



Terms of Reference

Mid-term and end-of-project Evaluation

Introduction:

In October 2022, Politics and Society Institute (PSI) started the implementation of “Our Community Story” project in partnership with the U.S Embassy in Amman. The 12-month project targets 36 Jordanian youth (ages 22-35) who take on the role of youth community leaders and advocates for change in their local communities. Participants are learning how to use Digital Storytelling to address their communities problems and effectuate positive change. By equipping them with effective and accessible digital storytelling tools, participants are having the ability to address their community stories through local storytelling screenings and by facilitating dialogue among community members. Activities include a capacity-building phase, community needs assessment by participants, local community storytelling screenings, international storytelling screenings and a closing ceremony. The project is targeting youth in 6 Jordanian governorates (Mafraq, Ajloun, Madaba, Balqaa’, Tafielah, and Ma’an).

The project aims to achieve the following specific objectives:

- Building 36 youth’s capacity to address self-identified community issues through 6 digital stories and a social media page;
- Building strong, inclusive and sustainable community youth networks in 6 Jordanian governorates by creating spaces for youth-led dialogue on pressing community issues with relevant stakeholders and policy-makers;
- Raising cultural awareness between the United States and Jordan through engaging 30 American youth in intercultural dialogue on issues of common ground.

Purpose of the evaluation:

This evaluation is divided into two phases. Phase one of the evaluation will focus on the mid-term implementation period, and the second phase will focus on the end of project implementation period. The evaluation is forward looking and will capture effectively lessons learnt and provide information on the nature, extent, and where possible, the potential impact and sustainability of “Our Community” project. The evaluation will assess the project design, scope, implementation status and the capacity to achieve the project objectives. It will collate and analyze lessons learnt, challenges and the best practices obtained during mid-term and in end of project implementation. The emphasis of learning lessons speaks to the issue of understanding what has and what has not worked as a guide for future planning. It will assess the performance of the project against planned results. The evaluation will assess the preliminary indications of potential impact and sustainability of results including the contribution to capacity development and achievement of project goal and specific objectives. The results of the evaluation will draw lessons that will inform the key stakeholders of this evaluation who are PSI, U.S Embassy and youth groups.

Scope:

Mid-term and end-of project evaluation will assess the effectiveness of the implementation strategy and the results. This will include the implementation modalities, U.S Embassy roles and responsibilities, coordination, partnership arrangements, institutional strengthening, beneficiary participation, replication and sustainability of the project. The evaluation will include review of the project design and assumptions made



at the beginning of the project development process. Project management including the implementation strategies; project activities; it will assess the extent to which the project results have been achieved, partnerships established, capacities built, and cross cutting issues of mainstreaming gender have been addressed. It will also assess whether the project implementation strategy has been optimum and recommend areas for improvement and learning.

The Evaluation Questions:

The following key questions will guide the mid-term and end of project evaluation:

1. Relevance: (Access design and focus of the project)
 - To what extent did the project achieve its overall objectives?
 - What and how much progress has been made towards achieving the overall outputs and outcomes of the project for enhancing youth engagement and building their skills to use digital storytelling to reflect needs of their local communities (including contributing factors and constraints)?
 - To what extent were the results (impacts, outcomes and outputs) achieved?
 - Were the inputs and strategies identified, and where they realistic, appropriate and adequate to achieve the results?
 - Was the project relevant to the identified needs?
2. Effectiveness: (Describe the management processes and their appropriateness in supporting delivery)
 - Was the project effective in delivering desired/planned results?
 - To what extent did the Project's M&E mechanism contribute in meeting project results?
 - How effective were the strategies and tools used in the implementation of the project?
 - How effective has the project been in responding to the needs of the beneficiaries, and what results were achieved? - What are the future intervention strategies and issues?
3. Efficiency: (of Project Implementation)
 - Was the process of achieving results efficient? Specifically did the actual or expected results (outputs and outcomes) justify the costs incurred?
 - Were the resources effectively utilized?
 - What factors contributed to implementation efficiency?
 - Did project activities overlap and duplicate other similar interventions (funded nationally and /or by other donors)?
 - Are there more efficient ways and means of delivering more and better results (outputs and outcomes) with the available inputs?
 - Could a different approach have produced better results?
 - How was the project's collaboration with the U.S Embassy and partners?
 - How efficient were the management and accountability structures of the project?
 - How did the project financial management processes and procedures affect project implementation?
 - What are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the project implementation process?
4. Sustainability: (for end-of project evaluation)
 - To what extent are the benefits of the project likely to be sustained after the completion of this project?



- What is the likelihood of continuation and sustainability of project outcomes and benefits after completion of the project?
- How effective were the exit strategies, and approaches to phase out assistance provided by the project including contributing factors and constraints?
- What are the key factors that will require attention in order to improve prospects of sustainability of Project outcomes and the potential for replication of the approach?
- How were capacities strengthened at the individual and organizational level (including contributing factors and constraints)?
- Describe the main lessons that have emerged - What are the recommendations for similar support in future? (The recommendations should provide comprehensive proposals for future interventions based on the current evaluation findings).

Required expertise and qualification:

The Evaluator must have the following expertise and qualifications:

- At least a master's degree in Public Policy, International Development, Development Economics/Planning, Economic, Public Administration, and Management and in any other related university degree.
- Extensive expertise, knowledge, and experience in the field of evaluation of development programmes.
- At least 5 years of experience in working with local and international organizations and donors;
- Experience of programme formulation, monitoring and evaluation;
- Fluency in Arabic and English, and
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English.

Time-Frame for the Evaluation Process:

Mid-term evaluation will be conducted in April 2023, and end-of-project evaluation will be conducted during September 2023. The consultant will be provided with information to prepare (with the support of PSI) a table with tasks, timelines and deliverables, for which the consultants will be responsible and accountable.

How to apply:

Candidates should apply by presenting the following documents:

- Personal CV indicating all past experience from similar projects, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of the Candidate and at least three (3) professional references;
- Financial Proposal

If interested please send the following items to h.sarayreh@politicsociety.org by April 11th 2023.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.