IRC in the Netherlands is looking for a Consultant

**Deadline for application:** 25 August 2022

IRC is looking for experienced candidates for a consultancy for our 2017-2021 Strategy Endline assessment.

**Location:** Virtually from any location.

**About IRC**

IRC is an international NGO that works with governments, Civil Society Organisations, NGOs, entrepreneurs and people around the world to strengthen and support public systems for water, sanitation and hygiene service delivery. Our mission is to drive change that leads to everyone in the world having access to safe and climate resilient water, sanitation and hygiene services.

With over 50 years of experience, IRC runs programmes in eight focus countries, and smaller projects in more than 22 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. It is supported by a global team of over 90 staff, and has offices and presence in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, India, Bangladesh, Mali, Niger, Uganda and additional offices in the Netherlands and the United States. We work closely with our Destination 2030 partner Water For People.

IRC has a reputation for the production of high quality and impactful knowledge products making the latest developments and thinking in water, sanitation and
hygiene available to a variety of audiences. You can see our resource library at Resources :: IRC (ircwash.org).

Background

IRC Strategic planning is achieved through a long-term framework and theory of change (horizon 10-15 years) supported by medium term strategic plans (3-5 years) and annual plans (1 year). Strategic planning and reflection are integral to IRC’s leadership and management approach; data driven evaluation and self-reflection are foundational.

The period of 2017-2021 was the first medium-term strategic planning period within the then newly launched 2017-2030 Strategy Framework. A midterm review of the strategic plan 2017-2021 was conducted in 2019 (results available internally), and an initial endline of the 2017-2021 strategy period has already been conducted for several of IRC’s country programmes.

The 2017-2021 backward-looking strategy reflection process began in early 2021; to date a significant amount of data analysis, strategic reflection, and systematic staff and partner consultation have been completed.

The vacancy

A consultant is sought to consolidate, triangulate, and write up the main findings to date; the assignment is to produce an externally facing endline report and an internal summary learning note. Depending on the consultant selected, there is also a possibility for co-authoring a peer-review journal article with an IRC staff member.

Main responsibilities

- Very brief inception report: Draft methodology, report structure, list of data and resources gathered
- IRC 2017-2021 Strategy Endline Report (40 pages maximum)
- Briefing note: IRC 2017-2021 Strategy: Achievements, Challenges, and Lessons Learned (7 pages maximum)
- Summary Slidedeck presentation (20-30 mins): slides are used to present draft report then finalised as output for future use by IRC staff

All outputs are to be produced working closely with IRC’s strategist and head of monitoring. The consultant is expected to structure and draft the outputs, but to be open to both comments and direct suggestions from the IRC team. Notwithstanding, the consultant will be free to express their findings and critical feedback in the outputs; collaboration with IRC staff is to improve correctness, efficiency, and relevance of the final outputs.
Requirements

- A systems thinker with a fundamental understanding of systems-strengthening and governance approaches to WASH and/or international development
- Has basic knowledge of the models for water and sanitation service provision commonly used in low and middle income countries (e.g. utilities, community management, faecal sludge management, etc).
- Has minimum 5 years’ experience in international WASH sector (research or practitioner)
- Has ability to independently develop and implement a valid desk-based research methodology (min: masters degree including thesis, PhD preferred)
- Has expertise in conducting rigorous analysis using mixed methods and experience working with real (field based and practitioner oriented) data sets (qualitative and quantitative)
- Has excellent English writing skills (French/Spanish reading and speaking a plus).
- Is a motivated self-starter with the ability to initiate effective collaboration with IRC staff in different countries (e.g. to collect data or conduct interviews or validation)
- Positive, but not required: Has previous experience with IRC or another Agenda For Change member (to improve understanding of overall mission).

Details of the assignment

The contract will preferrable go to a single consultant working part time on this assignment; it is likely to include lay periods during which the outputs are in review by IRC and the consultant is less active. The timeline can be adjusted with the chosen consultant, keeping in mind a final completion date no later than 9 December 2022.

Assignment milestones:

1. Very brief inception report: Draft methodology, report structure, list of data and resources gathered
2. Draft results and graphics (suggested as a ppt or data file (e.g. Excel or R))
3. Draft 1 Outputs (informal presentation to small group)
4. Draft 2 Outputs (final or nearly final with specific outstanding gap)
5. Draft 3: Final draft outputs for editing and layout (by IRC)

Budget: The contract payment will be made based on deliverables and agreed with the selected consultant. A total budget of 10k euros is estimated.

Starting date: September 2022.
Candidates are kindly requested to respond with a motivation letter explaining their interest and qualifications (e.g. proposed methodology), consultancy rates (considering budget above), and a concise curriculum vitae latest by Thursday 25th August 2022 to IRC, attn. Marion Giese at recruitment@ircwash.org by mentioning Strategy Endline (consultant) as subject.

Job interviews will be scheduled online for early September and the preferred starting date is sometime in September 2022.

Questions can be directed via email to the attention of Angela Huston (huston@ircwash.org) or John Butterworth (butterworth@ircwash.org).

For additional information please visit our website at www.ircwash.org.