

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PROJECT EVALUATION

Project Title: Access to Justice in Land Issues (Phase 2)

Project Code: N-VNM-2023-0158

Donor: Bread for the World

Project Partner: Vietnam Lawyers Association

1. Background

The Vietnam Lawyers Association (VLA) is the largest legal professional organization in the country with legal consulting centers in many provinces and cities with the missions of disseminating and providing legal advice to people, especially disadvantaged or vulnerable groups in many areas of law, including the law that impacts lives of all people in the country such as the land law.

Land disputes in Vietnam are very common in the recent years and the protection of people's legitimate rights in land disputes becomes increasingly important. In the recent years, VLA, together with its network of nearly 80 legal consultancy centers (LCC) nation-wide, have been disseminating and providing legal advice, legal representation to many disadvantageous groups on land related issues, including obtaining land use rights certificates, inheritance of land use rights, settling disputes over land use rights, etc. These activities have helped reduce the number of land disputes, which account for a large proportion of court cases, hence, contribute to maintaining the social order.

In addition, the VLA has also actively participated in making comments on draft land laws and regulations, making recommendations to amend the regulations which were discovered as impractical or improper during the process of law dissemination and legal aid to people. These efforts have been highly appreciated and recognized by the Government and public, making the VLA a reputable organization in the legal sector. However, all support provided by the VLA and the LCCs remains limited due to the limited resources.

To strengthen the VLA's capacity to support vulnerable groups in land related matters, since 2021 VLA has been implementing Project "Access to Justice in Land Issues" funded by Bread for the World. So far the project has gone through two phases: Phase I from 2021 to 2023 and phase II from 2024 to 2026. The Project goal is to contribute to ensuring the legitimate rights and interests of people in land area.

The Project objectives are (i) Land laws are effectively enforced in the people's interest and (ii) The people's access to legal information and services in land area is improved.

With the active and creative implementation of the VLA and LCCs the Project has been effectively implemented and brought significant results.

2. Cause and objectives of the evaluation

As the Project approaches its completion (July 2026), an evaluation is required to assess its performance, identify lessons learned and provide recommendations for future programming.

The evaluation results and recommendations stated in the evaluation report will be used by BFTW and VLA to develop further possible cooperation.

The overall purpose of the evaluation is to provide Bread for the World, the VLA and stakeholders with an independent and evidence-based assessment of the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of the Project on communities, policies and legal systems related to land rights.

The evaluation will be carried out between December 2025 - January 2026 by an independent external expert recruited by the VLA in cooperation with Bread For the World.

3. Key questions for the evaluation

The evaluation will focus on the assessment of the following questions and issues:

- (i) The consistency of the Project's goals to the needs of beneficiaries, and the mission and strategy or policies of VLA and Bread for the World;

- (ii) The extent to which the project objectives have been achieved as of the time of evaluation;
- (iii) Efficiency: adequacy of the deployed resources in relation to the achieved results and effects;
- (iv) The degree of contribution of the Project to the overall/long-term goals.
- (v) Other changes or positive impacts (if any);
- (vi) Sustainability of Project impact (how has the project influenced legal awareness, community empowerment, and policy discussions)

4. Evaluation methodology

The following methodology shall be used for the evaluation:

- Desk review of project documents (proposal, log-frame, progress reports, financial reports, monitoring data);
- Interviews with some of the direct beneficiaries, project staff, VLA members, local authorities, and Bread for the World representatives (if needed);
- Opinions provided by LCCs, people directly participating in implementing project activities, people who benefit from Project (if possible), other agencies and organizations (if any);
- Examine coordination and partnership between Bread for the World and VLA;
- Identify challenges, lessons learned and best practices;
- Provide actionable recommendations for future projects on land rights and access to justice; and
- Triangulation of data sources for reliability and validity.
- Other methods as agreed between VLA and evaluators.

5. Process of the evaluation/time frame

The evaluation will be carried out following the below schedule:

- November 2025: Advertisement and selection of evaluator(s).
- December 2025: Planning the evaluation, building tools and preparing necessary issues to carry out the evaluation;
- December 2025 -January 2026: Conducting evaluation;
- January 2026: Developing the first draft evaluation report;
- First half of February 2026: Providing comments on the draft report;
- End of February: Completing the final evaluation report.

6. Expected outputs

The expected products of the evaluation will include:

- Evaluation plan;
- Evaluation methodology and tools;
- Draft evaluation report;
- Comments on the draft evaluation report;
- Final assessment report in English and Vietnamese, between 30-35 pages long, excluding appendices, times new roman font, size 12, single line spacing.

7. Qualifications of the evaluator

The evaluator to be selected to conduct the evaluation must meet the following qualifications:

- Master degree in M&E, social sciences or development;
- University or higher degree in law is an asset;
- Proven strong expertise in conducting evaluation of development projects, or at least 10 years of experience in development project monitoring and evaluation ;
- Good knowledge/understanding of the legal and judicial system in Vietnam;

- Strong analytical and assessment skills, computer skills, report writing skills;
- Proficiency in English and Vietnamese; and
- Previous working experience with VLA would be an asset.

8. Content of evaluator' offer

The evaluator's offer must include the following documents (in English):

- CVs;
- Technical/specific proposal with short explanation and justification of the methods to be deployed;
- Financial proposal including complete cost estimate that includes both, the fee as well as any associated costs to be incurred, such as transport, accommodation, taxes, fees and costs of workshops in the scope of the evaluation etc.

The evaluator's offer should be sent to VLA via email: thanhmoj@yahoo.co.uk no later than 18h00 on 17 November 2025.