



Request for Applications:

Story of Change and Evaluation Report - Evaluation of the ROLE UK Programme-supported partnership between the Judicial Office of England and Wales and the Judiciary of The Gambia

1. Background and context

Advocates for International Development's (A4ID) Rule of Law Expertise UK (ROLE UK) Programme is seeking a consultant with expertise in both the development sector and knowledge of the legal or judicial sector to evaluate and develop a Story of Change on the value and impact of the work by the Judicial Office of England and Wales (hereafter Judicial Office) in partnership with the Judiciary of The Gambia, supported by the ROLE UK Programme on the development and improvement of sentencing guidelines in The Gambia. This assignment is linked to the Programme's monitoring and evaluation strategy with Partnerships for Development, and particularly the Stories of Change methodology for collecting higher level outcomes.

1.1. About Advocates for International Development

A4ID is the charity that empowers lawyers to use their skills to fight world poverty. Through its pro bono brokerage, legal education programmes and thought leadership work, A4ID is helping the legal sector to meet its global corporate social responsibility to bring about sustainable development.

1.2. About the ROLE UK Programme

A4ID's ROLE UK programme, funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), contributes to building long-term partnerships between the UK legal sector and legal actors in ODA-eligible countries to strengthen the rule of law and facilitate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We focus on the eradication of poverty; gender equality; reduced inequalities; peace, justice and strong institutions; and partnerships for development.

The ROLE UK Programme supports partnerships between the international development and legal pro bono sectors to provide high-quality pro bono legal and judicial expertise.

1.3. Rationale for the consultancy

The ROLE UK Programme provides financial and technical support to activities developed within partnerships towards improving the rule of law and, more broadly, promotes the generation and application of learning and evidence around how to strengthen the pro bono legal sector's contribution to rule of law and development.

It typically supports short-term technical assistance by UK legal experts to counterparts in ODA-eligible countries, which may include trainings, conferences, workshops and other convenings. Further information on the work the ROLE UK Programme supports is available here: www.roleuk.org.uk.

The programme team places emphasis on creating the evidence base for the programme's model of working. This includes, first and foremost, assessing the impact of the work of those partnerships supported by the ROLE UK Programme on the rule of law in target countries. ROLE UK will use evidence to test the value and impact of partnership work, and to make recommendations for further development of the programme and improved ways of working. This will primarily take the form of 'Stories of Change' that are delivered by independent consultants.



The ROLE UK Programme has selected a number of partnerships as being of particular interest to the programme. One such partnership is that between the Judicial Office and the Judiciary of The Gambia.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the exercise are:

- (Overall) To test the hypothesis that ROLE UK Programme support for short-term activities developed in partnership has led to improved Rule of Law, and that this type of support can affect changes in policy, law and practice;
- To evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the partnership between the Judicial Office / the Judiciary of The Gambia;
- To provide recommendations to the ROLE UK Programme on how it can improve its support to the Judicial Office / Judiciary of The Gambia partnership and more generally.

The exercise will result in two deliverables:

1. A story of change documenting the contribution of the partnership to improving sentencing guidelines in The Gambia (5-6 pages long)
2. An evaluation report detailing key findings and recommendations that the consultant has identified during the evaluative process required to produce the story of change (5-6 pages long)

3. Focus and scope

Stories of Change provide a descriptive and qualitative analysis of a particular ROLE UK Programme-supported partnership, to add depth and detail to the quantitative data collected across all of the activities and partnerships that the ROLE UK Programme supports. This Story of Change should analyse the partnership between the Judicial Office and the Judiciary of The Gambia and its work focused on overcoming the barriers people in the Gambia, particularly prisoners and detainees, face to access justice and fair trials in The Gambia. Some of the main challenges Gambian citizens face when entering the criminal justice system include failed fulfilment of the right to be heard and adequately informed, lengthy pre-trial detention for detainees and capital offenders in particular, inadequate access to legal representation, lack of judicial training, sentencing inconsistencies and poor utilisation of alternatives to incarceration. These challenges contribute to an already strained correctional system – characterised by overcrowding, dilapidated infrastructures and the dysfunctional provision of basic services for prison communities.

The Judicial Office works closely with the Judiciary of The Gambia to tackle these challenges and apply the mandate of the rule of law, by working to develop and improve sentencing guidelines in The Gambia.

4. Methodology

This exercise is to be undertaken through a document review and interviews with representatives of the ROLE UK Programme, the Judicial Office and the Judiciary of The Gambia. It does not entail any in-country time.

Sources of information made available to the consultant will include:

- All relevant documentation on the Judicial Office / Judiciary of The Gambia assignments and partnership activities to date.
- A list of key persons that the ROLE UK Programme suggests interviewing.
- A4ID's story of change methodology note



The exercise and the consultant will be managed by the A4ID Monitoring and Evaluation Officer. Final approval of the reports will be given by the ROLE UK Programme Manager.

This exercise will result in 2 reports each consisting of approximately 5-6 pages, as outlined above.

The exercise is to be undertaken in late February and March 2021 with a final deliverable by **12 April 2021**. It is anticipated that this will be up to **10 days work**.

<i>Indicative timeline</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Deliverable</i>
w/c 8 March 2021	Meeting (via conference call) with the ROLE UK Programme team to clarify objectives, finalise methodology, discuss structure of reports and build understanding of the programme.	
	Desk-based work, including: development of questions to guide research, review of existing sources, identification and review of additional sources, and preparation of interview questions.	
	Arranging, conducting and writing up phone and face-to-face interviews.	
	Drafting reports.	
29 March 2021	Submitting draft reports to ROLE UK for feedback.	Draft reports
2 April 2021	ROLE UK provides final notes and comments.	
12 April 2021	Finalising reports and submitting to ROLE UK.	Final reports

5. Required competencies

- Experience of monitoring and evaluating international development programmes
- Experience of collating, analysing and presenting evidence using qualitative analysis
- Familiarity with stories of change methodology
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- A strong understanding and passion for the role of international legal pro bono work for sustainable development
- A commitment to and understanding of FCDO key priorities, promoting the rule of law and encouraging access to justice
- A proven track record of providing similar services to a comparable client

6. Application process:

- Deadline for submission of applications: **22nd February 2021**
- Applications are to be submitted to joely.thomas@a4id.org (copied to roleuk@a4id.org) with the subject line “Case Study - Evaluation of Gambia Partnership” and to include:
 - CV (maximum 3 pages)





- 1-2-page cover letter which includes how you meet each of the criteria outlined above (please address each criteria in turn, in the order provided above)
- Your availability in March and April 2021
- An example of relevant previous written work
- Proposed costings, inclusive of VAT
- Name of two referees
- Interviews are expected to take place over the phone with the ROLE UK Programme team between **1st and 2nd March 2021**.
- Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of quality, experience and value for money. Proposed costings should take into account that the ROLE UK Programme is a publicly-funded non-commercial venture.