



# Terms of reference for the mid-term evaluation of the Muungano Gender Forum project

## Background

The International Solidarity Foundation (ISF) is a Finnish development organization, founded in 1970. It has a vision to be an organization with a leading role in the empowerment of women and girls in East Africa by 2030. It envisions a world where women and girls are empowered to build their own future, their self-determination is fully realised, and their right to bodily integrity respected.

The goal of ISF's 2022 – 2025 programme is to strengthen the bodily integrity and livelihood resilience of women and girls in Kenya, Somaliland, Puntland, and Ethiopia. It has five expected outcomes:

- Judicial and moral duty bearers take action to mitigate violence against women and girls
- Women and girls collectively claim their rights
- Women's sphere of influence has expanded
- Women benefit from services and networks that support livelihood reform
- Improved capacity of farm systems to mitigate and adapt to climate change

The programme consists of development projects that are implemented by local partners. Partners are local civil society actors such as NGOs, community-based organizations, and women's own businesses. ISF's operating model is designed to strengthen local civil societies by empowering women and their organizations, capacitating judicial and moral duty bearers, and strengthening local CSOs.



Muungano Gender Forum (MGF) project is an exception to this model as it is implemented by ISF directly. It is a multisectoral platform for discussing women's rights in Kisii and Nyamira counties. During the first project phase 2018-2021, the project mainly targeted duty bearers, while also grassroots sessions were piloted. In the second phase (2022-25), the focus is on the weekly grassroots forums organized within the same locations where ISF implementing partners operate. Regular cooperation with Kisii and Nyamira County Governments and Gender Sector Coordination Groups continues to enhance coordination among state and non-state actors in effectively addressing gender inequality and social exclusion of women. The project result chain follows as presented below:

**GOAL (IMPACT): Prevalence of SGBV in Nyamira and Kisii is reduced**

OUTCOME 1 Increased level of trust between community members, chiefs, and police

- Output 1.1 Chiefs offer victim-sensitive services that responds to the needs of GBV and FGM victims
- Output 1.2 The chiefs follow the national guidelines on SGBV laws.
- Output 1.3 Community members have trust to the Pasha App and the GBV Toll Free numbers

OUTCOME 2 Increased dialogues on SGBV at family and community level.

- Output 2.1 Women and girls safely share the SGBV incidents happening in their families and the community at large.
- Output 2.2 Families adopt non-violent domestic conflict resolution methods
- Output 2.3 Community understands medical services for SGBV survivors.

OUTCOME 3 Community members are aware of the importance of women generating income.



- Output 3.1 Community members are aware of the links between women's economic role and SGBV
- Output 3.2 Women have confidence to develop their livelihoods

OUTCOME 4 Relevant people arrive to MGF rural sessions

- Output 4.1 MGF reaches out to community members

OUTCOME 5 MGF has recognized role in promoting gender equality Kisii and Nyamira Counties.

- Output 5.1 All relevant stakeholders in Kisii and Nyamira are familiarised with each project working in the area.

### **Purpose and scope of the evaluation**

The overall purpose of the evaluation is to assess the implementation strategies applied in the project during the first half (2022-23) of the ongoing project, in order to inform the planning for remaining project period (2024-25).

Aligned with the OECD DAC criteria<sup>1</sup>, the more specific purpose of the evaluation is to assess:

- Relevance: Is the intervention doing the right things?
- Coherence: How well does the intervention fit?
- Effectiveness: Is the intervention achieving its objectives?
- Efficiency: How well are resources being used?
- Impact: What difference does the intervention make?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.htm>



- Sustainability: Will the benefits last?

The following key questions will guide the project evaluation:

### **Relevance**

- To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of the beneficiaries?

### **Coherence**

- Synergies and interlinkages between the intervention and other interventions carried out by the same institution/government, as well as the consistency of the intervention with the relevant international norms and standards to which that institution/government adheres (internal coherence)
- The consistency of the intervention with other actors' interventions in the same context, including complementarity, harmonisation and co-ordination with others, and the extent to which the intervention is adding value while avoiding duplication of effort (external coherence).

### **Effectiveness**

- How well have the applied approaches (grassroot forum sessions and advocacy with the counties) and their practical means of implementation contributed to the achievement of the expected results (outcomes)?
- What other approaches could (strategies and tools) produce better results?

### **Efficiency**

- Is the use of human and economic resources efficient in relation to the project's achievements?



- Are the communication methods efficient? What kind of communication methods and channels could be used to make the project more efficient?
- Is collaboration with key stakeholders efficient and mutually satisfying?
- Are there actors and/or institutions whose engagement could improve the efficiency of the project?
- To what extent is the steering committee represented from Kisii and Nyamira and the relevant to the project.

### **Impact**

- Are the applied strategies and activities reaching (all) relevant actors?
- Have the project interventions led to some unintended (positive or negative) outcomes?
- What kind of strategies and activities should be undertaken to strengthen the project impact?

### **Sustainability**

- What kind of strategies should be undertaken to strengthen the sustainability?

### **Methodology of the evaluation**

The evaluation should collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data through the following methods:

- Desk study and review of all relevant project documentation including project documents, annual work-plans, quarterly and annual project reports, reports of the project steering committee
- Key informant in-depth interviews (KII) to gather primary data from key stakeholders
- Focus group discussions (FGD) with project beneficiaries and other stakeholders.



- Observations during grassroots forum sessions

The stakeholders that should be consulted within this consultancy shall include but not be restricted to:

- Project beneficiaries (men, women, youth)
- County Stakeholders – Health Gender, Gender Department and Agriculture
- Local administration
- CSOs in Kisii and Nyamira (including ISF implementing partners)
- Religious and community leaders

### **Timing, duration and expected deliverables of the evaluation**

The evaluation is expected to start in **15<sup>th</sup> January 2024** for an estimated duration of 20 working days. This will include

- desk review and submission of inception report
- forum visit(s) and data collection
- data analysis and evaluation report writing
- workshop to validate initial evaluation findings
- submission of the final report

Based on the project documentation, the consultant shall submit an **inception report** to ISF no later than **19<sup>th</sup> January 2024**. The inception report serves as an agreement between parties on how the evaluation will be conducted, covering the following items:

- Research methodology, including data collection tools (e.g. FGD and KII questions), suggested target groups and sample sizes, and ethical considerations
- Proposal for a learning event to validation of evaluation findings.
- Schedule of the evaluation activities incl. travelling (timeline)
- Detailed budget



The first draft of the **evaluation report** should be sent for comments to ISF no later than **15<sup>th</sup> February 2024**. The **final evaluation report**, which incorporates the ISF comments and suggestions done to the draft report, should be submitted to ISF no later than **23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024**.

### **Qualifications of the consultant**

The profile of the individual consultants needs to meet the qualification requirements below:

- University degree in development/humanitarian action or social science
- Extensive (more than 7 years) working experience in relevant fields, preferably with gender issues
- More than 5 years of experience in research and/or project development/management and review
- Experience of working with international organizations
- Evidence of quality outputs from previous assignments
- Fluent English
- Good qualitative and quantitative analytical skills
- Good reporting and presenting skills
- Punctuality and availability to complete the work on time

### **How to apply and selection process**

Requested information:

- qualification of the consultant (CV)
- a draft consultancy plan (1-2 pages) including a short description on what methods and the duration of the consultancy (number of days)
- cost of the tender: facilitation fee/ day, other costs

ISF will choose the consultant in according to a) the professional capacity of the consultant, b) the quality and content of the tender, c) the cost of the



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tender. The selection of the consultant will be done by ISF. Only the selected candidate will be notified of the results of the selection process.

The tender must be submitted by **8<sup>th</sup> December 2024** to [isfkenya@solidaarisuus.fi](mailto:isfkenya@solidaarisuus.fi)