

Terms of reference Midterm Evaluation of

PROJECT OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN TIEN GIANG PROVINCE

I. Background

The Mission Alliance is a nonprofit organization, founded in 1901 and located in Oslo, Norway. We are engaged in an extensive work to support poor, disabled and marginalized people in Asia, South-America and The Mission Alliance wants to give people the opportunity to develop their abilities and resources, and support them in taking responsibility for their own lives, the lives of their families and the development of their own local communities.

NMA-V has been in partnership with Vietnamese local governments since 1996. NMA-V and the local partners have worked together to empower the poor and marginalized through inclusion and poverty reduction.

NMA-V started a partnership with Tien Giang provincial Department of Education and Training from May 2009 through supporting a project named “Support for inclusive education for children with disabilities “. The first phase is from 2009 to 2012 aiming at improving awareness on the potential and needs of Children with Disabilities (CWDs); enhance capacity to the Resource Center supporting Inclusive Education; building capacity for teachers and rehabilitation staff; community staff and families of CWDs. In this phase, Inclusive Education activities were first piloted in Cho Gao and Cai Lay districts of Tien Giang Province and expanded to My Tho City from 2012. NMA-V focuses on strengthening the Resource Centre, and to promote inclusive education work in the province. Much training is conducted for management staff, school teachers and managers, parents and CWDs themselves. A Resource Center unit has been transformed from the special school, and 8 of the staff works full time with early intervention, Inclusive Education. Several seminars on Inclusive Education have been carried out at local schools in Cho Gao and Cai Lay districts. Early Intervention sessions for CWDs and their parents has been carried out at the Resource Centre. Network of community support teams for CWDs in Cho Gao and Cai Lay is being set up. Awareness on rights of people with disabilities has been raised in the local communities.

Project objectives

Children with disabilities (CWDs) and youths with disabilities (YWDs) in Tien Giang Province are cared; received early intervention and quality inclusive education; oriented and trained on jobs to prove fully their potential and capacity; have stable job to help themselves, their families, and the society through the technical support from Centre for inclusive education and the support from network at district and commune levels.

Expected outcomes:

- Awareness of community on children with disability positively changed.
- Technical capacity of the Resource Centre's staff and key teachers towards different types of disabilities and Inclusive education program in pre schools and primary schools improved.
- Early intervention activities at Resource Centre and community are improved.
- The quality of technical supporting system in the districts is improved.
- The program on vocational training and job creation formulated and effectively operated.

Target groups:

- The main beneficiaries of the project are children and youth with disabilities in Tien Giang Province. These are children from 0 to 14 years old and youths from 15 to 25 years old, regardless of the type and level of disabilities.
- Other beneficiaries include parents of children with disabilities, personnel, teachers, and staff of kindergartens, pre-schools, primary schools, health staff, and members of parent's boards, community organizations, community support groups and volunteers.

Project location: Pilot district is Cho Gao district from 2009 (4 years), expanded to Cai Lay district in 2011 and My Tho City in 2012.

II. Scope of the evaluation**1. Purpose of the evaluation:**

The purpose of the evaluation is:

1. Assess the results of the Project up to date against the 4 year objectives and document the lessons learnt.
2. Key findings in this evaluation will be used as baseline values as the project final evaluation at the end of the second phase.
3. Give clear recommendations to NMA-V and its partner for the strategy on Inclusive education in the future.

2. Expected results:

The Midterm evaluation is expected to answer the following key questions:

- How does the Project achieve its objectives and outcomes?
- How does the resource center and educational units fulfill their roles, duties on developing a comprehensive system to support cwds at Project sites in the province?
- What are main lesson learnt for local partner and NMA-V on developing inclusive education in the near future?

The evaluation report should focus on balanced analysis of any issues that the projects faced and suggest practical and feasible ways in which problems may be overcome in the future and a review of the following key areas:

Effectiveness:

- Reaching the outcomes of the project to date.
- Effectiveness of the implementation of activities. Changes to increase the efficiency.
- Promotion of increased participation of families and local stakeholders (Department of Education and Training and Department of Health).

Impact

- Increased knowledge and behavioral change in the target population.
- Long term changes as result of the project.
- Positive and negative spin-offs / side-effects.

Relevance/Appropriateness/ Recommendation for the way forward:

- Continuation of the project in a better way.
- Appropriateness of the activities given the aims, context and resources available.
- Suggested changes in activities to increase relevance in the future.
- Clear set of recommendation for phasing out period.

Sustainability

- Financial sustainability related to the activities and the organization.
- Positive attitudes and behaviour changes of local authorities and community using IE concepts as a method.
- Willingness and capability to keep activities and facilities operational, and to continue after phasing out donor support.

3. Methodology

It is expected that the evaluation team will conduct a participatory evaluation that will involve Project implementer and target beneficiaries. The consultant will apply a gender sensitive approach to all aspects of the tasks. It is also expected that the team members will work with NMA-V's project team and project partners and beneficiaries to conduct the evaluation study to assess the outcomes and achievements of the activities against the project objectives.

The evaluation team is expected to make their own judgements about the balance between qualitative and quantitative data. Both qualitative and quantitative gender disaggregated data and information from both secondary and primary sources will be collected through assessment tools such as document reviews, existing surveys, group discussions and semi-structured interviews.

4. Responsibilities of the consultant:

1. Oversee the management of survey-related activities, including the contribution of each participant during the process of evaluation. As well, the consultant will be directly responsible for the overall quality and consistency of all reports and documents produced by the survey Team
2. Design the final evaluation framework to measure the project results against its objective. A detailed work plan should be discussed with and approved by NMA-V prior to the start of the evaluation. The work plan should contain suggested methodologies, timeframe, resources, task allocation between consultants and NMA-V and report structure
3. Desk review of the progress reports, evaluation reports and tools. Design questionnaires
4. Conduct field surveys at Resource Centre and 3 project districts as per the work plan and methodologies and tools agreed between the consultant team and NMAV' staff in charge
5. Present the key findings in the workshop to local partners after feedback from NMA-V
6. Reporting: Draft of evaluation report in English should highlights the key findings, lessons learnt and recommendations. The format report must follow as below:
 - Executive summary
 - Introduction
 - Evaluation methodology
 - Contents of evaluation : include *An assessment of project effectiveness (progress compared to proposed work plans); an assessment of project impact;*
 - The possibility of achieving project objectives by the end of project life*
 - Lessons learned
 - Recommendations, including but not limit to:
 - *Proposed changes/modifications in project design, approaches and indicators, if needed*
 - *How to enhance project successes and to further improve project implementation*
 - Conclusions
 - Annexes

Survey documents and filled questionnaires: The consultant is requested to submit survey documents and filled questionnaires to NMA-V

5. Evaluation Team

General criteria should be:

- Have an experience of community development works , results-based innovative models to address the issue of Inclusive education for most vulnerable groups.
- Have knowledge and experience in a rights - based approach to development.
- Professionalism – the team should have a combination of inclusive education expertise and professional evaluation competence
- Gender balance – all teams should consist of both men and women.

6. Economic framework: Budget for the evaluation team will be based on the proposed methodology and the negotiated number for working days.

7. Timeframe

Time	Activity	Number of working days	Location
26 Aug. 2013	Deadline for submission of proposals		
6 Sep. 2013	Contract signed		
10 Sep. 2013	Questionnaires designed		
16-20 Sep. 2013	Field work	5	Tien Giang Province
10 Oct. 2013	Submit 1 st draft report in English to NMA V		
	Revisions of the Draft Report		
22 Oct. 2013	Consultation workshop, feedback and finalization	1	Tien Giang
31 Oct. 2013	Submit the final Report (Final Version in Vietnamese and English)		

8. Payment:

Payment will be made by bank transfer to bank account of Team leader- Consultants:
Terms of payment will be as follows:

- 30% value of the total budget will be paid on the date of the signing the contract.
- 70% will be paid upon NMA-V approves the Vietnamese and English reports.

Interested candidates are invited to send (i) the most updated Curriculum Vitae; (ii) sample of survey proposal and (iii) and financial offer via email to Ms. Luu Ho Thanh Truc – Senior Project Office at truc@nmav.org.

Deadline for submission: 26 August 2013