

## **Terms of Reference**

### **Lat Khat Than Project Mid-term Evaluation**

## **1. Background**

### **1.1 About the organization**

The British Council is the United Kingdom's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. Its purpose is to promote a friendly knowledge and understanding between the people of the UK and people worldwide; making a positive contribution to all the countries we work with; and making a lasting difference to the UK's security, prosperity and influence. It seeks to achieve its aims by working in education, science, governance, English and the arts.

In 2018, its programmes in Myanmar receive more than 250,000 visitors to the buildings in Rangoon and Mandalay each year. British Council's libraries have over 10,000 members and support a network of 19 remote learning centres across the country. 9,000 students are learning at the teaching centres each year and 82,000 exams are delivered; 20,000 learners and teachers sign up for British Council open learning online courses. Its rule of law, society, education and arts programme have benefitted more than 130,000 people around the country. British Council's social network site, Myanmar Network, has 70,000 members and the Facebook page reaches a further 2m - the largest country page in the world.

The British Council was established in 1934 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1940. It is registered as a charity in England and Wales (charity no. 209131) and Scotland (charity no. SCO37733). It is also an executive non-departmental public body, with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as its sponsoring department.

### **1.2 About the project**

Lat Khat Than project is designed to support the transformation of Saunders Weaving and Vocational Institute (SWVI) into a Centre of Excellence through an innovative pilot model, which will be adapted to 13 other schools nationwide.

The project aims to empower female weavers and teaching staff at vocational schools for increased social and economic well-being and revitalize Myanmar's cultural assets by providing inclusive opportunities through design, and social & creative enterprise development.

The Lat Khat Than project started in July 2017 after the project has designed based on the findings and recommendations of the research residency conducted by British Council (2015) and UNDP report on Transformation of SVWI into a Weaving Centre of Excellence (2016).

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Embassy of Switzerland (SDC) is a co-funding partner for the Lat Khat Than project in implementing the three year programme

(2017-2020) for vocational skills development of the textile weaving schools and for strengthening a hand-woven textile sector in Myanmar. The letter of agreement (LoA) for the three year project was successfully signed with the Small Scale industries Department (SSID) in cooperating for the Lat Khat Than project in February 2018.

In cooperation with Plymouth College of Art (PCA), UK, British Council has implemented curriculum assessment and workshops on module development. Through exhibitions, workshops and mentorship programme, Lat Khat Than project provides learning opportunities for teaching staff and students to increase creative and entrepreneurship skills, and to develop more prosperous artisan communities in connection to research centres, schools, social business networks and professional expertise regionally and in-country.

Further information on the project can be found at <https://www.britishcouncil.org.mm/programmes/arts/lat-khat-than>.

## **2. The Evaluation**

Scheduled to complete in March 2019, British Council is seeking a consultant to undertake a mid-term external evaluation of the Lat Khat Than project.

### **2.1 Evaluation requirements**

The appointed consultant will be required, on the basis of evidence gathered, to evaluate the project oriented by the following questions:

#### ***EFFECTIVENESS***

- To what extent did Lat Khat Than achieve progress towards the intended outputs and outcomes of the project?
- To what extent did teachers' teaching capacity increase through introducing new teaching methods and creative design abilities?
- How, and to what degree, did the involvement of project partners and project team consultancies contribute to the achievements of the project?
- Did administrative constraints or external factors affect the ability of the project to achieve progress towards project's outcomes?

#### ***RELEVANCE***

- To what extent was the approach to selection of and engagement with partners suitable for the project?
- To what degree was the project's design relevant to the current situation of textile sector/weaving schools?

- Evaluate the contribution and appropriateness of the M&E framework embedded in the project. Assess the value of current M&E approaches and tools and provide a set of recommendations as to how these can be strengthened.

### ***IMPACT***

- To what extent did the project contribute towards more durable changes in sustainable growth of weaving textile sector?

### ***SUSTAINABILITY***

- Assess the likely sustainability of the program, the main threats to sustainability identified and what the program can do in the remaining implementation period to reduce those threats and to increase the likelihood of sustainability post-project.

## **2.2 Sources of evidence / methodology**

This evaluation will primarily involve qualitative research methods. This will mainly be directed towards intensive evaluation which would capture and assess the nature and quality of change by the project but will also include extensive research to evaluate contribution to, and the influence of, changes across the weaving textile sector in Myanmar more broadly.

Whilst the consultant is not limited to the list below, it is likely that key sources of evidence for the evaluation will include:

- Monitoring evidence compiled in project reports;
- Interviews or focus groups with selected stakeholders, Art project team and project partners;
- Interviews with local relevant experts possessing a strong understanding of the socioeconomics of local textile industry;
- Interviews or focus groups with project beneficiaries, project partners and other stakeholders;
- If possible, through observation and discussion at the Lat Khat Than's events.

## **2.3 Audience**

The intended users of the final evaluation will be the clients funding this project (SDC), the British Council and project partners of the project. The evaluation may be published on the British Council website.

## **2.4 Deliverables**

1. Inception report, including an evaluation plan that reflects the requirements and methodological aspects above.
2. Draft evaluation report, for review by British Council and Art project staff.
3. Final evaluation report. This should be approximately 20 pages in length, excluding appendices. It will include an executive summary, and a 'lessons learned' to facilitate, capture and synthesise *evidence-based* lessons learned to inform future programming.

## **2.5 Logistical support**

The Art team will provide reasonable local support to the consultant, including

- Partner and stakeholder contacts lists;
- Availability of Lat Khat Than project team to familiarise consultant with project and project partners;
- Use of communication and, when available, meeting facilities in British Council office.

## **3. Person specification**

1. At least 5 years project evaluation or other relevant M&E experience. Sound understanding of a variety of project evaluation methods and tools;
2. A publishable standard of written English;
3. A higher degree, preferably in a relevant social science;
4. Comprehensive understanding of capacity building and projects designed to strengthen vocational schools;
5. A sound knowledge of the history and context of Myanmar culture, particularly as it relates to the textile weaving sector.

## **4. Budget**

A maximum total budget of **USD 6,000** is available for this work. This includes consultant daily fee rates, subsistence costs, and any further costs incurred. Applicants should provide a detailed breakdown of costs in their commercial proposal.

## **5. Application**

Applications are invited from all qualified persons. Interested applicants should send

1. Technical proposal, specifying the approach, methodology and a timeframe of the evaluation (4 pages maximum)
2. Financial proposal, detailing daily fee rates and other associated costs.
3. Full CV(s) in English and an account of previous relevant experience.

**Applications should be sent to [nechye.thwin@mm.britishcouncil.org](mailto:nechye.thwin@mm.britishcouncil.org)  
Applications should be received no later than 23.59 Myanmar time, 31/12/2018.**