GENERAL INFORMATION

Title: Polarization and Social Exclusion in Digital Society; Article Writer
Project Name: Think Piece on Inclusive Digital Transformation
Reports to: Senior Advisor of Programme Integration and Development Analysis, UNDP
Duty Station: Home-based
Expected Places of Travel: N/A
Duration of Assignment: 20 working days within 3 months (October 2022-December 2022)

REQUIRED DOCUMENT FROM HIRING UNIT

✓ TERMS OF REFERENCE

5 CONFIRMATION OF CATEGORY OF LOCAL CONSULTANT, please select:
   (1) Junior Consultant
   (2) Support Consultant
   (3) Support Specialist
   (4) Senior Specialist
   (5) Expert/ Advisor

CATEGORY OF INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT, please select:
   (6) Junior Specialist
   (7) Specialist
   (8) Senior Specialist

APPROVED e-requisition

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FROM CONSULTANT

✓ P11 or CV with three referees
✓ Copy of education certificate
✓ Completed financial proposal
✓ Completed technical proposal

Need for presence of IC consultant in office:
☐ partial (explain)
☐ Intermittent (explain)
☐ full time/office based (needs justification from the Requesting Unit)

Provision of Support Services:
Office space: ☐ Yes ✓ No
Equipment (laptop etc): ☐ Yes ✓ No
Secretarial Services: ☐ Yes ✓ No

If yes has been checked, indicate here who will be responsible for providing the support services:
N/A
I. BACKGROUND

The role of digital technologies in human life has never been so critical with rapid advancement of digital technologies - digital transformation has become a matter of fact, something inevitable. The COVID19 pandemic has demonstrated the incredible power and role digital technologies play in all parts of human life. The doctor visits are at times replaced by online consultations and various digital health platforms; zoom screens became classrooms; and one can conduct various kinds of banking and commerce transactions in the comfort of their home.

Such abrupt changes, however, is currently enjoyed only by certain groups of people, those that are privileged enough to be able to own digital devices, have access to the internet service network, and are knowledgeable to take advantage of the myriad benefits digital technologies have to offer – all of these in countries with adequate investments and enabling environment. Digital divide created between those who can access to affordable digital information and communication technology services and those who cannot have created a state of digital exclusion, leaving behind a large group of people marginalized. Digital inclusion will be achieved, only when no one is left behind in benefiting from digital technology.

Digital divide is not the only reason digital inclusion has become a challenge. Where digital accessibility is secured, complex digital algorithm in various social media platforms, has often brought together groups of people sharing common beliefs, liking and aspirations, creating a situation of digital polarization in which these groups not only interact with each other but at times are not aware of diverse values and interest that prevail in other parts of the world. This echo chamber effect creates social exclusion, potentially reduce social cohesion, and increase digital polarization in society.

As one of the country with the largest social media users, such digital phenomenon is highly relevant to Indonesia, and studies has shown its affects in socio-economy and political life of Indonesian, and as this is not unique for Indonesia, analyses of Indonesia’s socio-political context compared with that of other countries (in the region and globally) will make an interesting and useful analysis for Indonesia’s stakeholders in working towards an inclusive digital transformation.

It is our believe that Digital technologies have the potential – only when equipped with adequate standards and safeguard measures – to enable inclusion and meaningful participation that ultimately support the promotion of civic, economic, social and cultural rights of all persons, ensuring that no one is left behind from the opportunities to realize their full human development potentials.

It is against this background UNDP Indonesia is seeking to engage an expert to explore the issues of polarization and social exclusion in digital society, and review the potential for digital technologies and assess through a policy Think Piece, the extent to which digital transformation can enable inclusion and meaningful participation that ultimately supports the promotion of civic, economic, social and cultural rights of all persons, ensuring that no one is left behind from the opportunities to realize their full human development potentials.

II. SCOPE OF WORK, ACTIVITIES, AND DELIVERABLES

The objective of the assignment is for the consultant to write a paper article of maximum 25 pages (excluding annex) on polarization and social exclusion in digital society– review and assess its extend and impact to the effort to realizing an inclusive Digital Transformation in Indonesia.

Scope of the assignment:

We envisioned that consultant will do the following:
1. Conduct desktop research of the topic, determined the focus and outline of the paper – based on the latest debate/discourse on polarization and social exclusion in digital society (users of social media), in the context of inclusive digital transformation, before continuing with the article writing. While analyses will focus on Indonesia context, writer will also explore and research the status of this topic in selected other countries for comparison and to explore good practises.

2. Conduct analyses deemed necessary to further exploration of the topic. Analyses could be numerical and or spatial data, statistic or other technical related analyses. Analyses can use published secondary data, or original data by consultant.

3. Attend the public webinar, conducted by UNDP on the topic and gather information provided by speakers and or participants.

4. Write a 25 pages article on the topic.

**Expected Outputs and deliverables:**

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<tr>
<th>Deliverables/ Outputs</th>
<th>Number of Working Days</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Review and Monitored by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deliverable 1: Initial working paper; a theoretical backup, proposed arguments, and outline of the paper</td>
<td>5 Wds</td>
<td>15 days after contract signing</td>
<td>Senior Advisor Programme Integration and Development Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deliverable 2: Final paper article with maximum of 25 pages long, excluding annexes.</td>
<td>15 Wds</td>
<td>45 days after contract signing</td>
<td>Senior Advisor Programme Integration and Development Analysis</td>
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**III. WORKING ARRANGEMENTS**

**Institutional Arrangement**

The consultant will:

- Work closely with and report to UNDP Indonesia Senior Advisor on Program Integration and Development Analyses.
- The payment will be made to the consultant at each payment schedule, upon technical clearance and approval of the satisfactory submission of results from the UNDP Senior Advisor on Program Integration and Development Analysis

Estimated lead time for UNDP to review outputs, give comments, certify approval/acceptance of outputs is 2 weeks

**Duration of the Work**

The consultant is expected to work 20 working days within 3 months. Final report expects full completion not later than November 10th, 2022.

**Duty Station**

The consultant is expected to work home based.

**Travel Plan**

There will not be any travelling required for this project.
IV. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Academic Qualifications:
- At least Master’s Degree (Doctoral degree is preferred) in political and social science, development studies, communication science, cultural studies, or other related fields.

Years of experience:
- Minimum 8 years work experience in empirical and policy research on digital transformation, social media, social network analysis, and expertise in relevant fields such as institutions, governance, and public policy. Mastering advance quantitative method research is desirable.

Research and Publish:
- Experience in conducting research and publish article – with evidence of at least 3 published papers articles (both peer reviewed and popular article) on the related topic.

V. EVALUATION METHOD AND CRITERIA

Individual consultant will be evaluated based on the following methodologies:

Cumulative analysis
When using this weighted scoring method, the award of the contract should be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:
a) responsive/compliant/acceptable, and
b) Having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation.

* Technical Criteria weight; 70%
* Financial Criteria weight; 30%

Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 70 points would be considered for the Financial Evaluation

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<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Maximum Point</th>
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<tr>
<td>Technical</td>
<td>(70%)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Criteria A: qualification requirements as per TOR:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. At least Master’s Degree (Doctoral degree is preferred) in political and social science, communication science, cultural studies, or other related fields.</td>
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<td>2. Minimum 8 years of proven work experience in empirical and policy research on digital transformation, social media and polarization, social network analysis, and expertise in relevant fields such as institutions, governance, and public policy. Mastering advance quantitative method research is desirable</td>
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<td>3. Experience in conducting research and publish article – with evidence of at least 3 published papers articles (both peer reviewed and popular article) on the related topic.</td>
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<td>Criteria B: Quality of Proposal</td>
<td>(30%)</td>
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<td>1. Understanding the scope of work and objectives of the assignment</td>
<td>10</td>
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2. Approach and methodology proposed - comprehensiveness & fitness against requirements  
3. Quality of proposed implementation plan, i.e., report outline, how the bidder will undertake each task, and time-schedules

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<th>Criteria C: There will not be any interview</th>
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