

Annex A: Terms of Reference

(Background Information and budget excluded)

3. PURPOSE

NRC Sierra Leone first implemented the program in Kambia District as a pilot program at the start of the first school year in April 2003. The program is now at the end of its second year. In 2005 NRC is planning to implement the program in several other NRC program countries. **A thorough evaluation of the program in Sierra Leone will therefore be of utmost importance, not only for closing of the program in Sierra Leone, but also to allow for improvements/adaptations in the program prior to implementation in other NRC program countries.**

The evaluation should take into consideration the **relevance** of the programme and the development of the programme – **process**. An **impact** evaluation of the program should not be based on the first group of youths graduating only, but should also include experiences of the second year graduates. This however is not possible at this stage (they graduate in the end of March 2005). Therefore the evaluation team's local members should be asked to do an additional impact study at a later stage (within one year from today).

4. SCOPE

The evaluation will deal with Youth Pack Education Programme in Sierra Leone in the period of 2002 – March 2005. The evaluation will take place in Kambia District, with special focus on the four Youth Pack centres, Mambolo, Rokupr, Kassirie and Kukuna. Initial information sessions will take place in Oslo and Freetown

5. OBJECTIVES

- **NRC mandate**
 - Does Youth Pack fall within NRC's mandate?
 - The relevance of the program with regards to NRC criteria for program support, incl. target groups.
- **Relevance**
 - Evaluate the need and relevance of Youth Pack in the community and for all stakeholders.
- **Impact**
 - Assess the impact of the academic and skills training components of the one-year program.
 - Did the program reach the target group? Did the program contribute to individual growth and reintegration of the target group?
 - Assess the impact of the program on Youth Pack teachers.
 - Assess unforeseen positive and/or negative effects on community or persons involved.
- **Processes.**
 - Identify the program's best practices and weaknesses. Is there a good balance between the project's components (theoretical and practical)? Have the target group and stakeholders been appropriately involved at all stages and empowered through the process?
 - Assess the advantages and disadvantages of the choices of premises.

- **Sustainability**
 - Are the changes which have been achieved likely to be sustained?
 - Continuation of Youth Pack activities after NRC's exit.
 - All actors involved (students, teachers, local community).
- **Cost-effective**
 - How cost-effective has the intervention been?(Long term impact assessment might still be necessary).
 - Use of two teachers per class
 - Use of trainers and supervisors
- **Conclusions and recommendations**
 - for other continued development of Youth Pack in other NRC program countries (sharing the learning).

6. METHODOLOGY

The evaluation will be accomplished with consultants. The consultants will cooperate closely with NRC HQ and NRC staff in the field. The consultants will visit Sierra Leone in March and April 2005.

The target group will be consulted. The evaluation team will work in a participatory manner, using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Youths that participated in both the first and the second year should be interviewed, the teachers and trainers in the project, together with YP staff have to be consulted and the opinions of central and local authorities and community must be heard.