

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Engage a consultancy to develop a 30-minute documentary on promoting socio-economic inclusion, capturing the profound shift catalyzed by the ABLI G project, moving refugee and host communities in Garissa County from aid dependency toward self-reliance.

1. Background:

The Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) has been at the forefront of championing the rights and dignity of displaced and host populations for over 25 years. Through the ABLI-G II project, RCK is specifically mandated to promote socio-economic inclusion and self-reliance. While the Refugees Act 2021 and the Shirika Plan provide a progressive framework, refugees still encounter bureaucratic and social hurdles to market entry. The ABLI-G II project has worked to dismantle these barriers in Garissa County, facilitating a paradigm shift from aid dependency to sustainable self-reliance. As the project reaches its conclusion, there is a strategic necessity to document this journey. This documentary serves as a significant Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) tool, shifting project impact from quantitative data (reports) to qualitative human stories. It will showcase the transition of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) into formal, legal entities, providing a powerful archive of institutional memory and a blueprint for future advocacy.

2. Purpose and Objective(s) of the Consultancy

2.1 Purpose

The purpose of this consultancy is to engage a reputable, qualified consultant to produce a high-impact 30-minute documentary that demonstrates the tangible impact of the ABLI-G II project and lived human interest stories on the impact of the project. The documentary will focus on the successful integration of refugees and the host population into the local labour market and the "One-Stop Shop" model of service delivery. It will serve as a definitive advocacy and resource mobilization tool, proving the "proof of concept" to donors, policymakers, and the public that inclusive economic policies lead to shared prosperity between refugees and host communities in Garissa.

2.2 Specific Objectives

- Capture the lived experiences of beneficiaries in Garissa County, moving from informal subsistence to formal business status (CBO/PIN registrations) and economic self-reliance.
- Visually illustrate the collaboration between RCK, Consortium Partners, the County Government of Garissa, UNHCR, DRS, KRA, and private sector actors such as Equity Bank and Safaricom.
- Produce content that informs and educates on overcoming legal and bureaucratic hurdles, focusing on scalable models for socio-economic inclusion.
- Identify and archive best practices and lessons learned throughout the ABLI-G II project lifespan to guide future project design and resource mobilization.

3. Expected Outputs:

- One Primary High-Quality Documentary: A 30-minute 4K/HD documentary focused on the ABLI-G II journey, structured around community impact and systemic partnership.
- At least 5 Shortened Clips (3–5 minutes each): Focused segments extracted from the main film and remaining raw unutilized content for social media and training, specifically covering:
 - ✓ Success stories of lived experience
 - ✓ Legal identity and business registration.
 - ✓ The "One-Stop Shop" and institutional partnership model.
- Subtitles and Language Versatility: All content must include English and Swahili subtitles, suitable for both high-level policy broadcasts and local community screenings.
- Pre-Production Materials: Detailed storyboards, interview scripts, and production plans submitted for RCK approval to ensure alignment with project themes.
- Raw Footage and Final Archive: Handover of all raw and edited footage to RCK for future institutional use.
- Dissemination and Reach Report: A final report detailing the broadcast schedule, audience engagement metrics, and recommendations for future advocacy usage.

4. Methodology:

The production will employ a participatory, community-centered methodology designed to document the transition from aid dependency to self-reliance in Garissa County. The process will be structured around two thematic layers: the grassroots impact on refugee and host community CBOs, and the systemic synergy between RCK, government agencies (KRA, DRS, County Government), and private sector partners. Through semi-structured interviews, observational filming, and stakeholder consultations, the consultancy will capture authentic narratives of socio-economic inclusion and legal formalization. This approach ensures the final documentary serves as both a high-impact advocacy piece and a practical IEC tool, providing a definitive archive of the ABLI-G II project's scalable models and institutional memory.

5. Ethics:

Ethical considerations will be central throughout the documentary production process to ensure the dignity, rights, and safety of all participants are respected. The consultant will obtain informed consent from every individual featured, clearly explaining the purpose of the documentaries, how the footage will be used, and their right to withdraw at any time. Care will be taken to portray refugees and host community members with respect and sensitivity, avoiding any form of exploitation, stereotyping, or harm. Privacy and confidentiality will be maintained where requested, and cultural norms and values will be honoured during filming and storytelling. The production will adhere to professional standards of honesty and accuracy, ensuring that narratives are truthful and balanced, ultimately fostering trust and empowering the communities represented.

6. Key Deliverables and Timeframe:

Deliverable	Description	Timeframe
Inception Report	Detailed work plan, storyboards, and ethical protocols aligned with ABLI-G II themes.	Within 2 weeks of signing
Pre-Production Approval	Finalized scripts and interview lists (Garissa stakeholders) approved by RCK.	Week 3
Fieldwork & Filming	Completion of on-location filming in Garissa County and partner offices.	Weeks 4
Final Edits & Subtitling	Incorporation of feedback, final sound mixing, and Swahili/English subtitling, short video for social media, and submission for review.	Week 5
Final Deliverables	Delivery of final HD files, raw footage, and all production materials.	End of Week
Broadcast & Report	Dissemination support via digital/mainstream platforms and submission of the final report.	Week 6

7. Timeline:

The coverage will be undertaken between February 11, 2026, and March 30, 2026.

8. Other Provisions:

8.1 Consultant Profile and Requirements

- **Proven Experience:** A minimum of 5 years of professional experience in high-quality documentary production, specifically within the humanitarian or development sectors.
- **Technical Portfolio:** Demonstrated ability to produce 4K/HD content with professional sound-mixing and storytelling.
- **Thematic Knowledge:** Previous experience documenting refugee-related projects or socio-economic inclusion initiatives in ASAL regions (specifically Garissa/Dadaab) is desirable.
- **Cultural Competence:** Ability to work in complex security environments and sensitivity to the local cultural norms of the Garissa/Dadaab community.
- **Language Proficiency:** Capacity to produce content in English, Swahili, and Somali (where applicable).

8.2 Budget

The budget shall be discussed with the selected consultant.

8.3 Terms and Conditions

This assignment will be undertaken by an external team, in close collaboration with the Research and Knowledge Management Manager, Communications Officer, and the Project Officer - Dadaab. Proposals should be aligned with the set timeframe and include a costed rate.

9. Application Process:

9.1 Submission of Proposals

Interested applicants who meet the required profile are invited to submit an expression of interest by submitting both technical (in docx format) and financial proposals (in Excel format) separately, with the subject clearly marked "**Beyond Aid: Empowering Resilience, Sustaining Self-Reliance**" on or before **February 3, 2026**, via email to tenders@rckkenya.org. For further information, visit www.rckkenya.org.