

INVITATION TO BID FOR CONSULTANCY

TERMS OF REFERENCE TO CONDUCT VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT TO IDENTIFY BENEFICIARIES FOCUSING ON WOMEN AND YOUTH TO BE SUPPORTED

1.	Title of Consultancy	To conduct a vulnerability assessment to identify beneficiaries focusing on women and youth to be supported.
2.	Period of Consultancy	1 st - 30 th May 2025 (30 days)
3.	Consultancy type required	Individual or Firm.
4.	Date of Issue	16 th April 2025
5.	Closing Date	25 th April 2025
6.	Responsibility for Logistics arrangements and Costs	The consultant will cover for the logistics arrangements and costs; including food, accommodation and local transport and all costs associated with Vulnerability Assessment and data collection work.

1. BACKGROUND:

1.1 Organisation for Sustainable Development Africa (OSDA)

The Organization for Sustainable Development Africa (OSDA) is a local non-governmental organization founded in 2013 as a Community-Based Organization and officially registered as a Non-Government Organization in 2016. Headquartered in Kenya, OSDA operates across the Horn of Africa, focusing on fragile ecosystems in Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia. These regions are particularly vulnerable to climate-induced disasters, including recurrent droughts and floods, as well as challenges such as conflict and poverty.

The Organization for Sustainable Development Africa (OSDA) aligns its programs and strategies closely with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as the challenges faced by communities in the Horn of Africa directly reflect global development priorities. OSDA's community-driven approach addresses critical issues such as poverty (SDG 1), food insecurity (SDG 2), and health (SDG 3), Education (SDG4. Through interventions in climate action (SDG 13) and peacebuilding (SDG 16). By focusing on gender equality (SDG 5), OSDA works to empower women and marginalized groups, ensuring their inclusion in economic, social, and political opportunities. OSDA's efforts to improve water and sanitation (SDG 6), promote economic growth and decent work (SDG 8), and enhance infrastructure (SDG 11) contribute to strengthening communities' resilience in fragile ecosystems. Additionally, OSDA fosters partnerships (SDG 17) by collaborating with governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, and faith-based groups, ensuring a holistic approach to sustainable development. Through these integrated programs, OSDA plays a key role in advancing the SDGs and building a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future for communities in Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia.

2. Project Overview

Through a partnership with KOICA, IOM, and World Vision Kenya, OSDA is implementing the ELEVATE project, which aims to empower local communities by enhancing economic vitality and resilience in Lafey sub-county, Mandera County. The project focuses on diversifying livelihoods, providing essential skills training, and fostering the active participation of women and youth in community development and decision-making processes. This initiative addresses the challenges faced in Mandera County, a region characterized by fragile socio-



political dynamics, cross-border conflicts, and environmental degradation. With ongoing population displacement due to violence, coupled with unsustainable resource management practices, the region faces significant challenges in building resilience. OSDA's work aims to enhance livelihoods while promoting sustainable resource management and long-term stability, particularly through interventions designed for women and youth in Mandera-East and Lafey sub-counties. Additionally, OSDA plans to conduct Vulnerability Assessments to identify beneficiaries for the project, ensuring that support is targeted to those most in need.

As part of the ELEVATE project under the Organization for Sustainable Development Africa (OSDA), vulnerability assessments are being conducted to identify beneficiaries in Lafey sub-counties. The primary focus of these assessments is to ensure that women and youth, who are often the most marginalized groups in conflict-affected regions, are provided with the support they need to build resilience and improve their livelihoods.

The vulnerability assessment process involves a thorough evaluation of the socio-economic status, needs, and challenges faced by local communities. It seeks to understand the specific barriers that women and youth face in accessing resources, education, and decision-making opportunities. Key factors considered in these assessments include household income levels, access to basic services (such as water, sanitation, and healthcare), exposure to conflict, displacement due to violence, and environmental degradation.

Through this assessment, OSDA aims to identify individuals and groups who are most vulnerable and in need of targeted support. This will ensure that interventions under the ELEVATE project, such as livelihood diversification, skills training, and economic empowerment initiatives, are designed to address the unique challenges faced by women and youth in these areas. The findings from the vulnerability assessments will also inform the selection of beneficiaries, ensuring that those who are most at risk and marginalized could benefit from the project's services and support, helping to promote long-term economic resilience and community development in the region.

2. OBJECTIVES OF CONSULTANCY:

The primary objective of the consultancy is to conduct comprehensive vulnerability assessments in Lafey sub-county, focusing on women and youth. This assessment aims to identify and analyze the specific needs and challenges faced by these groups, with particular emphasis on their socio-economic vulnerabilities, access to resources, and exposure to conflict.

2.1 Specific Objectives

- To assess the livelihoods of the identified beneficiaries, determining their current skills, capacities, and potential areas for livelihood diversification. This assessment will ensure that the interventions are designed to address the most pressing needs of the community, and that training and empowerment initiatives are aligned with the local context and community priorities.
- The consultancy will develop recommendations for targeted interventions that can be implemented through the ELEVATE project to address the specific vulnerabilities of women and youth. These interventions may include skills training, income-generating activities, and economic empowerment programs aimed at building resilience and enhancing self-reliance among the identified beneficiaries.

3. SCOPE OF WORK:

The consultant(s) will be responsible for the following tasks:

1. Conduct a desk review of relevant literature on vulnerability among women in the Northern regions in Kenya and relate to the existing context of Lafey and Madera East sub-counties.
2. Develop a detailed methodology for conducting vulnerability assessments including data collection methods (e.g., surveys, interviews, FGDs), sampling, data analysis strategies.
3. Conduct fieldwork in Lafey Sub-County by collecting data with the tool that will be most advised.
4. Analyze the data collected from the survey using an appropriate tool that will provide inferences that will inform about the assessment appropriately.
5. Prepare a comprehensive report that includes:
 - i. Activity description, objectives and the methodology used.
 - ii. Findings from the assessment that will inform on the households that will be supported in climate smart livelihood, financial literacy and life skills.
 - iii. Findings on gender desegregated data that will inform on gender disparities, among the youth with appropriate recommendations for climate smart livelihoods.
 - iv. Appropriate recommendations that suit the assessment and which will inform of the needs of the participants as per the objective.
 - v. The correct format and standard as will be guided and then a presentation of the findings/results to the stakeholders.

4. METHODOLOGY:

To adequately respond to the assessment's objectives, a mixed-method approach will be employed for the vulnerability assessment. This approach will combine both qualitative and quantitative research methods to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the vulnerabilities faced by women and youth in the target communities. The methodology will include the following key components:

- **Desk Review of Secondary Literature:** A thorough desk review of existing secondary literature and project documents will be conducted. This will include reviewing project proposals, previous baseline surveys, reports, and relevant community profiles. This will provide valuable context and background information about the target communities, their socio-economic conditions, and the existing vulnerabilities that have been documented in prior assessments.
- **Quantitative Household Surveys:** Structured quantitative surveys will be administered to household representatives in the target communities. The surveys will gather data on various socio-economic indicators such as income levels, access to basic services (water, education, healthcare), livelihood sources, and specific vulnerabilities, including exposure to conflict, displacement, and environmental challenges. These surveys will aim to quantify the scope of vulnerabilities and identify households in greatest need of support.
- **Qualitative Interviews and Focus Group Discussions:** In-depth qualitative interviews will be conducted with key informants, including community leaders, local authorities, women's groups, and youth representatives. These interviews will provide rich, contextual insights into the challenges faced by the community, particularly women and youth, in accessing resources and participating in decision-making processes. Additionally, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) will be held with different community groups to gather perspectives on the underlying causes of



vulnerability and conflict in the region, and to understand the lived experiences of individuals in these communities.

SAMPLING:

Table 1: Sample size distribution per target area

Sub-County	Location/village	Interviews
Lafey	Warankara	25
	Gari	20
	Bamboo	20
	Kheira Ali	15
	Mey-Gag	20
	Sala	20
	Total	120

5. DELIVERABLES

The consultant(s) will deliver the following:

1. Assessment report covering; detailing findings of the data analysis, well-articulated methodology based on the guidance above and the tools (for review and approval), assessment work plan, and detailed budget
2. Data collection, cleaning and analysis
3. The database of responses or questionnaire files used to collect data, any recordings if available and the data analysis output files.
4. Draft narrative report
5. Prepare a summary PowerPoint presentation of the assessment report for review by OSDA.
6. Incorporate any changes/adjustments and share the final report within the timeline.

6. HOW TO APPLY

Application Procedure and Requirement:

Candidates interested in the position are expected to provide the following documentation:

1. A technical proposal with a detailed response to the TOR, with a specific focus on the scope of work, methodology, and timelines.
2. Initial work plan and an indication of availability.
3. A financial proposal detailing the daily rate (in Ksh) expected including accommodation, transportation, stationery, data collectors, research assistance, and all other costs related to this assignment. (Operational and consultancy fees).
4. Company profile or CV including a minimum of 3 references.
5. At least two previously conducted similar studies.
6. Demonstrate expertise in similar undertakings in the ASAL context
7. Detailed budget breakdown based on expected daily rates

Applications can be submitted via email or submission to the office

1. The subject of the email should be “Household Vulnerability in Lafey sub-county, ‘Bidder Name’, ‘Date’”.
2. All attached documents should be clearly labelled so it is clear to understand what each file relates to.



3. Your bid must be received, no later than 25th April 2025
4. Bids must remain valid and open for consideration for a period of no less than 30 days
5. Please send your application to info@osdafrik.org.
6. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and advance to the next stage of the selection process.