State (Bentiu), County (Nyal), Payam and Boma levels;
- Focus group discussions with communities and relevant service providers;
- Site visits to key services and linked infrastructure;
- Desk based review of relevant documentation.

V. TEAM COMPOSITION

The study should be geared in such a way that a participatory approach should be applied. The consultant will involve UGEAFI and AFAA project staff and relevant stakeholders (Government, WASH partners, members of local NGO, women and youth groups as well as CBO¹ representatives and representatives of the private sector) via an advisory and review group that will be constituted in partnership with UGEAFI. UGEAFI will aim to ensure that each stakeholder group is represented by one person with a maximum of 7 persons that will form the advisory and review group. This approach will ensure the ownership of the study by all possible stakeholders and will guarantee the production of a report that takes into account the opinions and perceptions of all stakeholders and meets the expectations associated with the objective.

To ensure an accurate data collection, any personnel who may be recruited must be trained not only on how to use tools but also how to communicate with respondents that will be contacted all along the study. This includes safeguarding, data protection, data bias, and accountability principles.

VI. LOGISTICS

To work on site visits in Unity State, the study team will be using motorbikes to efficiently use time and reach all possible corners of the study area. For training and other briefings related to the study, the consultant will collaborate with UGEAFI and its partner AFAA staff to use their offices (according to their availability).

Accommodation, communication and transportation will be supported, wherever possible, by UGEAFI and its partner AFAA.

¹ CBOs: Community Based Organizations.

VII. BUDGET & PAYMENT

The consultant to this study should provide a detailed budget calculation including per diems, accommodation and travel arrangements.

Payment will be made upon completion of deliverables defined at the time of contracting.

VIII. HOW TO APPLY

Consultants are expected to review and respond to this Terms of Reference with the following documents:

- (1) Statement of interest covering expertise and experience relevant to these ToRs;
- (2) CVs of any individual[s] that will form part of the core consultancy team;
- (3) Max.3 page concept note outlining a suggested approach to this study. This should include key expectations and requirements by the consultant of the UGEAFI team;
- (4) Budget detailing per diems, accommodation and travel costs, and length of time anticipated across the cycle of the study (scoping, outreach & preparation, research on-site in Panyijiar County and in Juba -, report development, etc.)

Applications will be reviewed from the **25 OCT 2023**. Candidates should expect to undertake a number of interviews with UGEAFI and its funder[s] and partners in person in Juba and/or virtually.

Any applications that are received after the 25 OCT 2023 will be reviewed on a rolling basis on the basis of need. UGEAFI commits to providing all applicants with a reply stating its intent within 2 weeks of submission.

IX. SUGGESTED READING LIST IN SUPPORT TO APPLICATION

- WASH Cluster core documents including Market Based Programming Strategy
- REACH Initiative WASH publications

X. QUESTIONS

If you have any questions please email UGEAFI: ugeafi@yahoo.fr

Any questions and answers given will be shared on the UGEAFI website under the following: www.ugeafi.org