SECTION 3 - TERMS OF REFERENCE

**SERVICE PROVIDER FOR PROVIDING THIRD PARTY MONITORING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO
SOMALIA MONITORING PROGRAMME II (SMP II)**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1   State-building in Somalia is a huge challenge. The extremist Islamist group Al Shabaab still controls much territory in the south. The existing security is heavily dependent on AMISOM presence. The scars of civil war still run deep, intense factional competition over the distribution of even small amounts of power and resources constantly threatens to undermine efforts to establish a rules-based system of governance. Somalia is still ranked low in most international development and governance indexes despite critical areas of progress. While the recent Mo Ibrahim index rated Somalia among the bottom 10 countries, it noted that Somalia has shown most progress in all categories since 2011[1]. A major identified challenge to this is lack of reliable data which would be used to measure progress made in various aspects.

1.2   It is not possible for DFID to access of Somalia due to the continuing insecurity. As a result, the ability of DFID to engage directly in the monitoring and evaluation of UK-funded activities and actual results is severely constrained. Whilst it is possible that security conditions on the ground may improve over the course of coming years, there is currently no evidence that the FGS and AMISOM have capability to diminish the asymmetric warfare capabilities of Al-Shabaab in the medium term, nor to robustly manage-down systemic security risks that could impact on geographies where UK investments are being made.

1.3   Over the last two years, DFID has proved that independent monitors can be deployed in Somalia to assess the activities of our implementing partners across the entire suite of our portfolio. We have also learned that we need to take a more systematic and representative approach to selecting what will be verified from the corpus of work that DFID is supporting from activities to outcome level, to engage with technology to allow the more rapid identification of risks and opportunities to the delivery of intended results and the need to pilot in-field financial checks.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The service provider is expected to:

2.1   Provide third-party monitoring services to a representative proportion of DFID-S portfolio & across its current & forthcoming Country Operational Plan.
2.2   Enhance the M&E capacities, processes, tools and evidence on its major implementation partners
2.3   To provide user-friendly, accessible evidence of more effective approaches and lessons in achieving key intended results from across DFID-S portfolio, as well as distilling improved programme management options, all distilled from data gained from TPM, M&E technical assistance and field-experience from implementing partners.

3. RECIPIENT

The ultimate beneficiaries of this Programme will be the people of Somalia.

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[1] http://www.mareeg.com/surprises-on-somalias-africas-governance-winners-losers/

4. SCOPE OF WORK

Specifically, DFID expects the service provider will:

4.1 Provide Third Party Monitoring services

The service provider will provide services to DFID's governance, human and economic development programme pillars. The monitoring exercises/verifications should be systematic, representative and strategic (with some little room for adhoc nominations). DFID values the potential roles third party monitoring can play in improving project management, building the evidence-base of what delivers good results, and in managing and mitigating operational and financial risks facing its programmes.

Every year the service provider will be expected to provide independent verifications with up to a maximum of **200 specific verification reports submitted to DFID for every year. Therefore expects by the end of the four years at least 800 TPM/verification reports will have been submitted to DFID.** This would include an agreed percentage of financial checks per year. These will incorporate verifying activities across Somalia and, when requested, include activities from a complete range of DFID and HMG's development portfolio.

The service provider will work closely with the lead advisor and programme manager in collaboration with various teams to map out verifications to be undertaken in each year (revision will be done if necessary). The process will be undertaken at the beginning of every financial year. This preparatory work for the verifications will need to be firmly gripped by the service provider as part of delivering the verifications.

The supplier will start-up an online database that allows for the manipulation and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data from verifications, allowing the aggregative and disaggregated analysis of performance, issue-tracking and risk-management across implementing partners, geographical location and different thematic sectors at a minimum. More broadly, the suppliers will propose how technology will be used to increase the reach of TPM and practical utility of TPM findings for both project and portfolio management.   DFID expects a clear and prioritized proposition that majors on the use by DFID and its implementing partners of technology in TPM to drive the identification of answers and options to project management challenges, not to simply generating unwieldy and probably underutilized Big Data.

Therefore the service provider is expected to demonstrate:

- A credible approach to how activities, outputs or outcomes will be identified for TPM. This will include demonstrating how approach will ensure that the selection is both representative (geographically, financially, pillar, risk points etc.) and strategic (looking at the big picture –outcome level verifications). Therefore present a tool which they will use to nominate verifications using various filters.
- Demonstrate their capacity to undertake effective verification which will meet the needs of each pillar. Hence, beyond the generic monitoring/verification tools, we expect the service provider to propose extra tools for data collection which will be used for specific type of thematic data if required (economic, governance, health type verifications) and be able to demonstrate multiple technical expertise in health, governance and economic development monitoring.
- Demonstrate their ability to undertake the assignment. Therefore indicate how they are going to resource their team to ensure they have the necessary skills set for various types of verifications i.e. their proposal for human resource expertise which will cater for governance, human/health and economic type of verifications. This will include delineating what different verification options they can employ with

strong expertise. The expertise will play a key role in meeting the different pillars needs for verification and strengthening field financial tolls for our partners

- Suppliers will have to demonstrate both their experience and expertise in working as third-party monitors with international and local development organisations, delineating how they have and will manage the particular challenges of building trust, transparency and practical cooperation to execute TPM effectively.
- The service provider should demonstrate how they are going to analyse and package the data collected for presentation to DFID and Implementing partner. Propose sample format. This should include how best feedback can be collected and collated to be aggregative and easy to analyse what change has been achieved.
- If necessary, the service provider will be requested to update the 'how-to-notes' which were developed under Somali Monitoring Programme I (SMP)
- In order to execute TPM effectively, the service provider would consider engaging a mix of local and international Third Party Monitors. This engagement would be individual or organisation but must be stated at the point of responding to the tender. This will help the service provider to have the right intelligence of the local context i.e. security and political environment as well as harness the available TPM expertise internationally. The service provider will develop appropriate tools for training, mentoring and overseeing third party monitors on an ongoing basis to ensure the quality, integrity, objectivity and punctuality of submitted reports

4.2 Provide Technical Guidance to Improve Theories of Change and Log Frames

The service provider will be expected to provide technical assistance to DFID and implementing partners. The support will be around improving programmes/projects theories of change, log frames, including tracking and reporting results better. The supplier will seek to understand and improve the monitoring processes, tools and incentives with IPs and support IPs to adapt these to deliver higher quality and more consistent and credible results- and learning-related reporting.

- The service provider will support at least 15 DFID-designated implementing partners every year, to strengthen the M&E systems and processes of DFID's implementing partners.
- Work with DFID programmes teams to help review and improve their theories of change and log frames when requested. This will help to ensure DFID standards and expectations are met and/or exceeded.
- Reviewing and refreshing existing log-frames, input on log frame for new programmes, highlighting practical opportunities for the selection of better indicators, the use of credible data sources, monitoring systems and their convergence with reporting processes.
- The service provider will provide a monthly update of technical assistance being provided and bi-annually summary of the collective learning from the M&E support into a short learning or guidance note for DFID. The notes would be cumulative hence helping to firm up key learning points.

The details and nature of how the support will be provided will be agreed between the service provider and specific team or partner being supported.

4.3 Provide Technical Support to improve in-field financial reviews

Significant financial investment has been made in Somalia. Due to the security complexity in Somalia extra financial diligence is required to ensure the envisaged beneficiaries actually benefit from the investment. This

will be a pilot and should not replace the usual financial reporting and audits. The financial check should seek to test the soundness of the financial diligence and system at any level of the transaction in-country. This is not a punitive process but should seek to help implementing partners work on identified weak points on the transaction chain and better their in-field financial management. This could be random as well as coordinated with the implementing partners. We expect the service provider to:

- Provide a proposal of what expertise would be required to efficiently play a supportive role and avert financial risks which are inherent in fragile environments.
- Provide a proposal of how best these financial checks would be piloted and implemented in a positive way without eliciting conflict/tension with implementing partners. Providing more support to the implementing partners rather than embracing a punitive approach.
- Provide a proposal for types of activities that would be considered for random checks and/or well-coordinated with implementing partner to ensure best result.

4.4   Digital Platform/ effective and value-adding use of technology

Somalia is relatively advanced in technology and therefore the programme seeks to pilot a platform to collate data which will be useful to DFID programmes, implementing partners and government relevant institutions. The platform will seek to improve third party monitoring process from preparation to delivery and feedback. For updated information please refer the following links :

    i) https://www.gov.uk/service-manual & ii) http://digitalprinciples.org/

We acknowledge most of the developmental work we support is very qualitative but we would like to be able to generate some quantitative data to complement the qualitative data.
We will expect the service provider to:

- To propose how third party monitoring can include technology usage. A creation of a platform which will enhance the speed, rigour, analytical power and communications ability of the monitoring process. The design and data collection methods will be agreed upon between DFID team and service provider.

- To demonstrate how use of mobile technologies on data collection would add value to third party monitoring and how data collected through mobile phones can be linked to platform and complement the information gathered through traditional data collection methods

- Propose how the platform will be used to collate and analyse data as a way of improving performance and delivery against expected results. The build should include options for the platform to be scalable and inclusive.

- Packaging of the information in a way that it provides clear evidence of the actual results which can be used for communications purposes. Including, demonstrating easy accessibility and search engine of the database.

- The technology suite should provide robust ability to capture, code and analysis qualitative data from beneficiaries and other key informants and provide functionality to look at potentially emerging trends, themes and interactions affecting DFID's investments across Somalia

- Feedback system: the current Somalia Monitoring Programme feedback from both partners and DFID was not continuous, we expect the service provider to propose how feedback would be incorporated in the platform to ensure feedback is up-to date. This will facilitate to collate lessons learnt and results achieved as a result of third party monitoring.

- Provide examples which have been implemented in other areas/countries which have worked and the lessons learnt.

- Demonstrate adaptability and flexibility of the technology which will enable response to an identified short fall for continued improvement. The service provider needs to give some proposal of how the pilot can be scaled-up once successfully tested.

Ultimately, we will require the platform to add value to DFID programming, Somalia government and other development actors.

4.5 Share Lessons Learned, document evidence and Verification Results across DFID's portfolio of programmes

Learning from the information generated at an aggregated level will be a key area of engagement for the service provider. The service provider will deliver an in-depth analysis of the findings from verifications completed. We will expect the service provider to:

- To provide an analysis highlighting emerging themes, repeated behavior, trends and overly providing strategic recommendations for DFID's operations in Somalia informed by the overall picture gathered from the entire findings and suggested recommendations aimed to improve the portfolio. The analysis will be bi-annual and aggregative i.e. 2019 analysis will include all the verifications undertaken in the life of the programme.
- Use evidence as a key part in quality-assuring the theories of change of new DFID-S business cases and programme review exercises
- To present a proposal of how best the findings will be packaged for easy access. A product that will be user-friendly.
- the service provider will facilitate a workshop and small preparatory group meetings as necessary to assist DFID to firm-up specific actions and an enhanced remote management approach that can be agreed across DFID and wider HMG teams,
- Facilitate a wider external workshop with international donors (and implementing partners, especially for the jointly funded programmes (if requested).
- Provide a proposal of how recommendations made will be followed-up and document actions and changes effected.

4.6 Special Events or Assignments

If determined necessary and appropriate, DFID will request the service provider to undertake special assignment. The scope of the assignment will be agreed in collaboration with the service provider. For example, these would include undertaking light-reviews, coordinate feedback on data efforts from other stakeholders and facilitation of events focused on advancing evidence, learning and behavior change.

5. THE REQUIREMENTS

5.1. As stated above the service provider will be expected to work closely with DFID Somalia and partners and deliver on the scope as detailed above. The Key expected outputs will include (but are not limited to):

    i. Verification of Results reported by partners are verified
    ii. Capacity building of Implementing partners for effective monitoring results, impact and financial checks.
    iii. Governance, Human and Economic development Pillars of DFID – S results/findings collated, analysed, packaged and presented
    iv. A digital platform operational with key data tracking indicators

6. CONSTRAINS AND DEPENDENCIES

The service provider should be able to deploy and work across Somalia.

7. IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

The services required by DFID are as indicated above under the scope section. The implementation will consist of 6 months inception period, 32 months of implementation period and 3 months close-up period.

Inception period (six month)

The service provider will be expected to,

7.1   Incorporate lessons leant from SMP I and propose how to better collect, analyse, package and utilize the data.

7.2   In collaboration with DFID Result Advisor and the programme manager finalise <u>work plan</u> for the period of the assignment, detailing the clear deliverables and time-frame for completion of all tasks to period end and submitted to DFID as a deliverable.

7.3   Update <u>log-frame</u> for the period of the contract to correspond with the changes which will be agreed upon in the work plan

7.4   In collaboration with DFID develop a one year <u>list of verification</u>. The verification will be drawn down through a tool which will ensure the list is portfolio representative, strategic sensitive, need sensitive and geographical coverage

7.5   In close collaboration with the result advisor develop a detailed <u>technical assistance matrix</u> which will be used to support DFID partners to strengthen their monitoring and evaluation and capturing of results.

7.6   Develop and submit to DFID an <u>operational plan</u> which will include the security plan and risk matrix.

7.7   Develop an <u>inventory of all assets</u> procured using UK funds. Procurement must be in accordance with the UK guidance in regard to service providers

7.8   Develop/update a <u>human resource</u> capacity for the successful implementation of the programme in terms of skills acquisition and development of appropriate technical capacity;

7.9   Develop or share existing Administration and Personnel <u>Policies</u> to guide the service provider's day to day operations.

7.10 <u>Digital Platform</u>/ effective and value-adding use of technology: an information platform should be conceptualized and initial testing done by end of inception

7.11 Completion of additional tasks identified during Post Tender Clarification (PTC):

Implementation period

The service provider will be contracted on a hybrid kind of a contract (outputs and some inputs). The supplier will be expected to scale-up third party monitoring work which is already ongoing.   The key deliverables expected from this project will include but not limited to,

7.12 **Quality Verification** summaries and completed individual reports: as indicated in section 4, we expect the service provider to propose user friendly tool to deliver the verification findings, and accessibility of these reports is key to their usage/consumption. 800 verifications to be completed in a period of 4 years. The service provider will be required to submit 200 reports every year. The reports will be spread within the 4 quarters of the financial year:

> ➢ Wave I - 50 verification reports
> ➢ Wave III - 50 verification reports
>
> ➢ Wave II - 50 verification reports
> ➢ Wave IV- 50 verification reports

7.13 **Feedback**: the verifications findings will require both DFID, Implementing partners and in some cases primary beneficiaries response. The service provider in close collaboration with DFID teams will be required to document and keep log of the feedback received. If the responses show there is sufficient action taken this would be documented as success story, on the other hand, the feedback would be used to determine whether a repeat verification is require to check whether the risks identified were addressed.

7.14 **Updated Verifications guide:** The document will include practical experiences gathered combined with experiences documented by TPM SMP I project. The final document will be reviewed and approved by the DFID results advisor and programme manager.

7.15 **Technical Assistance:** The service provider will be required to provide Technical Guidance to support better results tracking through improved **Theories of Change and Log Frames** which will make it possible for DFID and partners to track results. The technical assistance services will be through a combination of a proactive self-driven request from both DFID and Implementing partners, however, **the service provider should also look to recommend programme what they think would benefit (based on a profiling of high risk, high value, results etc.) seek to support at least 10 projects per year.**

7.16 **Technical Assistance:** Provide Technical Support to improve in-field financial reviews: the service provider will provide the implementing partners with support on in-field financial reviews and in collaboration with implementing partners will undertake some organised financial checks and random checks. At least 20 check to be undertaken every year.

7.17 **Update the 'How to Analytical Note':** Somalia Monitoring Programme 1 developed analytical note therefore **SMP II service provider will be required to review the notes, incorporate in their guidance notes and promote their usage. The service provider should seek to update the notes to ensure the how-to-notes remain relevant.** This will help on M&E capacity-building work in conflict-affected contexts, building on the accumulated experience of DFID-Somalia and the engagement with DFID implementing partners.

7.18 **End-of month update matrices:** every end of month the service provider will submit to DFID results advisor and programme manager an updated matrix of technical support provided to partners and projected support to partners in the coming month. This should be based on the workplan. Any changes should be highlighted to the DFID team.

7.19 **Digital Platform/ effective and value-adding use of technology:** an information platform operational with useful information. The service provider will be expected to measure and document evidence of the usage of the platform.

7.20 **Documentation of Lessons Learned:** document evidence and Verification Results across DFID's programme portfolio (including the wider DFID programme network). The service provider will work closely with the Results Advisor and Programme team to agree how the lessons will be packaged and documented.

7.21 Facilitate **(i) quarterly internal events** bringing together DFID staff (advisors, programme managers, team leaders, head of office and deputy head of office). The agenda of internal events will range from learning lessons from verifications finding (meta-analysis), presentation of the verification nomination tool and verification selected for nomination, learning from feedback. These events will be utilised to learn and improve our programmes results and delivery. The meta-analysis will seek to strategically draw lessons learnt and their implications, present strategic recommendations which would be used by the leadership and the programme advisors to re-orient their programme/project**. (ii) External event** given that several programmes are jointly funded, to increase the usability of the information collated by the third party monitoring holding a bi-annual joint meeting with other donors in a programme would be resourceful. The external event may or may not involve all DFID programmes but selected programmes in collaboration with DFID team.

Close-up period

7.22 **Exit Strategy** - Provide and deliver an exit strategy to complete the assignment and close the project including the hand-over of all technical and intellectual property. This exit strategy must be provided to DFID 3 months before the end of the contract. The implementing partner should look for ways to actively transfer this knowledge to downstream partners and beneficiaries to ensure sustainability.

7.23 Deliver a **final report** covering activities over the life of the contribution

8. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

8.1 The service provider must operate within the technical and financial plan as per their proposal.

8.2 There will be a break point after the six months inception period and a mid-point review after two years of implementation.

8.3 DFID-SMP programme team will hold quarterly meetings with the service provider to discuss project progress. The meetings may be as regular as required.

8.4 The Supplier must ensure that the overall project is delivered accordingly. This means that all tasks must be completed on time and as stipulated in these terms of reference and the entire contract. Performance will also be assessed as part of DFID annual reviews and as part of Contract performance review. Given the dynamic and uncertain context of working in Somalia, there will be space to adapt and flex as part of this programme. The preferred supplier will be expected to maintain close contact with and ensure open channels of communication with the DFID team to ensure changes are routinely captured (and tracked) as part of the annual workplan.

8.5 The service provider will need a clear understanding of the context, in particular the political, institutional, economic and social factors that will need to be taken into account. This is because they influence any delivery and if not considered programme delivery may be interfered with.

8.6 While quality, experience and technical expertise will be key considerations in selection of the service provider, DFID Somalia will also give high priority to efficiency and the ability to deliver Value for Money. The preferred supplier will also be expected to continually demonstrate how value for money will be achieved through the project.

8.7 Provide skilled personnel on verification and technical assistance (governance, health and economic development areas) to manage and deliver the project;

8.8 Develop an Operations Manual covering all aspects of the project, including appropriate financial procedures, implement and enforce an adequate control system;

8.9 Develop programme budgets in line with the project and ensure that the annual forecasts are realistic and achievable. Document accounting and reporting procedures during implementation; Ensure all payment documentation is in order and in accordance with international best practice;

8.10 Prepare and submit financial and annual audit reports (as required);

8.11 Maintain up to date asset inventory records
Acknowledging the challenging environment working in Somalia presents, the supplier will be required to be innovative to ensure they undertake the task effectively, efficiently and with a high return for the resources invested in the task.

9. REPORTING

The service provider will be expected to produce:

Inception period reporting:

9.1 <u>Work plan</u> for the period of the assignment and an updated <u>log frame</u> for the period of the contract and describe the mechanisms for making any changes and how changes will be captured.

9.2 <u>TPM Nomination Tool:</u> the service provider will deliver a tool which they will use to draw-down possible activities for verifications. The tool should meet the scope description.

9.3 <u>A list of possible 200+ activities, outputs, outcome which could be agreed for verification.</u> They list should meet the third party monitoring services scope description

9.4 <u>TA matrix and strategy:</u> this will entail the service providers plan to engage with programmes and implementing partners on ToC, log-frame and in-field financial reviews.

9.5 <u>A digital platform:</u> at the minimum a prototype developed. Expect initial roll-out to be done.

9.6 <u>Verification:</u> the first wave of verification will be expected to be delivered during the 1st six months. The number of verifications delivered in this period can be negotiated with a plan to cover the difference in the course of the year.

9.7 <u>Internal event:</u> facilitate the 1st internal event which we will involve presenting the nomination tool and technical assistant strategy

9.8 <u>Operational documents:</u> asset register, risk matrix, financial forecast among others

9.9 <u>Inception Report:</u> this will detail what the service provider will learn and experience during the inception period. The report will detail recommendations of how the service provider proposes to take forward each aspect of the scope into the implementation phase.

Implementation period reporting

9.10 <u>200 Verification</u> reports each year: these reports will be delivered through an agreed template between the service provider and the DFID results adviser.

9.11 <u>A list of possible 200+ activities, outputs, outcome which could be greenlighted for verification at the beginning of every financial year.</u> They list should meet the third party monitoring services scope description

9.12 <u>End-of month update matrices</u> on M&E technical support work with agreed DFID priority implementing partners, including partners of DFID's health Programme (SHINE)

9.13 'How To Analytical Note' on supporting M&E work and an updated Verifications manual

9.14 <u>Quarterly internal events:</u> facilitate internal event as described in the scope but specific detailed agenda will be agreed together with the SMP II programme team.

9.15 <u>External events:</u> facilitate external events as described in the scope. Service provider will liaise with the SMP II programme team to identify which programme will benefit from various external events.

9.16 <u>Evidence documentation:</u> the packaging will range from meta-analysis, feedback and any form the team will agree to document recorded changes or learnt lessons. Update provided quarterly.

9.17 <u>Provide guidance on evaluation and review priorities and plans for DFID-S</u>

9.18 <u>Financial reports and forecasts,</u> specifically monthly and annual financial forecasts, annual financial reports, and a certified annual audit statement showing funds received and expended. Strong financial management is recommended.

9.19   Updated Risk matrix (bi-annually) setting out a clear strategy for monitoring, managing and mitigating risks and contingency plans.

9.20   Updated Asset Register (bi-annually) indicating what assets that have been bought with the programme funds

9.21   Communications products to document and disseminate results and lessons learned as and when required.

9.22   A digital platform: fully operational with lessons learnt being implemented to enhance the usability of the platform.

9.23   Bi-annually summary of the collective learning from the M&E support

Preparation for closure: 3 months

9.24   Deliver a final report covering activities over the life of the project.

9.25   Exit Strategy - must be provided to DFID 3 months before the end of the contract; all reports submitted must be accurate and submitted on time. All reports should be of a length and level of detail appropriate to the purpose, as concise as possible and written in plain English.

9.26   Asset Register disposal plan: if any assets were procured with the programme funds, the service provider will provide a disposal proposal guided by the UK asset disposal guidelines.

9.27   Updated how to notes on verification and technical assistance

10. TIME FRAME:

These services will be provided **between November 2016 and March 2020**.

11. DFID COORDINATION

11.1 The assignment will be commissioned by DFID Somalia team and the Results Adviser will have overall responsibility for quality assurance of the final deliverables.

11.2 The service provider will work closely with (i) Somali Monitoring Programme Lead Advisor (Results Adviser), (ii) Programme team (iii) relevant teams to be verified.

12. OTHER REQUIREMENT

The contractor will be responsible for all their in-country arrangements including travel and accommodation and arrangements for meetings.

13. DUTY OF CARE

The service provider is responsible for all acts and omissions of the Supplier's Personnel and for the health, safety and security of such persons and their property. The provision of information by DFID shall not in any respect relieve the Service Provider from responsibility for its obligations under this Contract. Positive evaluation of proposals and award of this Contract (or any future Contract Amendments) is not an endorsement by DFID of the Supplier's security arrangements". Note that the term "Supplier's Personnel" is defined under the Contract as "any person instructed pursuant to this Contract to undertake any of the Supplier's obligations under this Contract, including the Supplier's employees, agents and sub-contractors.

The supplier is responsible for ensuring that appropriate arrangements, processes and procedures are in place for their Personnel, taking into account the environment they will be working in and the level of risk involved in delivery of the Contract. The service provider are encouraged to ensure their Personnel receive the required level of security training and complete a UK government approved hostile environment training course (SAFE) or safety in the field training prior to deployment.

The service provider is responsible for ensuring appropriate safety and security briefings for all of their Personnel working under this contract and ensuring that their Personnel register and receive briefing as outlined above. Travel advice is also available on the FCO website and the Supplier must ensure they (and their Personnel) are up to date with the latest position. DFID will share available information with the Supplier on security status and developments in-country where appropriate.

14. BACKGROUND

The Somalia Monitoring Programme II (SMP II) is a four year programme (2016-2020). The programme will cover several DFID Somalia programme Portfolio (Governance, Human and Economic development pillars). It has a total budget of £10.3 million. The programme has four components from which two components will be delivered through this contract. Somalia Monitoring programme II is a scale-up of the 1st 3 year programme (2012-2016). Third party monitoring and technical assistance services were delivered by International Business &Technical Consultant, Inc. (IBTCI).

The country, outside of its main regional capitals, remain off-limits to UK and most international donor staff due to the continuing threat from both organised and disparate attacks by al-Shabaab and groups sympathetic to their cause. As a result, the ability of DFID to engage directly in the monitoring and evaluation of UK-funded activities and actual results is severely constrained.

With a portfolio of what we estimate as 1200+ activities it is vital to ensure that we have confidence that implementing partners are delivering what they are contracted to do, in a timely, fiduciary-responsible and effective manner that does not exacerbate conflict dynamics on the ground. Across our entire portfolio significant results are being promised by partners, including 2.2 million people having improved access to water and more than 1million people benefiting from improved nutrition. The challenge is to verify on the ground that our partners are doing the right things to deliver such results and having systems that can capture the actual fulfilment of the results.

Over the last 18 months, DFID has proved that independent monitors can be mobilised and deployed within Somalia to assess the activities of our implementing partners across the entire suite of our portfolio. We have discovered areas where extra attention and guidance to planning and delivery needs to be given to get good, sustainable results.   We have witnessed that the process to secure implementing partners' active agreement and participation in verifications is neither simple nor straightforward but is nonetheless achievable.

DFID will use the data and learning generated by this contract to inform its planning and decision making, and will share with Somali and other international donors especially for the jointly funded projects. The programme is also designed to produce and package information so that DFID can design its programmes/projects to deliver better results. More detail of these programmes are available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/world/organisations/dfid-somalia