

Terms of Reference for Consultancy Services

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment of the “Adaptation to Effects of Climate Change and COVID-19 for Communities in Gedo Region of South-Central Somalia” Project

Action for Social and Economic Progress (ASEP)

July 2023

Background

Action for Social and Economic Progress (ASEP) is a Somali NGO that has been active in Somalia for over 25 years. Since its establishment in 1995, ASEP has implemented numerous projects in its main sectors of Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Livelihoods, Peace and Governance, Emergency Response; and Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction. The organization's mission is to inspire a peaceful, self-reliant, and prosperous Somalia channeling its energies into stability and sustainable development. ASEP is a local partner with a vast experience in humanitarian emergency and development initiatives in Gedo Region (www.asepsomalia.org).

Arche Nova (AN) is a German NGO (www.arche-nova.org) working in humanitarian aid, development and emergency context in 14 countries all over the world, since 1992.

In Somalia, **Action for Social and Economic Progress (ASEP)** operates in South Central in collaboration with **arche Nova** since **2012 implementing** emergency response and transitional aid projects in WASH, climate action and resilience building. Currently, with funding from **International Climate Initiative (IKI)** - Germany Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety" BMUV, ASEP is implementing a 2 years project; "Adaptation to Effects of Climate Change and COVID-19 for Communities in Gedo Region of South-Central Somalia" in partnership with arche noVa in Belet Xaawa, Luuq and Garbaharey districts in Gedo Region starting from 1st August 2022 to 31st July 2024.

The project seeks to provide sustainable climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies to the communities of Gedo region in South Central Somalia aiming at increasing their resilience and enhancing their livelihoods, which have been severely disrupted by climate shocks and the impact of COVID-19. The project seeks to respond to effects of climate change through construction of sustainable water source through the construction of a sand dam in Qooney, Luuq district. The sand dam is expected to provide sustainable access to water for human and animal consumption and small-scale irrigation for agriculture.

An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment is therefore required to determine the likely impacts of the sand dam on the environment and the people and propose possible mitigation measures to ensure desired impact is created through the sand dam.

The findings of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment will enable the project partners to understand the viability of the sand dam construction activity and minimize negative impacts on the environment and the community it will serve.

Objectives

The project is targeting the most vulnerable groups composed of newly displaced people by the floods and droughts, existing IDPs located in Belet Xaawa town, host communities, small-scale farmers in riverine communities, and pastoralist villages in remote areas in Luuq and Garbaharey. Priority is given to women, youth and PWDs.

The project will directly benefit **11,328** community members including **2,710 men, 1,967 women 3,807 boys 2,522 girls and 322 Persons with Disabilities (PWD)** and indirectly reach **143,066** people living within and out of the project's target locations. The indirect beneficiaries 143,066 people include members from communities neighboring the target villages who will use the structures and benefit from the services.

The community is at the centre of the proposed project activity, hence the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) will be undertaken by an external consultant to understand the viability of

the sand dam construction project activity to ensure minimal negative impacts on the environment and the community.

The key project output and activities which this ESIA focuses on are as follows :

Output 3: Target groups have increased access to water and knowledge on climate change adaptation and mitigation.

- Construction of one new sand dam in Qooney,Luuq district.
- Water user committees (WUC) training.
- Community capacity training for 7 people on operation maintenance and management of Sanddam.

The overall objectives of the Consultancy are to:

- ❖ Consider environmental, social, economic, cultural, and legal considerations regarding the proposed sand dam construction activity.
- ❖ Identify the anticipated environmental impacts of the proposed project activities and the scale of the impacts.
- ❖ Analyze and evaluate the anticipated impacts of the proposed sand dam construction project activity on the physical, biological, social-cultural, and Socio-Economic environment.
- ❖ Evaluate the proposed project activities and consider their effects on the safety, comfort, and convenience of the sand dam users.
- ❖ Evaluate the effect of the sand dam on downstream users and the deposition of silt on the downstream
- ❖ Evaluate also the effect of the sand dams on the embankment and whether it will change the cause of the stream with time also, provide mitigation measures were this to happen
- ❖ Propose mitigation measures to be taken during and after the implementation of the sand dam.
- ❖ Develop an environmental management plan with mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating compliance and environmental performance, which shall include the cost of mitigation measures and the time frame of implementing the measures.

Scope

The consultant will design and carry out Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Studies to establish the proposed sand dam construction activity's environmental and social effects.

In undertaking the work, the Consultant shall co-operate fully with the concerned agencies of the Federal Government of Somalia (Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change), the Jubbaland State Government (Ministry of Environment and Tourism) and the local administration in Luuq amongst others. The Consultant shall provide the necessary support services related to and necessary for the completion of the assignment.

The Consultant will present the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment findings jointly to ASEP, arche noVa and other relevant stakeholders during the study process in and out of the field.

The key process will include the following:

- ❖ Identification and analysis of the anticipated impacts of the proposed sand dam construction on the physical, biological, social-cultural, and socio-economic environment.
- ❖ Review of the existing data on the proposed sand dam construction including social and economic activities within the project areas.
- ❖ Production of an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Report for the proposed sand dam construction and seeking the necessary approval for the issuance of a License, if required, by the relevant authorities.
- ❖ Analysis detailing the positive and negative effects of the proposed project on the environment and EIA report recommending appropriate solutions to minimize any undesirable effects resulting from project activities.

The analyses shall include, but not limited to the following:

- ❖ The effect of the sand dam on downstream users and deposition of silt on the down stream
- ❖ The effect of the sand dams on the embankment and whether it will change the cause of the stream with time, also provide mitigation measures were this to happen.
- ❖ Community engagement process, consent, roles and responsibilities in protection/maintenance of the proposed sand dams.

Methodology.

The Consultant shall use both quantitative and qualitative data collections methods including technical measurements/assessments to identify, obtain/collect, collate, and present baseline information/data on the Environmental and Socio-Economic characteristics of the proposed project activities and the area where the project is being implemented. The data will **describe the baseline environment** status of the project area before commencement of sand dam construction activity.

This description involves; Physical environment (topography, geology, climate and meteorology, social economic activities, air quality, hydrology etc.), biological environment (Flora types and diversity, endangered species, sensitive habitats etc), social and cultural environment including present and projected, where appropriate (i.e. population, land use, planned development activities, community structure, employment and labour market, sources and distribution of income including cash for work, cultural properties).

The Consultant shall analyse the data using checklist, matrix, threshold limit, overlay or any other appropriate methods. The analytical process will involve use of physical, socio-cultural, mathematical, and economic models including an evaluation of costs and benefits. The models will require expert judgment for accurate predictions. In evaluating alternatives, emphasis shall be on the project location, design, technology, scale, or any other aspect that may be deemed significant and **provide detailed information on data analysis and evaluation of alternatives.**

The Consultant shall identify and describe the pertinent regulations and standards governing the environmental quality, health and safety, protection of sensitive areas, land use control at the national and local levels and ecological and Socio-Economic issues. In identifying these regulations, clearly show the relationship/relevance of these regulations & standards to the proposed sand dam construction activity **inline with legislative and regulatory frameworks.**

The Consultant shall analyze and describe all significant changes likely to be brought about by the activity. This should encompass environmental, ecological and social impacts as a result of the sand dam. Analyze effects on human and natural environments such as land tenure system, population, settlements, land use, cultural practices, forestry, agriculture, water, soils, fragile habitats, air/climate,

hydrological conditions and disturbance on vegetation among others. Make prioritization of all the concerns identified and differentiate between short, medium- and long-term in **determining the impacts of the sand dam**.

The Consultant shall analyse and describe all occupational Health and Safety Concerns brought about by the sand dam and make recommendations on the corrective and remedial measures implemented under the environmental management plan **on occupational health and safety concerns**.

The Consultant shall identify negative/positive impacts and develop comprehensive Environmental and Social Management Plans. The plans should recommend a set of practical mitigation and institutional measures to eliminate, minimize or reduce to acceptable levels adverse environmental impacts and/or maximize social benefits of the sand dam construction. The Consultant should provide cost outlays for the proposed measures as well as their institutional and financial support. The Consultant shall consider varying environmental conditions that may affect the activity, **maintenance and use including proposed measures for mitigating the negative impacts**.

Based on the baseline data of the ESIA, the Consultant is required to design and **develop comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plans** which will act as measures of compliance during implementation and operation stages of the sand dam construction. Give specific descriptions and technical details of monitoring measures including the parameters to be measured, methods to be used, sampling locations, frequency of measurements and definition of thresholds that will signal the need for corrective actions as well as deliver monitoring and reporting procedures. Provide a time frame and implementation mechanism, staffing requirements and cost outlays.

The Consultant will identify **appropriate procedures** for disposal of waste/spoil materials, rehabilitation of borrow pits/quarries and any other activity that will be undertaken during the **winding up phase of the activity**.

Identify any **benefits that may accrue from the proposed activity**. Since some indirect economic and social benefits arising from the improvements in water structures are intangible or difficult to quantify accurately. Undertake detailed qualitative analysis of these benefits. Only those benefits that can be firmly demonstrated in quantitative terms shall be included in the evaluation of the projects. The remaining qualitative benefits that have not been quantified can be used as secondary justification for activity implementation.

The Consultant shall undertake a stakeholder analysis to identify persons/groups that may be affected by the activity. Work closely with identified stakeholders at different stages of the Assignment. In seeking the views of the community and in liaison with the project team hold **community consultation and participation meetings** with the affected parties and communities to explain the activity and its effects and to receive their oral or written comments. Ensure that appropriate notices are sent out at least one week prior to the meetings and venue and times of the meetings are convenient and suitable for the affected communities and other concerned parties. Seek for approvals from relevant authorities and provide a detailed public participation plan clearly identifying the stakeholders as well as the proposed methodology of carrying out consultations.

Reports and Time schedule

Both quantitative and qualitative data collection methods will be used in undertaking the Environmental and Social impact assessment. This includes use of questionnaire in target location, KII, FGD, technical measurements and observation checklists to triangulate data. All the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment tools developed by the consultant should be shared for approval by ASEP and arche noVa with the consultant prior to the field work.

Specific expected reports are:

- ❖ **Inception Report:** This report shall comprise a brief of the project, description of baseline information and project overview including summary of the initial perception or findings. Defined proposals covering the methodologies of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and detailed work plan for the assignment.
- ❖ **Preliminary ESIA Report:** This report shall summarize the preliminary findings, analysis, results and recommendations.
- ❖ **Draft Final ESIA Report:** This report shall summarize the findings, analysis, results, and recommendations of the assessment including consultative public participation and shall contain all supporting material. The Report shall be presented to the stakeholders for review, inputs, and contributions.
- ❖ **Final ESIA Report:** This report shall incorporate all revisions and comments proposed ASEP and arche noVa following discussions and agreement. Comments of stakeholders shall be considered in the Final Report.

The consultant is expected to travel to Qooney, Luuq District in Gedo Region of Somalia during the whole environmental and Social Impact Assessment process. He/she should have a clear understanding of the area, be able to access the proposed locations/sites and aware of the community and clan dynamics including security in the areas of operation.

Raw baseline survey data sets, power point presentations of key findings and detailed report should be submitted to ASEP and arche noVa by the consultant within set timelines.

Team composition (expertise required)

The firm/Consultant is expected to provide CVs of key staff and their cumulative experience minimum of 4 years. The proposed team shall include:

- ❖ **A team leader:** A minimum of a bachelor’s degree in environmental, Physical or Biological Sciences from a recognized University and qualification as a Lead Expert registered with relevant authorities, with valid & current Practicing licenses with at least 5 years experience in EISA
- ❖ **Water Engineer:** A minimum of bachelor’s degree in Water Engineering and registered with relevant authorities. At least 8 years’ experience.
- ❖ **2 Researchers:** Preferably a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in Sociology/Social Studies/Social Sciences from a recognized University. At least three(3) projects demonstrating professional and practical experience in social studies for infrastructural projects, working with local communities and strong analytical and reporting skills.

Timescale

The duration of the assignment is 21 days. The assignment is expected to commence on July 1st with the final report expected on first of August. The Consultant is expected to plan the work plan as per the specifications below.

Activities	Week				
	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5
Effective date of contract					
Inception report to ASEP and AN					

Field data collection and consultations					
Preliminary report to ASEP and AN					
Draft report to ASEP and AN					
Presentation of the report					
Final report to ASEP and AN					

Reporting Requirements.

Detailed Environmental Impact Assessment reports should be submitted to ASEP and arche noVa within set timelines. The Environmental and Social Impact report shall not exceed 40 pages excluding the annexes respectively.

All Environmental and Social Impact data sets, photos, power points with key findings and relevant annexes, should be submitted to ASEP and arche noVa at the end of the assignment.

Application Process and requirements

All applications must be accompanied by technical and financial proposals. Interested consultants or firms are expected to submit their applications, updated CVs of individuals to conduct the consultancy or profile of applying company to: info@asepsomalia.org Please indicate “Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for **Adaptation to Effects of Climate Change and COVID-19 For Communities in Gedo Region of South-Central Somalia**” Project as the subject heading and submit not later than June 27th 2023.

Selection Process

All applications received within the deadline will be evaluated based on the following evaluation criteria: Technical proposal including previous work (60%) and Financial proposal (40%). Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. The successful firm/consultant will be notified and contracted ASAP, unsuccessful consultants will be notified accordingly.