

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

ENDLINE EVALUATION STUDY

Integrated Women / Improved Livelihoods (I-WIL) Project

Om Habibeh Foundation (OHF) Funded by Louis Dreyfus Foundation (LDF)

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1. BACKGROUND

Om Habibeh Foundation (OHF), an affiliate of Aga Khan Foundation (AKF), implemented an eighteen-month pilot project funded by Louis Dreyfus Foundation (LDF) aimed at introducing cost-effective sustainable farming practices to women in Upper Egypt and testing the theory of its sustainability, profitability, and overall benefits to families, including women, girls, men, and boys.

The project worked in Al-Hikmah village of Al-Noqra Valley in Aswan, targeting rural women who were eager to enhance family income and improve their children's well-being but lacked the opportunities and knowledge to do so. Through partnership with the Louis Dreyfus Foundation, OHF demonstrated the profitability of regenerative agriculture for women and its environmental benefits.

Building on previous experience with women-focused programs and rural development initiatives, OHF collaborated closely with local authorities to empower women in agriculture. AKF, with its expertise in regenerative agriculture across Asia and Africa, provided technical support through the Small, Integrated, Innovative, and Impactful Modules (SIIMs) approach.

A comprehensive baseline study was conducted at the project's inception, establishing baseline values for key indicators across three strategic outcomes. This endline evaluation will measure progress against those baseline values and assess the overall impact and sustainability of the intervention.

2. PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIC OUTCOMES

Main Objectives:

1. To empower women farmers to become drivers of sustainable and regenerative agriculture
2. To enhance income and food security of farming households with a focus on women and girls
3. To improve dietary diversity and quality among female farmers, including women and girls

Strategic Outcomes (SO):

SO1: Enhanced skills of women in regenerative and environmentally sound agriculture

- Promotion of regenerative agriculture practices through practical field modules (SIIMs)
- Promotion of drip irrigation and solar pumping among farmer groups

- Training on climate-smart agricultural technologies

SO2: Empowered women contributing up to a 50% increase in their household's income

- Identification and training of women as 'Green Champions' in regenerative agriculture
- Capacity building in financial literacy and marketing
- Coaching on engagement with private sector and buyers
- Training in post-harvest processing, value addition, and storage

SO3: Improved environment and skills of women to practice and provide healthy nutrition

- Behavioural change activities around food diversification and utilization
 - Nutrition education and food economics training
 - Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) programs
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3. PURPOSE OF THE ENDLINE EVALUATION

3.1 Dual Purpose

Accountability: To verify achievements against targets set in the Performance Measurement Framework (PMF) and assess the extent to which project objectives were met.

Learning: To extract lessons learned, identify good practices, and inform future programming and potential scale-up of the regenerative agriculture model.

3.2 Specific Objectives

1. Evaluate performance against all PMF indicators and compare endline values with baseline values to measure change
2. Assess unintended outcomes (both positive and negative) that emerged during project implementation
3. Conduct a comprehensive process review to identify what worked well, what didn't, and why
4. Evaluate the effectiveness of the SIIMs approach in the Egyptian context
5. Assess sustainability and durability of project results and likelihood of continued practice adoption

6. Measure women's empowerment using the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)
7. Understand integration of crosscutting themes (gender equality, inclusion, safeguarding) and their impact on outcomes
8. Develop specific, actionable recommendations for future program design, scale-up, and replication

4. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND KEY QUESTIONS

The evaluation will be guided by the OECD/DAC criteria:

<p>4.1 Relevance Core Question: How well did the project design align with participants' needs and apply Gender Transformative Approaches (GTA)?</p>	<p>Sub-questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was the project design appropriate for the local context and actual needs of rural women? • To what extent were gender transformative approaches integrated across all project components? • How relevant was the choice of regenerative agriculture as a strategy for women's empowerment?
<p>4.2 Effectiveness Core Question: What observable changes occurred in economic decision-making power and agricultural practices for women and girls?</p>	<p>Sub-questions by Strategic Outcome:</p> <p>SO1 - Skills in Regenerative Agriculture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the adoption rate for each SIIM by beneficiaries? • What percentage of farmers now rely on organic vs. chemical fertilizers? • What area is covered by operational drip irrigation systems? <p>SO2 - Economic Empowerment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What percentage increase in household income was achieved? • What percentage of women successfully made contacts with buyers? • What volumes of products were processed, value-added, or stored?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the change in the WEAI score from baseline to endline? <p>SO3 - Healthy Nutrition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What percentage improvement in nutrition knowledge was achieved? • What changes occurred in dietary intake of micronutrients? • What is the prevalence of malnutrition among female farmers at endline vs. baseline? • Has household dietary diversity improved?
<p>4.3 Efficiency</p> <p>Core Question: How efficiently were resources allocated and utilized to achieve results?</p>	<p>Sub-questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were activities implemented within budget and planned timeframe? • What was the cost-benefit ratio of the intervention? • Was the SIIMs approach cost-effective compared to conventional extension methods? • What challenges affected implementation efficiency and how were they addressed?
<p>4.4 Impact</p> <p>Core Question: To what extent has the project achieved its outcomes and contributed to longer-term goals?</p>	<p>Sub-questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What long-term changes occurred in women's economic and social status? • What improvements were observed in environmental practices and soil quality? • What impact did the project have on family health and nutrition, especially for women and girls? • What unintended impacts (positive or negative) were observed?
<p>4.5 Coherence</p> <p>Core Question: What is the relevance of project activities to national policies and other interventions?</p>	<p>Sub-questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the project integrate with government and local authority programs? • What was the level of coordination with other organizations working in the same field?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were there duplications or gaps in interventions?
<p>4.6 Sustainability</p> <p>Core Question: Will women and girls maintain access to and control over improved agricultural practices and resources after project completion?</p>	<p>Sub-questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the likelihood of beneficiaries continuing to apply learned practices? • Were local institutional capacities built to support continuation? • What factors may enhance or hinder sustainability? • Are there plans for scaling up or replicating the model?
<p>4.7 Learning & Innovation</p> <p>Core Question: What lessons can be identified and how can they improve future programs?</p>	<p>Sub-questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What good practices can be replicated? • What were the main challenges and how were they addressed? • How effective was the SIIMs approach in the Egyptian context? • What recommendations exist for scaling up the project?

5. SCOPE OF WORK

5.1 Geographic Coverage

The endline evaluation will cover the same geographic area as the baseline study:

- Governorate: Aswan
- District: Nasr Elnouba
- Village: Al-Hikmah, Al-Noqra Valley

5.2 Target Groups

- Direct beneficiaries: Women farmers who participated in the project
 - Green Champions: Women trained as lead farmers
 - Household members of beneficiaries
 - Local authorities and government officials
 - Agricultural associations and cooperatives
 - Community members (for context and comparison)
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6. METHODOLOGY

6.1 Overall Approach

The evaluation must employ a Participatory Mixed-Methods Approach combining quantitative and qualitative methods to ensure triangulation of findings and comprehensive analysis.

6.2 Quantitative Methods

Structured Survey:

- Sample size: Minimum 83 respondents (same as baseline for comparison)
- Target: Women farmers who participated in project activities
- Tool: Structured questionnaire covering all PMF indicators
- Language: Arabic with English translation

6.3 Qualitative Methods

A. In-Depth Interviews (IDIs): Minimum 10-15 interviews with:

- OHF project staff and management
- Local government officials (Governorate Executive Environment Department)
- Selected project beneficiaries
- Community representatives

B. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs): Minimum 5-7 FGDs with:

- Women farmer beneficiaries (2-3 groups)
- Green Champions (1 group)
- Male farmers (for gender perspective) (1 group)
- Agricultural association members (1 group)

Size: 6-10 participants per FGD Duration: 60-90 minutes

C. Case Studies:

- detailed success stories illustrating transformation
- Should cover different aspects: economic empowerment, nutrition improvement, environmental impact
- Include before-and-after narratives with quotes and photos (with consent)

6.4 Desk Review

Review of:

- Baseline study report
- Project proposal and logical framework
- Periodic and annual reports
- National strategies and policies (Egypt Vision 2030, SDGs)
- Technical documentation on SIIMs approach

6.5 Sampling Methodology

Quantitative Sample:

- Sampling frame: List of all women who participated in project activities (from project records)
- Sampling method: Stratified random sampling
- Stratification variables: Age group, location within target area, level of participation
- Sample size: 83 (same as baseline) to allow for statistical comparison

Qualitative Sample:

- Purposive sampling for IDIs (key informants with deep knowledge)
- Maximum variation sampling for FGDs (diverse perspectives)
- Criterion sampling for case studies (successful adopters with visible change)

6.6 Data Quality Assurance

Triangulation:

- Source triangulation: Multiple stakeholder perspectives
- Method triangulation: Quantitative and qualitative approaches
- Investigator triangulation: Multiple team members analyzing data

Quality Control Measures:

- Pilot testing of all data collection tools
- Training of enumerators with practice sessions
- Daily review of completed questionnaires
- Field supervision and spot-checks
- Data cleaning protocols

- Inter-coder reliability checks for qualitative data

6.7 Data Disaggregation

All data must be rigorously disaggregated by:

- Age: <35 years, ≥35 years (and other relevant categories)
- Gender: Male, Female
- Location: Village/hamlet within target area
- Marital status
- Education level
- Socioeconomic status

7. KEY INDICATORS TO BE MEASURED

7.1 Strategic Outcome 1: Enhanced Skills in Regenerative Agriculture

N	Indicator
1	% of participants who heard about sustainable agriculture
2	% of participants who heard about regenerative agriculture
3	% who know how regenerative agriculture affects climate change
4	% who know water conservation methods
5	% who know soil-friendly tillage methods
6	% who know factors maintaining soil fertility
7	% who know how to replace pesticides
8	% using compost
9	% using biofertilizers
10	% using biopesticides
11	% using crop rotation
12	% using modern irrigation
13	% using organic fertilizers
14	% recycling agricultural waste

7.2 Strategic Outcome 2: Economic Empowerment

N	Indicator
1	Number of Green Champions trained
2	Number of SIIMs modules delivered
3	% increase in household income
4	% affected by climate change (income)
5	% with marketing difficulties
6	% rating marketing knowledge as "Good"
7	Number of successful buyer contacts

8	WEAI Score
9	% women working in wage-paid agriculture
10	% women contributing to family income

Women's Participation Attitudes:

N	Attitude Indicator
1	Women can do same work as men
3	Community accepts women in agriculture
4	Community accepts women-men contact
5	Women can manage agricultural work alone
6	Women have right to make work decisions
7	Women control agricultural expenditure
8	Women control income from agriculture
9	Community organizations support women

7.3 Strategic Outcome 3: Improved Nutrition

N	Indicator
1	% with enough information about healthy foods
2	% with information on children's nutrition
3	% who know balanced meal definition
4	% who don't know calcium sources
5	% who don't know iron sources
6	% who don't know vitamin D sources
7	% who don't know potassium sources
8	% who don't know protein sources
9	% who don't know fiber sources
10	% using nutritional supplementation
11	Prevalence of anemia among beneficiaries
12	Prevalence of child malnutrition

8. DELIVERABLES

Inception Report	<p>Timeline: 3 Days after kick-off meeting Length: Maximum 10 pages Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the TOR and evaluation objectives • Detailed methodology (quantitative and qualitative) • Sampling strategy and sample size justification • Detailed work plan with timeline • Data collection tools (questionnaires, interview guides, FGD guides) in English and Arabic • Data analysis plan
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team composition and roles • Risk assessment and mitigation strategies <p>Deliverable format: Word document + PDF</p>
<p>Data Collection Tools</p>	<p>Timeline: 3 days after inception report approval</p> <p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final tested questionnaires (Arabic and English) • Key Informant Interview (KII) guides • Focus Group Discussion (FGD) guides • Observation checklists • Case study templates • Consent forms (Arabic and English) • WEAI questionnaire adapted to context <p>Deliverable format: Word documents</p>
<p>Draft Endline Report</p>	<p>Timeline: 10 days from start of data collection</p> <p>Length: 40-50 pages (excluding annexes)</p> <p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Summary (3-4 pages) with key findings and recommendations • Introduction and background • Evaluation methodology and limitations • Findings structured by OECD/DAC criteria and strategic outcomes • Comparison with baseline values (with statistical significance testing where applicable) • WEAI results and analysis • Analysis of crosscutting themes (gender, inclusion, safeguarding) • Conclusions • Specific, actionable recommendations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project scale-up and replication ○ Future program design

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policy advocacy ○ Partnership strategies ● Lessons learned and good practices <p>Deliverable format: Word document</p>
Final Report Package	<p>Timeline: 3 days after receiving comments on draft</p> <p>Contents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Final Report (English and Arabic versions) 2. Executive Summary (standalone, 3-4 pages, English and Arabic) 3. PowerPoint Presentation (20-25 slides) summarizing key findings and recommendations 4. Annexes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data collection tools ○ List of persons interviewed ○ FGD participant lists (anonymized) ○ Detailed statistical tables ○ Case studies (full versions) ○ Photos (with consent documentation) ○ Bibliography 5. Raw Data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cleaned quantitative database (SPSS or Excel) ○ Qualitative data transcripts (organized by method) ○ Coding framework for qualitative analysis 6. Data Collection Report: Summary of data collection process, challenges, and solutions <p>Deliverable format: Professional report layout with photos, graphs, and tables</p>
Presentation of Findings	<p>Timeline: After final report submission</p> <p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentation to OHF management and key stakeholders ● Interactive session for questions and discussion ● Duration: 2-3 hours ● Arabic and English versions

9. CONSULTANT QUALIFICATIONS

9.1 Required Qualifications

Academic:

- Advanced degree (Master's or PhD) in Social Sciences, Rural Development, Agriculture, Nutrition, Gender Studies, or related field

Experience:

- Minimum 7 years of experience conducting evaluations for development projects
- At least 2 baseline/endline evaluations for similar projects (women's empowerment, agriculture, nutrition)
- Proven experience evaluating women's empowerment and sustainable agriculture projects
- Applied knowledge of Gender Transformative Approaches (GTA)
- Previous work in Upper Egypt or similar rural contexts

Technical Skills:

- Proficiency in quantitative data analysis (SPSS, STATA, or similar)
- Strong qualitative analysis skills (thematic analysis, coding)
- Knowledge of OECD/DAC evaluation criteria
- Understanding of regenerative agriculture concepts
- Knowledge of nutrition assessment methods

10. EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR PROPOSALS

Technical Proposal (70 points)

Criterion	Sub-Criterion	Points
Methodology	Clarity and appropriateness of evaluation methodology	20
	Sampling strategy and justification	10
Work Plan	Feasibility and detail of work plan	10
	Timeline and milestones	5
Understanding of ToR	Demonstrated understanding of project and evaluation objectives	10
Team Qualifications	Team leader qualifications and experience	10

	Team composition and expertise	5
Financial evaluation		30

11. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Technical Proposal Contents	
Cover Letter:	Expression of interest Confirmation of understanding of ToR Availability and commitment
Company/Consultant Profile:	Organization overview or consultant CV Registration documents Tax certificates Similar project experience (with references)
Understanding of Assignment:	Interpretation of ToR Key evaluation questions Expected challenges and mitigation
Methodology:	Detailed evaluation methodology Sampling strategy Data collection methods Data analysis approach Quality assurance measures Integration of gender and inclusion
Team Composition:	CVs of all key team members Roles and responsibilities Time allocation
Work Plan:	Detailed timeline with milestones Gantt chart
Data Collection Tools:	Draft questionnaire Draft interview/FGD guides Show understanding of indicators
References:	At least 3 references for similar work Contact details
Financial Proposal Contents	
	Budget Summary Table Detailed Budget Breakdown by cost category Budget Narrative justifying costs

13. Ethics and Safeguarding Policies

Section	Key Ethical Requirements
Ethical Principles	Must maintain independence, ensure transparency, and strictly adhere to ethical principles, including non-maleficence (minimizing physical, psychological, social, or economic harm). Ensure justice (fair treatment), beneficence (benefit to communities), and respect for persons (cultural sensitivity and autonomy).
Informed Consent	Mandatory documented informed consent from all participants. Dual consent required for adolescents (15-18): parental consent + adolescent assent. Must explain: purpose, procedures, voluntary nature, risks/benefits, confidentiality, right to withdraw. Consent forms in Arabic. Verbal consent acceptable for illiterate participants (must be witnessed).
Confidentiality & Data Privacy	Strict confidentiality and anonymity for all participants. Use ID codes, not names. Secure data storage: password-protected files, locked cabinets. Data access: evaluation team and OHF only. Must adhere to OHF Data Privacy Policy. All data is OHF property - consultant must transfer all data and delete copies upon completion. Store consent forms separately from data.
Safeguarding	Mandatory adherence to OHF Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Code of Conduct. All team members must sign Code of Conduct and complete safeguarding training. Duty to Report: Must report immediately to OHF if abuse/harm disclosed. Limits of confidentiality must be explicitly communicated to participants. Safe research environments required: appropriate locations, timing, gender matching (when needed), no private meetings with minors. Establish referral pathways for support services.
Data Security Protocol	During collection: locked storage, password-protected devices. During processing: authorized access only, encrypted databases, secure backups. Transmission: encrypted transfers only. Disposal: secure deletion/shredding. No data on personal devices or unsecured platforms.