



Terms of Reference

Where the Rain Falls project

**Multi-country Final Evaluation &
Impact Assessment Thailand**

July 2019

Deadline for submitting technical and financial proposal:
September 8th, 2019 at 12pm (noon, Paris time)

Technical and financial proposals must be sent electronically to:
Marie Leroy, CARE France at leroy@carefrance.org

Background and context

Founded in 1945, CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty. It aims to deliver lasting solutions to ending poverty with a particular focus on empowering girls and women. In 2018, CARE worked in 95 countries around the world, directly reaching more than 55 million people.

As part of its priority sectors of interventions, CARE strengthens poor people's resilience to climate changes, through their capacity to anticipate, absorb and adapt to shocks and manage growing risks, and transform their lives in response to new hazards and opportunities. Directly contributing to CARE's resilience building strategy, **the *Where the Rain Falls (WtRF)* project has been implemented by CARE since 2009.**

It started as a research project that was conducted in 8 countries and resulted in a [global policy report](#) advancing the understanding of the interlinkages between changing rainfall patterns, food security and human mobility. Based on the results of the study, CARE launched community-based adaptation (CBA)¹ pilot projects in India and Thailand.

The first phase of the CBA programme was implemented from 2012 to 2014 in both countries, with a focus on sustainable agricultural practices and efficient water management, followed by a second phase in 2014-2016, aimed at expanding the results and impacts achieved. At the end of Phase II, final evaluations were conducted separately in India and Thailand respectively. The current phase of the project was initiated in January 2017 and will be implemented until December 2019.

Overall, the **general objective of WtRF Phase III** is to:

Enhance the resilience of marginalized population from Northern Thailand and Central India to climate risks and climate change and build their adaptive capacities.

Specific objectives of the projects included:

SO1: To support people and communities to move towards more climate-resilient livelihoods and forward-looking development planning.

SO2: To contribute to the integration of climate risks & climate change in policies & practices of the authorities and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

On this common basis, WtRF India and WtRF Thailand were then designed, implemented and monitored separately by the CARE India and CARE Thailand ("Raks Thai") teams, with ongoing technical and methodological support from CARE France. Several knowledge and experience sharing events were organized during the course of the project's implementation, both virtually and in-person, allowing to capitalize on synergies between countries and share good practices.

The scope of this assignment includes **two separate studies**, which will be aiming at:

- (1) **Evaluating WtRF phase III** programme (2017-2019) in India and Thailand;
- (2) **Assessing impacts** in terms of community adaptation to climate change imputable to WtRF in Thailand.

¹ Community-based adaptation is an approach theorized and implemented by CARE for over 10 years, as an effective, practical, integrated and highly participatory approach which strengthens adaptive capacity, and supports planning and implementation of disaster-risk reduction and climate resilient development, informed by knowledge of climate information and risks.

Purpose of the studies and target audiences

The common purpose of these two studies is to:

- Help **document a summary of quantitative and qualitative results and outcomes** from WtRF Phase III for both countries;
- **Identify key lessons learnt and provide recommendations** that can both contribute to the sustainability of benefits of this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of the programming of CARE and its partners;
- **Contribute to CARE's accountability** towards AXA, as the unique donor of WtRF Phase III, as well as its partners and supporters.

The **target audiences** for these studies will include: AXA staff; CARE India, CARE France and Raks Thai staff; CARE International members and agents, with a focus on the climate change learning group; the wide network of CARE's collaborating agencies and institutions, research and training institutions, international and national NGOs, etc. and their audiences.

Approach and product

These two studies must provide **evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful**. The selected consultant is expected to develop a methodology based on the elements listed in these ToRs, following a **participatory and consultative approach ensuring** close engagement with CARE France, CARE India and Raks Thai team, as well as project stakeholders and beneficiaries including community members, partner organizations and government representatives.

The ultimate products should be **concise, well-structured documents** including quantitative and qualitative data, as well as clear conclusions and recommendations, as detailed in the "format" sections below.

Note: Graphic design of the documents is not required from the consultant, in order to fully dedicate the resources available for these studies to the production of relevant content. If relevant, it would be taken care of subsequently by CARE.

(1) Where the Rain Falls multi-country evaluation

While WtRF India and WtRF Thailand were conceived as separate projects, with their respective approaches, activities and indicators, there are a lot of common features which will allow to conduct parallel, comparative evaluations, topped with a multi-country comparison analysis.

Objectives and scope

The main objective of the evaluation is to:

Assess the degree of achievement of WtRF goal, outcomes and specific outputs in India and Thailand respectively, and extract common and/or compared lessons learned about factors contributing to and hindering achievements.

The evaluation will review and discuss to what extent WtRF Phase III (2017-2019) realized its expected results in the target geographies in India and Thailand, with a focus on the higher levels of the logical framework hierarchy. It will identify weaknesses and strengths in the project design and implementation strategies and will provide an analysis of how WtRF delivery mechanisms worked best, under which circumstances. Ultimately, it will document some important lessons learnt for CARE and external audiences among adaptation practitioners, come-up with recommendations to address identified gaps.

Evaluation criteria, research questions and indicators

Overall, the evaluation will refer to the following criteria when reviewing the project's achievements: **relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability**. The discussion on the relative importance of the respective the criteria will be included in the report.

An assessment of project performance will be carried out, based against expectations set out in the respective Projects Logical Frameworks, which provide activity, results and outcome levels indicators for project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification. These indicators have been defined for the projects in India and Thailand respectively, some of which are similar or comparable. The evaluation team will **assess the achievements realized against each of these indicators**, compared with the status identified at baseline.

A methodology will be designed by the consultant to produce data comparable between the two countries when it comes to the following high-level indicators:

of people with improved resilience to climate change and climate variability;

% increase in their adaptive capacities

as they were not defined in similar ways in each country. A recommended approach would be to **come up with composite indicators for resilience and/or adaptive capacities** based on criteria and data relevant for both countries. Relevant reference documents for this purpose include the [CARE Resilience Framework](#), and the [ACCRA Local Adaptive Capacity Framework](#).

Format

The multi-country final evaluation will be produced into a **brief and concise report in English** of 50 pages maximum. All detailed information will be referred to annexes. It will include:

- A **2-3 pages self-contained executive summary** that provides the bare-essentials for the reader on background major conclusions, recommendations and lessons learned;
- The **main report**, including: WtRF India key findings, WtRF Thailand key findings, combined indicators and common trends, recommendations. Key findings, main conclusions and

recommendations should be substantiated with more detailed information only to the extent necessary.

Detailed findings will be referred to the annexes. Conclusions and recommendations in the main report will have references to the relevant findings in the annexes. These shall provide all information necessary to substantiate major conclusions and recommendations in the main report. The Terms of Reference, list of persons met, and list of documents used shall also be annexed.

(2) Impact Assessment for Thailand

The impact assessment for *Where the Rain Falls* Thailand will be conducted as a subsequent step after the final evaluation is realized. It will allow the evaluation team to **dig further for quantitative results and outcomes of WtRF in Thailand, focusing on specific levers of change.**

Objective and scope

The objective of the impact assessment is to:

Attribute observed changes in terms of adaptive capacities to climate change on the WtRF target groups in Thailand to the project, or at least quantify the contribution that the intervention has made to these changes.

To do so, the consultant will **review and analyse the impacts of WtRF CBA project in Thailand** in terms of adaptation to climate change, from its inception in 2012 until its conclusion in 2019, on the **target individuals** (disaggregated by gender groups), **communities and institutions**. The impact assessed can be **direct or indirect, intended or unintended, positive or negative.**

Impact areas to consider and research questions

The project team developed at 'impact mapping' of the project, which will be used to **identify specific impact areas, or change levers**, which the assessment will focus on, in discussion with the project team.

It is anticipated that particularly emphasis should be on **sustainable water management** and **sustainable land management**, sectors which received the highest level of effort and resources from the project, especially in the first two phases. Other areas of interest include **inclusive governance** (through individual and community-level decision making, and policy influencing at the local level), as well as **gender equality and women voice.**

The assessment will review the changes incurred in these specific sectors (and possibly a limited number of others, based on the methodology proposed by the consultant), and question **to what extent these are contributing to climate change resilience building among vulnerable communities in remote areas of Northern Thailand.**

The assessment will contain precise qualitative and quantitative data.

Format

The impact assessment for Thailand will be produced into:

- A concise, overall impact report of 20 pages maximum (excluding annexes), including a **2-3 pages executive summary**, summarizing the main findings and conclusions.
- A series of **self-contained learning brief** for each of the areas of changed covered.

Research methodology and suggested tasks

Although the selected consultant is expected to come up with its own creative research methodology, in consultation with the project teams, the following tasks should be conducted as a minimum, and repeated for both studies:

- **Discussion with relevant staff** from CARE France, CARE India and Raks Thai, both at headquarters and at field levels, to further understand the project's logic and the expectations on the evaluation work to be undertaken;
- **Desk study** of all WtRF documentation, including project briefs, project proposals, logical frameworks, semi-annual and annual report, publications, studies, and any other material useful for this evidence-based assessment;
- **Design of the detailed evaluation methodology**, tools, evaluation questions, activities, analysis and meta-analysis methods, list of informants and detailed timeframe in dialogue with the WtRF teams;
- **Planning, contracting and coordination of in-country collection of primary data**, in India and Thailand respectively, by local data collectors or evaluators, with the assistance of CARE India and Raks Thai team. Data collection methods will be discussed and explained, and may include interviews and focus group discussions;
- **Recollection and analysis** of field-level data;
- **Production of reports** in two successive drafts (as a minimum), with integration of feedback from CARE Team:
- **Presentation of reports and results to CARE teams** (remotely or in person depending on the location of the consultant), and to other practitioners if relevant.

Expected duration of the assignment and timeframe

Multi-country final evaluation:

Maximum of 20 working days in October-November 2019

Final evaluation report should be submitted no later than November 30th, 2019.

Impact Assessment Thailand:

Maximum of 20 working days in December-January 2019

Final impact assessment should be submitted no later than February 15th, 2019

Deliverables

- Detailed research methodology, including overall methodology proposed tasks, selected evaluation questions and indicators, analysis and meta-analysis methods, a list of informants and a detailed timeframe;
- Draft multi-country final evaluation;
- Complete final evaluation (within two weeks of receiving comments from team);
- PPT presentation of the evaluation to the CARE teams/steering committee;
- Draft impact assessment;
- Final impact assessment (within two weeks of receiving comments from team);
- PPT presentation of the impact assessment to the CARE teams/steering committee;

Roles, responsibilities and required competencies

The principal evaluation team shall be ideally comprised of 3 persons² (one international consultant, and two national assistants, one each in Thailand and India). **Surveyors may be contracted at the local level** to assist with the data collection, under the responsibility of the evaluation team.

The international consultant, who will have in-depth understanding of climate change adaptation projects including evaluation experience, **will have the overall responsibility of organizing and completing the studies and submitting the final reports**. The international consultant will sign an agreement with CARE France and will be bound by its terms and conditions set in the agreement.

He will be responsible for constituting and contracting his/her national team members, as well as the local data collectors, with guidance and insights from CARE. The team can be constituted upfront and presented as part of the technical and financial proposal submitted to CARE, or the lead consultant can apply individually and constitute the team at a later stage.

Qualifications of the International consultant

Essential skills

- At least an advanced academic degree or the equivalent, and professional background infields related to climate change adaptation, climate resilience, and natural resource management or agriculture.
- A minimum of 10 years' experience.
- Proven experience and appreciation on the policy mainstreaming work and related policy processes.
- Substantive experience in reviewing and evaluating similar projects, preferable those involving CARE, other NGOs or major donors.
- Excellent communication skills (writing and reading) with good command in English.
- Demonstrate ability to assess complex situations, succinctly distil critical issues and draw forward looking conclusions and recommendations.
- Ability and experience to lead multi-disciplinary and national teams and deliver quality reports within the given time.
- Experience in Asian countries, with specific experience in India and Thailand.

Desirable qualifications:

- Knowledge and/or experience on gender equality and women voice issues.
- Detailed knowledge of CARE and its programming
- Command of Thai language.

Qualifications of the National team members

Essential skills

- At least an advanced academic degree or the equivalent, and professional background infields related to climate change adaptation, climate resilience, and natural resource management or agriculture.
- A minimum of 5 years' experience in research, evaluation, or data collection and analysis.
- Proven experience and appreciation on the policy mainstreaming work and related policy

² This number could be reduced to two, should the international consultant be based in (or near) and have experience and expertise on either India or Thailand national contexts.

processes at the national level (in India or Thailand), knowledge of local dynamics, power relations, institutions and stakeholders.

- Substantive experience in reviewing and evaluating similar projects, preferable those involving CARE, other NGOs or major donors.
- Good communication skills (writing and reading) with good command in English.
- Command of national language (Thai or Hindi).

Desirable qualifications:

- Experience of knowledge of CARE and its programming, or experience with other international NGOs.
- Knowledge of the local languages (Karen).

Steering committee

A steering group will be composed for guiding the process of this evaluation work, comprising of: the international consultant, CARE France WtRF multi-country coordinator, CARE India Technical Advisor, CARE India WtRF Project Manager, Raks Thai Technical Advisor, Raks Thai WtRF Project Manager. Regular remote meetings (via Skype) will be organized to ensure alignment between the different parties.

Budget and payment modalities

The total budget available for this assignment is comprised between EUR 20,000 and 30,000. It will cover working days (for all team members including fees or stipend for surveyors), travel (international and local transport, per diem, visas and other applicable fees), as well as all applicable taxes. Costs related to the organization of workshops at the local level, translation, graphic design and printing can be borne by CARE.

The payment shall be processed to the lead international consultant as follows:

%	Milestone
10%	Upon signature of the consultancy contract
40%	Following the submission and approval of the final evaluation
50%	Following the submission and approval of the final impact assessment

Application process

A team or individual consultants are invited to submit applications together with their CV for these positions by email to Marie Leroy, Climate Advisor, CARE France (leroy@carefrance.org) **by September 8th, 2019.**

The application should contain a current and complete C.V. for each team member with indication of the e-mail and phone contact.

Recommended Presentation of Proposal

- (i) Cover letter and Professional Resume CV for each consultant;
- (ii) Technical Proposal, including the proposed evaluation methodology and work plan (2 page max.);

- (iii) Financial Proposal, detailing proposed fees for the team members for a maximum 40 working days, any travel-related costs, remuneration of local data collectors and all applicable taxes.
- (iv) Sample of executive summary of a terminal evaluation or any type of evaluation report led by the applicant.

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for further inquiry and/or interview.

CARE applies a fair and transparent selection process that will take into account the competencies/skills of the applicants as well as their financial proposals. Qualified women and members of social minorities are encouraged to apply.