

# Consultant, Better Learning Programme (BLP) Technical Support and Fundraising

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

**General Expertise:** Education in Emergencies (EiE) and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

**Department/Office:** NRC Global BLP Unit (GBU), Education Core Competency with a focus on East and Southern Africa

**Contract Duration:** 7 months; remote with field visits as required

**Working Modality:** 20 hrs per week, 4 weeks per month for 7 months

**Start Date:** June 2025

## BACKGROUND

The Better Learning Programme (BLP) is NRC's flagship school-based psychosocial support (PSS) intervention, designed to help children affected by crisis improve their learning capacity by integrating techniques for coping with trauma into daily teaching and learning.

BLP1 is implemented across all targeted NRC countries in East Africa. The consultant will play a key role in ensuring that BLP is implemented systematically, with clear pathways for fundraising, adaptation, and technical capacity-building. To strengthen institutional capacity and technical resources, NRC must ensure that BLP is properly contextualised, adapted, and sustained across targeted countries, with a strong focus on the wider Sudanese Response (Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda) and other emerging EiE responses in Somalia, Mozambique, and Ethiopia. Specifically in light of ESARO's redesign and contextualization of the FLER package (under a SDC Regional Sudanese Response grant), an overall focus of the consultancy will be on ensuring BLP is adapted and implemented appropriately during emergency responses.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The consultant will provide technical and strategic support to ensure the sustainability and quality implementation of BLP across NRC country offices in East & Southern Africa (subject to access and funding). Key responsibilities include:

### 1. Fundraising and Partnership Development

- Provide technical input for proposal development, ensuring BLP is integrated into broader education initiatives.
- Engage with donors and partners to strengthen funding streams for BLP.
- Identify and support grant opportunities to sustain and expand BLP programming.

### 2. Contextualisation and Quality Assurance

- Guide NRC country teams in contextualising BLP manuals to align with global standards and country-specific needs.
- Support training, quality assurance, and adaptation of BLP materials.
- Ensure effective implementation and monitoring of BLP within NRC education programming.
- Ensure BLP is appropriately designed for and delivered in the new FLER package for ESARO, as tools are developed and tested during 2025.

Cooperate with FLER consultant also covered under Regional SDC grant for Sudanese response.

### 3. **Alternative Delivery Methods and Innovation**

- Provide technical guidance on local partner / institution -led adaptations and alternative implementation methods.
- Support NRC country teams in developing audio-based adaptations of BLP materials.
- Ensure contextualised BLP materials are accessible and effective across diverse humanitarian settings.

### 4. **Capacity Building and Field Support**

- Conduct 1–2 multi-country field visits to NRC country offices in East Africa (subject to access and funding) to provide direct technical support.
- Plan and lead the BLP MT Refresher training in Q3 in one of the regional countries for MTs, Champions and selected staff members.
- Strengthen the capacity of Master Trainers and NRC education staff in BLP implementation, through Community of Practice and coaching.
- Support and facilitate opportunities for country exchanges of BLP MT.
- Document lessons learned and best practices to inform future programming.

## **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

By the end of the consultancy, the following key deliverables will be achieved, subject to the conditions outlined below:

1. Enhanced funding and partnerships to support BLP expansion *-dependent on available funding opportunities and the shifting donor landscape.*
2. Contextualised BLP manuals for Sudan and other priority countries, especially as part of new FLER materials *- dependent on meaningful engagement and coordination with NRC country offices.*
3. Audio versions of BLP in priority languages for Kenya, South Sudan, and Ethiopia, especially as required by projects outcomes (LEGO, ECW, SDC) *-Subject to funding availability and country office cooperation.*
4. Enhanced capacity of Master Trainers and NRC staff in BLP implementation, including leading the MT Refresher training in Q3 *-contingent on funding, country office participation and commitment to capacity-building efforts.*
5. Comprehensive documentation of lessons learned and best practices to guide future programming *-based on access to field data and collaboration with NRC teams.*

## **CONSULTANT SPECIFICATIONS**

- **Work Experience:** At least 10 years in Education in Emergencies (EiE) and/or MHPSS in humanitarian settings.
- **Education:** Postgraduate qualification in psychology, social work, counselling, or PSS.

### **Required Experience**

- Previous experience with NRC and in-depth knowledge of the Better Learning Programme (BLP) package
- Experience contextualising and adapting PSS materials for education responses.
- Proven track record in grant writing and partnership development for EiE and MHPSS.

- Strong understanding of donor funding mechanisms (ECHO, UNICEF, ECW, Lego Foundation etc.).
- Experience working in East and Southern Africa, particularly in displacement-affected education systems.

**Desirable Experience**

- Experience leading training and mentoring for education teams in EiE and PSS.
- Ability to produce and edit audio content, such as experience in radio programming, audio-based learning, or digital storytelling.
- Ability to work remotely while managing regional coordination efforts.

**Deployment and Flexibility**

- Willingness to deploy for 1–2 multi-country visits for in-person technical support.
- Ability to coordinate across multiple NRC country teams, providing both remote and in-person support.

## **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Applications should include the following:

- CV and cover letter with at least two samples of previous work undertaken and led by the service provider.
- A proposed budget detailing service provision fees. All budgets and final quotations should be made in PDF files.
- Submission by CoB 30 April 2025

**Evaluation Criteria**

Offers from providers will be evaluated by the following criteria:

- Overall proven expertise and experience of the applicant, with a particular focus on the applicant's CV/previous experience - 70%
- Pricing - 30 %