

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT PROCUREMENT NOTICE



Date: 7 April 2017

Country: Bangkok Regional Hub, Bangkok - Thailand

Description of the assignment: Preventing Conflict and Violent Extremism Junior Consultant

Duty Station: Bangkok based with some travel required

Project name: Governance and Peace Building Cluster, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub

Period of assignment/services (if applicable): 1 May 2017 – 1 October 2017 with maximum 80 days

Proposal should be submitted no later than **21 Apr 2017**.

Please click on the link below to apply:

https://jobs.undp.org/cj_view_job.cfm?cur_job_id=71662

1. BACKGROUND

Project Title

Supporting Inclusive and Peaceful Societies in Asia and the Pacific (SIPSAP)

Project Description

In recent years, the world has witnessed new waves of violent extremism that have taken the lives of many innocent people. Whether based on religious, ethnic or political grounds, these extremist ideologies glorify the supremacy of a particular group, and oppose a more tolerant and inclusive society. This points to two distinct but related challenges for contemporary societies: the rise of violent extremism and its spread across national borders and the governance of diverse and multi-cultural societies.

Radical behavior in itself is not necessarily a problem. Non-violent radical behavior, especially if undertaken purposively in the political or economic sphere, can help to promote positive change. A danger arises when radical movements start to use fear, violence and terrorist activities to achieve their ideological, political, economic or social aims; it is then that radicalization turns to violent extremism.

1. Research

Research to date has highlighted a complex combination of drivers that can move individuals or groups from a state of grievance to mobilization, often shaped closely by local and contextualized dynamics that create a permissive environment for extremist groups. However these drivers are still poorly understood, with a vast array of explanations generally provided that include: underemployment, marginalization, perceptions of injustice, human rights violations, social-political exclusion, corruption and sustained mistreatment of certain groups

In 2016 the UNDPs Bangkok Regional Hub (BRH) commissioned analytical papers to provide a more nuanced understanding of the risks and preventative measures for violent extremism in South and South-East Asia. Both pieces identified a number of context specific factors for each sub-region. Alongside this UNDP is developing a Country-Based Briefing Note series for PVE in the region. Six countries have been drafted, but another four need to be written and the entire series edited, packaged and disseminated.

UNDP BRH also seeks to examine the gendered motivations in extremism. Given that social media is the key tool used by extremist to mobilize support for extremist ideas including those that calls to restrict the role of women in the public space, UNDP BRH plans to analyze trends from social media data of selected countries to understand trends and relationship between extremism and gender. Findings will be shared with selected CSOs in the region to find solutions on ways to address the challenges identified by the research.

UNDP BRH's initiative on Preventing Violent Extremism is part of a larger stream of work which focuses on Sustaining Peace in the Region. A study on conflict trends in Asia Pacific is being carried out and a need exists to link the research work on Violent Extremism with the one on conflict.

2. National Action Plans Measuring and Preventing Violent Extremism

The UN Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, recommends that "*each Member State should consider developing a national plan of action to prevent violent extremism which sets national priorities for addressing the local drivers of violent extremism*". Since 2016 UNDP has used this opportunity to engage a number of countries in the region on developing more holistic responses to PVE. This means moving beyond a securitized approach to one that addresses structural causes and bringing in relevant non-government actors to the development and implementation process including women, youth, civil society and religious organizations.

At the 8th ASEAN-UN Summit in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 7th September 2016, the Leaders of ASEAN and the United Nations Secretary-General endorsed the first ASEAN-UN 'Plan of Action' (2016-2020). Under the framework of the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership (2011), the ASEAN-UN Plan of Action covers a broad range of cooperation between the two Organizations. Within the area of Political-Security Cooperation, the Plan of Action calls for the 'continued convening of regular ASEAN-UN Track 1.5 workshops.'

Since 2013, the annual series of ASEAN-UN Track 1.5 workshops (AURED) has focused on several areas related to conflict prevention and preventive diplomacy, including the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation and the prevention of violent extremism. In November 2016, the United

Nations and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia co-organised the ASEAN-UN Regional Dialogue (AURED III) on 'Conflict Prevention and the Prevention of Violent Extremism', in which ASEAN member states, ASEAN Secretariat, and regional representatives of non-government organisations and UN officials participated.

In this context and in line with the UN-ASEAN Plan of Action, it is proposed that, the ASEAN-UN Regional Dialogue (AURED IV) on the 'Role of Women in Preventing Violent Extremism' will provide continuity to recent discussions but will importantly provide a timely focus on the current priorities of ASEAN and the United Nations in the area of political-security cooperation.

The objectives of the assignment are to:

- a. A four page template has been developed for a country specific PVE briefing note series and six countries (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Thailand and the Philippines) have produced initial drafts. Further work is needed to standardize the context and tone of the briefing notes, and to roll them out across a wider selection of countries and possibly regions.
- b. Support the analysis, drafting and production of infographics on the link between extremism and gender in social media
- c. Assist in the organization of conferences and workshops related to the UN and ASEAN on PVE in Asia
- d. Conduct joint research with the expert tasked to analyze conflict in Asia Pacific and draft the part of the Report on Sustaining Peace in Asia that relates to Violent Extremism. Support the development of infographics on Conflict in Asia Pacific by analyzing existing conflict indexes.

2. OBJECTIVE, SCOPE OF WORK, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ANALYTICAL WORK

Scope of Work

Under the overall of the Governance and Peace Building Advisor at the UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Hub, the Consultant is expected to:

-) Finalize the PVE briefing note research series for ten countries
-) Support the implementation of UNDPs social media analysis of gender and extremism
-) Organize the development, methodology and implementation of a relevant conference related to Women, Peace and Security, Violent Extremism and ASEAN
-) Support the drafting of a report on Sustaining Peace in Asia Pacific (which will include VE dimensions) and develop infographics to illustrate the research results

Management and organization:

-) It is foreseen that the work should be undertaken at UNDPs Bangkok Regional Hub

3. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

The Consultant should possess the following expertise and qualifications:

Education:

-) Master's Degree, preferably in political science, international development or other relevant social science studies.

Experience:

-) At least 2 years of progressive experience working in academic research or counter extremism field
-) Mix of academic knowledge and practical experience in working on violent extremism
-) Excellent knowledge of the political, economic, social and security situation for Asia
-) Proven ability to write papers that straddle the academic and implementation worlds
-) Ability to produce conflict and peace building research, policy papers and training materials conflict dynamics and peace and security capacities
-) Excellent writing and communications skills

Language:

-) Fluency in written and spoken English.

4. DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT, DUTY STATION AND EXPECTED PLACES OF TRAVEL

Duration

The period of the assignment is estimated to be from 1 May 2017 – 1 October 2017 with maximum of 80 working days.

Duty Station

This assignment is on a full-time and basis with some travel required. The Consultant's presence is required at UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub premises to work closely with the Asia-Pacific Governance and Peacebuilding Advisor

5. FINAL PRODUCTS

Expected Outputs and Deliverables

The consultant is expected to work towards the following work plan, and timelines to achieve the stated outputs.

Deliverables/ Outputs	Estimated Duration to Complete (days)	Target Due Dates	Review and Approval Required
A. Development of briefing series strategy	5	20 May 2017	UNDP Asia-Pacific Governance and Peace Building Advisor
B. Finalization of existing briefing notes	5	1 June 2017	UNDP Asia-Pacific Governance and Peace Building Advisor
C. Support the drafting of a Report on Sustaining Peace in Asia and develop infographics to illustrate it	20	20 June 2017	Support the drafting Report on Sustaining Peace in Asia and develop infographics to illustrate it
D. Drafting and finalization of four new briefing notes	10	1 July 2017	UNDP Asia-Pacific Governance and Peace Building Advisor
E. Analysis of social media data	10	1 July 2017	UNDP Asia-Pacific Governance and Peace Building Advisor
F. Development of infographics on social media data	10	1 Sept 2017	UNDP Asia-Pacific Governance and Peace Building Advisor
G. Organization and implementation of PVE conference	20	1 October 2017	UNDP Asia-Pacific Governance and Peace Building Advisor
Total	80 days		

Any written outputs will be professionally edited separately according to UNDP formats and guidelines.

6. PROVISION OF MONITORING AND PROGRESS CONTROLS

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Junior Consultant will work under the overall guidance of the Asia-Pacific Governance and Peace Building Advisor.

7. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS.

Candidates wishing to be considered for this assignment are required to submit the following documents to demonstrate their qualifications. Please group them into **one (1) single PDF document** as the application only allows to upload maximum one document::

-) Personal CV or P11, indicating all past experience from similar projects, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of the Candidate and at least three (3) professional references;
-) Financial Proposal that indicates the daily rate/fee of the candidate, in US dollars.

Incomplete document will not be considered.

8. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

Scope of Price Proposal and Schedule of Payments

The method of payment is output-based lump-sum scheme. The payments shall be released upon submitting the required deliverables with satisfactory by the Asia-Pacific Governance and Peace Building Advisor as per agreement for each report in accordance with a set time schedule to be agreed in the contract.

9. EVALUATION

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF THE BEST OFFER

The criteria which shall serve as basis for evaluating offers as follows;

Combined Scoring method – where the qualifications and methodology will be weighted a maximum of 70%, and combined with the price offer which will be weighted a maximum of 30%

ANNEXES

ANNEX I – ToR_ Preventing Conflict and Violent Extremism Junior Consultant

ANNEX II - General Conditions

ANNEX III - Financial proposal and Offeror's Letter To UNDP Confirming Interest and Avail for IC