

## Terms of Reference for In-depth Analysis for a Feasibility Assessment on Entry Conditions for Uganda

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### 1. Background

Vivamos Mejor is a non-profit, ZEWO-certified non-governmental development agency, dedicated to long-term development cooperation in Latin America since 1981.

Since 2021, Vivamos Mejor is part of the Alliance for Sustainable Food Systems and Empowered Communities (SUFOSEC) and plays an active role in the advancement of common relevant topics in the fields of agro-ecology, local ownership, nexus, monitoring & evaluation, etc.

Furthermore, Vivamos Mejor would like to play a key role in furthering the usage of synergies of common interventions in the countries with the Alliance members and its partners. As a means to stay “fit for purpose” within this field and within the context of the elaboration of its new strategy 2025 – 2030, Vivamos Mejor has decided to extend its engagement in the African continent. More specifically in Kenya in a first step.

After successfully initiating 3 pilot projects with 3 partners in 2024, VMS is looking to explore a possible expansion to Uganda; potentially in coordination with other international NGOs.

Vivamos Mejor is seeking to identify local organisations (incl. NGOs), with a focus non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Uganda that align with its core areas of work, including water and nutrition, early childhood education and vocational training. This initiative aims to explore partnership opportunities and enhance local engagement in these critical sectors.

### 2. Purpose of the Contract

As part of VMS' strategic expansion assessment process, we want to undertake an in depth analysis on opportunities regarding our programmes “Water and nutrition”, “Early Childhood Education” and “Vocational Training”, as well as a panorama of relevant organisations from civil society, government and the private sector working on these topics in Uganda.

The purpose of this consultancy is to research and identify relevant civil society organisations, local NGOs, government agencies, networks and movements that are actively working in the fields of:

- **Water and Nutrition:** Key organisations (incl. NGOs) involved in water sanitation, access to clean water, nutrition programmes, and related health initiatives.
- **Early Childhood Education:** Key organisations (incl. NGOs) focusing on early childhood development, education, and inclusive learning.
- **Vocational Training:** Key organisations (incl. NGOs) providing vocational skills training and educational opportunities for youth and adults to support economic empowerment.

At the end of the analysis process, Vivamos Mejor will be able to decide over where to enter an engagement with with potential partner in a pilot phase.

### 3. Relevant topics of Analysis and partner scouting

Relevant topics include all those that provide insights into the context of the above mentioned thematic programmes and indicate relevant regions for Vivamos Mejor to enter, along with a list of potential partners. These topics include, but are not limited to:

#### Thematic context

- Regional overview of topics relevant to Vivamos Mejor's thematic programmes "Water and Nutrition", " Early Childhood Education" and "Vocational Training"
- Outlay on nutritional situation linked with poverty distribution (where do necessities of our thematic approach coincide with "left behind" population groups)
- Geographic focus in terms of relevance of thematic programme<sup>1</sup>

#### Policy panorama

- Overview on relevant policies (including national, regional and local development plans) that coincide or have overlaps with thematic programme
- Indications on relevant political stakeholders who can support interventions of Vivamos Mejor's thematic programme

#### Partner scouting

- Identify possible relevant CSOs and national NGOs as possible partners that have thematic overlaps with Vivamos Mejor's programme according to the selection criteria of Vivamos Mejor
- Focus on CSOs and national NGOs that coincide with Vivamos Mejor's partner selection criteria and could potentially become a partner.

#### Legal conditions

- Conditions and possibilities for registration of International NGOs in Uganda (including tax regulation for international NGOs).
- Conditions for obtaining work permits for seconded staff (international staff)
- Overall situation of rule of law with regard to contracting of staff and financial support to local organisations

### 4. Duration of contract and foreseen workload

This contract covers the period starting from the date of signature of the contract and up to May 2025 under the condition of completion and fulfilment of the agreed tasks and responsibilities (Article 5), with possibility of extension, in agreement with VMS.

The consultant will be expected to undertake a **1-week field trip**, accompanied by Vivamos Mejor's Regional Coordinator, to visit selected NGOs. The field trip dates will be determined later.

### 5. Tasks, responsibilities and deliverables of the Consultant

**Approach:** The consultant will utilise both desk research and field-based methods to identify and assess the relevant organisations. This may include:

- **Desk-based research:** Reviewing reports, databases, and directories of organisations (incl. NGOs) operating in Uganda, including government and NGO sectoral reports.
- **Primary Data Collection:** Conduct interviews and talks with relevant stakeholders (including present country directors of the SUFOSEC Alliance members as well as potential partners)

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that Vivamos Mejor can only consider regions that adhere to our security requirements, as assessed in the feasibility assessment (part of contract)

- **Field Visits:** If necessary, the consultant may visit key regions or NGOs to gather firsthand information about their work, impact, and needs.
- **Tools:** The consultant should use structured data collection tools (e.g., interview guides, surveys) to ensure consistency in information gathering.

### **Deliverables:**

- Inform on key advances with the Head of the Programme Division of VMS
- Delivery of a final report (**max. 25 pages excl. Annexes**) divided in the following parts:
  - a. In depth analysis thematic programmes water and nutrition, early childhood education and vocational training*
    - i. Executive summary, including key findings regarding relevance of the thematic programme as well as recommendations on which regions to prioritize with which potential partners
    - ii. Elaboration on findings along the lines of the topics mentioned under Chapter 3
    - iii. List of contacts as well as sources consulted for the assessment
  - b. Partner scouting of potential partners in the 3 thematic programmes*
    - i. Filled chart according to criteria grid of VMS's partner selection of at least eight potential partners
    - ii. Recommendations on five potential partners in corresponding VMS's format
- Quality of deliverables and compliance with deadlines lies under the joint responsibility of both consultants.

## **6. Foreseen workload and Timeline**

20 Days Desk study. Maximum duration up to May 2025

### **Contact Details**

For more information, please contact

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Please submit proposals by **January 20, 2025**.