**Research on the advocacy pathways for addressing barriers for the fulfilment of Palestinian Child Rights to Education, Protection and Participation in Lebanon.**

**Terms of Reference**

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# **Background and justification:**

Save the Children Lebanon (SCL) in cooperation with Save the Children Norway (SCN), funded by NORAD, is implementing a 5-year project within Palestinian camps with a focus on Education, Child Protection and Child Rights Governance (CRG). The main objective of the CRG intervention is that duty bearers are more accountable towards ensuring refugee children’s rights to quality, inclusive education and safer learning environment by 2023.

SCL will conduct a research on the situation of Palestinian refugee child rights in Lebanon because we have identified the need to further understand the political landscape and its impact on the fulfillment of Palestinian Child Rights, in order to identify the barriers and exploring possibilities to hold the GoL to account. This research will inform an advocacy strategy developed by a national coalition of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) working in and outside the Palestinian camps, including children and youth.

SCL plans to engage with a consultant or research institute in order to obtain a clear and solid analysis of the situation. In addition, institutions who have an extensive history related to human rights and are engaged in national public discussions around refugee issues will be an added value for their engagement in the research and their possible participation in the advocacy processes along with CSOs starting Q4 2020 up to 2023.

SCL will cooperate with the chosen consultancy/ research institute to draw the research methodology, to steer the day to day management of the research process, and ensure quality data review and collection phases, as well as analysis and final reporting.

# **Objectives**

**Overall Objective**: To inform different advocacy pathways for addressing barriers for the fulfilment of Palestinian Child Rights to Education, Protection and Participation in Lebanon.

**Specific objectives:**

* Identify briefly the main barriers to the non-fulfilment of Palestinian Child Rights to Education, Protection and Participation and their impact on children, taking into consideration the international and legal frameworks protecting child rights.
* Identify priorities of advocacy to be included in the advocacy strategy to be developed by the Alliance of CSOs, with a focus on the rights barriers that would be most realistic to address in light of the Lebanese political context.
* Provide recommendations on the most feasible way of addressing these rights barriers, taking into consideration previous advocacy efforts and lessons learnt for both Palestinian and Lebanese children as well as different stakeholders’ possible obligations and/or interests towards this refugee segment.

The findings will provide the evidence base for advocacy for Palestinian child rights through a national civil society alliance that will be established with the support of SC. Other audience of the research is the Government of Lebanon, UNRWA, UN agencies, INGOs and CSOs working with Palestinian refugees, in addition to Palestinian refugee children and their community.

# **Scope**

**Research question**: **What are the main advocacy pathways to adopt to address the barriers to the non-fulfilment of the rights of Palestinian refugee children to Education, Protection and Participation?**

The research will:

* Analyze the political/economic and social barriers and dynamics in relation to the clusters of child rights (as per CRC Committee concluding observations clustering).
* Include a political analysis with a mapping of actors and their dynamics, including their reach and influence on national and local decisions.
* Identify the impact of the socio-economic, financial and political barriers on the national level as well as the local level.
* Identify priorities of advocacy to be included in the advocacy strategy with a focus on the rights barriers that would be most realistic /feasible to address in light of the Lebanese political context, building on previous experience in this regard.
* Identify the way to reinforce the linkages between local and national advocacy and civil society efforts.
* Provide a brief comparison to the fulfilment of the Syrian refugee children’s rights as the latter are a part of the demographic of the Palestinian camps.

# **Process and Methodology**

## **Research Process Management**

A **research steering committee** will oversee the overall research process. The Committee will have general responsibility for the successful completion of the research. It will *inter alia* provide strategic direction and guidance during implementation, further develop and approve Terms of Reference (TORs) and plans of the research, ensure sufficient resources are committed and resources are used efficiently, and oversee the exercise once started, including the completion of key stages or deliverables of the consultant/research institute. The PDQ director and CRG TA will be ensuring the provision of timely feedback to all the consultant/research institute’s enquiries, review and approve the quality of the analysis and produced documents before final submission.

**SCL PDQ Director will chair the Steering Committee that will include the SCL CRG Technical Advisor (TA), SCL MEAL Manager, SCL Beirut/South and Mount Lebanon Area Manager, SCN MEAL TA, SCN CRG TA and SCN Award Manager.**

**For the day-to-day management of the research, a project team will be put together, composed of the SCL CRG TA, SCL CRG Coordinator and the researchers.**

The SCL **CRG TA** will supervise the work technically specifically with the consultant/**research institute** and will have a managing and coordination role of the project team. The CRG TA will be responsible for the follow up of the implementation of the research, ensuring work plan implementation and budget compliance. The CRG TA will be the main contact person with the consultant/research institute in addition to the MEAL focal point.

It is envisaged that the researchers will be required in country during the inception and secondary data review phases, and subsequently during the primary data review, analysis and final reporting.

In terms of budget resources, SC will fund the research by covering the consultant/research institution fees which will include the cost of data collectors, researchers and transportation within Lebanon. No travels outside Lebanon will be covered.

## **Sources of Information**

The research will be conducted using two main sources of information: A secondary data review will be performed, during which available secondary information will be scrutinized in order to prepare for primary data collection and feed into the overall analysis report.

Following secondary data review, the requirements for primary data collection will be identified by the project team, in order for the consultant/research institute to be able to devise the most appropriate primary data collection methodology and design the more relevant data collection tools. Interviews, workshops, Focus Group Discussions are examples of primary data collection methods, the details will be defined by the consultant/research institute.

The consultant/ research institute will reach out to formal and non-formal actors within the actors mapping, for e.g. community leaders, local committees, political parties, religious leaders, Palestinian Popular Committees, municipalities, CSOs/Community Based Organizations, youth groups, Lebanese Palestinian Dialogue Committee, Higher Council for Childhood, Ministries, Parliamentary Committees, Courts, etc.

The implementation process will involve primary data entry, cleaning, validation and aggregation and will be performed by the consultant. Then, he/she will analyse secondary and primary data obtained before convening a final workshop, during which all key findings and analysis will be reviewed and validated by the steering committee and the project team. The consultant/ research institute will then initiate the drafting of the final research report, including recommendations from all parties.

SCL should provide the consultant/research institute with access to all relevant material produced by SC and introduce the consultant/research institute to relevant contacts in Lebanon, when needed. SCN CRG and MEAL Manager will provide technical support throughout the process of the research.

## **The Consultant/ Research Institutes’ Tasks**

The consultant/research Institute will work within the framework and thematic issues defined by this TOR.The consultant/research Institute will be members of the **day-to-day management of the research** in accordance with an established work plan, and will be responsible for the completion/submisson of following specific undertakings/deliverables:

* Detailed research methodology document and work plan, including limitations.
* Matrix of secondary sources of information, including identified gaps
* Primary data collection and analysis methodology document
* Primary data collection tools
* List of interviews with brief summary of interviews
* A summary **analysis** matrix aligned with the research **question**
* Final data validation workshop agenda
* Final research reports in English and Arabic versions of 100 to 150 pages, including the following annexes:

1. Matrix presenting consulted materials and resources, including identified gaps;
2. List of interviewees with brief summary of interviews (if applicable);
3. List of interview questions
4. Validation workshop minutes
5. Bibliography

The above documents will be delivered in English, except the research report that will be delivered in English and Arabic as well the data collection tools that will be needed to communicate with Arabic speakers.

The research should take maximum 8 months to be finalized including the preparation phase, the development of the tools and the validation workshop.

# **Submission of Proposals**

The consultant/research institute is expected to submit a consultancy proposal including timeline and a budget in USD **by 4 April 2020** to the following email address: [omar.abdulhadi@savethechildren.org](mailto:omar.abdulhadi@savethechildren.org) using the following subject: “**CRG Consultant PR-B-2020-088**”. In addition to reading and signing on each document of SCI terms, conditions & policies (attached) as an acceptance from your end. The budget should include all costs for conducting the research. Once an agreement about the proposal is reached by both parties, SCI will sign a contract with the selected consultant/ research institute and ensure payments are done based on agreed deliverables.

# **Researchers’ Requirements**

* Experience in conducting researches about human/child rights and related analysis and reports writing.
* Experience in legal and social/political science and / or political economic analysis, including knowledge about international laws and conventions related to refugees and children.
* Experience in interviewing governmental representatives and local actors and civil society to grasp the needed data.
* Knowledge about rights based approaches to programming and understanding of child focused humanitarian programming is an added value.
* Fluency in English and Arabic, written and verbal.