

Call for Proposals

For over 90 years, Save the Children has been making a difference in children's lives in more than 120 countries. We are the world's largest independent child rights organisation, underpinned by a vision in a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation. Our mission to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children, and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

Save the Children is an organization for talented people with different backgrounds and perspectives. We are proud that our people are representative of the children we work with and we thrive on our diversity. We are an equal opportunity organisation dedicated to our core values of Accountability, Ambition, Collaboration, Creativity and Integrity. Our culture is embedded in these values, along with a strong commitment to our Child Safeguarding Protocol, ensuring that all representatives of Save the Children demonstrate the highest standards of behaviour towards children both in their private and professional lives.

The East African Regional Office is responsible for 8 countries in East Africa, including Kenya, Somalia, Uganda, Rwanda, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania and Ethiopia, with a current staff complement of approximately 3500 staff, and current expenditure of approximately \$200 million each year.

Save the Children is currently looking for a consultant for the following consultancy:

Title: Consultant for Final Evaluation of the project “*Giving children in Rwanda a positive start in life*” funded by JOAC

Consultancy Objectives:

Save the Children Rwanda is commissioning a consultant to:

- a) evaluate the achievement of specific objectives and expected results of the project;
- b) evaluate the Quality Learning Environment (QLE) of the support ECCD centres based on Save the Children ECCD QLE tool and
- c) document the best practices and lessons learnt of the project

Project description:

- I. Improve access to quality early childhood care, education and protection for 400 children aged 3-6.**
 - Rehabilitate four ECCD centres, including latrines, and a kitchen to make children their morning porridge.
 - Provide four ECCD centres with child friendly furniture, playground equipment and learning materials such as toys and stationary.
 - Train eight teachers in the national ECCD curriculum, positive discipline techniques and child care practices, encouraging them to sensitise parents and older siblings on these practices.
 - Train members of four parent committees (made up of seven parents from each ECCD centre) to manage their local schools, help appoint teachers, define priorities for school improvement and run income generating activities to address this need.
 - Lobby government to increase their budget to support the running costs of ECCD centres and include ECCD in performance contracts of local authorities.

2. **Improve access and quality of health services for children from age 0-6, as well as women of reproductive age, focusing specifically on the children enrolled in the ECCD centres.**
 - Construct three health outposts located near the four ECCD centres. Each health outpost will have four rooms and have hygiene facilities, such as sinks and showers with clean running water.
 - Equip three health outposts with basic medical equipment, delivery tables and solar panels for 24 hour electricity.
3. **Build the capacity of health workers to provide quality health services to children from age 0-6 and mothers of reproductive age, focusing specifically on the children enrolled in the ECCD centres.**
 - Provide training to 10 nurses on Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI), an effective way of keeping young children healthy. Four nurses will work in the three health outposts being constructed, and six will work in existing government run health facilities. Health outposts provide basic outpatient services such as immunisation, nutrition and mineral supplements. A child or mother who needs treatment for a severe condition will be referred to the government health facility.
 - Provide training to 50 community health workers to visit the ECCD centres and the surrounding communities on a daily basis. They will screen children for malnutrition and communicable diseases, providing them with immunisation, nutrition and mineral supplements. They will also identify pregnant and delivering women. If a child, pregnant or delivering woman needs a referral to a health outpost or facility, the community health worker will accompany them. They will also provide mothers dropping off their children at the ECCD centres with health education every morning.

Anticipated project outcomes and benefits

By the end of 2013 in Rugengabali Sector, Burera District:

- 1) Children aged 3-6 have access to improved early childhood care, education and protection services,
- 2) Children and mothers of reproductive age including children from the ECCD centres have access to quality health services and;
- 3) Health workers provide quality health services to children and women of reproductive age.

Project Location: Rwanda, Northern Province, Burera District, Rugengabali Sector

Direct beneficiaries: 15,000 children from 0-6 living in Rugengabali Sector, Burera District, including 400 children enrolled in ECCD centres; 1,200 of their parents and siblings, 24 teaching professionals and 60 health workers.

Indirect beneficiaries: 45,000 people living in three Sectors in Burera District

Methodology and evaluation criteria:

The consultant shall ensure that the key principles of child safeguarding, participation and a rights based approach are used throughout the evaluation process¹. Data collection will follow Save the Children International ethical standards and be inclusive and participatory, involving children, parents, community members, local and national Government authorities through FGDs with parents, individual interviews, eliciting children's views through child participatory tools, Save the Children QLE questionnaires, best practices/lessons learnt review among Save the Children team.

¹ Refer to Save the Children International Evaluation Handbook

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The project needs to be assessed ensuring that the following criteria are taken into consideration:

- ✓ Impact
- ✓ Effectiveness
- ✓ Sustainability
- ✓ Relevance
- ✓ Efficiency
- ✓ Value for money analysis

The evaluation will be a quantitative and qualitative one. The final details of the evaluation methodology, including qualitative and quantitative data collection methods will be defined with the consultant.

Outputs

- Inception report, by day 2 of the consultancy (maximum 4 pages)
 - Tools for data collection by day 3 of the consultancy;
 - Draft of evaluation report by day 12 of the consultancy;
 - Final report by day 15 of the consultancy (maximum 15 pages)
- The datasets should be shared with Save the Children Rwanda once the final report is approved.

Documents provided to the consultant

The following project documents will be provided to the consultant for review: ECCD and child/maternal health country specific information (policies, strategies, curricula etc.), JOAC project proposal and budget, JOAC mid-term report, Save the Children 'Laying the Foundations' advocacy paper; Save the Children EU-funded ECCD programme final evaluation report; Save the Children Quality Learning Environment Tool, SC Children Participation Practice Standards, and SC Evaluation Handbook.

Format of the final evaluation report

- Table of Contents and Acronym list
- Summary of key findings
- Context
- Project Background
- Evaluation Methodology, key stakeholders, sampling strategy and size, and locations
- Findings (qualitative and quantitative)
- Best practices and lessons learnt from the project
- Recommendations and action plan
- Annexes: schedule, list of people involved in evaluation activities, tools protocols, ToRs and list of documents reviewed, logframe.

Essential competencies of the consultant:

- Senior experience in conducting participatory baselines, researches and/or evaluations in the field of Health and/or Early Childhood Care and Development;
- Excellent spoken and written English;
- Experience with quantitative and qualitative methodologies;
- Experience involving children in evaluation activities;
- Being currently based in Rwanda

Desirable

- Experience in both the health and ECCD sector;
- Familiarity with Save the Children 'Quality learning Environments' tool

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Terms and conditions

The estimated number of days for finalizing the evaluation design and preparation, undertaking the literature review, conducting the field work, data inputting and analysis, writing of the report and development of the monitoring tools are 15 working days.

Timeframe

The consultancy will be conducted during the second half of January 2014 when ECCD centres re-open after the 2 month school vacation.

Applications

Interested applicants are kindly requested to submit a proposals (not exceeding 2 pages excluded annexes) highlighting applicants' previous experience in conducting similar evaluations, proposed methodology to produce the expected objectives, two references and proposed lump sum for the whole consultancy.

Attach CV in the annex.

Proposals and proposed budgets are to be sent by 20th February 2014 to HR-Rwanda@savethechildren.org