

## DISCLAIMER

The evaluation method described herein is subject to USDA approval and could be amended based on USDA's feedback prior to contracting the third-party evaluator.

The **purpose** of this brief is to describe the objectives and minimum methodological requirements for performance and impact evaluation of the McGovern-Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition program, *Sukaabe Janngo*, in Senegal. Also included is a description of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for an experienced, independent third-party firm to conduct the project's baseline study.

## BACKGROUND

Counterpart International will implement the McGovern-Dole project for four years in the Saint Louis region of Senegal. The program will work with the same 270 schools Counterpart worked with from 2015 to 2018, continuing to work towards achieving the two McGovern-Dole Food for Education strategic objectives of 1) improved literacy of school-age children (MGD SO1), and 2) increased use of health, nutrition, and dietary practices (MGD SO2). In addition to continuing to work towards achieving these two objectives, McGovern-Dole will foster the capacity of regional and community-level stakeholders in implementing their own graduation and sustainability plans.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To produce high quality data for these evaluations.
2. To make methodological recommendations for these subsequent evaluations.

## METHODOLOGY

The survey conducted for the baseline study will include treatment and control schools. Treatment schools will be those in which McGovern-Dole is working. Control schools will be schools in Saint Louis where McGovern-Dole is not working but which are similar to McGovern-Dole schools. The awardee will select control schools using the same criteria that were used for choosing McGovern-Dole schools so that they are as similar as possible to McGovern-Dole schools. Counterpart will provide these criteria to the awardee. This selection process will be documented in baseline study.

Within sampled schools, interviews will be conducted with students, directors and possibly teachers. Interviews with students and teachers will only be carried out at primary schools whereas interviews with directors will be at both primary and pre-schools. There are 204 MGD primary schools and 66 MGD pre-schools.

In addition, interviews will be conducted with government to assess capacity and commitment for school farm sustainability. A list of potential respondents for these interviews will be provided to the awardee.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

Counterpart will engage an experienced, independent third-party firm to conduct the baseline evaluation described in this brief. As specified in US government regulations, the third-party firm will:

- ✓ Be financially and legally separate from Counterpart and McGovern-Dole partner organizations.
- ✓ Have staff with demonstrated knowledge, analytical capability, language skills and experience in conducting evaluations of development programs involving agriculture, education, and nutrition.
- ✓ Use acceptable analytical frameworks such as comparison with non-project areas, surveys, involvement of stakeholders in the evaluation, and statistical analyses.
- ✓ Use local consultants, as appropriate, to conduct portions of the evaluation.
- ✓ Provide a detailed outline of the evaluation, major tasks, and specific schedules prior to initiating the evaluation.

## PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

The applicant shall submit a full technical proposal to Counterpart via an electronic submission with the following documents:

### **I. Qualifications:**

- a. Resume/CV of the lead evaluator of the firm that demonstrates at least 5-7 years of solid experience in evaluating USG-funded program/project or similar donor-funded projects (preferably USDA-funded projects), especially in Sub-Saharan Africa. Prior experience working in Senegal is a plus.
- b. The lead evaluator of the firm should demonstrate expertise and experience in the techniques, approaches and methodology related to the collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data: sampling techniques, focus groups, surveys, semi-structured interviews, crossing data, content analysis. S/he shall also have professional experience in conducting sociological surveys in the field of international development, preferably in education, health, poverty, literacy and/or school feeding projects.
- c. To the extent possible, the evaluation team will be gender-balanced.
- d. Ability to hire experienced enumerators that are proficient in French, Pulaar and Wolof.

- ### **II. *Native French speaker, or near-native level command of French is required and Pulaar and Wolof speakers are highly desirable.*** If the proposal is submitted by a consortium of partners, qualifications of each proposed partner should be presented. **References:** The applicant is required to submit three references with email and telephone contact information related to past experiences of evaluation research.

### **III. Proposed methodology and structure of the evaluation, which will include:**

- Proposed sampling methodology
- Proposed evaluation design with a detailed description of tools to be used
- Team composition and structure
- Quality control method and tools

- IV. Workplan, which will include:** Detailed timeline of activities – in days, required for each stage of the baseline evaluation.
- V. Budget:** An itemized budget in US dollars. The contract will be a firm fixed price contract. Counterpart in Senegal will provide transportation of the evaluation team from Dakar to the Saint-Louis region, and to the selected schools. All other costs associated with logistics should be included in the evaluator’s budget.

#### SUBMISSION

The full Terms of Reference of the *Sukaabe Janngo* project is pending approval with USDA. Interested third parties will have until February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 to prepare and apply. The full ToR will be provided upon request to [Mgd.senegal@counterpart.org](mailto:Mgd.senegal@counterpart.org).

Only electronic submissions will be accepted. All bids with technical and price schedule must be received by **February 22, 2019 at 11:59pm EST** to [Mgd.senegal@counterpart.org](mailto:Mgd.senegal@counterpart.org). Please submit as a Word document (preferred) and/or PDF and include in the subject line “Senegal MCGOVERN-DOLE FFE Baseline Assessment.”