TERMS OF REFERENCE
RESEARCH TO MEASURE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LOCALIZATION

Organization	NEAR - Network for Empowered Aid Response, www.near.ngo (Hosted by Adeso - African Development Solutions,www.adesoafrica.org)
Position Title	Consultancy
Study/Assessment Topic	Construction of a Performance Measurement System (PMS) for Evaluating the of Effectiveness Localization
Position Location	Working Remotely
Reporting To	Programs Manager - NEAR
Working With	NEAR Secretariat and other Consultants
Starting Date	February 2018
Duration	Maximum of Thirty (30) Billable Days (Possible Extension)
Deadlines	• February 28, 2018 - Draft of framework and KPIs • March 20, 2018 - Findings of initial pilot stage • October 1, 2018 - Final framework and scorecard with guidelines

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

Adeso is an expanding and vibrant African based international development and humanitarian organization. At Adeso, we work with African communities who are yet to realize their full potential; working inside these communities to create environments in which Africans can thrive. Our belief that economic, social and environmental security is the bedrock of a healthy community drives the nature and intent of our programming. We work to prevent and overcome situations that adversely affect community well-being by: reinvigorating the economy, developing skills for life and work, providing humanitarian aid, and influencing policy.

ABOUT NEAR NETWORK

For more than 5 years, Adeso has spearhead the development of a groundbreaking initiative to mobilize local organizations in forming a global network to spearhead efforts to transform the global humanitarian aid system. Working together with a variety of local and national civil society organizations and NGOs, Adeso incubated and financially sponsored the launch of the NEAR (Network for Empowered Aid Response), at the World Humanitarian Summit in May 2016 at Istanbul, Turkey. The network, NEAR is an active movement of local organizations with a bold ambition – to reshape the top-down humanitarian and development system to one that is locally driven and owned, and is built around equitable, dignified and accountable partnerships. Adeso serves as the official sponsor of NEAR.

BACKGROUND FOR CONSULTANCY

The first ever world humanitarian summit in 2016 outlined the Grand Bargain commitments that have a transformative potential for the humanitarian sector. The commitments on the localization are defined as follows: increase direct funding to southern-based NGOs for humanitarian action; reaffirm the Principles of Partnership; increase transparency around resource transfers to Southern-based national and local NGOs; stop undermining local capacity; emphasize the importance of national actors; address subcontracting; provide robust organizational support, capacity strengthening and communication to the media and the public about partners.

However, there is currently no system in place to measure progress in meeting these commitments and their impact on aid delivery. This study will contribute to building the evidence base for supporting the localization agenda through establishing standards of measurement.

Through this study, NEAR aims to build a strong case for support and recognition of local organizations throughout the southern hemisphere (Global South) in responding to humanitarian situations. This will take into account the presence of a diverse set of stakeholders with multiple objectives, ranging from making decisions, determining policy to demonstrating accountability on the ground. It is envisioned that the Performance Measurement System (PMS) will be developed through action research with respect to the local context.

Key stakeholders, especially local and national organizations from Africa, Asia, Middle East and Latin America/Caribbean will be actively engaged in the construction of the PMS. Based on the evidence gathered through interviews and data collection, a multidimensional framework for measuring performance against the objectives of the localization agenda will be proposed and a set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be developed. These KPIs will then be used to measure the level of effectiveness of localization thereby providing evidence of its advantages.

OBJECTIVES

- To construct a Performance Measurement System (PMS) for evaluating the effectiveness of the localization agenda.

- To develop localization scorecard based on the outcomes of various case studies and along with development of indicators for effective localization.

- To collect a variety of test cases by ensuring broad representation of geographical regions and humanitarian situations by including local organisations in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

- To collect, analyze and synthesize data collected for publishing on a web based portal hosted on the NEAR website which will be used to guide the development of a global framework for measuring the effectiveness of the localisation agenda with established guidelines to support the adaption of the framework.

SCOPE OF WORK

- Develop sound methodology to create the framework and define Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). It is expected that the quantitative methodology will include a mapping exercise to create a sampling of the humanitarian contexts to engage in the data collection.
- Confirm commitments from organizations identified through the mapping process completed to engage in the pilot testing stage.
- Alongside case studies research consultant, design sampling to reflect the geographic and contextual diversity.
- Alongside NEAR team, develop a selection criteria to identify the stakeholders selected to participate in the data collection process.
- Alongside NEAR team, develop data collection tools to systematize the process and ensure continuity in information used to develop evidence based research findings on localization. The data collection tools will be developed in a manner to ensure that the tools are accessible and easy to use and to reinforce the quality of the case studies developed. Tools may be slightly edited to adapt to specific context as needed, (i.e. translated, made web accessible, etc.).

- Facilitate a participatory process that engages local organizations in validating the performance variables that will be included in the development of the KPIs.
- Pilot framework to test validity on organizations involved in case studies and other NEAR members/stakeholders.
- Develop global framework along with indicators for effective localization.
- Develop localization scorecard for measurement of implementation of effective localization in line with Grand Bargain commitments.
- Development of guidelines and learning tools to encourage adaptation of framework.
- Provide inputs and collaborate with designer and web-portal consultant to create final user-friendly format.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Expertise in designing frameworks and evaluative tools.
- In-depth understanding of localization agenda and current humanitarian landscape debates.
- Experience working with national and local organizations and actors.
- Experience in using data analysis tools.
- Excellent analytical, quantitative and writing skills; writing in accessible format.

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APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications should be sent to jobs@near.ngo by **10th February, 2018** with "**Research to Measure the Effectiveness of Localization"** on the subject line. The selection committee will review all applications as they arrive. All applicants must meet the minimum requirements described above, and those unable to meet these requirements will not be considered.

Each application package should include the following:

- An application letter addressing the selection criteria including how the consultant's previous experience matches the consultancy objectives as well as the interest for the position. It should also indicate the candidate's availability and consultancy rates. The letter should be no longer than two pages;
- A sample of recent work;
- Updated CV including relevant work experience and qualifications;
- Contact details of 2 references.

Applications not including all of the above information will not be reviewed. NEAR is an equal opportunity employer.