



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR END OF PROJECT EVALUATIONS

Assignment:	Project midterm Evaluations
Contract period:	1 June to 15 June 2023
Project:	Africa We Want- Youth Justice & Dignity

1. About the Africa YMCA

The Africa Alliance of YMCAs is an ecumenical youth focused alliance of 17 active Young Men Christian Associations (YMCAs). The YMCA is a membership movement with a strong grassroots presence in 330 community-based branches across urban and rural Africa. Our leadership is distinctly democratic, with all our grassroots leaders holding elective positions in all 24 countries and 330 branches. The African YMCA Movement believes in the African renaissance and the vision of the Movement is to empower young people for the African Renaissance. As a grassroots movement, the YMCA is an equal opportunity solutions provider for and with African youth. The philosophy of the Movement is based on the belief that young people need Space, need to develop a Voice, and need to have Influence in order to move from being Subjects of negative socio-political influences to being Citizens of a free, developed and prospering Africa – to move *from Subjects to Citizen* (The S2C Philosophy).

Given the contextual reality of an underperforming continental political and leadership class, especially so in the provision of access to the basics of wellbeing, justice and dignity, and evidence of the shrinkage of space and funding for CSOs in Africa, the AAYMCA has been working to address through this funding the lack of access to wellbeing, dignity and Justice experienced by youth in the continent. AAYMCA has been implementing the Africa We Want – Youth Justice and Dignity (AWW – YJD) project since January 2021. The AWW – YJD is a continental project that is anchored on the intention of the African YMCA Movement to empower young people to be in the Driver’s seat of the African Renaissance. The project has various levels of targets based on the outputs as described below. The Overall Development Goal of the AWW – YJD Project is: An Africa whose development is people driven, relying on the potential offered by African Youth (Aspiration 6 of Agenda 2063); and the project has been designed to achieve the following objectives:

1. Youth are driving improved accountability and service delivery performance of government institutions at national and regional levels to ensure access to dignity and justice for vulnerable youth.

The Indicators for success under this objective therefore include:

- a. Indicator 1.1: The African Union invites at least 3 AAYMCA youth representatives to actively participate in the planned youth consultations of the Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment (PAYE).
 - b. Indicator 1.2: At least 30 young people (male and female) influence high level decision-making processes at community, national or continental level on the issue of youth justice and dignity.
 - c. Indicator 1.3: Political decision-makers accept at least 75 invitations from AAYMCA youth representatives to specially initiated events/exchange meetings on the topic of justice and dignity
2. A sustainable African YMCA movement with well-established governance practices for an African youth.

The Indicators of success for this Objective are listed as:

- a. Indicator 2.2: Policy-makers and staff of the African Union address high-level AAYMCA staff and/or board members for consultations and exchanges in at least 17 cases.
- b. Indicator 2.2: Funding for PowerSpaces increases by at least 10% through new partners and registered members.

The project approach is based on the Theory of Change that reads: *If all African youth regardless of race, religion, gender, socio-economic status or origin have access to safe and innovative spaces equipped with tools for self-discovery and optimization of their potentials; then they will have a credible voice and the ability to: influence governance, achieve economic self-reliance, negotiate for equal access to justice and eliminate hegemonic masculinity.* Ultimately, they be in the driver's seat of an integrated prosperous and peaceful Africa that is a dynamic force in the global arena.

The achievement of this change is determined by the following outputs:

- a. Output 1: Futures based policy and Programme Innovation deployed by African youth in the YMCA
- b. Output 2: Established Innovative, Human Centered and Scenarios Based youth-led programmes that promote youth resilience
- c. Output 3: skills and capacity resources for enhancement of Youth, Justice and Dignity in the delivery of scenarios based Programme innovation developed

The direct target group of the project is made up mostly of 18 – 25 year old participants within Youth Dignity and Justice prototype Power Spaces implemented in 5 target countries (Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria and Zimbabwe). They are typically youth at risk of getting into conflict with the law in these countries, with little education background and mostly engaging in the informal sector within the participating countries. They are mostly located at or near informal settlements and often visit the YMCA for basic services to satisfy their basic needs.

1.1 Objective of the evaluation

This evaluation is intended to provide an assessment of the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the implementation plan and strategy towards achieving results and success of the project in the participating countries. It will specifically,

1. Provide an overview of results achieved by the project in terms of implementation and achievement against activities, outcome and outputs.
2. Document lessons learnt and best practices on performance and success against challenges within the project period in the intervention areas by country and project component. As well as in the methodologies employed (related to but not limited to Policy engagement, Youth mobilization, training and deployment, Human Centred approaches to youth engagement and sustainability of YMCAs)

- (i) Gather case studies of beneficiary engagement and implementing YMCA successes in implementing the project goals. The Case studies will be useful in developing a knowledge base for the AAYMCA in implementing similar projects in the future
- (ii) Identify and document key lessons learnt and best practices that the YMCAs and stakeholders can adopt to improve the design and implementation of other related projects and programmes.

2.0 Scope of work

The results of the evaluation will be used by Bread for the World and the AAYMCA to improve the technical approach, targeting and management procedures for future multicounty interventions and will be based on the OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation (EvalNet) evaluation criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability.

The Evaluation will therefore:

- i. Assess the relevance of the implementation plan and strategy - to what extent does it align and support project objectives, the needs of the beneficiaries and strategies/policies of the AAYMCA?
- ii. Assess the implementation tools and procedures applied to this intervention and how effective they are. Determine what informed activity prioritization and how the different activities contributed to meeting the project objectives.
- iii. Determine how effective the implementation plan and strategy are in driving achievement of the project objectives
- iv. Determine how efficient the implementation plan and strategy are in driving results in an economically viable manner (value for money)
- v. Determine if positive changes emanating from project implementation (if any) have a lasting effect at National, participant and AAYMCA level (sustainable Impact)
- vi. Assess how the M&E system has been applied and to what extent it has stimulated learning within the AAYMCA
- vii. Assess how efficient communication and sharing results between the National Movements and the AAYMCA is
- viii. Assess and document underlying factors beyond YMCA's control that affect the achievement of the project results;
- ix. Assess and document the unintended outcomes of the project;
- x. Provide recommendations for follow-up activities.

2. Evaluation design/methods

The Consultant will use varied, relevant and up to date methods and approaches. All evaluation questions should- where possible and meaningful - be targeted at respondents differentiated by age, gender and other criteria such as socio-economic affiliation, disability, etc.

- 1. A Desk-top review of existing documentation and research by the AAYMCA and others to capture the essence of the S2C philosophy is expected and should be factored in
- 2. Key Informant Interviews of Programme Staff is critical and the Evaluator is expected to carry them out
- 3. The evaluator will also be expected to conduct Focus Group discussions with a number of direct beneficiaries from the project, which include (but not limited to) the following pool of beneficiaries (evaluator to determine suitable sampling methodology in the proposal):
 - a. 30 Young S2C Advocates for Change
 - b. 100 youth leaders and influencers
 - c. youth Powerspace participants
 - d. YMCA in-country implementing staff
 - e. Africa Alliance of YMCAs Executive Committee Members

3. Process of the evaluation/time frame

The total duration of the evaluation will be for 15 working days between May and June 2023 according to the following plan:

- i. Preparation including agreeing on geographical scope of the process evaluation;
- ii. Secondary review and acquaintance with key project documents, project progress reports and other relevant project-related materials. Among key documents to be reviewed will include annual report, quarterly plans, trip reports, Activity reports, online articles etc. ;
- i. Setting up dates and preparation of a detailed mission programme in cooperation with the AAYMCA Project team. The Project Team will organise the schedule of the missions, arrange transportation for the consultant and translation/interpretation, when necessary. ***This is a Nairobi based activity and therefore all evaluation activity shall be carried out in Nairobi with interviews with participants from outside of Nairobi being carried out online. AAYMCA shall not provide for travel and other costs out of Nairobi;***
- ii. Communication with the Project Team to clarify any other matters
- iii. Online meetings with one country per region (countries to be selected and prioritized with AAYMCA), participants will mostly be program staff and volunteers
- iv. Briefing with YMCA Project Teams
- v. Debriefing with YMCA project teams and AAYMCA team (discussion on preliminary results & clarification of issues).
- vi. Drafting and presentation of the draft report
- vii. Final report incorporating comments

4. Expected products

The deliverables of this evaluation shall be in English and include,

- i. **Inception report two weeks** after contract award that should on the minimum include;
 - a. a short description of methods (e.g. document review, discussions and observations with beneficiaries, interviews with project staff and implementing partners in countries where project activities were implemented);
 - b. highlight key stakeholders to be included in the evaluation e.g. beneficiaries, project staff, implementing partners, government representatives etc.
 - c. assignment limitations and proposed mitigation
 - d. detailed timetable of work
- ii. A **draft report by 10th May 2023. The draft report will be** report for comments, suggestions additional information and clarification from AAYMCA and NMS after which it will be refined
- iii. Final report **whose** structure and content of the report should meet Bread for the World and YMCA's standards and reporting requirements. The length of the Report should not exceed 30 pages in total (excluding the annexes). The report should be analytical; be structured around project objectives, key interventions, results and related findings/lessons learnt and include case studies. It should contain;
 - a. Executive summary
 - b. Background and description
 - c. Description of the evaluation methodology used
 - d. Key findings and results (based on DAC criteria)
 - e. Lessons learned
 - f. Conclusions and recommendations
 - g. Appendix /Annex

5. Key qualifications of the evaluators

The consultant should be an expert in research, end line evaluations and assessment with practical skills in Monitoring & Evaluation and knowledge of youth development issues across Africa. Preference will be given to individuals or firms with proven relevant experience in undertaking a task of similar magnitude, with specific experience and expertise in Human Centered Design and shall have the following qualifications and experience:

- i. An advanced degree in relevant field (Youth development, Research, Statistics, development studies, etc)
- ii. At least 3 years of professional experience in work related to Research and endline evaluations and studies in Africa, particularly in all regions of Africa but with adequate experience in research methodologies and processes, Monitoring & Evaluation and systematizing data
- iii. Strong professional experience in Human Centred Design, Design Thinking, User Experience, Service Blueprinting is a requirement;
- iv. Good communication and Writing skills,
- v. Experience in programme management of development projects in areas of youth empowerment policies/projects/programmes
- vi. Valid Certificate of incorporation, and other related legal documents (for firms)

6. Content of the evaluator's offer

Consultants/Firms that meet the requirements should submit technical and financial proposals with CV including budget outline to the Africa Alliance of YMCA through: aaymcas@africaymca.org with the title: "Africa We Want, Youth Justice and Dignity Evaluation Proposal" and addressed to *The Programmes Executive, Africa Alliance of YMCAs* on or before 18 May 2023