

**Terms of Reference (TORs) for Conducting Mid-term Learning Documentation under the project:
Increasing Access to Inclusive Quality Education and Lifelong Learning for the Children and Young Adults
with Deafblindness in Bangladesh**

Implemented by –Center for Disability in Development (CDD)

Funded By- UKAM

In association with- Sense International (SI) UK and Sense International India (SII)

Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) is a development organisation working on disability issues focusing on integrating disability in mainstream development since 1996. CDD with the technical support of Sense International (SI) & Sense International India (SII) funded by UKAid is implementing a project named “Increasing Access to Inclusive Quality Education and Lifelong Learning for the Children and Young Adults with Deafblindness in Bangladesh” in partnership with Center for Disability in Development (CDD) Bangladesh, Dhaka (National resource Center on Deafblindness- NRCDB) and Gazipur; Poverty Alleviation through Participatory Rural Initiatives (PAPRI), Narshingdi; Center for Services and Information on Disability (CSID), Keraniganj; Dhaka, Dristy Sangstha (DS), Rangpur; Gram Bikash Sangstha (GBS), Bogura; Kamarkhand Palli Unnayan Sangstha (KPUS), Sirajganj; Manobadhikar Janakallyan Foundation (MJF), Satkhira; Jhikargacha Development Organisation (JDO), Jashore districts.

Sense International (SI)

SI is a leading global charity, supporting persons with deafblindness in Bangladesh, India, Kenya, Nepal, Peru, Romania, Tanzania, Uganda. Despite being fairly small organisation SI has been providing support and services to people with deafblindness over 20 years.

Sense International India (SII)

SII is a charity organisation, support and advocate for better services for children and adults with deafblindness across India and partners with NGOs and the government to provide them with care and education.

Project Brief

The project “Increasing Access to Inclusive Quality Education and Lifelong Learning for the Children and Young Adults with Deafblindness in Bangladesh” aims to create a model on meaningful inclusion of persons with deafblindness. The aim is for all children and young adults with deafblindness to be included in appropriate quality education and lifelong learning, by demonstrating a workable approach and aiding government with the implementation of its policies for people with disabilities. The wider impact will be children and young adults with disabilities accessing education and experiencing social and economic inclusion in Bangladesh, contributing primarily to SDGs 1, 4, and 10. The project outcome is 450 children and young adults (225 female; 225 male) with deafblindness accessing quality inclusive education and lifelong learning, leading to improved quality of life for themselves and 1,800 family members. Poverty will be reduced, recognising the range of factors that contribute to poverty as defined below:

“Absolute poverty is a condition characterized by severe deprivation of basic human needs, including food, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education and information. It depends not only on income but also on access to social services” (Copenhagen Declaration, World Summit for Social Development, 1995). With reference to this broader definition, the project will have a wide impact on

poverty. Non-economic aspects of poverty reduction involve basic needs being met and inclusion. Economic aspects relate to long-term benefits of education, skills development, IGA and access to government provisions, led by Local Government Institutions, service providers and communities through the combined efforts of people with disabilities themselves, their families, organisations and communities, and the relevant governmental and non-governmental organisations and service providers.

Overall Objective of the Project

People with deafblindness and their families have improved health, education, skill, livelihood and influence in communities where community based rehabilitation is applied as a strategy within community development process.

Specific Objectives of the Project

Increased access to-

- Inclusive Quality education,
- Lifelong learning,
- Participation in mainstream development process
- Inclusion in socio-economic development opportunities,
- Services of local government institutions, service providers, communities and families for the people with deafblindness.

Project Impact

People with disabilities access quality education and life-long learning and experience social and economic inclusion, contributing primarily to SDGs 1, 4 and 10.

Project Outcome

Children and young adults with deafblindness access quality inclusive education and life-long learning, leading to improved quality of life for themselves and their families.

Project Outputs (Log-frame with detailed indicators will be shared with evaluator)

Output 1:

Improved infrastructure for the inclusion of persons with deafblindness through strengthened CSOs, National Resource Centre on Deafblindness (NRC-DB) and one new Regional Resource Centre (RRC).

Output 2:

450 children and young adults with deafblindness and their families receive community-based support.

Output 3:

80 children and young adults with deafblindness receive quality inclusive education in school-based settings (with two of these schools as model schools in urban and rural areas); (Narsingdhi and Jessore).

Output 4:

Evidence and training is provided to the Government of Bangladesh to support plans on how to include people with deafblindness in education, vocational training and community services.

Project Duration

The duration of the project is four years from 1st April 2018–31st March 2021.

Scope of Work

This mid-term learning review is to be conducted within the target areas of 4 districts, 10 sub districts which includes persons with deafblindness and their family members, community people, civil society representatives, elected representatives of local government institutions, representatives of different government service providers and other stakeholders of the project. The information will be collected, analysed and a document will be generated in English subtitle which will be shared to partners and SI and SII for consultation before it is finalized.

Objectives of the Mid Term Project Learning

- To produce report on good practices and learnings of the intervention with a particular focus on
 - a) whether the project is gender sensitive in its approach, and what could be done to ensure increased gender sensitivity
 - b) whether the project is effectively capturing and responding to beneficiary and stakeholder feedback and what could be done to improve this.
- Capture complete change process through identifying elements behind the changes;
- To showcase process of changes made at individual, family, community, organisation and institutional level and identify key factors that have brought about this change;
- To amplify field level success to national level.

Mid-Term Project learning Documentation Step

Following steps will be followed:

- Signing of contract;
- Providing all relevant project documents to consultancy firm
- A one-day briefing meeting;
- Field visit and collection of data
- Data management and analysis
- Preparing draft report
- Submission of the draft report to CDD. 1-day sharing draft and collecting inputs from CDD; Feedback is to be provided within four working days;
- Finalisation and submission of the report and presentation of findings

Assigned Tasks

The mid-year learning review entails following assignments-

- Review project documents, baseline and other reports, success stories, good practices, observation reports;
- Prepare tools and key questions for data collection in consultation with CDD team.
- Consultation with persons with deafblindness, their families, SMC members and school teachers, partners, deafblind field educators, UP members local government administrative representatives and other stakeholders
- Project implementation team consultation;
- Explore & identify good practices, changes happened and elements behind the changes;

- At least 04 project locations (out of 9 locations) visits and collect data within the contexts;
- Identify changes in individual level, family, community and in policy level and why and the change happened;
- Prepare draft document and submit to CDD;
- Incorporate feedback and finalize the report
- Final submission of report and presentation to CDD management

Methodology

Main reference documents:

- Project proposal (including log-frame and budget)
- Year 1, Annual Project Reports (narrative and financials including feedback and responses)
- Quarterly Progress reports submitted to Sense International and Mannion Daniels (fund manager)
- Baseline (situational analysis) report

Evaluation techniques and research methods:

A people-centred approach in conducting this evaluation is required, in compliance with CDD's values and policy. As significant participation of the stakeholders is built into the project, a broad range of methods should be used to maximize stakeholder participation and establish the success of the key elements of the project. This will include structured and semi-structured interviews, focus groups and participatory workshops (to include project partners). At the start of the evaluation process, the project staff will hold a briefing session (in-person or by phone) with the evaluator to agree the overall evaluation methodology and discuss key issues to be addressed. Consultation should cover the following groups (ensuring gender safe spaces when speaking to people with deafblindness and their family members):

- People with deafblindness and family members
- Teachers and educators
- Parents and professionals
- Government administrators/ officials where appropriate
- Local partners from 9 locations
- CDD (Bangladesh) representatives and the NRC team
- SII representatives
- SI UK representatives

Due to the nature of the evaluation process, travel for consultations is required and the evaluator should plan adequate visits meticulously with appropriate methods to collect and analyse the relevant information.

Logical Framework Review: In accordance with the project proposal, the logical framework and approaches of the project will provide the primary reference point for the evaluation.

Timeline- guideline

In writing the evaluation report, the evaluator should build in time for feedback on the draft evaluation report.

- January 2020: Call for Expressions of Interest circulated
- 5th February 2020: Deadline for Expressions of Interest at 12:00AM (see details below)
- 9th February 2020: Evaluator selected (then contract prepared)
- February (approx. 4 days) – documentation and pre-reading shared with consultant evaluator, preliminary phone call scheduled
- February 2020 (approx. 20 days) – field visits to project partners in Bangladesh (including data collection and analysis) (to include visits to at least 4 out of 10 partners and calls with all other partners)
- February and/or March 2020 (approx. 5 days) report writing.
- 15th March 2020 –deadline for draft evaluation report
- 22nd March 2020 – deadline for feedback
- 30th March 2020– evaluator to submit final evaluation report (fixed final deadline- although can be earlier)

This equates to a total of approx. 30 days (to be discussed with the evaluator)

Deliverables

The following are the key deliverables for the mid-year learning review:

- Detailed action plan for the learning documentation
- Draft report submission
- Final report
- Final presentation on report

Targeted Audiences for Mid-year learning review

- Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) – (Lead Implementing and Coordination Partner).
- Implementing Partners and CDD Dhaka and Gazipur.
- The special educators/trainers/other professionals.
- Children with deafblindness and their families (Primary Stakeholders).
- Local authorities, governments and indirect partners (Secondary Stakeholders).
- Donor Community, SI, SII.

Ethical Issues

- Ensuring due consent in written from the participants and related authority before any interview and capturing photos & videos;
- Child safeguarding and gender sensitivity as well as high level of sensibility to persons with deafblindness.
- Maintaining the high level of confidentiality of the data and information. The consulting firm will only share the information and related data with CDD, SI, SII and ensure that data is securely stored.

Expertise required by Evaluator

- Evaluation specialist with extensive experience in programme/project evaluation, preferably including statutory funded projects.
- Experience of gender analysis and disability inclusion issues.

- Experience of results based monitoring and evaluation.
- Extensive knowledge of qualitative research methods.
- Extensive knowledge of the networking and partnership approach.
- Knowledge of Bangladesh, preferably including local language.
- Understanding of disability field, preferably multiple disabilities.
- Evaluators must not have a conflict of interest with the ongoing activities of the project or CDD/SI/SI India

Information requirements for submitting the Expression of Interest

If you are interested in applying to undertake this evaluation, we look forward to hearing from you and receiving your Expression of Interest. For the Expression of Interest, please e-mail your CV and brief responses (no more than 5 pages in total) to the following questions:

- 1) Your experience of evaluating statutory/institutional funded projects.
- 2) Your experience of research and evaluation methods.
- 3) Your proposed methodology for this evaluation.
- 4) Your experience of the disability and development field, with a particular focus on gender issues.
- 5) Any knowledge you may have of the work of Sense International/CDD in Bangladesh or other work relevant to disability.
- 6) Your availability to travel to partners and other project stakeholders for evaluation consultations in different locations within the period January-March 2020.
- 7) An indication of your Consultancy fee. (NB, we have a fixed budget of 300,000 BDT which is inclusive of consultancy fees, travel, accommodation, per diem and any other relevant cost (Including Vat and Tax)) with an expectation for an estimated duration of approximately 30 days of work for the evaluation consultation process and production of the final report.

Price and Payment

The detail information relating to price and payment will be discussed in the meeting with CDD and mentioned in the agreement paper. It is noted that as per the rules of Government of the People Republic of Bangladesh, VAT and Tax will be deducted from the total amount of earning.

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