

Terms of Reference SAFCEI External Evaluation 2026

Overview of the work of the SAFCEI

SAFCEI, established in 2005, is a multi-faith environmental justice organisation committed to supporting Southern African faith leaders and their communities in growing awareness about, understanding of, and action on eco-justice, sustainable living and climate change.

SAFCEI works with people and communities of all faiths and none. SAFCEI emphasises the spiritual and ethical imperative to care for living Earth and all the life it sustains. SAFCEI speaks out on issues of eco-justice, encourages ethical action in this regard, and calls on those in positions of power and authority to govern ethically on matters concerning our common home.

As a nationally recognised CSO SAFCEI advances environmental and climate justice through faith networks, policy engagement, research, campaigning, strategic litigation and community mobilisation. SAFCEI maintains strong relationships with community-based organisations, women and youth leaders, faith networks across the region, South African civil-society platforms and climate governance actors.

SAFCEI's objectives are to:

- Empower and mobilise faith communities for climate and eco-justice advocacy.
- Influence policy and promote ethical governance in climate justice matters.
- Build and strengthen partnerships to drive collective action on climate justice.

SAFCEI does this through three core programmatic areas: Food and Climate Justice, Energy and Climate Justice and Animal Justice.

More information can be found: <https://safcei.org/>

Purpose and objective of the evaluation

Evaluations at SAFCEI are conducted about every 6 years. The external evaluation is a regular evaluation. The objective of the evaluation is to document outcomes of SAFCEI's work and to learn from the programme implementation over the past years. The evaluation shall also set these learnings in relation to programme approaches prior to 2022. The results of the evaluation will be discussed among staff and board and will be presented to various stakeholders. The learning emerging from the evaluation will shape future programme conceptualization and implementation.

Scope of the evaluation

The SAFCEI external evaluation will focus on SAFCEI's **programmes' theory of change**, assessing whether the programme theory is sound and the actions or approach led to the stated outcomes. This will contribute to understanding why a programme is, or is not, effective.

It will also focus on the **outcomes and impact of the project**, that is the longer-term effects of the programme beyond the immediate results. The aim is to assess the achievement of the intended outcomes to understand which impact the programme is having. This would include a comparative approach looking at the evolution of SAFCEI's intervention design over time.

The **evaluation will focus** on the **previous and the current Bread for the World project** and will look at outcomes **from 2022 onwards, and the Animal Justice Programme** which is not included in the Bread for the World project.

The evaluation shall focus on the **four priority countries** selected for the previous and current Bread for the World projects namely South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi as well as women from the Women's Regional Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training (FLEAT) which span 11 countries and if possible, project outcomes in specific countries.

Key evaluation questions

The external evaluation shall use the OECD DAC evaluation criteria as a guiding framework:

- **Relevance** (Are we doing the right thing?)
- **Coherence** (How well does what we do fit?)
- **Effectiveness** (Do we achieve the set objectives? Look at: objective, outcome and use of output level)
- **Efficiency** (How economically are our resources used?)
- **Overarching developmental impact** (What difference do we make at the level of the overall goal?)
- **Sustainability** (Are the project outputs, outcomes and impacts sustainable?)

SAFCEI's staff and board have identified **questions** that can be linked to the OECD DAC criteria:

- What are SAFCEI's long-term achievements (all programmes and projects considered together)?
- What is unique about SAFCEI's work and approach?
- What are the most significant changes brought about by SAFCEI's work at community and country level?
- Which approaches have yielded the greatest influence?
- What have been best practices for practically rooting the thematic advocacy areas in communities and how can they be further strengthened?
- What are the strengths of the three programme areas: Food and Climate Justice, Energy and Climate Justice, Animal Justice?
- How has the training platform the Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Trainings (FLEAT) supported faith leaders and green champions in creating change in their faith communities? What more is needed?

- The advocacy landscape and context are different in the four countries. What else is needed in the training content for the region beyond South Africa?
- What leader retention, momentum and change creation is evident since 2022 and before 2022?
- Did training senior faith leaders at the Eco Bishop FLEAT create significant outcomes that are different from training a wider cohort of people of faith in specific focus countries?
- What other SAFCEI support beyond training has helped faith leaders to advance the advocacy agenda in their faith communities and countries?

In terms of recommendations, SAFCEI is especially interested in understanding:

- How can we strengthen our in-roads into the region (on the ground, practically and in terms of maintaining momentum, consistency and sustainability)?
- What skills, additional training or post training support do faith leaders and green champions need to advance the advocacy agenda in their faith communities and countries?

Evaluation design/ methods

The evaluation shall use the OECD DAC evaluation standards as a guiding framework. The evaluation shall follow **African evaluation principles** standards, namely utility, feasibility for realism, respect of ethics and precision, quality.

The evaluation is to be rooted in the socio-historic context of faith communities in Southern Africa and make use of **African evaluation principles**, paradigms and tools. This includes making use of African knowledge systems, building on the art of storytelling and ensuring inclusivity and representation.

SAFCEI is not committed to any specific evaluation design. The evaluators are expected to develop an evaluation design, using a diverse set of methods.

SAFCEI is keen for the evaluators to attend the Regional Women's FLEAT in October in Johannesburg to get an insight into the training methodology and to be able to interview participants. SAFCEI is also keen for the evaluators to administer the 2026 annual faith leader survey to trained participants from 2022 – 2026.

Further methodologies could include but are not limited to analysis of documents, interviews, focus groups, case studies, participatory observation and field visits / virtual country studies.

Participation of staff, board, stakeholders and target groups in the evaluation process is required. Access will be facilitated through SAFCEI.

Process of the evaluation

The table outlines the overall process and states which products are expected at which deadline.

Expected products

Steps	Date
Selection of evaluators and contracting completed	2026-09-09
Inception Meeting	2026-09-16 (tbc)
Inception Report Submission	2026-10-05
Feedback on inception report	2026-10-13
Field Work (Data collection and analysis)	Mid-October – November (including partial attendance of Regional Women's FLEAT – 19-23 Oct 2026 and administration of Annual Faith Leader Survey)
Feedback on first results to staff	At Review and Planning Meeting early December 2026
Submission of draft evaluation report	2027-02-02
Presentation and discussion of draft evaluation report with staff and board	Mid-February
Feedback on draft report	2027-02-17
Final report	2027-03-09
4-page visual summary of core evaluation outcomes for review	2027-03-23
4-page visual summary of core evaluation outcomes finalised	2027-03-30

Inception Report

After the inception meeting and the handover of the core documents in digital form, the evaluator(s) shall prepare an Inception Report that describes how the required evaluation outcomes will be achieved, which methods will be applied, which data will be collected, and how the data will be analysed and triangulated. The Inception Report shall contain the draft questions / questionnaires to be used during field work as annexes. In addition, the Inception Report shall include a detailed schedule of activities and timelines as well as a preliminary table of contents for the final report. Suggestions may be made by the evaluator(s) that extend or limit the questions of the ToR. SAFCEI must agree to these suggestions. The Inception Report should not exceed 15 pages (plus annexes).

Evaluation Report

The Evaluation Report must present the results from the evaluation process, including the results of the document review and the empirical research phase. The findings, conclusions and recommendations need to be thorough and based on evidence. The Evaluation Report must include an executive summary including a short description of the goals of the evaluation, the key findings according to the OECD/DAC criteria and recommendations. If possible, the Evaluation Report shall include small countries or case studies. The Evaluation Report shall not exceed 40 pages (excluding annexes).

Four-pager Visual Summary of Core Evaluation Outcomes

A graphically appealing 4-pager with the key findings and recommendations is expected.

Budget and contracting

The available budget for this evaluation is ZAR 375,000. Payment terms can be proposed in the offer and will be agreed upon during contracting.

Key qualifications of the evaluators

Qualifications and expertise required:

1. Professional experience in conducting programme and organizational evaluations as sole evaluator or team leader
2. Profound expertise in quantitative and qualitative empirical data collection and analysis methods
3. Solid experience in measuring outcomes and impact
4. Experience with civil society, especially the faith sector
5. Good understanding of climate, food, energy and animal justice issues
6. Knowledge of the context of communities in Southern Africa
7. If a team is applying, the team should include evaluators of different genders. If one evaluator applies, we require that he or she has demonstrated gender sensitivity and can bring in perspectives of women and men.

Content of the evaluator's offer

A complete offer consists of:

1. A **technical proposal**, which lays out the evaluation design, specifying methods and instruments to be used to answer the evaluation questions
2. A detailed overview of the **evaluation process** (work plan including time schedule)
3. A **financial proposal** stating all costs including taxes (e.g. VAT) for each budget line like daily fees for each evaluator(s) and cost of travel.
4. **CVs** of participating evaluator(s) with career details and experience relevant to the offer.
5. A **company profile**, if applicable
6. Two **references** (including at least one reference from previous clients of organisational evaluations the evaluator(s) has / have carried out.

SAFCEI reserves the right to conduct interviews to reach a decision. Furthermore, SAFCEI reserves the right to award the contract at the time of submission of the offer. SAFCEI also reserves the right to not award a contract. Only complete offers will be considered. The evaluation contract will be granted based on the following award criteria and weighting:

Award criteria	Weight of award criteria in %
Quality of the technical proposal, with a special focus on understanding the ToR and proposed methodology	30%
Qualifications of the evaluator(s)	40%
Financial Proposal	30%

Complete offers must be submitted no later than **14 August 2026** to the email address: friederike@safcei.org.za