

**Multi-Sectoral Action for Nutrition (MSAN)**  
**Project (P158769)**  
**Terms of Reference**  
Impact Evaluation

**BACKGROUND**

To help reverse the increase in stunting, the Government of Sindh has approved an Inter-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy of Sindh (INSS) in 2013. Multi-Sectoral Action for Nutrition (MSAN) (P158769) MSAN activities will focus not only on specific investments to improve behavior around the key areas of sanitation, hygiene and food consumption, but it will also support institutional and implementation arrangements that incentivize cross-sectoral collaboration to achieve nutrition results.

**OBJECTIVE OF THE EVALUATION**

The objective of the impact evaluation is to inform the project development objective and establish benchmarks on the beneficiaries' behavioral change to achieve open defecation-free villages and to produce nutritious food for consumption through homestead gardening practices and livestock, as well as to achieve increased knowledge of food and nutrition at the household.

**SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION**

The Impact Evaluation firm will be hired for a period of initially 18-months subject to extension of further period until the end of the project, based on the requirement and performance. The firm will be responsible for overseeing all key evaluation activities at baseline and endline – collecting and analyzing data on open defecation and hygiene and sanitation, as well as on dietary diversity in terms of number of food groups consumed at the household level, with a focus on females of child bearing age and on children 6-23.9 months of age in the following project districts in the Province of Sindh:

1. Jacobabad
2. Kashmore
3. Kamber-Shahdadkot
4. Larkana
5. Tharparkar
6. Badin
7. Sangar
8. Tando Muhammad Khan
9. Umerkot
10. Shikarpur
11. Dadu
12. Thatta
13. Sujawal

Specifically, the Impact Evaluation firm will:

- Carry out a comprehensive baseline survey to determine the consumption of food groups, of dietary diversity, and of open defecation and handwashing habits of the targeted beneficiaries by gender and age;
- Carry out a qualitative assessment on behavioral changes in nutrition, feeding, and hygiene practices of females of child bearing age, lactating mothers, and children 6-23.9 months of age, through focus group discussions, to solicit feedback on the challenges they face, their view on solutions and coping mechanisms, culture conflict issues, and generational/gender gap issues, as well as feedback on the awareness raising on nutrition and healthy diet and on behavior change for improved hygiene;
- Monitor quantitatively as well as qualitatively the outputs, outcomes, and development impacts of the activities on behavioral changes, tracking new and improved nutritional levels, tracking key success factors, and documenting lessons learned and project performance indicators;
- Carry out an independent evaluation in the end of the project period<sup>1</sup> to learn the impacts of the project on its beneficiaries and to assess how much of the project goals were achieved. The evaluation will also provide insights to better design multi-sectoral action for nutrition projects in Sindh with improved performance and maximum project benefits.

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The Baseline Survey will be prepared through collection of primary data on the pre-intervention situation that can inform project planning and establish benchmarks for the endline survey. These in turn will be used to assess the impact and outcomes of the project during project monitoring and evaluation, and to compare baseline data with endline data to identify the effectiveness and impact of the project two components Saaf Suthro Sindh & Agriculture for Nutrition A4N (Agriculture/Livestock/Fisheries).

The project focuses on behavior change through Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) which is essential for improved use and functionality of water, sanitation and hygiene services and facilities, hence contributing to reduction of diarrhea and other water borne diseases. The Baseline Survey will collect and analyze appropriate data on knowledge, attitudes, and practices of water and sanitation coverage, with a suitable sample size of the households in 5200 villages (400 villages per district) of all thirteen selected districts. The baseline design must incorporate methods for sampling, data collection, data checking, and cleaning, recording, collating and analysis. Data about all performance questions, indicators and/or variables shall be included.

In Agriculture for Nutrition A4N (Agriculture/Livestock/Fisheries) data will be collected on the change in consumption patterns in target households (female of child bearing age and children 6-23.9 months of age) by measuring the average number of food groups consumed on a regular

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<sup>1</sup> Given the short period of the project (3 years), a mid-term survey will not add much value to the M&E system in tracking progress towards the goals of the project.

basis, e.g. 1) grains, white roots and tubers, and plantains; 2) pulses (beans, peas, and lentils); 3) nuts and seeds; 4) dairy; 5) meat, poultry, and fish; 6) eggs; 7) dark green leafy vegetables; 8) other vitamin-A rich fruits and vegetables; 9) other vegetables; and, 10) other fruits. This data will collect from 20 UCs in 4 districts, namely Tharparker, Umerkot, Sanghar, and Jacobabad.

The Impact Evaluation firm will ensure that the Baseline Survey is aligned to the MSAN documents and results framework. This includes ensuring the survey requirements described are developed and conducted in a timely manner that represents the true feedback and views and recommendations of the key stakeholders and target communities. This survey will entail communication with key stakeholders including; the PIU project staff at all tiers, the core project partners (i.e. NGOs implementing the program at district level), and particularly the direct/indirect beneficiaries from the selected villages of the thirteen target districts.

## **SPECIFIC TASKS**

The Impact Evaluation firm will be responsible for:

1. Collecting and analyzing demographic data on the target beneficiaries, particularly relevant to the project areas envisaged in the project documents;
2. Ensuring that respondents are representative of age, gender, and all other vulnerabilities among the beneficiaries;
3. Ensuring that the data collected is representative of the project objectives with regard to water and sanitation and hygiene status [open defecation situation, safe drinking water, basic water, sanitation (including animal waste) and hygiene related diseases such as diarrhea and malaria, latrine types and technologies used, hand washing and hygiene practices, water availability (access) and quality of services] as well as of dietary diversity and food consumption patterns [1) grains, white roots and tubers, and plantains; 2) pulses (beans, peas, and lentils); 3) nuts and seeds; 4) dairy; 5) meat, poultry, and fish; 6) eggs; 7) dark green leafy vegetables; 8) other vitamin-A rich fruits and vegetables; 9) other vegetables; and, 10) other fruits] of target beneficiaries (as per agreed and acceptable households sample size) in project areas. The survey should also provide gender analysis in relevance to WASH and Agriculture for Nutrition A4N (Agriculture/Livestock/Fisheries) in the target districts and specific analysis on knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) information about disability and inclusion;
4. The firm will be required to consult with the Project Director of Saaf Suthro Sindh and the Agriculture for Nutrition A4N (Agriculture/Livestock/Fisheries) Program on each step of the survey/study for its concurrence, such as at the stage of conceptual framework, sampling criteria, methods of data collection, tools/instruments used for comprehension, data cleaning, identification and training of the enumerators, quality control and supervision, software/hardware plan, general work plan, checklist and coverage plan, and the results of the study/survey plan;
5. Sharing the draft and final questionnaire for comments and feedback with the PIU's team, and in ensuring that the inputs and feedback are incorporated in the final questionnaire to

be used for data collection. The final questionnaire must be pre-tested, detailing all proposed changes, and must be submitted to the provincial PIU -1 and PIU-2;

6. Ensuring the proper training of enumerators on the final questionnaire to safeguard that all enumerators have the same understanding of each question. The enumerators will conduct “mock-interviews” before conducting the actual data collection;
7. The firm shall present a monitoring plan during data collection for quality assurance, while also facilitate the monitoring teams from both the PIU and district during field data collection.

### **CONTRACT DURATION**

The Impact Evaluation firm will be hired for a period of initially 18-months subject to extension of further period until the end of the project, based on the requirement and performance. The Baseline Survey process will begin in Q2 2019 with the pretesting of the draft survey questionnaire. It is expected that firm will complete the Baseline Survey within 3 months (12 weeks) upon signing the contract. The firm shall follow the project time-line. Any revision in the timeline, if required, can only be done in consultation and subject to the approval of Project Director of Saaf Suthro Sindh and Agriculture for Nutrition (A4N) Program.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

1. **General experience:** at least 7 years of institutional experience in undertaking impact evaluations – experience with World Bank projects is an asset;;
2. **Relevant experience:** have completed at least 2 impact evaluations on projects related to WASH/Agriculture/Nutrition;
3. **Firm’s Capacity (Research):** Should submit at least 2 Research Survey Tools already utilized for conducting impact evaluation on projects related to WASH/Agriculture/Nutrition.
4. **Firm’s Capacity (Financial capacity):** financial turnover of 40 Million rupees in the last five years. Audited Financial Statement of five years.

### **SELECTION METHOD:**

Consultant Firm will be selected in accordance with process stipulated in Section III – 3.6 Least-Cost Selection (LCS) of “Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers (January 2011) [Revised July 2014]. In order to ensure that contract is awarded on basis of an appropriate balance in cost and quality, the minimum qualifying score shall be 80.