

## Terms of reference

### **Desk Review on the factors and roots causes of Violent Extremism in Tunisia**

CONTRACT: Individual Contract

REPORTING TO: Office of the Resident Coordinator and UN Country Team

LOCATION: Tunis, Tunisia

DURATION: 15 working days within a period of 4 weeks (starting from 15 March 2017 )

LANGUAGE: French, English, Arabic

#### **Context**

Tunisia is affected by the persistence of militant activity, prolific recruitment networks and the spread of forms of violent extremism. A number of analysis on localized drivers and trends have been carried out, especially in the last couple of years. The complexity of the phenomenon requires a better understanding of roots causes and drivers of violent extremism to enable effective prevention-focused interventions.

The Secretary-General Plan of Action on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) portrays an analysis on the underlying causes of violent extremism, identifying a range of drivers spanning from socio-political exclusion to alienation of individuals. The process of ideological radicalization and adherence to violence is often accompanied by individual and psycho-social factors.

To respond to those challenges, in December 2016, the UNCT in Tunisia decided to come together and start developing a joint framework on PVE, that would increase UNCT coherence and coordinated approaches on the basis of a common analysis of the phenomenon.

#### **Objectives**

The overall objective of the consultancy will be to provide a desk review of relevant analysis on identity dynamic, political factors and other socio-economic aspects that have contributed to the appeal of violent extremism in Tunisia. Despite the diversities within the country, through the existing literature, the paper will identify trends and try to capture nuances on how the different factors correlates. The desk review should help to explain the root causes of the phenomenon, the nature of drivers, as well as identify some contingent factors.

The paper should be structured in a manner that facilitates the “appropriation” of its content by the UNCT, and is relevant to the UNCT framework that is being developed. To allow that, the document shall categorize drivers and roots causes (but not limited to) under what the UN Secretary-General Plan of action identifies as “**Conditions fostering VE**” namely: Lack of socio-economic opportunities, Marginalization and discrimination, Poor governance, human rights and rule of law violations, Protracted conflicts, Radicalization in prisons; and steps of the “**Radicalization process**”, namely : Individual factors and motivations, Victimization and collective grievances, Distortion of religious and political ideologies, The role of leaders and networks.

At the same time, it should help detect entry points to prevent violent extremism in Tunisia which are relevant to the **7 strategic pillars** of the UN Secretary-General Plan as priority areas for action: Dialogue and Conflict Prevention, strengthening good governance, human rights and the rule of law, Engaging communities, Empowering youth, Gender equality and empowering women, Education, skills development and employment facilitation, Strategic communications, the Internet and social media.

These 7 pillars will also guide (but might not be limited to) the PVE work of the UNCT in Tunisia and its joint framework.

## Responsibilities/expected outputs

The consultant is in charge of preparing the desk review following guidance from UN staff.

The consultant will initially map the key documents related to the subject of study that are available in Tunisia as well as eventual analysis produced by UN agencies. The analysis might consider relevant aspects of national legislation, policies and strategies.

After presenting a proposed outline and incorporating inputs, the individual will submit a 20-page (approx.) draft desk review to the UNCT. The document will be presented to the UNCT in a half-day session. The production of a final version of the paper incorporates the feedback received.

The consultant will work under professional secret and should not, in any way spread the information acquired for the preparation and during the roll out of the activity, including materials and reports.

## Deliverables

The tasks of the consultant include the preparation of the following deliverables:

Deliverable 1: Conduct discussions and consultations with relevant UN staff to refine the scope of work. This will be combined with identification of existing and recent literature, and critical data. *(1 working day)*

Deliverable 2: Inception Report: this 2 pages' report (mainly an outline) shall contain information on the approach for the development of the paper, and list of literature review. *(1 working days from the successful delivery of Output 1)*

Deliverable 3: Draft Desk Review: this document will be submitted ten days after the submission of the Inception Report. It will be divided (tentatively) in the following sections: I. a general overview of the phenomenon in Tunisia (i.e. identity dynamic, political factors and other socio-economic aspects); II. desk review of analysis on the phenomenon organized according to the categories of the SG Plan of Action (conditions conducive to VE and process of radicalization), including summary of key trends, issues and questions; III. Identification of some key entry points under the 7 strategic pillars; IV. List of sources. *(10 working days from the successful delivery of Output 2)*

Deliverable 4: Final Paper: this will be submitted at the end of the assignment period and would have integrated comments received from UNCT in a half-day workshop. *(3 working days from the successful delivery of Output 3)*. It is presented to select public (one/two short events in Tunis).

## Expected results

A solid document that would enable the UNCT to strengthen its understanding of Violent Extremism in Tunisia and lead to identify appropriate programmatic solutions to preventing violent extremism, in line with the Secretary General Plan of Action and national priorities and strategies.

## Profile

Education	Advanced university degree in political/social science, conflict studies or other relevant thematic area.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Excellent French drafting, formulation, and reporting skills;</li><li>• At least 8 years' experience in research and analysis on conflict and development issues;</li><li>• In-depth knowledge of the Tunisian context, with focus on politics, security, socio-economic issues, Human Rights issues;</li><li>• Experience of working on projects or analysis related to violent extremism is highly desirable;</li><li>• Proven intellectual and practical capacity to understand sensitivities and interpret national institutional issues;</li><li>• Experience with a Think Tank, research institution or Academia is an asset.</li></ul>
Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Excellent knowledge of French and English is mandatory. Working language of Arabic.</li></ul>

## Documentation requested (in French or English)

For purposes of generating proposal whose contents are uniformly presented and to facilitate their comparative analysis, it is highly recommended to submit your proposal in the following format with the following completed set of documents:

- a) **CV**
- b) **Technical proposal** (max 2 pages) describing your eligibility as the most suitable consultant for the assignment – it should include your understanding of the project background and scope of work, educational qualifications and relevant professional experience, and approach and methodology for the proposed assignment. The Office of the UN Resident Coordinator reserves the right to request for professional references at a later stage; and
- c) **Financial Proposal** that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price, supported by a breakdown of costs. Please note that the contract price will be fixed regardless of changes in the cost components.

## Evaluation criteria

Criteria	%	Points
Advanced university degree in political/social science, conflict studies or other relevant thematic area : Master degree in political/social science, conflict studies .....5 points Phd.....12 points Phd in a relevant field and on the Tunisian context.....20 points	20 %	20 points
At least 8 years' experience in research and analysis on conflict and development issues; 8 years..... 8 points 9-10 Years.....10 points Up to 10 years.....15 points	15 %	15 points
Number of relevant papers/research Up to 5..... 5 points 6-10.....10 points More Than 10.....15 points	15 %	15 points
Research projects in the area of violent extremism in the Tunisian context 1 to 3.....10 points More Than 3 .....20 points	20 %	20 points
Years of experience with think tank and/or research institution Up to 5..... 5 points 6-10.....10 points More Than 10.....15 points	15%	15 points
Knowledge of French and English.....10 points	10 %	10 points
Knowledge of Arabic.....5 points	5%	5 points

## Evaluation

The evaluation will be based on cumulative analysis (i.e. technical qualifications and price proposal). The weight of the technical criteria is 70%; the weight of the financial proposal is 30%. Candidates that obtain a minimum of 70 pts out of a maximum 100 pts will be considered for the financial evaluation. Candidates that do not meet the minimum requirements will be disqualified.

## Payment modality

The payment to the consultant will be made according to the following disbursement schedule:

- 100% after the completion of all deliverables.