

Terms of Reference for National Consultants to Support the Preparation of the Results Framework of the Adjusted RS SRR and Update of the Territorial Action Plans (TAPs)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Services/Work Description:	Individual national consultants to support the principal consultant in the preparation of the results framework of the adjusted RS SRR and update of the TAPs
Project/Program Title:	RS SRR
Duty Station:	Home Based
Expected Places of Travel:	Depending on the country: Borno, Adamawa and Yobe state (Nigeria), Diffa territory (Niger), North and Far North region (Cameroon), Lac and Hadjer Lamis Province (Chad)
Duration:	Depending on country
Expected Start Date:	Immediately after Concluding Contract Agreement
Reports to:	Executive Secretary through the Technical Director

Background

On the 30th of August 2018, the Council of Ministers of LCBC adopted the Regional Strategy for the Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience (RS SRR) of the Boko Haram affected areas of the Lake Basin Region with a five-year implementation period. The Strategy was further endorsed by the African Union Peace and Security Council (AU-PSC) on the 8th of December 2018. The validation by the LCBC Council of Ministers and the endorsement by the AU-PSC signified regional and continental acceptance of the Strategy as the overarching framework for stabilising the region and transiting to recovery and longer-term development of the region.

The RS SRR builds on the principles of inclusivity, local ownership, and a commitment to the New Way of Working. Over the past years, the RS SRR has become a locally anchored, multi-partner effort. This has been showcased in the inclusive and participatory governance and coordination structures developed, such as the Steering and Technical Committees, the development of the Territorial Action Plans and the Governors' Forum.

Despite the results and progress, the Lake Chad Basin region continues to face severe challenges, including shifts in conflict context with increasingly close ties between criminal groups and violent extremists, community conflicts and regular clashes between farmer and herders. Lack of basic social services, youth unemployment and high numbers of displaced people remain a challenge across the region, which is also very vulnerable to climate change. Shifts in climate combined with changing demography increase pressure on scarce natural resources, fuelling further conflict.

Recognizing both the successes of the RS SRR and the remaining challenges, the RS SRR Steering Committee decided at its fourth meeting, held on the 27th of September 2023 in Abuja, to extend the RS SRR by one year, until 30th of August 2024. During this extension period, the LCBC was tasked by the Steering Committee to lead the process of preparing an adjusted Regional Strategy to be submitted to the Steering Committee for approval at its fifth meeting. With the support of a Joint

Task Force of key partners and stakeholders and two consultants, the LCBC has successfully delivered the adjusted RS SRR. The adjusted RS SRR was preliminarily endorsed by the RS SRR Steering Committee held on September 20, 2024, in N'Djamena, Chad. The current phase of the strategy was extended until December 30, 2024, to allow for time for the submission of the adjusted strategy to the Council of Ministers for approval. The new RS SRR will be valid from January 2025 to December 2030.

At the technical validation meeting for the adjusted RS SRR it was furthermore recommended that the accompanying documents to the RS SRR be updated to reflect and align with the adjusted version of the Regional Strategy. This recommendation was endorsed by the Steering Committee at its fifth meeting held on September 20th, 2024.

Justification for the review of the RS SRR Results Framework and TAPs

A results framework for the RS SRR was developed in 2021 with the purpose to provide an operational tool to enable progress tracking and to inform the design of interventions contributing to the implementation of the RS SRR. The framework was designed to measure progress on the strategic level, not activity- or output-based, and did not seek to demonstrate causation. The results framework set out to track progress according to the pillars of the RS SRR over three years.

The Territorial Action Plans (TAPs) are the implementation framework for the operationalization of the RS SRR. In the first Phase of the RS SRR, the LCBC supported the development of a set of eight (8) TAPs for the key Boko Haram-affected areas of the Lake Chad Basin namely Borno, Yobe and Adamawa in Nigeria, Diffa Region in Niger, Region Du Lac and Hajder-Lamis in Chad as well as the North and Far North Region of Cameroon. These were validated by the Governors and member states of the LCB during the 3rd edition of the Lake Chad Basin Governors Forum in October 2021, in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

During the first phase of the RS SRR, it was envisioned that the TAPs monitoring and evaluation would directly be informed by the RS SRR results framework. The results framework indicators were meant to be the basis for the development of the TAPs monitoring and evaluation processes, while applying an adaptive approach based on contextual priorities. In 2022, territorial profiles for each of the eight targeted regions, featuring conflict analyses and comprehensive perception studies, were developed to establish a baseline for the results framework.

The recent technical working group recommended, and the 5th Steering Committee on 20th September 2024 approved, that these documents be reviewed and adjusted to align them with the updated Regional Strategy.

According to the World Bank, a results framework is “an explicit articulation (graphic display, matrix, or summary) of the different levels, or chains, of results expected from a particular intervention—project, program, or development strategy¹”. Thus, the results framework captures the essential

¹ <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/331541563854787772/text/Designing-a-Results-Framework-for-Achieving-Results-A-How-to-Guide.txt>

elements of the logical and expected cause-effect relationships among inputs, outputs, intermediate results or outcomes, and impact.

It is important to facilitate the development, deployment and adoption of a common monitoring and evaluation framework, with a common baseline and a consolidated reporting regime, established by the LCBC at the regional level. This monitoring and evaluation framework must be adapted to the adjusted Regional Strategy and its eight territorial action plans and ensure that the essential elements are captured to monitor and report on joint impact of different partners and actions contributing to the implementation of the RS SRR.

Following the technical validation of the updated RS SRR, and the recommendation from the RS SRR Steering Committee to proceed immediately with preparing the results framework for the RS SRR 2025-2030 and adjusting the TAPs a consultant was hired to support the LCBC with the process of updating the TAPs and preparing a new results framework for RS SRR. The LCBC is recruiting national consultants to support the principal consultant with all engagements related to the update of the TAPS and RF, at the territorial and national levels.

Overall objective

The overall objective is to support the principal consultant in the update of the operational documents of the RS SRR through a consultative and inclusive process with relevant stakeholders, especially the Governors Offices. Specifically, the national consultants will lead the territorial and national consultations and engagements, ensuring the approach is culturally and contextually appropriate.

Key Tasks

Update the Territorial Action Plans

- Support the principal consultant in updating the Territorial Action Plans via engagements with UN entities, governors' offices, civil society organizations, and other partners / stakeholders
- Support the principal consultant in collecting, analysing, and incorporating data
- Support the principal consultant in ensuring effective participation, consultation, and tailoring of the process to the contextual realities of each territory and country
- Participate in all trainings and meetings convened by the principal consultant
- Support the principal consultant in delivering the national and regional consultation workshops as necessary
- Provide daily reports / briefings to principal consultant on progress made in executing key tasks and deliverables
- Conduct desk review of the territorial profiles and provide updates to the document based on findings/outcome of the consultations

Design robust results framework for RS SRR 2025-2030

- Support the principal consultant in designing the results framework, specifically in identifying sources of verification, definition of indicators, and any other support as required

Duration

This assignment is estimated to be carried out by four national consultants (one per country) and will involve in-country travel to the respective territories in each country. The following is an estimate breakdown of the duration of the assignment:

- Preparatory work with principal consultant - 3 days
- Consultations in each territory - 7 days / territory
- National consultation workshop (location to be determined) -2 days
- Regional validation workshop in Abuja - 3 days
- Report writing / data analysis - 2 days / territory
- Update of territorial profiles - 2 days/territory
- Support to consultant for update of territorial action plans - 2 days / territory

Deliverables

<u>Deliverable</u>	<u>Payment</u>
Transcript of each consultation undertaken with summary of key findings and reports of territorial consultations	30%
Summary of updated territorial profile based on findings/outcome of the territorial consultations (including mapping of relevant programs/projects, development/changes in the context, etc)	30%
Facilitation and report of national and regional consultation workshops	40%
Total	100%

Methodology of work

The consultants will work remotely, with some travel as is necessary.

Institutional arrangements

The consultants will be under the overall supervision of the Technical Director of the LCBC but will work in collaboration with the principal consultant and the RS SRR coordination unit.

Logistical and administrative support

LCBC will facilitate the consultants' access to the key stakeholders as is necessary. Financial proposals should only include consultant days as the LCBC will process all travel (flights and per diem) according to its processes.

Experience and qualifications

The successful candidate will be a professional with substantial experience in project implementation and coordination, including in engaging and communicating with diverse stakeholders.

1. Education:

An advanced university degree (MA/PhD or equivalent) in Development Studies, Peace Studies, Political Sciences, the Politics of Alternative Development, Conflict Prevention, International Relations or related field OR a bachelor's degree in any of the aforementioned areas with an additional 2 years' professional experience.

2. Experience:

- A minimum of 5 years' relevant progressively responsible experience in international development, peace and security or related field. Experience from the LCB countries is an advantage.
- Excellent political analysis, program and project management skills, in-depth knowledge of international relations particularly conflict and stabilization issues.
- Familiarity with the Lake Chad Basin Regional Strategy for Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience and its operational documents is an advantage
- Familiarity with a wide range of relevant issues is desirable, including community development, reconciliation processes, conflict resolution, democracy/governance, and human rights.
- Experience of working with regional institutions in Africa and engaging with regional policy development.
- Aptitude to operate with high levels of autonomy, responsibility, and authority in a high stressful and complex situation while exercising sound judgment in politically charged and challenging security environments.
- Ability to travel extensively within the Lake Chad Basin region.
- Ability to communicate effectively with a variety of stakeholders.
- Excellent reporting and writing skills.

3. Language:

Fluency in spoken and written English or French.

4. Computer Skills:

Excellent computer literacy and skills on MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Payment Modality

Payment to the consultants will be made based on deliverables accepted and upon certification of satisfactory completion by the LCBC.

This TOR is reviewed by:

Name: **Hycinth Banseka**

Designation: **Technical Director**

Date Approval:

This TOR is approved by:

Name: **Amb. Mamman Nuhu**

Designation: **Executive Secretary**

Date Approval: