terms of reference

Mid Term Review of the Vulnerability to Resilience (V2R) Programme, Teknaf implemented by the Bangladesh Red Crescent with the support of the British Red Cross

Summary

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| * **Purpose**: To assess progress, suggest revisions for the remainder of the implementation period and prepare for a possible continuation /expansion beyond the original timeframe and/or communities. * **Purpose of the required consultancy**: Lead data collection with communities in Teknaf and support the finalisation of the review based on findings * **Commissioner**: Gen De Jesus * **Evaluation manager:** Kaustubh Kukde * **Timeframe**: May – August 2021 * **Locations**: Field work in Teknaf Cox’s Bazar, and Dhaka |

# Background

**Programme Timeline:** January 2019 – Dec 2021 with potential extension

**Programme goal:** Communities in Teknaf including locals and dispersed guest households live in harmony, and people have the capacity to meet their basic needs and to deal with risks, enabling them to live in safety

**Overall budget:**1.4 million GBP

**Programme Coverage and Reach:**The programme is implementation in 10 communities in Teknaf, Cox’s bazar district, an area which is exposed to natural disaster and is affected by the arrival of refugees from Myanmar in 2017.  The programme covers approximately 19,675 people.

**Programme overview**

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) in partnership with the British Red Cross (BRC) have been working together to support community resilience through the Vulnerability to Resilience (V2R) programme since 2012. The V2R model has been influenced heavily by the IFRC Framework for Community Resilience, and focuses primarily on DRR and disaster preparedness, livelihoods, and WASH. Thus, the programme takes a multi sectoral approach to building resilience in communities, while safe and inclusive programming acts a cross cutting theme throughout all activities.

In April 2018, BRC commissioned a scoping study, to identify the feasibility of delivering a V2R programme to meet the needs in Cox’s Bazar, responding the influx of 1.1 million people from Rakhine state, Myanmar. The V2R Programme Model has been significantly adapted in order to meet the needs of the population, focusing on host communities with dispersed populations of those displaced from Rakhine.

The focus of the V2R programme is 10 communities in the Teknaf region, targeting 4,000 households in host communities over a three-year period. The programme is implemented by the BDRCS Unit in Cox’s Bazar. Initially, it was intended that the programme’s priority areas of support would fall into four main categories:

* + environment and eco-system restoration, and reducing risks of disasters
  + markets and livelihoods support;
  + health, nutrition and support to schools;
  + Infrastructure to support both hosts and displaced people;
  + mainstreaming protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) throughout the design and implementation of activities.

During the community selection process, considering the challenges to bring host and guest communities on the same platform, it was decided that the project should target only host communities.

**COVID-19 and Adaptions to the programme**

A COVID-19 impact assessment was carried out in May 2020 to highlight the implications of the crisis on the food security and livelihoods of the communities where the V2R Cox’s Bazar programme is implemented. As a result, adaptations were made to ensure the programme can better respond to the needs of the communities being targeted. The focus has shifted and now includes three main pillars:

1. Strengthening and development of income generating activities
2. Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion
3. Epidemic surveillance, prevention and control

The last of these three main pillars is the major difference with the original proposal. With COVID-19 continuing to impact people around the world, it is important to ensure that both volunteers and communities are provided with training and information on epidemic control guidelines. Hence, the programme seeks to prevent the spread of the disease and better prepare people for similar epidemics that may occur in the future.

PGI considerations continue to be mainstreamed amongst livelihood interventions, including prioritising persons or households at risk of harmful coping strategies leading to exploitation, trafficking and early marriage. This is based on the understanding that a loss of livelihoods due to the pandemic could lead to a number of protection risks, such as increases in domestic violence, risky coping strategies including survival sex, early/forced marriage, and increased risk of sexual exploitation and abuse.

# Review purpose and scope

The purpose of the MTR is to consolidate achievements made to date, identify lessons, gaps and opportunities to expand activities. There are two main objectives:

* + To inform the remainder implementation period and suggest any necessary adaptations.
  + To provide recommendations to inform plans for potential expansion of activities and/or communities if funding is secured, beyond the original programme timeline

# Users and uses

The review will be used by BDRCS and BRC staff in Bangladesh, as well as partners and donors, to inform the above-mentioned objectives.

# Approach and methodology

The review approach will be qualitative, including a desk review, primary data collection through key informant interviews (KII) and focus group discussion (FGD), and a workshop with the team in country. The review execution will be done using a hybrid approach; the desk review and selected KII will be done internally by BRC team; FGDs and KII with communities will be done by an external consultant; the report consolidation will be done jointly.

**We are seeking a consultant to lead data collection in Teknaf, including designing tools, collecting primary data, verifying, and consolidating findings.**

# Outputs expected from the consultant

* Design of questionnaires for FGDs and KII based on the desk review and other documentation
* Design of a sampling frame based on programme information
* Primary data collection including FGDs and KII
* Workshop in country to verify emerging findings
* Summary of findings based on emerging themes and according to the questions the review is trying to answer
* Contribution to the final report in coordination with BRC team

# Outputs of the full review include

* Recommendations on adaptation of programme design
* Recommendations on the logframe objectives and indicators /ToC, if applicable
* Recommendations on the management structure
* Recommendations on possible expansion and other plans for BRC in Bangladesh for 2022

***Top line questions***

***D****- Desk review;****DC****-Data collection (could be KII or FGD, remote or in person);****W****- Workshop*

1. What’s been achieved to date? Are all implemented interventions/activities clearly linked to outputs? – **D**
2. Do the ToC and objectives still hold? – **D, DC, W**
3. What is working well what isn’t programmatically, including main and cross cutting sectors. What needs to subsequently change? (keeping in mind Covid19), **D, DC, W**
4. What lessons are there? What can be done differently?**D, DC, W**
5. How was the programme managed vis a vis the proposed management structure in the proposal? **DC**
6. What other adaptations or deviations from the proposal were made, including adaptations for Covid 19. **D, DC, W**
7. What are the unmet needs in surrounding area and/or of existing communities? What are the long-term needs? What’s are added value if we take up additional activities and/or communities? **D, DC, W**
8. Are there opportunities to expand/scale up activities in existing communities or adding new ones? (expanding horizontally-more communities; expanding vertically-more activities) **D, DC, W**
9. Are there opportunities for collaboration with other organisation to meet needs? What are other partners doing? How are we aligning with others or at least to the wider RCRC response in Cox’s Bazar? **D, DC, W**

# Timeframe

* Desk Review: Mid-April to end of May (**completed**)
* Remote KIIs: June
* In country data collection and workshop: July
* Report/Recommendations ready to be shared: Mid August

# Assignment duration: 30 working days starting from 5 July to 31 August 2021

**Tentative schedule for the assignment** - to be agreed with BRC and the consultant at the onset of the assignment

* Desk review, sample and tools design: 5 days
* Data collection: 10-12 days
* Validation workshop: 2 days
* Consolidation and report writing: 8-11 days

# Consultant specification

Required

* Prior experience conducting review, evaluations or research
* Demonstrable skills in producing high quality, accessible reports/outputs
* Considerable technical knowledge and experience in DRR, WASH, Livelihoods and multi sector programmes
* Previous experience in Bangladesh and/or region
* Fluency in written and spoken Bengali and English

**Desirable**

* Knowledge and experience of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement

# Application procedures

We will consider applications from consultancy firms, individual consultants and/or teams of individual consultants.

**Interested parties should submit their applications to** [Hradminbd@redcross.org.uk](mailto:Hradminbd@redcross.org.uk) **by** midnight on **26th June 2021**

Applications must include:

* Curricula Vitae (CV) of all proposed team members
* Cover letter of no more than 2 pages summarising how the consultant/s meet the role specifications, confirmation of availability in the timeframe indicated and budget
* A recent work example (evaluation, research or review)

***We aim to hold interviews before 30th June 2021 and for the successful individual/team to start work by 5 July 2021.***

# Budget

An indicative budget for the consultancy work is **400,000 BDT**

* The budget includes consultancy fees, per diem, and miscellaneous expenses
* Transportation and accommodation will be managed by British Red Cross as per the policy

**Note**: The consultant will have to adhere to the IFRC Code of Conduct and security regulations.

**About us**The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world’s largest humanitarian organisation. The IFRC Country Office in Bangladesh has worked alongside the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) for more than 30 years, including disaster management, with a focus on cyclone early warning and response programme in the coastal belt, and disaster preparedness and response during natural disasters.