

SCOPE OF WORK : VFL 2019 Mid-Term Evaluation

Background Information:

The program Views from the Frontline (VFL) 2019 is commissioned under Priority Area 4 of the EU DEVCO funded project “Upscaling Community Resilience through Ecosystem based DRR”. Views from the Frontline remains the largest independent global review of DRR at the local level. The 2018-21/22 represented a particularly significant time for the VFL programme as it accelerates the ongoing progress of the resilience building targets in Agenda 2030, that is - *to build resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters*. This explicitly recognises the need to empower local authorities and local communities to reduce disaster risk through resources, incentives and decision-making responsibilities.

VFI 2019 was therefore designed; based on the emerging resilience building needs from the previous iterations of Views from the Frontline; which was implemented by GNDR. The needs were defined as follows:

- Greater engagement of citizens in risk governance processes to ensure risk reduction policies and actions are appropriate to local realities, such as complexity, informality, fragility and insecurity
- Enhanced access to *means of implementation* at the local level to close the gap between policies and practice
- Coherent action to address underlying risk drivers, particularly in relation to small-scale disasters
- Strengthen public awareness, domestic transparency and accountability to increase political ownership for policy obligations and mobilisation of financial resources
- Develop relationships between affected populations and local governments to enhance local democracies and make national government more accountable and responsive to local stakeholders
- Strengthen coherence between state and non-state actors working across different administrative scales and separate yet interrelated thematic frameworks (e.g. DRR; Climate; SDGs, WHS, Habitat)

VFL 2019 is being implemented in 50 countries across Asia, Pacific, Africa, Arab States, Latin America and Caribbean.

Objective of the programme: The VFL 2019 programme aims to strengthen the inclusion and systematic collaboration between governments, at-risk people and civil society in the design and implementation of DRR and resilience policies and practices.

The specific objectives are:

1. To establish a citizen-based process to measure local progress in inclusive risk governance
2. To strengthen in-country civil society monitoring, DRR and advocacy capacities

3. To support establishment of local-level baselines and generate local risk information to inform policy and local plans.

The intermediary outcomes include: 1. Increased access to actionable, timely and disaggregated local data; 2. Increased capacities of local actors to engage in resilience actions; 3. Increased use of local data in resilience-building processes; and 4. Increased engagement between different actors in resilience-building processes.

Over the past two and half years, 9 global conclusions have come out of the VFL 2019 programme. They are as follows :(1) Complex threats need integrated solutions (2) Community exclusion (3) Poor planning of participation (4) Responsibilities not appointed (5) Information gap (6) Absence of local funding (7) Lost voices (8) Development isn't risk informed (9) Underutilised ecosystems.

Mid-Term Evaluation Objective

The mid-term evaluation is planned to be carried out for problem solving and learning purposes. It aims to ensure the impact of the actions at the local and national level as well as assess the impact of the VFL global conclusions on the global policies/strategies; which would help the international development and humanitarian agencies for resilience building.

The evaluation is primarily directed towards improving the project's relevance, effectiveness and efficiency based on the lessons learned so far. Following key indicators can be used for developing the mid-term evaluation report.

Note: In undertaking the evaluation **at least 3** of the activities which have received seed funding will need to be evaluated.

Relevance and Validity of Design	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. To what extent are the projects addressing the key issues of the country? b. Are the priorities, outcomes, outputs and activities logical and coherent? c. What parts of the process are most critical to success?
Effectiveness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> d. What progress has the project made towards achieving its planned objectives? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. What are the reasons/factors behind that progress (or the lack thereof)? ii. What are the main constraints, problems and areas in need of further information? e. Does the project address the diversity in the implementation of the project activities in terms of gender, age, and disabilities?
Efficiency	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> f. How well has the project management worked in delivering project outputs and results (e.g. were

	<p>alternative solution to the existing challenges identified proactively/)</p> <p>g. To what extent was the project team organised so as to be responsive to the changes on the ground and to be accountable?</p>
Sustainability	<p>h. To what extent are the results of the intervention likely to have a long term, sustainable positive contribution to the global policies?</p> <p>i. How is this intervention informing policy and practice enhancing collaboration with the local actors?</p> <p>j. To what extent the results of the intervention can be scaled up?</p>
Impact	<p>k. To what extent will the project help to improve the lives and livelihoods of the communities most at risk?</p> <p>l. To what extent the non vfl participants will replicate the process in their own communities?</p>
Coherence	<p>m. To what extent the project interventions interlink with the broad objectives of GNDr strategy?</p> <p>n. To what extent does the project contribute to the ongoing deliberations and objectives of the key global frameworks such as SFDRR, Paris Agreement, The Urban Agenda, Grand Bargain and SDGs?</p>

In addition, the intervention is to be assessed against the OECD-DAC criteria using the following scale:

0 - Low or no visible contribution to this criteria

1 - Some evidence of contribution to this criteria but significant improvement required

2 - Evidence of satisfactory contribution to this criteria but requirement for continued improvement

3 - Evidence of good contribution to this criteria but with some areas for improvement remaining

4 - Evidence that the contribution is strong and/or exceeding that which is expected of the intervention.

Methodology:

The proposed midterm evaluation methodology includes the following:

1. Desk Review of the relevant documents :Project documents and reports¹ will be available for perusal, and access to key stakeholders² will also be given.

¹ VFL implementation handbook, Project Proposal, Budget and Workplan along with the revised versions and intermediary annual reports submitted to EU Devco.

² The key stakeholders will include the national coordinating organisations and local partners , GNDR key members such as Head of Strategy, Global Project lead and the Policy Lead.

2. The evaluation will be interview based and will be conducted either telephonically or through virtual platforms with the identified stakeholders.

The methodology should include analysis of the quantitative and primarily qualitative data. It should examine the project design and implementation arrangement specifically in light of the logical connections with the results and the overall strategic objectives of the proposal.

To the extent possible, the data collection, analysis and presentation should be responsive to and include gender disaggregation, diversity and non discrimination, including disability issues.

The evaluation methodology should clearly mention the limitations of the evaluation methodology.

The Global Project Lead shall be the focal point from GNDR to liaise with the Consultant for contracting as well as receiving all draft documents and sharing the consolidated feedback to the team.

Main Deliverables:

The evaluator will deliver the following main outputs:

Deliverable 1: Inception Report (5-10 pages)

This will include the evaluation questions, data collection methodologies and techniques, evaluation tools, work plan, stakeholder mapping, outreach and approach, analysis of risks and mitigation measures. The evaluation tools may include questions, or interview schedules to guide the interviews, capture qualitative data and ensure objectivity and consistency in interviews with the stakeholders.

Deliverable 2: Presentation of preliminary findings of the evaluation

At the end of the evaluation, the evaluator will present the findings of the evaluation via video conferencing. The objective of this meeting will be to validate the evaluation findings as per the evaluation questions.

Deliverable 3: Draft report (35-40 pages)

The draft report will be developed and an online presentation will be done to the GNDR. The comments, clarifications and observations will be addressed in the revised version.

Deliverable 4: Final Evaluation report with executive summary, narrative part and specific recommendations (max. 35 pages)

The report and all other outputs must be produced in English. All draft and final report, including the supporting documents, analytical reports and raw data should be produced in electronic version compatible with MS Word for Windows. The report should not be more than 35 pages (excluding annexes). The final report will consist of (a) Executive Summary (b) Introductory part (c) Chapter on Evaluation questions and corresponding

conclusive answers, together with evidence and reasoning (d) Conclusions and (e) the related recommendations.

The final Report will be assessed against the BOND Evidence Principles.

Utilisation of evaluation findings and recommendations

The results of the evaluation will be shared with key stakeholders including members working to implement the project, the donor (EU DEVCO), and GNDR staff amongst others. Recommendations will be used to shape the delivery of activities in the remaining period of the project to ensure maximum impact is achieved.

Experience and Selection Criteria of the Consultant

Essential selection criteria of the consultant are as under:

Criteria	Details
Qualification and skills	1. Technical expertise on qualitative and quantitative research methodologies 2. Knowledge of EU evaluation norms 3. Knowledge about DRR sectors 4. Excellent analytical skills and communication skills
Experience	5. Minimum 10 years of experience in conducting evaluation of bilateral programmes or projects in the UN/EU system 5. Substantial knowledge of global frameworks
Languages	6. Demonstrated excellent writing and communication skills in English. French and/or Spanish is desirable.
Other	7. No previous involvement / engagement in the design and delivery of the project

Duration of the assignment:

Approximately 25 days between the period 1st April'21 and 31 May 2021.

Duration and Number of working days

Tasks	Responsible person/Team	Time frame	Estimated No. of working days for the Consultant
Selection of the Evaluation Consultant	GNDR Global Project lead	20th March 2021	N/A

Contracts based on TOR prepared/signed	GNDR operations team	25th March 2021	N/A
Project Briefing to the Consultant	EU Devco Project Team	1st week April 2021	1 day
Review Project Documentation; prepare and submit draft inception report	Consultant	2nd week April 2021	3 days
Internal Review of the Draft Inception Report	GNDR Global Project team/Policy Lead/Head of Strategy	2nd week April 2021	N/A
Deliverable 1: Submission of Final Inception Report	Consultant	3rd week of April 2021	2 days
Consultations and Interviews with the key stakeholders	Consultant	3th week-4th week of April 2021	7 days
Deliverable 2: Presentation of the Evaluation Findings	Consultant to GNDR Project team/Project lead / Head of Strategy	4th week of April 2021	1 day
Deliverable 3: Submission of the Draft Evaluation Report	Consultant	1st week of May2021	7 days
Comments on the Draft Evaluation Report	GNDR Global Project team/Policy Lead/Head of Strategy	2nd week of May2021	N/A
Deliverable 4: Final Evaluation Report	Consultant	3rd week of May 2021	4 days
Approval of the Final Report	GNDR Global Project Lead	4th week of May 2021	N/A

Total working days : 25 days

Payment Conditions:

25% of contracted fee received on signing the contract

25% on the submission of the Draft Report

50% on the submission and approval of the final report