

Terms of Reference for Consultancy End of Evaluation Protection and Support of Enabling Environment for Human Rights Defenders in Liberia - PROSEED¹

Type of contract: Consultancy

Location: Liberia

Duration of contract: June 30, 2022 (25 working days)

1. Background: Kvinna till Kvinna in Liberia

The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation is a Swedish non-profit organisation that promotes women's rights in over 20 conflict affected countries in the Middle East, Africa, Europe and the South Caucasus. Kvinna till Kvinna does so by supporting more than 110 local partner organisations across the world. Kvinna till Kvinna has supported actors in Liberia since 2007, with permanent presence in country since 2011, and has established itself as a strong, visible and important actor on women's rights in Liberia.

In 2020, Kvinna till Kvinna was granted funding under the Gender Promotion Initiative (GPI) by the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), for the implementation of the project "Protection and Support of Enabling Environment for Women Human Rights Defenders and LGBTQI Rights Defenders in Liberia - PROSEED". This project aims to contribute to Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) and other Human Rights Defenders and Activists being better protected, thereby being able to safely claim rights and undertake effective participation in inclusive and peaceful democratic governance of Liberia. Additionally, the project seeks to support women's rights organisations and activists and other marginalized groups, organisations and activists to claim their rights and build the capacity of others, in a way that will contribute towards gender equality. However, community, traditional and religious leaders also need to be included, since overturning current patriarchal structures may also lead to conflicts and/or threats and violence towards women and women's rights organizations and human rights individuals and organizations. Both to prevent a negative backlash and increase the impact, the project will address the prevailing norms and structures with 'moral' duty bearers in the communities, which will contribute to a more gender equal society where women and marginalized groups are safe and present in decision-making and peacebuilding processes. The project runs from February 2021 to August 2022.

Change Statement

Duty bearers and community members are supporting and collaborating with Rights Defenders and advocating for the human rights of women, youth and marginalised persons. The project will include three main pathways to achieve the desired change:

1. Champions among duty bearers are committed to protecting Right Defenders

¹ Project gateway: PBF/IRF- 411: Protection and Support of Enabling Environment for Women Human Rights Defenders and LGBTQI Rights Defenders in Liberia – PROSEED <https://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/project/00125938>

2. WHRDs and Human Rights Defenders have become more resilient
3. Women groups, youth groups (girls and boys), women sex workers, Human etc. in communities develop dialogue, sensitization and advocacy strategies towards key stakeholders.

Output 1

WHRDs and Human Rights Defenders are provided with tools to understand and access risks, vulnerabilities and capacities as well as with strategies for integrated security to safely and effectively claim their space and defend right-holders' rights.

Output2:

Increased understanding of HRBA and acceptance and active protection of WHRDs and Human Rights Defenders by community, traditional and religious leaders

Output 3:

Women, girls and boys (including sexual minorities), analyze, understand and respond to GBV, Harmful Traditional Practices, and other violations of their rights

Kvinna till Kvinna is now looking for consultant/s to carry out an external evaluation as the programme reaches its last year. The evaluation will contribute to exploring impact, challenges and lessons learned, as these often are the base for learning. This exercise will also help inform the design of a potential new project phase.

2. Objectives and questions of the evaluation

2.1 Objectives of the evaluation:

- 1) Assess the progress that has been made towards the outcome of Kvinna till Kvinna's PROSEED project.
- 2) Evaluate the project's relevance in the Liberian context, thematic priorities, methods and approaches, and identify lessons learned and good practices.
- 3) The evaluation should give recommendations to Kvinna till Kvinna and partner organisations in relation to the next project's focus, approach and design.

The evaluation will use OECD DAC evaluation criteria:

Relevance:

- How relevant is the project's framework and objectives to the advancement of WHRDs and LGBTQIA HRDs Rights?
- To what extent is the project relevant in terms of making a difference to the community sources and factors of tensions?
- Are the partner organisations' interventions consistent with the intended objectives of the project?
- Has the choice of partner organisations and activities been relevant and strategic for achievement of the set goal and expected results? If not, why?

- Is the project aligned to relevant national frameworks and policies such as the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection's National Gender Policy, the Government of Liberia's Pro Poor Agenda for Development and Prosperity, Liberia's Second Phase
- National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security 2019-2023, The Liberia peacebuilding plan (2017) including building the capacity of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) and with other on-going reconciliation and peacebuilding initiatives supported by the UN PBF in Liberia.

Effectiveness:

- To what extent is the project achieving its expected outcomes, and expected targets by August 2022? What has contributed to this and how has the change occurred? Include evidence and review indicator progress.
- Are there any unintended outcomes? Are there any notable key factors that made the programme bring about changes?
- To what extent were the project interventions innovative and/or high risk.
- Assess relevance and impact of Kvinna till Kvinna's support to WHRDs and LGBTQIA HRDs integrated security, identify lessons learned and good practices.

Efficiency

- Has the project's activities been reasonable in relation to the benefits?

Sustainability:

- To what extent are the partner organisations' interventions likely to be sustainable in the long-run?

Recommendations:

- The evaluation will inform the development and planning of a new phase of the project in Liberia, by providing lessons learned and recommendations that will serve as basis for strategic decisions regarding content and method for Kvinna till Kvinna in Liberia.
- Suggest improvements of the process and the ways of working, in terms of methods used by Kvinna till Kvinna and Partner Organisations.
- Are there practices or approaches that should be developed or scaled up?
- Suggest possible improvements and recommendations in any of the above-mentioned areas or other aspects that might emerge during the evaluation.
- What would be the most critical areas for Kvinna till Kvinna to take into consideration for a future project phase, considering the evaluation questions above?

3. Evaluation Methodology

3.1 Scope and delimitation

The evaluation will be based on a desk review of project documentation, discussions with Kvinna till Kvinna staff in Liberia and Stockholm, interviews with partner organisations in Liberia as well as members of their target groups/rights holders, including field visits, interviews with women-

and human rights defenders, interviews with Kvinna till Kvinna staff in Liberia and possibly with other donors and stakeholders in Liberia.

The scope of work includes reviewing relevant documents and interviewing Kvinna till Kvinna's Liberia office staff and programme staff in Stockholm as well as the United Nations PBF Secretariat in Liberia and other key stakeholders, including CSO partners. The partner organisations should be interviewed face to face. Visits to partner organisations' projects should be included, with interviews (individually and/or in focus groups) with a selection of rights holders, participants, local community members and relevant duty bearers. The women Human RDs and LGBTQIA HRDs included in the project should be interviewed. The timeframe-period to be assessed by the evaluation is: May 1- June 30, 2022.

An Evaluation Reference Group comprising of PBSO and UN RCO and possibly other stakeholders will be established for a review during the evaluation process.

3.2 Approach and methodology

The Consultant will be expected to ensure that the evaluation analyses the effectiveness, and relevance, as well as the sustainability of the programme. The emphasis should be on giving supportive recommendations, which are connected to lessons learned. The consultant should present the suggested methodology for the evaluation in the tender, which should include both a desk evaluation, and a combination of qualitative and quantitative techniques.

The methodology should as much as possible be participatory aiming for the involvement of the partner organisations, and their target groups as well as WHRDs and HRD. The Consultant should consider the existence of intersectional power structures when doing the interviews and focus groups discussion and in the selection of participants. Consultants should also be aware and reflect on their own position of power. The interviews with rights holders should be conducted without staff or representatives of the relevant partner organisation being present, to ensure non-interference in the responses. The evaluation will be carried out following OECD/DAC evaluation principles and guidelines. Furthermore, Kvinna till Kvinna has set a minimum standard for evaluations, strengthening some of the OECD/DAC principles. These will be shared with the evaluation team selected for the evaluation.

The consultant is responsible for booking appointments for interviews and to conduct all logistic arrangements for the assignment. Kvinna till Kvinna will provide contact details and relevant documentation.

4. Deliverables and Time Frame

Activity	Timeline	Lead person	Comment
Finalised recruitment processes	April – May 2022	Kvinna till Kvinna	
Finalised Workplan and inception report	June 1-4, 2022	Kvinna till Kvinna and Consultant	The inception report shall be presented to Kvinna till Kvinna within a week after the signature of the contract and a start-up meeting has been held with Kvinna till Kvinna. The report shall include a description of the

			methodology, methods of ensuring the quality of implementation of the evaluation including ethical considerations, and a work plan/timeline for the assignment
Field visit	June 4-18, 2022	Consultant	
Analysing data and first draft of the report	June 19-23, 2022	Consultant	
Validation meeting and incorporating feedback	June 24-30, 2022	Consultants and partner organisation	A draft report should be submitted to Kvinna till Kvinna and Kvinna till Kvinna and the Evaluation Reference Group
Presentation and review of the final report	July 1, 2020	Consultant	Kvinna till Kvinna will organise a debriefing session with the consultant and partner organisations at the end of the field visit. The exact period of the fieldwork shall be settled in dialogue Kvinna till Kvinna and its partner organisations.

A finalised inception report is to be submitted to Kvinna till Kvinna within five days of sending the comments.

The final report should be written in English and not exceed 30 pages, excluding annexes, and include an executive summary of findings including lessons learned and recommendations. Any limitations shall be made explicit, and their consequences discussed. The evaluation report will be used in Kvinna till Kvinna's strategic planning for a new project phase in Liberia and in the reporting to the UNPBF. Parts of the report, quotes or specific outcomes, might also be used on the Kvinna till Kvinna and UNPBF websites, or in other reports or documents within Kvinna till Kvinna and the UNPBF. In addition, the draft report will be shared with the Evaluation Reference Group for comments and the final report will need to address those comments and if the consultant disagrees with any of them, this needs to be explained. The ERG will need to accept the final report as being of adequate quality and in line with the TORs.

5. Requirements

5.1. Required skills and qualifications

- The consultancy team must include at least one Liberian national consultant.
- Master's degree in social sciences or another relevant field.
- Documented experience of carrying out project evaluations for international organisations and peacebuilding contexts.

- Knowledge and experience of international development cooperation and support to civil society, including capacity development.
- Excellent knowledge of women's rights issues and the gender, peace and security agenda.
- Understanding of the women's rights movement, human + rights and civil society in Liberia
- Knowledge of UN PBF is an asset
- Recorded experience of MEL, including in Liberia
- Fluency in English

5.2 Required information

- CVs of each consultant
- Contracted consultants cannot further subcontract the assignment. Explicit information about which aspects of the assignment each person will be responsible for should be included in the proposal.
- Methodology and procedures for implementation of the assignment
- Method of ensuring the quality of implementation of the assignment
- Timeframe of the assignment in accordance with the points specified in this ToR
- Budget incl. VAT and all expenses in accordance with notes under 'cost frame'
- Contact information

5.3. Deadline for submission for proposal

Proposals must be sent to Kvinna till Kvinna no later than May 6, 2022 by email to

katarina.inkinen@kvinnatillkvinna.se or satta.normahn.varpilah@kvinnatillkvinna.se

For questions, please contact Grants Manager katarina.inkinen@kvinnatillkvinna.se or Programme Manager Aisha Kamara-Kolubah Liberia, aisha.kamara-kolubah@kvinnatillkvinna.se