

Call for Expression of Interest Terms of Reference

For: “Establishment of sustainable livelihoods for returnees, IDPs and vulnerable host community members in Ninewa province, Northern Iraq”

here: “Development of an agricultural mid-term intervention strategy for Welthungerhilfe in Ninewa”

1. BACKGROUND

Welthungerhilfe, founded in 1962, is one of the largest private aid organizations in Germany with no political or religious affiliations. We fight for the eradication of hunger and poverty worldwide. Our aim is to render our work unnecessary in all areas that we work in. Since its establishment, Welthungerhilfe has implemented and supported more than 8,120 overseas projects. Help to self-help is our guiding principle. Together with local partner organizations, we strengthen structures at the grassroots level to ensure the long-term success of our projects. Moreover, we inform the public and advise politics – nationally and internationally. We thus fight for change of the circumstances that lead to hunger and poverty.

Since 2014, Welthungerhilfe has been present in Northern Iraq and has worked closely with national and local authorities as well as bodies of the United Nations to provide assistance to communities affected by the humanitarian crisis. Welthungerhilfe employs a comprehensive approach by providing emergency, recovery, and development assistance to IDPs, returnees, and host communities in newly accessible areas Northern Iraq.

Agriculture has a rich history in Iraq and serves as the second largest employer. Agriculture plays a small but relevant role in the Iraqi economy (around 5% contribution to GDP as well as employment of population). Due to their favourable climatic and ecological preconditions, the Northern Governorates are considered the bread basket of Iraq and agriculture contributes largely to household income (up to 75% in Ninewa). Historically, Ninewa Province is regarded as the “bread basket” of Iraq, together with Salah-al-din province, it produced over 1/3 of Iraq’s annual wheat and barley until the 2014 crisis.

According to FAO (2016), 80% of the household income in Ninewa is based on the two main agricultural sources of income: crops (mainly wheat and barley, to a lesser extent vegetables and fruits) and animal husbandry. These two activities are frequently combined in one household with a relation of 75-80% gained from crop production to 20-25% of income gained from livestock production.



Ninewa Agriculture have numerous gaps that inhibit their agricultural value chains: unfavorable resource availability for domestic production, adverse agricultural investment as a consequence of a regional economic downturn, heavy foreign competition from imported items and damages related to the conflict with ISIS. However, positive intervention to address these concerns would require cooperation with the Directorate of Agriculture. The Directorates of Agriculture in Ninewa could not support the agricultural sector due to the immense demand. Shortages of financial resources, qualified staff and infrastructure are not sufficiently available. The deficits are consequently also noticeable at the district level.

Area of Intervention: The project IRQ 1016 focus on rehabilitation and growth on agriculture in the region. To provide effective support, it is necessary to understand the structures of the agricultural administration, the strategy during recovery and beyond. With its interventions, Welthungerhilfe wants to contribute to the revitalization of agriculture in Ninewa province. Therefore, the development of a medium-term intervention strategy, covering 3-5 years, for the agricultural sector for Welthungerhilfe is needed. The use of existing capacities and means needs to be bundled and used effectively towards significant changes.



2. OBJECTIVE

2.1. Welthungerhilfe has a medium-term agricultural intervention strategy. New projects are designed including and contributing to the Goals of the Welthungerhilfe agricultural strategy.

The strategy is geared towards Welthungerhilfe's core expertise and takes account of experience and specialist knowledge as well as the country and organizational strategy.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

3.1. Scope of works

Based on existing studies and project experience in various sectors, as well as discussions with decision-makers, local authorities and farmers, a strategic orientation of Welthungerhilfe will be developed.

3.2. Objectives of the Assignment

Crop farming:

- Elaborate interventions in the sector of vegetable/fruit production cycle including inputs, production technologies, trainings towards village-based extension services, processing and marketing interventions
- Examine opportunities and prospects for organic fruit and vegetable production
- Identify level of acceptance and opportunities to promote diversified agriculture

Livestock/animal health

- Description of the situation in the areas of sheep and poultry production, their shortfalls and Welthungerhilfe intervention strategies to reach the pre-conflict situation.
- Possibilities to support the animal health sector for the above-mentioned species, including preventive measures
- Opportunities to improve feed production through decentralized feed production facilities, taking into account locally produced existing resources
- Supporting the rebuilding of the poultry production infrastructure, including processing, marketing and business planning.

Irrigation

- Investigation of the water sector as a foundation for agricultural production in the fields of crop farming and animal husbandry. This sector should cover water saving as well as innovative technologies.
- Estimation of the existing main irrigation systems and their function, ecological and economic relevance before the crisis - as well as importance of rehabilitation

Rural development:

- To provide general recommendations on technical, social, environmental and economic feasibility of activities for the targeted area, to describe the contextual relevance of the proposed interventions in addressing the existing needs and most promising interventions in economic and social terms of the target groups
- Presentation of the context of the above intervention with the improvement of rural life situations, including job creation and improved and sustainable access to food

Studies, Surveys:

- Suggestions for further in-depth thematic studies/surveys

The above-mentioned objective would result in a final report with annexes, written by the consultant and presented in a workshop to relevant stakeholders of the project

4. DELIVERABLES AND TIMEFRAME

4.1. The consultant is obliged to provide to Welthungerhilfe IRQ 1016 Project with the following materials:

- Work plan and budget
- The Consultant will be required to submit a final report in English by the end of the contract considering Project Management Comments, recommendations and feedback.

4.2. Timeframe:

In total, it is foreseen that this assignment takes up to 4 weeks in total, with at least 1 visits to the governorates and selected districts as well as WHH project sites in Ninewa. The consultancy should take place as soon as possible and should be finalized before March 2019.

Estimated working days

Activities	# of working days
Preparatory desk work/ desk review	5
Preparation of support team (incl. preparation/ documentation)	2
Interview KII; FGD	8
Analysis of the data and drafting report	4
Drafting review report incl. recommendations	3
De-Briefing of the project team	3
Final report	2
Total	27

The final duration and planning depends on the proposal and detailed work plan as submitted by the consultant.

5. LANGUAGE

All documents and materials should be drafted in English

6. CONFIDENTIALITY

All information and data acquired from the desk review and meetings are confidential and to be used solely for the review. Interview partners will not be quoted in the report without their prior permission. The documentation as well as all materials related to the review is confidential and remains always the property of the contracting party.

7. METHODOLOGY

The study will be led by a consultant (international teamwork is possible) with experience in conducting KII interviews, FGD experience in conducting participatory research and conversant with agriculture. The consultant will need to ensure a mixed method research approach in their assessment, to strengthen the validity and of the research through the cross verification of information. Local enumerators are trained on methodologies since it is foreseen that part of the interviews are carried out by local support staff.

Several studies on rural development, selected value chains, and need assessments from previous years, carried out by different organizations, can be made available by the project.

8. EXPERTISE OF THE CONSULTANT

- Background in Agriculture, rural development, sustainable livelihoods or related fields, experiences in working at Meso- and Micro Level
- Knowledge of Welthungerhilfe Organization and their strategic orientation
- Experience with Donors – such as BMZ, Ministry of Foreign Affairs – would be a strong advantage;
- Excellent written and spoken English, Arabic would be an advantage

The payment and other additional information will be included in contract on the basis of proposed plan and negotiations.

9. HOW TO APPLY, INDICATE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:

Applications/ Expressions of Interest are invited from suitable qualified consultants.
Closing date for the indication of interest is Monday, 22nd October 2018, 16:00 hrs (MEZ).

Please send your application / expression of interest via e-mail to:

Heinz.peters@welthungerhilfe.de with cc copy to

Uwe.hermann@welthungerhilfe.de

Please ensure that you submit full tendering information including:

- a cover letter (of not more than two pages)
- your CV (resp, also if applies: CV of the proposed team member, if any)
- sample written work on a relevant topic
- 2 references