

Terms of Reference

Research on identifying the root causes of the intersectional vulnerabilities of gender, climate vulnerability and ethnicity-based discrimination in Bangladesh

Background

Christian Aid has been working in Bangladesh since 1972. We work with 18 local partners in 22 districts across the southern coastal region, north-west, and central flood and 'haor' (wetland) areas. We are recognized for addressing the needs of and strongly advocating for the empowerment of excluded and vulnerable communities including women, adolescent girls, refugees, internally displaced persons, landless, Dalits and other ethnic minorities. This is done through an intersectional lens in some of the most hard-to-reach areas using integrated and multi-sectoral approaches to disaster risk management, climate change, resilient livelihoods, emergency preparedness and response, inclusive market development, gender and social equity. Through our substantial experience work on inclusion and inequality issues in Bangladesh to ensure no one is left behind, we have been able to strengthen the voice, power and influence of socially marginalized groups and individuals to enable them to claim their rights and entitlements.

Christian Aid has been working on the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by 193 UN member states in September 2015. The commitment to these goals are to help ensure those experiencing the worst forms of poverty, exclusion, violence and discrimination receive priority access to the resources and programs being mobilized by the global goals. Within the SDGs, the principles of 'Leave No One Behind' and 'Close the Gap' (addressing inequality) are central for evaluation the implementation of the goals. This is because across countries, women and girls, people in rural areas, indigenous peoples, ethnic and linguistic minorities, people with disabilities, migrants, gender and sexual minorities, youth and older persons are disproportionately among the left behind. In all societies, the furthest behind tend to endure multiple and intersecting disadvantages. With little social mobility and stark inequalities conspire to entrench and perpetuate the disadvantages and deprivations that leave people behind, within and between countries. In light of this, Christian Aid has been focusing on the Leave No One Behind agenda to build on Christian Aid's overall gender and inequality programming in Bangladesh to reach the most marginalized communities.

Purpose and background of the work:

Christian Aid is looking for experienced consultant/s and/or consultancy organization to conduct a study to enhance the evidence of how gender inequalities, climate risks and ethnicity-based discrimination intersect to produce specific vulnerabilities that leave them behind in the wider range of development outcomes. The consultant/s and/or consultancy organization will work as a knowledge partner and will play a key role in bringing credibility into the study and the dissemination of the results for wider social and policy impact. The consultant/s and/or consultancy organization will work closely with Christian Aid's team.

Research overview

The research methodology will be developed to assess the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the intersection of gender inequalities, climate risks and ethnicity-based discrimination that produce specific vulnerabilities, the extent of their deprivations from their rights. The research will use a mixed-methods design in that both qualitative and quantitative data will be collected from the participants.

Process:

Broadly, we expect the assignment to include:

- Conduct a secondary research to identify communities left behind in the wider range of development outcomes in Bangladesh due to the intersection of gender inequalities, climate vulnerability and ethnicity-based discrimination. The researcher will propose the geographical locations in terms of who is being left behind based on the intersection of gender inequalities, climate vulnerabilities and ethnicity-based discrimination.
- Participate in a Pre-Survey Consultation with Christian Aid to identify the different factors that the survey will cover which will determine the areas of queries.
- In collaboration with Christian Aid, lead the survey process and finalize the survey questionnaire, sample size, etc.
- In collaboration with Christian Aid, set the criteria for data collectors and selection process, develop the research tools, quality control techniques and train the data collectors.
- Pre-test the survey format and make any necessary adjustments and then conduct the survey.
- Regularly monitor the survey work to ensure timeliness and data checking by the research team.
- Prepare draft of reports to present to Christian Aid and finalize based on comments received.
- Based on the secondary research and survey report, prepare the gap analysis report.
- Following the completion of the survey and gaps analysis, attend the workshop with key stakeholders in order to present the findings of the survey.
- Along with Christian Aid, participate in post-workshop discussions on follow-up advocacy plans.

Deliverables:

The deliverables will clearly depend on which approach is used and the timeframe is to be negotiated and approved by Christian Aid – but the required outputs of the consultancy are expected to be as follows:

- An inception report (maximum five pages) outlining the proposed approach/methodology and execution programme/timetable. This document should be submitted for review and approval by Christian Aid five days after the signature of the contract and before commencement of the work.
- Data collect tools should be submitted for review and approval by Christian Aid.
- Electronic versions of the draft secondary research should be submitted to Christian Aid. Based on comments from Christian Aid, the final report should be revised and submitted.
- Electronic versions of the draft survey should be submitted to Christian Aid. Based on comments from Christian Aid, the final report (print and electronic versions) should be revised and submitted.
- Electronic versions of the draft gap analysis should be submitted to Christian Aid. Based on comments from Christian Aid, the final report should be revised and submitted.
- A presentation based on the findings of the survey and gap analysis to be prepared and presented at a national level dissemination and dialogue workshop.
- All notes, data, audio, video collected from field.

Indicative time frame:

The work will be carried out over 3.5 months after the signing of the contract starting from June 1, 2019.

Competency Required:

Qualification and Experiences

- Professionals or experts having excellent technical knowledge on social exclusion, gender and climate vulnerabilities.
- Significant professional background and experience in conducting studies with mixed methods (quantitative & qualitative) s
- Previous experience in conducting similar work for international agencies will be preferred.
- Relevant academic background (Doctorate Degree preferred).
- Excellent analytical, interpersonal, communication and reporting skills.
- Excellent written and spoken English.
- Knowledge and understanding of social exclusion, gender and climate vulnerabilities as well as approaches to development including recent thinking in this area.

Knowledge and Skill

- Experience on conducting similar studies.
- Quantitative and qualitative data analysis.
- Understanding of empowerment and advocacy approaches in development.

How to apply:

Interested individuals are requested to submit their technical proposal (this should include methodology including data quality control mechanism and ethical issues, work plan, financial proposal, TIN certificate/VAT registration (if application), CV, references and one sample of previous work related to this assignment on or before May 18, 2019 via email to dhakarecruitment@christian-aid.org with the subject line “LNOB research.” Shortlisted applicants will be invited for a presentation and discussion.

How we will make the decision:

Criteria	Weighting
Understanding of ToR/proposed approach	50%
Experience and skills of consultant/ organisation	30%
Cost	20%

Outline of the Technical Proposal:

It is mandatory that the proposal should have the following:

Title of the survey
Understanding of the ToR and the task to be accomplished
Methodology (state detail about the sampling design and strategy, data collection systems/ techniques/methods, data processing & analysis, data quality)
Operational plan
Proposed team with names and CV

Outline of the Financial Proposal:

The budget of the task should be broken down in details as like the following format:

Consultancy fees
Questionnaire development cost
Data collection, processing and analysis costs
Reporting costs

Confidentiality:

The consultant will not, either during the term of this agreement or thereafter, except in the proper course of his duties, disclose any information concerning of any affairs of the assignment, which may come to his knowledge during the course of time. This restriction shall continue to apply after the termination of his agreement without limit in point of time but shall cease to apply to information or knowledge, which may come to the public domain otherwise than because of disclosure by the Consultant. All documentation related to the assignment (whether or not in the course of the evaluator's duties) shall remain the sole and exclusive property Christian Aid.

Terms and Conditions:

- The contract money will be provided through account payee cheque after the acceptance of final deliverables.
- VAT and Tax will be deducted as per the government policy.
- The Christian Aid reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal without giving any verbal and /or written rationale.
- This assignment shall be undertaken in full consultation with Christian Aid.