

Ref# - SOM-ECHO-HEALTH-2026-1014-Research ICCM impact

Trócaire Somalia invites qualified consultants or research firms to submit proposals to conduct an operational research study on the implementation and outcomes of iCCM/iCCM+ in selected districts of Somalia. The assignment will generate evidence on service utilization, quality of care, health outcomes, and community perceptions to inform programme improvement and learning. Applicants must demonstrate proven expertise in public health research, mixed-methods analysis in humanitarian contexts, and capacity to deliver the study in line with international research ethics and Trócaire's compliance requirements.

Release Date: 9th February 2026. **Deadline for Applications:** 19th February 2026

1. Introduction

Integrated Community Case Management (iCCM/iCCM+) is a key community-based approach for improving access to essential, life-saving health services for children under five in hard-to-reach and fragile settings. In Somalia, where preventable childhood illnesses remain a leading cause of mortality, Trócaire implements iCCM/iCCM+ to strengthen early diagnosis, treatment, and referral at community level. To support evidence-based programming, learning, and accountability, Trócaire seeks to undertake an operational research study to assess the implementation, outcomes, and effectiveness of iCCM/iCCM+ interventions in selected districts.

This document deals with:

- Section 2 Confidentiality
- Section 3 Profile of Trócaire
- Section 4 Scope of the work
- Section 5 Content and format of Tenders
- Section 6 General Terms and Conditions
- Section 7 Conflict of Interest
- Section 8 Intellectual Property
- Section 9 Termination of Contract
- Section 10 Evaluation of Tenders
- Section 11 Submission of Tenders.
- Section 12 Trócaire's safeguarding policies

2. Confidentiality

Trócaire will treat all information contained within submitted tenders as strictly confidential. The information provided will be used solely for the purpose of evaluating the tenders and determining the award of a contract, in accordance with the procedures outlined in this document.

3. Profile of Trócaire

Trócaire is the official overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Ireland, established in 1973. Operating in over 17 countries worldwide, Trócaire supports vulnerable communities through humanitarian aid, development programming, and advocacy for social justice. The Somalia Country Programme contributes to this global mission by implementing integrated health, nutrition, and resilience-building interventions across the Gedo Region. This consultancy aligns with Trócaire's commitment to accountability,

transparency, and sound asset management, ensuring effective stewardship of resources in line with donor and internal compliance standards.

4. Scope of the Work

The consultant will design and implement an operational research study to assess the implementation, outcomes, and effectiveness of iCCM/iCCM+ interventions in selected Trócaire-supported districts in Somalia. The scope of work will include reviewing programme design and routine monitoring data; conducting quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis on service utilization, quality of care, referral practices, and health outcomes; and documenting community perceptions, implementation challenges, enabling factors, and best practices. The consultant will also integrate cross-cutting priorities such as gender, equity, accountability to affected populations, and conflict sensitivity, and produce clear, evidence-based findings and recommendations to inform programme improvement, learning, and policy engagement.

The consultant or firm will review iCCM/iCCM+ programme design and routine data, design and implement a mixed-methods research approach, and conduct quantitative and qualitative analysis on service utilization, quality of care, referral practices, health outcomes, and community perceptions. The assignment will include assessing CHW performance and adherence to protocols, identifying key implementation challenges and enabling factors, documenting lessons learned and best practices, and developing practical, evidence-based recommendations to inform programme improvement, scale-up, and sustainability.

5. Content and Format of Tenders

Interested and qualified consultants or firms are required to submit their proposals in two separate documents - **one for the Technical Proposal and one for the Financial Proposal**. Both documents must be clearly labelled, signed, and submitted in PDF format. The proposals should contain the following:

5.1. Technical Proposal

The Technical Proposal shall be concise and structured, and must include the following:

Understanding of the Assignment: Demonstrated understanding of the iCCM/iCCM+ operational research objectives, scope, and context in Somalia.

Proposed Methodology and Approach: Description of the proposed research design, mixed-methods approach, data collection tools, sampling strategy, and analytical methods.

Workplan and Timeline: Clear implementation plan outlining key activities, deliverables, and timelines aligned to the assignment duration.

Team Composition and Roles: Details of the proposed team, roles and responsibilities, and summary of relevant qualifications and experience.

Relevant Experience: Summary of similar assignments undertaken, particularly in humanitarian, public health, or fragile contexts.

Ethical Considerations and Risk Management: Approach to research ethics, informed consent, child safeguarding, data protection, and contextual risk mitigation.

Compliance Documents -

- Valid company or individual registration certificate.
- Current tax compliance certificate.
- Signed Trócaire Safeguarding Declaration (to be completed upon selection).

B. Financial Proposal

The Financial Proposal shall be submitted separately from the Technical Proposal and presented as a lump-sum budget covering the full duration of the assignment. It should provide a clear cost breakdown by major budget lines, including professional fees, data collection costs, travel and logistics, and any applicable taxes. The proposal must be aligned with the proposed workplan and methodology, indicate the proposed

payment schedule linked to deliverables, and confirm that all costs necessary for successful completion of the assignment are included:

- All prices must be quoted in USD and inclusive of all applicable taxes.
- The proposal should clearly state the total contract amount and payment schedule aligned with deliverables.
- **Payment Terms** – proposed milestones, including any advance payment, progress billing, and final payment.
- **Proposal Validity** – confirmation that the financial proposal remains valid for **120 days** from submission deadline.

5.1. Format Requirements

- All proposals must be typed, paginated, and submitted in English.
- The Technical and Financial Proposals must be separate documents clearly marked as such.
- Submissions must be signed by an authorized representative of the bidding firm.
- All Proposals (Technical and Financial) shall be via electronic submissions, must be in PDF format with no alterations permitted after submission.

- 5.1** All shortlisted applicants will be invited to a virtual interview immediately after deadline date to present their key points to the Tender Committee and answer any relevant questions.

6. General Terms and Conditions

- a) Trócaire does not undertake to accept the lowest priced or any tender received.
- b) Trócaire reserves the right to:
- c) Accept none of the proposals submitted.
 - i. Re-advertise or republish this Request for Tenders.
 - ii. In the event that no proposal is accepted, Trócaire shall be free to make such alternative arrangements as it deems necessary for the provision of the required services.
- d) Trócaire will not be liable for any costs or expenses incurred by tenderers in the preparation or submission of their proposals.
- e) Tenderers are required to maintain strict confidentiality in respect of the services being procured and the tendering process.
- f) Any resulting contract shall be deemed to have been made in Ireland, governed by Irish law, and subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Irish courts.
- g) The Standard Terms and Conditions, to which Trócaire expects all suppliers to adhere, are attached in **Appendix 1**.
- h) The Suppliers' Code of Conduct, which all suppliers and service providers are expected to respect and comply with, is attached in **Appendix 2**.

7. Conflicts of interest

- 7.1** Any conflicts of interest involving an applicant must be fully disclosed to Trócaire. Failure to disclose a conflict may disqualify an applicant or invalidate an award of the contract. Applicants are required to declare any current or past work which might reasonably be considered to represent a conflict of interest. It will be for Trócaire to decide if a material conflict of interest exists and applicants in doubt in this regard should seek the advice of Trócaire.

7.2 Advice provided to Trócaire must be accompanied by a statement that there is no conflict of interest involving the applicant. In the event where there is a conflict, Trócaire reserves the right to retain another firm of solicitors to provide the advice, for that issue alone.

8. Intellectual Property

Any concept, guidelines or other material developed during the contract will be considered the property of Trócaire and may be used by Trócaire at any time.

9. Termination of Contract

9.1 Trócaire reserves the right to terminate the contract at any stage on payment of reasonable and agreed costs accrued to the date of termination. The contract may be terminated by either party on giving one month’s written notice or a shorter notice period if both parties agree.

9.2 If at any stage during the contract, the work being undertaken by the tenderer is found to be unsatisfactory, the contract may be terminated by Trócaire. In the event of such a termination, the tenderer will only be entitled to receive payment in relation to the acceptable work done. The computation of such payment shall be based on the extent of approved work carried out to the date of termination valued, by use of the costs used in the tender submission.

10. Evaluation of Tenders

All submitted proposals will be evaluated in a fair, transparent, and competitive manner in accordance with Trócaire’s procurement and consultancy selection procedures. The evaluation will be conducted by a designated Tender Evaluation Committee comprising representatives from the Supply Chain, Finance, and Programme departments.

The evaluation process will be carried out in three main stages:

10.1. Stage 1: Preliminary Examination (Compliance Check).

Proposals will first be reviewed for completeness and compliance with the submission requirements. This includes checking for:

- Proper separation of Technical and Financial Proposals.
- Submission before the deadline.
- Inclusion of all required documentation (registration, tax compliance, CVs, references, etc.).
- Signature and authenticity of the proposal.
- Proposals that do not meet the mandatory submission requirements will be disqualified at this stage.

10.2. Stage 2: Technical Evaluation (70%).

The Technical Proposals of compliant submissions will be evaluated based on the following criteria and weights:

Main Criteria	Sub-Criteria	Scoring Basis / Evaluation Scale (Somalia Context)	Max Score (100)	Prorated Score (70)
1. Technical Capacity & Organisational Structure	1.1 General Organisation & Structure	Cover letter submitted (Yes = 2; No = 0); Company/consultant profile provided (Yes = 2; No = 0); Organisational/management structure provided (Yes = 2; No = 0); Profiles of key personnel included (Yes = 2; No = 0); Demonstrated administrative & contractual capacity (Adequate = 2; Inadequate = 0).	10	7

	1.2 Technical Qualifications of Key Personnel	CVs for all key staff submitted (Yes = 5; No = 0); Team Leader qualification: Master's = 5, Bachelor's = 4, Diploma = 2; At least two additional technical staff proposed (Yes = 2; No = 0); Relevant technical background demonstrated (Yes = 3; No = 0).	20	14
	1.3 Experience of Key Personnel	Years of experience clearly stated (Yes = 2; No = 0); Relevant experience in asset verification/inventory/logistics (Yes = 3; No = 0); Experience duration: 1–3 yrs = 2, 4–6 yrs = 3, 7–9 yrs = 4, 10+ yrs = 5.	10	7
	1.4 Financial Capacity	Ability to pre-finance assignment (Weak = 3; Adequate = 5; Strong = 7); Financial resources evidenced (<USD 20k = 2; USD 20k–50k = 3; >USD 50k = 4); Overall financial health (Afloat = 2; Healthy = 4).	15	10.5
2. Relevant Experience of the Consultant/Firm	2.1 Years of Relevant Experience	Less than 3 years = 2; 3–5 years = 8; More than 5 years = 15.	15	10.5
	2.2 Previous Similar Assignments	Table of similar assignments provided (Yes = 2; No = 0); Number of assignments: 1–2 = 2; 3–4 = 3; 5+ = 5.	5	3.5
3. Methodology, Work Plan & Delivery	3.1 Proposed Methodology	Methodology quality: Weak = 2; Adequate = 4; Strong = 6; Use of appropriate tools (Excel / Kobo / barcoding/registers): Basic = 2; Advanced & auditable = 4.	10	7
	3.2 Work Plan & Timeline	Detailed implementation schedule provided (Yes = 2; No = 0); Timeline realistic for Somalia context (Yes = 3; No = 0); Alignment with access, security, and logistical constraints (Yes = 2; No = 0).	7	4.9
4. References & Supporting Documentation	4.1 Client References (INGOs/UN/NGOs)	Reference list provided (Yes = 2; No = 0); Number of references: <2 = 1; 2–3 = 2; >3 = 3.	5	3.5
	4.2 Supporting Documents	Contracts, completion certificates, or reference letters attached (Yes = 5; No = 0).	5	3.5
5. Additional Context-Specific Criteria	5.1 Experience in Fragile/Humanitarian Contexts	None = 0; Some experience = 5; Extensive experience in Somalia = 10.	10	7
	5.2 Ethics, Safeguarding & Data Protection	Commitment to Safeguarding & Code of Conduct (Yes = 3; No = 0); Data protection & confidentiality measures: Basic = 2; Robust = 5.	8	5.6

	5.3 Risk Management	Context-specific risks identified (Yes = 2; No = 0); Practical mitigation measures proposed (Yes = 3; No = 0).	5	3.5
TOTAL TECHNICAL SCORE		Minimum qualifying score: 70/100 to proceed to Financial Evaluation	100	70

Only proposals that achieve a minimum technical score of 50% (50 out of 100 points), equivalent to 35 out of 70 prorated technical points, will be considered technically responsive and shall proceed to the financial evaluation stage.

10.3. Stage 3: Financial Evaluation (30%)

The Financial Proposals of technically qualified bidders will be opened and evaluated for cost-effectiveness, completeness, and clarity. The lowest-priced, technically compliant offer will receive the highest financial score.

Final Selection and Award

The final ranking will be determined based on the **combined weighted score** of the technical and financial evaluations:

$$\text{Final Score} = (\text{Technical Score} \times 0.70) + (\text{Financial Score} \times 0.30)$$

The consultant or firm achieving the highest overall score will be recommended for award. Trócaire reserves the right to negotiate, accept, or reject any proposal, and to annul the procurement process at any stage without incurring any liability.

10.4. Combined Assessment

— The final selection will be based on the proposal that demonstrates the best balance of technical quality and financial competitiveness, ensuring value-for-money while meeting Trócaire’s professional standards and compliance requirements.

10.5. During the evaluation period clarification may be sought in writing from tenderers. Responses to requests for clarification may not materially change any elements of the tenders submitted.

10.6. No unsolicited communications from tenderers will be entertained during the evaluation period.

10.7. Estimated timelines

- **Request for proposals:** 9th of February 2026
- **Deadline for Submission of Proposals:** 19th February 2026
- **Evaluation of Tenders:** 20th of February 2026
- **Notification of Award & Contract Finalization:** By 23rd February 2026.
- **Commencement of Assignment:** 23rd February 2026.

11. Submission of Proposals

Your proposal, marked “**SOM-ECHO-HEALTH-2026-1014 – Consultancy for Operational Research on iCCM/iCCM+ Implementation and Impact in Somalia**”, must be submitted by email to tenders_som@trocaire.org no later than **19th February 2025, 05:00PM EAT**.

Proposals should be submitted in two separate PDF files - **one clearly labelled Technical Proposal and the other Financial Proposal**. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Shortlisted applicants may be invited to a presentation with the Tender Evaluation Committee to highlight key aspects of their proposal and respond to clarifications.

All enquiries regarding this tender should be directed by email only to procurement-som@trocaire.org.

12. Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Standard Terms and Conditions for procurement
https://www.trocaire.org/sites/default/files/trocaire_general_tcs_for_procurement.pdf
- Appendix 2 - Suppliers Code of Conduct
https://www.trocaire.org/sites/default/files/trocaires_supplier_code_of_conduct_v2_07.2019.pdf
- Terms of Reference for Assets Verification.

Annexes: Terms of Reference:

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

[A study on operational research on integration of ICCM/iCCM+ implementation and its outcome.](#)

1. Introduction and Background

Integrated Community Case Management (both iCCM & iCCM+) is a proven, community-based strategy designed to improve access to life-saving health services for children under five years of age, particularly in hard-to-reach, fragile, and conflict-affected settings. By equipping a trained Community Health Workers (CHWs) to diagnose and treat common childhood illnesses, including pneumonia, diarrhoea, malaria and uncomplicated malnutrition, ICCM plays a critical role in reducing preventable child morbidity and mortality.

Somalia continues to experience one of the highest under-five mortality rates globally. Pneumonia, diarrhoea, measles, malaria and malnutrition remain the leading causes of infant and child deaths. These health risks are further intensified by chronic insecurity, displacement, food insecurity, recurrent climatic shocks, and limited access to functional health services, particularly in rural and underserved communities.

Trócaire Somalia is implementing Integrated Community Case Management (iCCM/iCCM+) through trained CHWs in the districts of Luuq, Dollow, Belet-Hawa, Ceelwaaq, Garbahaarey and Kismayo. The intervention aims to reduce illness and preventable deaths related to malaria, diarrheal diseases, pneumonia, and severe acute malnutrition among children aged 6–59 months, while improving equitable access to essential, life-saving treatment at the community level.

To strengthen evidence-based programming, accountability to affected populations, and institutional learning, Trócaire Somalia seeks to integrate operational research and systematic documentation of iCCM/iCCM+ outcomes and impact. This research will generate context-specific evidence on effectiveness, service coverage, quality of care, utilization models and community-level outcomes for ICCM, while identifying implementation challenges, enabling factors and best practices. The findings will inform program improvement, scale-up, policy engagement and donor reporting.

2. Objectives

3.1 General Objective

To generate robust, actionable evidence on the outcomes and impact of [iCCM/iCCM+](#) implementation in Trócaire-supported districts to support adaptive programming, policy dialogue, and organizational learning.

3.2 Specific Objectives

- Assess, service utilization, and treatment coverage for childhood illnesses at community level
- Evaluate the quality of [iCCM/iCCM+](#) service delivery by CHWs, including adherence to treatment protocols, referral practices, and availability of essential commodities
- Document health outcomes related to malaria, diarrhoea, pneumonia, and malnutrition among children under five
- Identify implementation enablers, challenges, and contextual factors influencing [iCCM/iCCM+](#) performance
- Capture community perceptions, acceptability, trust, and satisfaction with [iCCM/iCCM+](#) services.
- Develop practical, evidence-based recommendations to improve program effectiveness, scale-up, and sustainability.

4. Scope of Work

The consultant will undertake the following key tasks,

- Review [iCCM/iCCM+](#) program design, implementation approaches, and routine monitoring data.
- Conduct quantitative analysis of service utilization, treatment outcomes, and trends
- Undertaking qualitative inquiry into CHW performance, caregiver experiences, and community engagement
- Assess referral pathways and linkages between community and health facility levels
- Document lessons learned, best practices, and innovations within [iCCM/iCCM+](#) implementation.
- Integrate cross-cutting priorities, including gender, equity, protection, accountability to affected populations (AAP), and conflict sensitivity.

The study will be conducted in Luuq, Dollow, Belet-Hawa, Ceelwaaq, Garbahaarey and Kismayo.

5. Methodology (Indicative)

The consultant will apply a mixed-methods approach, which may include

- Household surveys and structured caregiver interviews.
- Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with caregivers and community representatives.
- Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with CHWs, supervisors, health facility staff, and health authorities.
- Review of CHW registers, referral records, and supervision reports.
- Limited observation of CHW service delivery, where feasible.

The study, must adhere to ethical standards, including informed consent, confidentiality, child safeguarding, and data protection requirements.

6. Duration and Timeline

The assignment will be implemented over a period of eight weeks, which will include;

- Desk review, inception meetings, and finalization of methodology, tools, and workplan.
- Quantitative and qualitative data collection and ongoing coordination.
- Data cleaning, analysis, and development of preliminary findings.
- Report writing, validation, finalization, and dissemination of findings.

The assignments start date is anticipated to be in March 2026.

7. Expected Deliverables

The consultant is expected to deliver the following

- Inception Report with refined methodology, tools, sampling approach, and workplan
- Cleaned and analysed quantitative and qualitative datasets.
- Draft iCCM/iCCM+ Outcome and Impact Study Report.
- Final iCCM/iCCM+ Outcome and Impact Study Report incorporating feedback
- At least three to five (1–2) human-interest case studies illustrating program impact
- Presentation of findings to Trócaire programme team

All deliverables shall be submitted in English and provided in editable formats.

8. Management, Coordination, and Reporting

The consultant will report directly to the Trócaire Somalia Head of programs. Technical oversight will be provided by program teams (Health & nutrition), while the MEAL Teams will provide regular progress updates throughout the assignment.

9. Consultant Qualifications and Requirements

- Education: Master's degree or higher in Public Health, Epidemiology, Health Systems, Social Sciences, or a related field.
- Experience: Minimum of 5–10 years of experience in public health research, evaluations, or operational research in humanitarian or fragile contexts.
- Demonstrated experience in [iCCM/iCCM+](#), child health, MNCH, or primary health care programming, preferably in humanitarian or fragile contexts.
- Proven experience conducting mixed-methods studies and outcome or impact evaluations.
- Prior experience working in Somalia or similar settings is a strong asset.
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Skills and Competencies

- Strong analytical, synthesis, and report-writing skills.
- Ability to translate evidence into practical and programmatic recommendations.
- Excellent facilitation and stakeholder engagement skills.
- Familiarity with DHIS2, routine health information systems, and humanitarian MEAL frameworks.
- High ethical standards and a strong understanding of child safeguarding and research ethics.
 - Experience conducting similar evaluations in the Somalia context will be considered an added advantage

10. Application Process

Interested consultants are invited to submit:

- A technical proposal outlining the proposed approach and methodology.
- A financial proposal (lump sum for eight weeks).
- Updated CV(s).
- Samples of similar research /work previously conducted.