

External Final Evaluation	
Women Economic Empowerment Project in the West Bank	
Terms of reference	
Country / Region	OPT
Start date	September 2016
Source of funding	Europeaid
Author(s)	WB Field Coordinator, revised DHoM

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. CONTEXT

PREMIERE URGENCE INTERNATIONALE (PUI) is an international, apolitical, non-religious and non-profit French organization intervening in 20 countries worldwide to provide a global response on the fundamental needs to victims of humanitarian crisis from the emergency to the restoration of their autonomy and dignity. *Première-Urgence* and *Aide Médicale Internationale* merged in 2011 to offer a better range of lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to communities affected by humanitarian crisis.

Since 1967, occupation and political stagnation have directly affected the socio-economic situation of the Palestinian population in the West Bank. The movement restrictions policy are severely limiting Palestinians' access to essential services and markets, and leading to serious and negative impact upon all aspects of their lives, and mainly their livelihoods.

Consequently, the humanitarian needs in oPt have not fundamentally changed for the last decade. Protection threats related to ISF and settlers' violence, limited access to essential services and entrenched levels of food insecurity continue to characterize the day-to-day lives of many Palestinians. Communities in Area C of the West Bank came under increasing pressure - rise in demolitions, increase of settler violence, no easing on movement restrictions and no progress on the planning and zoning regime. Bedouin and herder communities in particular were affected.

The West Bank (WB) is today divided into three zones under Palestinian and/or Israeli control, with over 80% of the territory controlled by Israel. This has negatively affected the development of the WB: according to a 2013 World Bank Report, the Palestinian GDP (Gross Domestic Product) would increase by almost one forth (\$ 1.22 billion yearly) if Palestinians could make use of the WB areas under full Israeli control (the so-called Area C).

The presence of over 520,000 Israeli settlers, living in 150 settlements and 100 outposts in WB (in contravention of international law) and the close proximity with the Palestinian

population (2,7 million in WB), result in widespread tensions and episodes of violence, particularly against Palestinians and their property. Records of this phenomenon have alarmingly increased over the last years: between 2006 and 2012 only, OCHA records of settlers' attacks involving Palestinian casualties have increased by 175% (56 to 98) and those involving Palestinian property/land damage by 388% (60 to 233, i.e. 4 to 5 per week in 2012). On a total of 400 attacks during the 2013, the Governorate of Nablus recorded the largest number of such settler attacks, compared to other Governorates, resulting in injuries or damage: 120 (OCHA). Throughout 2013, the MoA recorded 716 violations by IOF (65%) and settlers (34%) against 470 farmers, mostly in Hebron and Qalqilya. The losses resulting from these violations are estimated at 9.000.000 usd. Recently we register a remarkable increase in the number of donor-funded structures targeted (FSW May 2014).

Settler violence has an impact on the overall living conditions of the Palestinian people, and puts their lives and resilience at risk. Indeed, attacks hinder food security, access to water and the right to housing. They also affect the physical and mental health of Palestinians and their access to public services including education and transportation. Daily harassment, intimidations and provocations also affect the well-being of the Palestinian population. All of the above mentioned factors eventually result in the displacement of Palestinians from their lands when living conditions become unbearable.

In 2012, more than 600 Palestinians homes and other structures were demolished by Israeli authorities, resulting in the forced displacement of 886 Palestinians, more than half of them children. Around 4,100 people were otherwise affected, for example due to the demolition of animal shelters, water cisterns or rural infrastructure (OCHA).

“Threats to life, liberty and security, restriction on free movement, and the risk of forced displacement undermine the ability of up to 1,8 million Palestinians in OPT to live normal, self-sustaining lives. Of these, an estimated 1,26 million Palestinians are food-insecure (income and consumption below USD 5.39/adult/day) and approximately 1 million receive less than 60 liters of water a day.” (OCHA 2012). 73 l/c/d is the average water consumption in WB (WHO standard: 100 l/c/d).

The percentage of food insecure Palestinians HH in WB is 19% (WFP-FAO-UNRWA 2013 Food Security Survey). Food insecurity is driven by high rates of poverty resulting from unemployment, which is, in part, due to ongoing Israeli access and movement restrictions to land, as well as high prices for food in markets and economic shocks, so households reduce the variety and nutritional values found in their diet (5,8 persons is the average Palestinian household size in OPT). The majority spend more than half their income on food. This situation is typical of protracted emergencies.

1.2. PUI - OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

PUI is present in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt) since 2002 right after the second intifada. PUI has mainly conducted an emergency economic recovery program through the distribution of emergency kits, professional kits, economic recovery activities, rehabilitation of agricultural lands. In 2009, PUI has also developed a program aiming at easing the access to potable water and sanitation facilities.

Since 2002, PUI has mainly focused its programs on the northern West Bank, in isolated villages or communities, especially in the districts adjoining the wall of separation, or those

with the highest concentration of settlements. Since 2009, following the military operation "Cast Lead", PUI has also expanded its intervention in the Gaza Strip.

From 2007 to 2012, PUI has implemented an economic recovery program based on short-term job opportunities and micro-business creation. The first component, commonly known as Cash for Work, aims at locally injecting a large amount of cash to households living under the poverty line (US\$ 2,2/day/person). Through rehabilitation works of community infrastructures or services, PUI, in close collaboration with each municipality council, supports the employment of skilled and low skilled workers over a period ranging from 1 to 2 months. So far, this component has supported more than 5,000 vulnerable households in finding such occasional sources of income, while contributing to the improvement of community infrastructure in 40 towns / villages of 5 Districts (Qalqiliya, Tulkarem, North Ramallah, Salfit, Nablus). In addition to CFW, PU-AMI has developed a Micro-Business Creation Project aiming at distributing professional kits to boost private initiatives. By providing a set of professional tools tailored to a specific business plan, this component seeks to foster local economy in a more sustainable way. Nearly 185 beneficiaries were given an opportunity to empower themselves economically and to increase their monthly income.

PUI has defined the following strategic priorities according to the needs and the scenarios of evolution foreseen:

1. HUMANITARIAN AID PROGRAM - protection-based livelihood program

Characterized by a strong protection mainstream, this program aims at supporting households under threat of settler violence or IF interventions, by replacing their livelihoods whenever destroyed or damaged following such issue. In the WB, PUI is part of a consortium funded by ECHO. PUI is partnering ACTED, ACF, GVC & NRC (lead of this consortium).

2. DEVELOPMENT AID PROGRAM: in order to subscribe PUI's intervention in a rational LRRD approach, a rehabilitation program, concomitant with the humanitarian aid program, will be developed:

- Women Socio-Economic Empowerment: this action will contribute the promotion and access to equality to increase the participation of women in the formal labour market and eliminate discrimination against women.

1.3. FOCUS ON THE WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROJECT FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION.

Under the framework of "Women Economic Empowerment" (WEE) project which is funded by the European Union (EuropeAid), PUI is partnering with a local organization, Women for Life (WFL). WFL is an independent, non-profit Palestinian organization working in the Salfit and Qalqiliya provinces of the West Bank to eradicate violence against women and empower women legally, socially, economically and politically. Additionally WFL runs several workshops aimed at developing women's technical and vocational skills in order to build women's economic capacity and to increase their employment prospects.

Main objective of the project: To create and consider the need to promote and support the empowerment of women in 10 Community Based Organizations (CBOs) of the Northern of West Bank through raising knowledge, improving awareness and strengthening the employability and the entrepreneurship among women in isolated villages that had been already tackled by PUI in previous interventions

Location of the project: 10 villages from Salfit and Qalqilya districts in the Northern of West Bank (i.e. Azzun, Marda, Haris, Kifl Haris, Kufr Thalth, Hajja, Alzzawia, Deir Istia, Kafr Qaddum, Deir Balut).

Length of project: 3.5 years (From 01/01/2013 to 31/09/2016)

Targeted groups:

- 10 rural women CBOs and their 50 members
- 1,100 women, including 50 women with disability
- 60 women will start-up a micro or small enterprise
- 40 students
- 800 children
- 160 men & traditional leaders

Results and main activities of the WEE project:

The WEE project is composed of three main results as following:

Result 1: Improved knowledge to support women's integration into the Palestinian economic sector

Activities:

1.1 Conduct a research about women's economic participation to update knowledge about trends and realities in the economic sector, with relation to women, and to establish a baseline to monitor gender-equity within the Palestinian labor market.

1.2 Carrying-out a conference to present the outcomes of the survey to the public

1.3 Set-up an evidence-based large-scale and grassroots awareness campaign regarding women's socio- economic participation at regional and local levels

Result 2: Developed supportive environment for women's socio-economic empowerment and well-being

Activities:

2.1 Empower 10 women CBOs as 'Women Capacity Building Centres' (WCBC), one in each of the ten targeted villages

2.2 Develop networking activities including: an on-line business development and job opportunities web service; 2 regional clubs for women who are or who are intending to be small business entrepreneurs, as well as other network activities

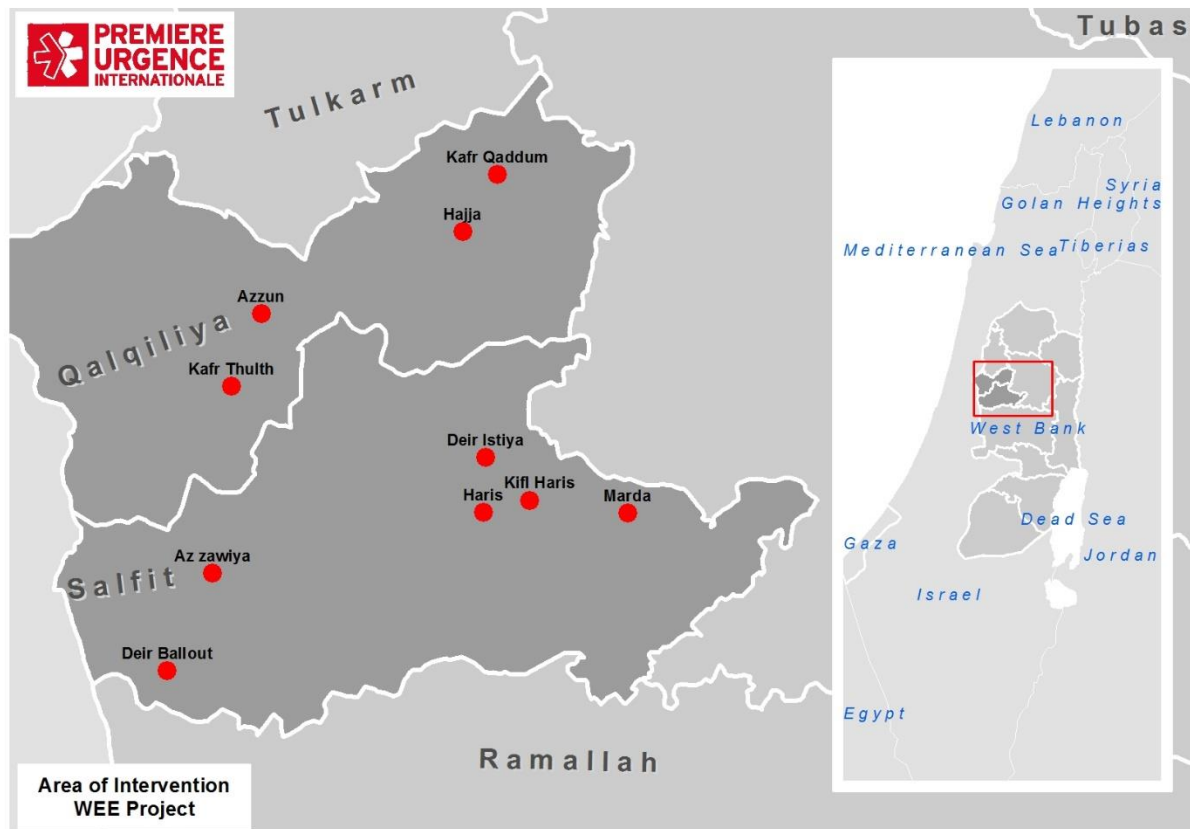
Result 3: Strengthened employability, competitiveness, and entrepreneurship of 500 women including 50 women with disabilities

Activities:

3.1 Developing and delivering trainings to build the capacity of Women for Life and local CBOs

3.2 Support the creation of 60 micro or small businesses (legal support, support to the research of capital, mentorship, and networking).

1.4. MAP OF THE ZONE



1.5. ASSESSMENT JUSTIFICATION

Historically, PUI in the West Bank has implemented both development and humanitarian programs in the northern governorates. Currently, PUI is about to finalize a Women Economic Empowerment programs (WEE) which comes after some Professional Tool Kits programs implemented since 2003.

As a part of the three-years “Women’s socio-economic empowerment in the occupied Palestinian territory” project funded by the European Union (EU) and French development agency and implemented by Première Urgence – Aide Médicale Internationale (PUI) in partnership with Women for Life (WFL), PUI is looking for an external consultant in order to assess its project and formulate concrete recommendations aiming to improve the quality of its future intervention.

In 2015 a mid-term Evaluation has been conducted to evaluate its effectiveness and provide specific recommendations. That evaluation had 2 specific objectives:

OS1: To evaluate the effectiveness of the partnership and coordination between PUI & its local partner, Women for Life, and the CBOs; provide recommendations.

OS2: To evaluate the action as well as progress and achievements towards objectives – with a specific focus on the Awareness campaign including Media Campaign and workshops and the CBOs’ development & capacities building; provide recommendations.

2.2.ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

2.1. OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To conduct a final evaluation of the project to evaluate its impact, effectiveness, stakeholders' satisfaction as well as to provide specific recommendations for future projects

2.2. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

Building upon the mid-term Evaluation, the final Evaluation shall focus on the following objectives:

OS1: To evaluate the action and the impact of the activities related to ER3 "Strengthened employability, competitiveness, and entrepreneurship of 500 women including 50 women with disabilities", including training towards employment, business trainings and Professional Tool Kit

OS2: To evaluate to which extent the project contributed to develop a supportive environment for women's socio-economic empowerment and well-being; with a specific focus on the integration of the project within local authorities, chambers of commerce, governorates, line ministries, and within villages (village councils, CBOs)

OS3: To evaluate the effectiveness of the overall project implementation and monitoring, the coordination between PUI and its local partner, Women for Life, and the CBOs.

OS4: To impact and effectiveness of the media campaign implemented by PUI under the framework of the Women Economic Empowerment project

3.TASKS

3.1. MAIN ACTIVITIES

In the frame of this assignment, the Consultant will have to analyze the impact of the following activities:

- The support to the creation of 60 micro or small businesses, including business creation training, support to the creation of the business plan, legal support, support to the research of capital, mentorship, networking and distribution of tool kits. The consultant will have to evaluate the sustainability of the newly created micro or small businesses.
- The empowerment trainings developed to build the capacity of Women for Life and local CBOs as 'Women Capacity Building Centres' (WCBC), with a special focus on the ToT (training of trainers) and trainings towards employment
- The networking activities including: an on-line business development and job opportunities web service; 2 regional clubs for women who already are or who are willing to be small business entrepreneurs, gathering about 100 women; one regional inter-enterprise forum that will gather at least 100 entrepreneurs from enterprises of various sizes in Salfit and Qalqilya governorates.

- Media campaign: A media campaign has been designed by PUI Communication department starting from September 2014 up to September 2016. This campaign aims to raise public awareness about the role of women and the benefits that their involvement in economy will have at the household, community and national level. Five main messages will be broadcasted through Radio and TV spots, billboards and Facebook. PUI is currently broadcasting its second message. The Consultant will have to evaluate the impact of the designed and broadcasted messages with regards to the projects objectives and targets, taking into account the frame of media campaign strategy defined with Dimension consulting.

4. METHODOLOGY

The methodology is at the consultant's initiative, and constitutes an integral part of the methodological proposal. Nevertheless, the methodology should include at least: data collection; writing of the report; internal restitution; monitoring mechanism.

5. ORGANISATION OF THE MISSION

5.1 COMPOSITION OF ASSESSMENT TEAM

The Consultant will be under the overall supervision of PUI WB Field Coordinator – in charge of the Operation department.

In the frame of its assignment, the Consultant will have to work in close collaboration with the Quality and Communication departments of PUI, in addition to WFL staff.

5.2 LOGISTICS, SECURITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANISATION

The consultant is expected to respect socio-cultural and security context of the mission and to act in a manner not to affect PUI image in the country.

The consultant is responsible for assessing her/his needs in terms of human resources and logistics. PUI will provide HR, logistical and administrative support to the extent possible.

5.3 TIMETABLE

The assigned activities have to be conducted in maximum **two months**. The timeframe to implement the following activities will be defined by the Evaluator.

Activities	Deliverables
PHASE 1: PREPARATION PHASE – including: - Documentary study: proposal and narrative reports; studies published by PUI etc. in the frame of this project	One study action plan in

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meetings with Action's staff - Field visit to understand the project <p>By the end of the first phase, the Consultant will have to submit to PUI for feedback and approval, a study action plan in English, including the methodology, the timeframe and target groups to conduct the evaluation</p>	<p>English including the methodology</p> <p>2 weeks</p>
<p>PHASE 2: Implementation / Field Work Phase</p> <p>Based on the methodology agreed, to conduct interviews / focus groups / Field visits (etc.) with the different targets groups (i.e. Beneficiaries; CBOs; Local & national authorities; PUI & WFL staff; TV & Radio producers etc.)</p>	<p>Tools used & Timeframe</p> <p>3 weeks</p>
<p>PHASE 3: Reporting Phase</p> <p>To issue a report in English - including a detailed analysis of the strengths and weakness of the project leading to specific recommendations to be implemented in the next months.</p>	<p>One Evaluation report in English including specific recommendations</p> <p>3 weeks</p>
<p>Total</p>	<p>2 months</p>

6. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

6.1. FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

Following the established framework, the final evaluation report (maximum of 25-30 pages - excluding appendixes) should include a detailed analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the project leading to specific recommendations to be implemented in next interventions.

- A draft of the report must be presented 2 weeks before the end of the consultant mission
- The report must be provided in 2 hard copies as well as 1 soft copy sent by email to the Field Co and PM on the date formerly agreed (8th week of the mission)
- The Field Co, PM, Head of Mission, or Desk Manager can request corrections or modifications within three months after the report is released and the evaluator must ensure that he is available if necessary.

6.2. POWER POINT PRESENTATION

PPT summarising main results and information collected. Prior to the finalization of the Final Evaluation report, an oral presentation shall be carried-out in order to collect feedbacks and comments from the Mission.

7. BUDGET

A maximum budget of 15.000 € is available for this study, however, a competitive selection process is expected to take place. The selected consultant is expected to cover all the costs related to the study including the ones related to transportation, accommodation, food, translation, extra human resources, etc. PUI will only provide administrative and logistic support to the extent possible.

A financial offer should be submitted, including a budget with detailed section (i.e. all costs related to the assessment, namely airline and other transportation expenses tickets, visa costs, medical coverage expenses and insurance, the cost of food and accommodation, logistics and human resources needed, as well as remuneration of expertise...).

8. REQUIREMENTS

8.1 Education

- Minimum of Master Degree in economics/social science

8.2 Experiences

- Minimum five-years working experience, with a focus on social and economic change/transformation for gender equality and the empowerment of women
- Relevant experience in project evaluation; quantitative and qualitative data collection, analysis and report writing assignments.

8.3 Competences & Knowledge

- Communicating Information and Ideas: ability to initiate and facilitate open communication in the team;
- Good knowledge of gender issues and women's economic empowerment issues ;
- Extensive knowledge of the Palestinian context within its political, social, and economic spheres.
- Ability to organize and complete multiple tasks by establishing priorities;

8.4 Language Requirements

- Fluency in English
- High level of Arabic

9. APPLICATIONS

Interested candidates should submit in English:

- ☑ A technical offer (**5-10 pages**) including:
 - Understanding of the challenges of the study and the Terms of Reference (ToR): development of a problematic and formulation of questions, which the offer proposes to respond to
 - The methodology and tools proposed for the evaluation
 - The timetable showing the details for the completion of each of the evaluation phases. The proposed schedule should include time for briefing and debriefing on the mission and as much as possible at headquarter.
- ✓ A financial offer including a budget with detailed sections (fees, other costs) – must not exceed 15,000 euros
- ✓ An updated CV
- ✓ 1 summary paper in English of similar assignments (any example of document is welcomed)
- ✓ References (2)

Deadline for submission: Documents to be submitted **by email** before **Monday, September 19, 2016, 04:00 PM.**

Applications submitted after the above stated deadline for submission, for whatever reason or cause, shall be considered defaulting.

Submission of applications

All documents must be submitted to the following email:

- hr@premiere-urgence.ps Reference: WEE Final Evaluation

Only applications including the full list of requested documents will be considered.