Programme Impact Assessment: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Consultant for WFD Bangsamoro Programme

The Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) is the UK’s democracy assistance agency, working in partnership with political parties, parliaments and civil society organisations around the world to create more inclusive, accountable and transparent democratic systems. WFD strengthens the capacity of these key democratic institutions, helping ensure they have the systems, knowledge and skills to perform effectively. WFD also fosters improved democratic processes, bringing together individuals and institutions and encouraging them to work together to solve concrete problems, applying democratic values and principles.

Over the course of 2021-2022, WFD is leading on supporting democratic stability in Bangsamoro Philippines through the UK Conflict Stability Security Funding (CSSF) managed by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development (FCDO). Recognising the establishment of the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) being a key entry point for locally owned institutions and processes to develop and adopt inclusive and accountable practices, the programme is designed with the overall aim of supporting the implementation of BOL. The programme will support the establishment of BOL by strengthening locally owned institutions to become increasingly accountable, inclusive and pluralistic.

About WFD Bangsamoro Programme.

WFD is implementing the second phase of its democracy strengthening programme in Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). We work with the transitional parliament, civil society actors, political parties, and independent institutions to strengthen democratic systems and processes with an overarching objective of making the transition process a success for the people of Bangsamoro.

The programme is designed around four outputs as follows:

1. Strengthening the Bangsamoro parliament as an institution and developing the expertise of its members and staff.

2. Supporting more inclusive and responsive policy making by creating more opportunities for engagement between parliament, government, and civil society.

3. Supporting Bangsamoro women as political leaders and politically active citizens to coalesce around shared objectives and agenda and to be equipped with the right expertise to identify and influence key policy and legislative change.

4. Supporting the development of existing and fledging Bangsamoro political parties and brokering dialogue between them around the emerging rules of the game within the new system of governance.

WFD’s programme in the region is guided by the needs of programme stakeholders and is designed to be adaptable and responsive to the evolving context. We listen to
the needs and priorities of the stakeholders and work with them to design interventions to deliver desirable outcomes.

We have a MEL framework with clearly defined outcomes and detailed indicators of progress. WFD uses an adapted version of outcome mapping, a qualitative measurement tool, to monitor progress on outcomes. Operating in a high-profile context, many standard measurement tools such as surveys, aren’t always available to us. Therefore, we often need to think creatively about ways to capture evidence of impact by trying new methodologies.

WFD programme activities include; bespoke technical advisory to parliamentary staff and MPs, mentoring for parliamentary committees, learning and technical capacity building sessions for MPs and parliamentary staff and independent institutions, thematic technical assistance to parliament including advisory support on setting up parliamentary services, systems and processes, advisory support on designing and reviewing parliamentary processes with a gender sensitive lens, technical training sessions for CSOs, sharing of best practices on civil society engagement with the parliament, engagement with political parties and political actors.

**About this consultancy.**

As we approach the end of two years of implementation, we would like to commission a ‘MEL review’ of the programme to reflect on our support to the stakeholders including; testing the value and impact of WFD’s support, documenting lessons learned, and providing recommendations to improve impact through:

i. Modifying current interventions

ii. Exploring new areas of work

iii. Expanding reach to include other stakeholders.

The focal point of contact will be WFD’s Bangsamoro Representative with lines of communication with WFD colleagues in London office.

**Objectives.**

1. To account for the dynamic context, uncertainties, and evolving nature of the transition process while assessing programme impact.

2. To test the hypothesis that WFD’s support to stakeholders under each of the four programme outputs is relevant and positively contributing to strengthening democracy in the ongoing transition process:

   a. WFD’s support to the parliament is seen as relevant and responsive to the needs of this evolving institution.
   
      i. WFD’s support has positively influenced gender mainstreaming in parliamentary processes, including legislation.

   b. WFD’s support to the wider civil society has contributed in building capacities and bridging the information gap between the wider civil society and the new parliament.
i. WFD’s support has acted as a catalyst for CSO collaboration and coordination to engage meaningfully with the parliament.

c. WFD’s support to independent institutions such as the Bangsamoro Women Commission has positively influenced the gender and development agenda in the region.
   i. WFD has positively influenced women political leadership in the region.

d. WFD’s work with political parties /actors has laid the foundations of engagement with diverse political voices in the region.

3. To document the support that WFD has provided to various stakeholders.
4. To provide an objective analysis of WFD’s support by not only identifying successes but also areas where modifications will further enhance impact.
5. To capture impact through developing case studies and stories of change.
6. To provide recommendations to WFD, based on historic support to stakeholders on how to improve WFD BARMM programme, including but not limited to:
   a. New areas where WFD can extend further support to achieve programme objectives
   b. Long-term sustainability of programme impact on stakeholders and wider region – importance of being sensitive to this while undertaking future work
   c. Additional benefits/value-added outcomes as a result of WFD interventions.

Methodology.

This consultancy is to be undertaken through a document review and primary research with WFD Bangsamoro programme team and programme stakeholders.

WFD will make the following sources available to the consultant:

1. All programme documentation on activities including the MEL framework
2. Access to WFD Bangsamoro programme team
3. Access to WFD MEL representative(s)
4. List of key persons and institutions WFD has engaged in the programme and suggests interviewing

Deliverables.

WFD proposes the following deliverables but is open to discussing this with the selected provider, if they suggest alternative deliverables would be appropriate. Amendments to the list of deliverables must be agreed in writing.

- Evaluative review of programme impact across all four programme outputs, answering the questions outlined in the ‘objectives’ section of this terms of reference (10 pages)
- Two case studies, looking at specific instances of change (2-5 pages each)
• One learning paper on governance programming in politically unstable or conflict affected contexts (2-5 pages)
• Recommendations for future adaptations and implementation (1-2 pages)

The deliverables could be presented in a single report, or as separate documents.

**Timeline.**

January – February 2022.

Finalisation of methodology, timeline and deliverables with WFD – **w/c 24 January 2022**

Drafts of two case studies for review – **w/c 14 February 2022**

Submission of final report(s) - **21 February 2022**

Review by WFD – **w/c 21 February 2022**

Revisions/incorporation of feedback, final approval by WFD **w/c 28 February 2022**

**Requirements / Competencies**

- Experience of monitoring and evaluating international development programmes
- Experience of collating, analysing and presenting evidence using qualitative analysis
- Experience developing learning products and evidence from programme implementation
- Experience of producing and disseminating learning through publications
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Experience of working in the parliamentary/democracy/governance sector/political reform programmes
- Knowledge of UK and international funding institutions and donor agencies
- A proven track record of providing similar services to a comparable client
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Filipino

**Desirable.**

- Educational qualification in research methods, data analytics or a similar field.
- Experience with qualitative MEL approaches, such has outcome mapping or outcome harvesting
- Experience collecting data in politically sensitive contexts

**Application Process.**

The deadline for applications is **9 January 2022.**
Applications are to be submitted to saba.gill@wfd.org with subject line Programme Impact Assessment – WFD Bangsamoro.

Please send your CV and a cover letter detailing how you meet the consultancy requirements and competencies along with a previous example of your work and proposed budget.