

TERMS OF REFERENCE

for the evaluation of the
World Vision Finland's
Safer Tomorrow for the Children of East Africa
Development Partnership Programme 2022-2025

1. BACKGROUND TO THE EVALUATION

1.1. About World Vision

World Vision (WV) is a global development cooperation, advocacy and humanitarian organisation that focuses on increasing the rights of the most vulnerable children, families, and communities around the world. World Vision is the world's biggest child sponsorship organization.

The organisation's mission is to tackle poverty and injustice by working with communities to provide sustainable solutions and the work are guided by principles of justice, compassion, and integrity.

WV's approach to development is rooted in a deep understanding of local contexts and needs. The organisation works together with communities to identify their strengths, challenges, and aspirations. By involving community members in decision-making processes, WV ensures that the solutions implemented are sustainable and culturally sensitive. Programmes cover a spectrum of essential areas, including education, healthcare, water and sanitation, economic development, and agriculture.

World Vision Finland (WVFIN) was funded in 1983. It operates as an independent entity while aligning with the overall mission and principles of World Vision International. It works through child focused and community-based development projects and long-term area programmes, communications, and advocacy to promote child rights and well-being, to provide humanitarian aid and to give Finnish people, communities, and corporations a channel to support children and communities in the global south. The work is implemented with those most in need regardless of religion, political opinion or worldview, ethnic background, ability, or gender and in true partnership with all people, stakeholders, and partners. WVFIN's work is supported by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA), EU, UN agencies and Finnish private sponsors.

1.2. World Vision Finland's Development Programme

The development cooperation work funded by the MFA is realised through the "Safer Tomorrow for the Children of East Africa" Development Partnership Programme 2022-2025 (from here onwards the Programme) which goal is to contribute to the fulfilment of child rights and protection of the most vulnerable children and youth in target areas in East Africa. The Programme is designed to create safe environments for children to grow and empower youth to thrive. Empowered children

and youth, who are well-aware of their rights, can not only protect themselves but also educate their peers. Moreover, they can contribute, with the support of duty-bearers, to building safer communities. Economically empowered youth play a crucial role, not only in providing for themselves but also in supporting their families. This contributes significantly to the overall safety and improved well-being of communities. The third outcome area aims to foster families and communities with increased social accountability. This ensures that they are better equipped to nurture, care for, and protect the most vulnerable children. This protection extends to various hazards in their living environments, including both man-made and natural disasters, as well as the indirect effects of harmful coping mechanisms.

The Programme focuses on strengthening civil society and advocating for the rights of people with disabilities and women. WVFIN is committed to applying the triple nexus approach and conflict sensitivity/do-no-harm principles, particularly in the context of refugees and host communities. The primary partner for WVFIN is always the local World Vision organisation. Relevant offices for the Programme include the offices in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, and Uganda. The Programme comprises of two long-term Area Programs (AP) and eight thematic projects.

2. PURPOSE AND THE OBJECTIVES OF THE EVALUATION

The main purpose of the evaluation is to offer WVFIN, local WV offices, and stakeholders an independent assessment of the relevance, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of the Programme to date. The evaluation specifically aims to identify lessons learned and best practices and to make recommendations for the remaining programme period and the planning phase of the new Programme for 2026-2029.

Furthermore, the evaluation's purpose is to assess the integration of the human rights-based and nexus approaches, and cross-cutting objectives (gender, disability inclusion, environment and climate change, and conflict sensitivity) throughout the various programming phases. The evaluation will provide valuable insights into the overall performance and alignment of the Programme with its intended goals and objectives.

Key objectives of the evaluation are:

1. To assess the relevance and quality of the design in relation to the approach adopted by the Programme;
2. To assess whether the Programme is on the right path to achieve the set outcomes;
3. To identify any signs of impact and sustainability of the Programme;
4. To provide recommendations for both the remaining programme period and the development of the next programme period, drawing on findings, lessons learned, and identified shortfalls.

3. SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION

The time span for the evaluation covers the first two years (2022-2023) of the programme period and will cover the whole programme and all ten projects.

The evaluator(s) are expected to conduct questionnaires, discussions, meetings and interviews with implementing partners (i.e. local WV offices and project personnel), key stakeholders and participants in respective projects. The verification of the results may be supported by an optional field visit to one programme country.

The work in Finland (communication and advocacy work, and resource mobilisation) is excluded from this evaluation.

4. ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED AND EVALUATION QUESTIONS

The key questions of the evaluation are:

Relevance:

1. Are the Programme's design and theory of change clear, valid, and logically structured to achieve the desired positive changes (goal) in the target areas?
2. Are the Programme interventions relevant for the participants, including people living with disabilities and other vulnerable groups?
3. What are the recommendations for sustaining the relevance of the Programme for 2024-2025 and what is recommended to consider when planning the next Programme 2026-2029?
4. To what extent has the nexus approach been relevant? Has the nexus approach demonstrated relevance in the fragile context areas of the Programme?

Effectiveness

5. To what extent have the programme outcomes and outputs been realized thus far? Are there observable signs of their achievement throughout the remaining programme period?
6. How successful has the integration of crosscutting themes been in the implementation of the Programme?
7. To what extent has the human rights-based approach been incorporated into the design and implementation of the Programme?
8. Have the relevant risks been identified and appropriately managed at the project and programme levels? What recommendations are suggested to enhance risk assessment and management?
9. What best practices and lessons learned have been identified, and what recommendations are suggested for the remaining programme period and what is recommended to consider when planning the next Programme 2026-2029?

Impact

10. To what extent are signs of impact, both positive and negative, already evident?
11. What strategies and activities are recommended to enhance and strengthen the impact of the Programme?

Sustainability

12. What kind of best practises and shortcomings in sustainability can be identified within the Programme?
13. How likely will the Programme's achievements (economic/financial, institutional, technical, socio-cultural, and environmental) be sustained after WV's support comes to an end? What are the recommendations to ensure the sustainability of the Programme?

The evaluation should not be limited to these questions only and the consultant can propose other issue that should be covered in the evaluation. Emerging issues to be addressed might be raised during evaluation as well.

5. METHODOLOGY

The evaluator(s) are requested to propose the evaluation methodology that employs a mix of methods to ensure a thorough examination of qualitative and quantitative data. Utilizing various online methods and platforms is highly recommended. The verification of the results may be supported by an optional field visit to one programme country. The suggested methodology should be feasible and tailored to the unique aspects of the Programme.

6. DOCUMENT REVIEW

The evaluation will encompass a comprehensive review of key documents essential to the understanding of the Programme:

- WVFIN programme document and its annexes
- Baseline reports of the projects
- Conflict sensitivity/Do No Harm assessments of the projects
- Gender equality and social inclusion assessments of the projects
- Annual plans and reports
- A sample of World Vision International strategy and guidance documents

The evaluator(s) may also identify and consider other available relevant sources deemed necessary for the evaluation.

7. THE EVALUATION PROCESS AND TIME SCHEDULE

WVFIN will select the evaluator(s) based on their proposals. The proposals should include:

- A comprehensive workplan
- Detailed schedule
- Detailed budget
- Methodology
- CVs and references of the evaluator(s)

All proposals must be submitted by 23 February 2024 via email to christina.nyback@wveu.org, with the subject title "WVFIN Evaluation."

Schedule

The tentative schedule for the evaluation is:

Tasks	Date
Deadline for proposals	23 February 2024
Contracting of evaluators	Mid-March 2024
Kick-off meeting	Mid-March 2024
Inception, including desk study and inception report	End of April 2024
Interviews and field work in selected projects	April-May 2024
Presentation of preliminary findings	Beginning of June 2024
Draft report in English	Beginning of August 2024
Presentation and discussion on the report	August 2024
Final report in English	Mid-September 2024

The schedule will be discussed and agreed upon together with the evaluator(s).

8. REPORTING

The evaluator(s) are requested to submit the following deliverables:

- Inception report (draft and final inception reports)
- Presentation on the preliminary findings (incl. field findings)
- Draft final report
- Final report
- Presentation on the evaluation findings and recommendations

Each deliverable is subjected to specific approval. The evaluator(s) can move to the next phase only after receiving a written statement of acceptance by the WVFIN. The reporting schedule is included in the contract.

9. QUALITY ASSURANCE

Special attention must be paid to quality assurance throughout the evaluation process. The evaluator(s) are expected to implement measures to uphold the quality of work and outputs.

10. EXPERTISE REQUIRED

The evaluator(s) shall ensure solid experience and knowledge in the following fields:

- Programme evaluations and planning in the development cooperation field;
- Results Based Management (RBM), and their application in programme design, monitoring and evaluation (M&E);
- Experience in integrating cross cutting objectives in project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation: Promotion of human rights and gender equality, non-discrimination and climate resilience.
- Other experience and knowledge relevant to the evaluation, e.g., the nexus approach.

WVFIN is welcoming experts of different ages, genders, religions, and belonging to different minorities. A Junior Expert may be part of a team of evaluators.

11. BUDGET

The total available budget for the evaluation is 30.000 EUR (incl. VAT).

The WVFIN programme team provides support in the meeting, possible travel etc. arrangements.

12. CONTACT INFORMATION

For any inquiries or questions related to this assignment, please contact Christina Nyback at christina.nyback@wveu.org or +358 40 7080 552.

ANNEXES

Materials for more information:

[WVFIN Website](#)

[WVFIN Development Partnership Programme 2022-2025](#)

[WVFIN Development Partnership Programme 2022 Annual Report](#)