



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Title of Consultancy:	Lead Researcher – Rakhine Joint Assessment
Type of Contract:	Individual Contract
Duration of the Assignment:	20 July – 30 November, 2017 (43 working days)
Location:	Yangon and Sittwe (with possible domestic travel in Rakhine State and to Nay Pyi Taw)

A. Background

Rakhine is one of the poorest and most densely populated states in Myanmar. It has a history of ethno-political conflict, chronic poverty, social exclusion and low resilience to climate change impacts and natural disasters. The Government of Myanmar (GoM) is strengthening its efforts to achieve socio economic development of the Rakhine State. At the Union level, the State Counsellor has established the Rakhine State Committee for Peace and Development.

The Government of Myanmar together with the Kofi Annan Foundation established on the 5th of September 2016 the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State. The Commission was mandated to analyse the present situation of all communities in Rakhine and seek to identify the factors that have resulted in violence, displacement and under-development. The Commission released its preliminary recommendations in March 2017. One of the key findings was the need for adoption and implementation of the Socio-Economic Development Plan for Rakhine State.

The Union Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement on the 14th of March 2017 formally requested the Resident Coordinator for the UN to support the Government of Myanmar (GoM) represented by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in its effort to conduct an assessment of households' basic needs in the state. It was envisaged that the assessment initially would be piloted in certain areas of Rakhine with the possibility of expanding it to cover the entire state later on. The Resident Coordinator delegated the UNDP to lead this exercise in close collaboration with the other members of the UN Country Team (UNCT).

The UN Technical Support Group will be composed of international and local technical experts in the areas of conflict prevention, livelihoods, survey design/implementation and communication. This TOR is for the Lead Researcher who will be responsible for conducting the desk review, qualitative and quantitative survey analysis and writing up the research results and recommendations.

The exact timeline of conducting this mixed-methods assessment is yet to be decided, but preliminary results of the qualitative survey should be available by August 2017, and consolidated results of the two surveys by October 2017. The survey operations covered under this TOR are likely to be focused on three townships of Rakhine (Kyauktaw, Mrauk-U and Minbyaw) and IDP Camps in Sittwe Township and will need to deliver representative estimates of the major ethnic communities living there. The topics/themes to be covered by the assessment are to be decided through upcoming consultations with key stakeholders, but are likely to include basic needs in the areas of livelihoods, health, education, food security, housing, as well as perceptions of



intercommunal dynamics, etc. The survey methodology, tools and implementation plan will be designed and led by the survey expert. A Survey Implementation Firm which will be responsible for the overall design of the survey including, sampling strategy, questionnaire design, field staff training and survey implementation. The Lead Researcher guides the preparation of the assessment through a comprehensive literature review and setting the research hypotheses and parameters. The researcher takes the lead in analyzing, interpreting and writing up the data.

B. Objectives of the Assignment

Under the overall guidance of the Country Director UNDP Myanmar the Lead Researcher will work closely with the UNDP Programme Manager based in Sittwe and UN Technical Support Group.

The Lead Researcher will be responsible for the following key tasks:

- 1) Lead UN support to the GoM in the analysis of the survey findings, both qualitative and quantitative;
- 2) Support to the Survey Implementation Firm as needed
- 3) Develop research reports based on the findings of the Rakhine Joint Assessment which is supported through a comprehensive desk review of credible documentation.
- 3) Support the GoM develop policy recommendations based on the research findings in line with the priorities of the Socio-Economic Development Plan for Rakhine State.

C. Scope of Work and anticipated outputs

As outlined above, UNDP Myanmar wishes to engage an international consultant with extensive experience in designing, conducting and writing up research results based on quantitative and qualitative surveys, to carry out the tasks listed below.

The tasks of the Lead Researcher will be to:

1. Lead the preparatory work for the joint assessment:

- 1) Ensure the Assessment is guided by clear research hypotheses and a comprehensive design to achieve the research goals for evaluation.
- 2) Collect, collate and review background literature and recent surveys relevant to the Assessment.
- 3) Engage with the consultant(s) responsible for collecting qualitative and quantitative data and guide their work as needed.

2. Under the guidance of the UN Technical Support Group lead in the analysis of the collected data, drafting of reports and recommendations in partnership with the Government of Myanmar, more specifically: