



CALL FOR PROJECT EVALUATION
Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion Project in Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea

Locations:	Papua New Guinea. Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB) Solomon Islands (Malaita/Choiseul) (remote support for Solomon Islands).
Application Deadline:	17 May 2024
Period of engagement:	June 2024
Reports to:	Save the Children Australia (SCA) Evaluation Management team

Background

Save the Children is an international organization working to uphold children’s rights and protection in different regions of the world, including the Pacific region with country programs including Papua New Guinea (PNG) and the Solomon Islands.

From February 2022 to January 2024, SCA has been working with implementing partners to deliver the EU funded Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion Project in Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.

This 2 year project has supported community-level peacebuilding by empowering women and youth to participate in and drive conflict prevention, dialogue, and crisis preparedness initiatives in their communities in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (ARoB) and the Solomon Islands’ provinces of Choiseul and Malaita.

The project objectives are as follows:

- Impact (overall objective): Reduced levels of conflict in Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB) and Choiseul Province through strengthened peacebuilding and increased social cohesion.
 - Outcome 1: Increased understanding of the conflict dynamics in ARoB and Choiseul
 - Outcome 2: Existing local strengths and skills in peacebuilding are identified, documented and shared
 - Outcome 3: Children, community members, and local groups have increased capacity to facilitate peacebuilding and contribute to social cohesion
 - Outcome 4: Increased understanding and use of diversionary responses to children and youth in conflict with the law (only in Malaita).

To achieve the above results, project has worked with schools, youth networks civil society organisations (CSOs) and Faith Based Organisations (FBOs) as well as local actors in law enforcement.

Over a 2 year period, the project has engaged with communities in selected sites across the following locations.

- Bougainville: Central, Northern and Southern Districts.
- Solomon Islands: Malaita and Choiseul Province.

SCA are requesting the services of an external consultant to provide an assessment of project achievements against intended impact and outcomes.

The external evaluation incorporates a field visit to PNG-AROB.

In the Solomon Islands, the external evaluation consultant would be responsible for developing data collection plans and tools, aligned to the overall Evaluation questions. The data collection itself would be conducted by the Solomon Islands Country Office team (with remote support from the Evaluation Consultant) and shared to the Evaluation consultant for analysis and incorporation of findings into the final evaluation report.

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Evaluation Scope

Purpose

The specific purpose of the Evaluation is to (i) generate evaluation findings on the overall project achievements against each of the project objectives and (ii) contribute to the evidence base on peace building efforts in this context by assessing which interventions have been effective/less effective, within the targeted locations in the two countries.

This will involve a review of existing project data as well as field level consultations with key stakeholders, including participating communities in selected sites across project targeted locations.

The data collection and analysis should be designed to:

- (i) Provide findings on achievements at the overall objective and individual outcome levels.
- (ii) Generate lessons learned and recommendations for related program interventions in these locations.

The target audience and key stakeholders for the study are:

- Project Donor-European Commission.
- Save the Children Australia
- Project Partners, Local Government Authorities, Civil Society and Faith based organisations providing related services in each location.
- Peacebuilding and Social development practitioners, partners, stakeholders, and donors operating in relevant contexts in PNG and Solomon Islands.

Key Evaluation Questions

The overall KEQs are set out below. It is anticipated that the Consultant will review these in conjunction with the analysis of the available data and propose any adjustments/additional questions in the Inception Report.

Effectiveness:

- To what extent did the project achieve its intended results across each of the overall and core project objectives.
- How fairly are the difference effects distributed across regional locations as well as different stakeholders, considering gender equity and different social groups.

Efficiency:

- To what extent were the results achieved within the intended timeframe
- To what extent were the project resources (human and financial) adequate, well planned and appropriately utilized.

Relevance:

- To what extent did the project address topics relevant to the social cohesion and peacebuilding context in project locations.
- To what extent were the relevant project stakeholders engaged
- Was the format, structure and timing of the interventions relevant to stakeholder priorities and needs.
- To what extent do the changes or effects of an intervention satisfy (or not) stakeholders' needs? How much does the degree of satisfaction differ across different stakeholder groups?

Coherence:

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- To what extent did the project identify and complement existing interventions by other actors in each location.

Sustainability

- In what ways did the project contribute to building the longer term capacity and engagement of local networks and forums for peacebuilding and social cohesion.
- To what extent are the local networks and forums for peacebuilding and social cohesion supported under this project likely to continue.

The evaluation team will be responsible for developing the detailed methodology set out in an Inception Plan for SCA review and approval. Details on the available project resources, a list of key stakeholders and the project location (s) are summarized below.

Methodology

The consultant is expected to undertake the following main tasks:

- Develop a detailed inception report setting out the analytical framework and nominated field study plan in compliance with the scope and purpose of the Evaluation. The inception report will incorporate an overall workplan and provide the basis for country offices to support the field work preparation. In developing the inception plan, conduct online meeting (s) with SCA and County Office teams to address queries and confirm planning assumptions. The Inception Report will require approval from the SCA Evaluation Management team, prior to fieldwork commencement and will include:
 - Specific evaluation questions (Based on KEQs above)
 - Methodologies for data collection as well as a list of relevant stakeholders, initial stakeholder analysis and a consultation strategy aligned to this analysis .
 - Evaluation Matrix with a set of indicators for the Evaluation.
- Undertake field data collection with in Papua New Guinea (Autonomous Region of Bougainville) with key stakeholders in selected field sites. This includes conducting preparatory meetings with field staff and project partners, as well as scheduled interviews and field based consultations as set out in the Inception report.
- Guide the work of the Solomon Islands Country Office (MEAL) team to undertake data collection in Solomon Islands Location to include Malaita or Choiseul. The detailed requirements will be set out the in Inception report above, with provision to provide online briefing and guidance to the Solomon Islands team.
- Analyse data collected in both locations and conduct initial (online) validation session with SCA and Local partners, on the key findings against the approved evaluation questions
- Prepare a full evaluation report, of no more than 20 pages, that answers the key evaluation questions, presents an accurate and rigorous analysis, is learning oriented and take a strong gender sensitive approach in the analysis. The report must contain:
 - Definitions and abbreviations
 - Executive summary
 - Introduction – including Background and project description
 - Methodology—including Ethical considerations and limitations
 - Key findings—ensuring all data is disaggregated by, and analysed for, gender, age, ethnicity, disability and other exclusion criteria)
 - Lessons
 - Key conclusions

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- Key recommendations

- A summary version for wider external dissemination (up to 5 pages) incorporating a separate infographic or smart visual product to present key findings

Deliverables

Key Deliverable	Estimated # of days
1. A detailed Inception Report (with desk review, research questions, field based methodology, analytical framework including an Evaluation Matrix and timeline).	6 (fieldwork in PNG and fieldwork plans developed for Solomon Islands)
2. Data collection completed in line with methodology in PNG: AROB and plans and guidance for data collection in Solomon Islands (Choiseul or Malaita)	7 in PNG-including travel
3. Data analysis and Draft Report	6
4. Validation Session	1
5. Final Report (see details of report contents below)	2
Total # of Days	22

Timeframe

The consultant is required to accomplish all the expected deliverables within 40 days from early June 2024.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Consultant(s) will:
 - Regularly consult and report to the Save the Children Project Evaluation Management Team on the development or progress of the Evaluation
 - Adhere to the timeframe agreed
- Save the Children Australia will:
 - Provide contract to the Service Provider
 - Pay for the services rendered within 30 days of satisfactory completion of the work
 - Support in the coordination of fieldwork regarding partner/stakeholder consultations in selected sites.
 - Support in the provision/recruitment of local research assistants or enumerators for the consultant, if necessary

Project Locations and Key Stakeholders (*indicative list*)

Project Implementing Partners and Supporting Agencies/Participants	Bougainville Women's Federation (BWF) Nazareth Center for Rehabilitation (NCFR) Department of Community Development (DCD) Local Government (Ward Members) Community Auxiliary Police Police Service Department Crime Prevention Committee (CPC) Members (Solomon Islands) Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF)
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Community Entities/Participants	Bougainville Disability Association Bougainville Youth Federation Choiseul Council of Women Malaita Provincial Youth Council Village Courts (eg Magistrates) Bougainville Churches Association Veterans Association (Ex Combatants) District Peace and Security/Peacebuilding committees School Clubs/youth participants Peacebuilding Champions
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Field work Locations

It is proposed that the Evaluation would undertake assessment and consultations with Stakeholders including community representatives detailed above in a minimum of 2 communities each across North and Central Bougainville and support data collection plans and conduct analysis of data findings in a minimum of 2 communities in the Solomon Islands (Choiseul or Malaita).

Project Documents

Available project documents which will also inform the desk review and inception report planning are set out below.

- Design Documents
- Reports
- Case Studies

Thematic Documents will be provided across Project Outcomes

- Outcome 1: Increased Understanding of Conflict Dynamics
- Outcome 2: Regional Information sharing on Peacebuilding
- Outcome 3: Children, community members and local groups [increased capacity to facilitate peacebuilding]
- Outcome 4 (Solomon Islands only)
Increased understanding & use [diversionary responses] to children & youth in [conflict with law].

Payment Structure and Terms

Payments will be made on successful and timely submission of milestones according to the table below:

1. 30% upon signing of contract.
2. 50% upon completion of Inception Report
3. 20% upon completion and acceptance of final report

The Consultant is responsible for providing professional liability and medical/emergency evacuation insurance. The Consultant must adhere to Save the Children's Child Safeguarding and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Harassment (PSEAH) policy at all times throughout the consultancy.

The consultant is responsible for paying any taxes required by their domicile country. The budget should specify any VAT requirements additional to the consulting fee.

Experience and Skills Requirement:

- Advance educational background in development, gender, peacebuilding and social cohesion, research, or other related fields

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- Demonstrable experience of conducting research and evaluations, in particular, experience in managing and delivering evaluation of projects in the pacific:
- Experience in conducting qualitative and quantitative research and data analysis
- Excellent report writing and oral skills in English.
- Demonstrated ability to deliver project outputs on time

Returning of bids

To respond to this EOI, please submit:

- A letter expressing interest, outlining the experience and expertise of the individual consultant or consulting agency relevant for the work.
- A copy of CV(s) or details of expertise in your research institution, or consultancy firm/agency, if applicable
- Sample of previous research work/s, relevant to this consultancy
- Contact details of at least two references
- An operational plan detailing how the work will be done and how the objectives above will be met (max. 3 pages)
- A financial proposal or costing for items/activities required for the fulfillment of the expected deliverables of the consultancy work.

Application Close Date: 17 May 2024