

CALL FOR TENDERS

Terms of Reference

External Evaluation – ‘Leading the way to Peace – Youth Together for Social Cohesion’ 2020-2022

1. Introduction

These terms of reference are designed for the evaluation of the *Leading the way to Peace – Youth Together for Social Cohesion* action in urban areas of Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the Philippines. The action is funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the Kofi Annan Foundation and its partners.

The 24-month project is due to finish on 31 January 2022. The evaluation will take place towards the end of the project, from late October to early November 2021, to effectively assess the project impact.

2. Background

The *Leading the way to Peace – Youth Together for Social Cohesion* action is a 24-month programme implemented by the Kofi Annan Foundation and its partners: The College of Youth Activism and Development (CYAAD) in Pakistan, Kristiyano-Islam Peace Library (KRIS) in the Philippines, the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) and its local partner – Rupantar in Bangladesh.

The action responds to the recruitment of urban youth by violent extremist (VE) organizations in the South and Southeast Asia region. Urban settings are attractive targets for extremist groups for multiple reasons, including a lack of community-based social structures that hold youth accountable. Bangladesh, Pakistan, and the Philippines have been particularly affected by violent extremism as shown by the *Global Terrorism Index 2020*, which shows South Asia as the region with the highest average impact from terrorism in 2019. In the same year, Pakistan and the Philippines were in the top 10 countries most impacted by terrorism while Bangladesh saw an increase in terrorist activity, with six attacks claimed by ISIS. This combined with the fact that young people between 15 and 24 represent 20% of the countries’ population makes youth both a target of recruitment by VE groups and key actors for preventing violent extremism (PVE).

The action’s overall aim is to enhance Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and youth capacities for youth-led PVE in urban areas of South and Southeast Asia through identification and comparison of different approaches and good practices to be shared and replicated in the region and beyond. It seeks to achieve this through 3 specific objectives: (i) to collect and share good practices in youth-led PVE between CSOs at regional and international levels (ii) to strengthen youth capacities to prevent violent extremism and (iii) to connect young people for youth-to-youth mobilization for PVE and peace.

3. Objectives of the Evaluation

The main objective of the evaluation is to **assess the progress, achievements, and challenges of the *Leading the way to Peace – Youth Together for Social Cohesion* action to enhance CSOs and youth capacities for youth-led PVE in urban settings in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the**

Philippines. The evaluation is expected to analyse the effectiveness of the project strategies to achieve the intended outcomes and to provide recommendations for maximising impact and achievement of the specific outcomes. The evaluation will assist the four partners in developing further action in the region and beyond. The evaluation will be of interest to the Kofi Annan Foundation, CYAAD, KRIS, GCERF, Rupantar and the EU.

The evaluation will assess and analyse the effectiveness of the programme by responding to the following key questions:

Relevance and added value

- Are the action and its methodology relevant for attaining the objective of enhancing CSOs' and youth capacities for youth-led PVE in urban settings in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the Philippines?
- Coherence of the action:
 - Does the action show internal coherence e.g., are there synergies and interlinkages between the action and other actions on youth, peace and security by the Kofi Annan Foundation and its partners, and consistency with relevant international norms and standards?
 - Does the action show external coherence e.g., does the action add value and avoid duplication of efforts, and is there complementarity and collaboration with other actions?
- How has the action managed to remain relevant and to adapt to the evolution of the context, especially the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Is a sense of ownership of the PVE activities starting to emerge among the TSC youth engaged in the action? How does this express itself – or not?
- Has the action engaged the right target groups to meet its objectives?
- Have both women and men been consulted, and how has gender been considered in the project activities (including intersectionality)?

Efficiency and Effectiveness

- Which strategies employed by the action have been most and least effective in achieving the action's objectives? Why?
- What have been key achievements of the action?
- Has the action effectively increased youth knowledge and capacities on VE and PVE? (Change in attitude, values or behaviour at individual level)
- Has the action led to an increase in exchanges of knowledge and experiences between CSOs engaged in PVE in South and Southeast Asia?
- Has increased knowledge on PVE enticed the targeted youth to engage with their communities, share what they have learned and applied their learnings to their PVE projects? (Has the assumed peer-to-peer logic of the action worked?) (Change in attitude, values or behaviour at group level)
- How has the action ensured participation by women, ethnic and religious minorities and low-income groups?
- Based on its theory of change, has the action contributed to creating a sense of purpose and a sense of belonging among the youth involved?

Impact and Sustainability

- What was the effect of the research on the project's intervention strategy?
- How have recommendations, findings and materials from the action been used to enhance capacities for youth-led PVE, and how can they be used in the future?
- How has the action contributed to increased interaction and trust between youth coming from different groups?

- Have there been durable and sustainable relationships established between the three co-applicants from the region? Between them and other youth-led CSOs engaged in PVE from the region? And between the TSC youth within each country? (Change in relationships)
- How relevant are the experience and lessons learned drawn from the action to the co-applicants' work beyond the lifespan of the project? And to the PVE work of other CSOs and policymakers from the region and internationally?

4. Methodology

The evaluation will be both an objective and consultative exercise, and will involve the following elements:

Documentary review: a review of relevant documentation; including the original programme document; programme reports and updates; research reports; training resources; audio-visual material.

Stakeholder interviews: including with the project team of the Kofi Annan Foundation; the three co-applicants from the region; project donors (European Commission); and people and communities engaged in the programme activities. Indicators to assess the progress and impact of the programme will be developed in consultation with local partners and stakeholders.

Focus group discussions: with a group of stakeholders as necessary and relevant.

Observing activities: follow some of them on the ground activities implemented by the partner organizations.

The evaluator will be expected to use a 'do-no-harm' approach when designing and implementing the external evaluation. Particular attention will be given to the sensitive and security-relevant nature of preventing violent extremism when developing the methodology for data collection, especially interviews with young participants. Extra care will be needed to ensure that information is not mishandled or inappropriately shared and that it complies with the EU General Data Protection Regulation.

5. Deliverables

Inception report: Following a detailed briefing but before fully engaging in the analysis and interviews, the reviewer will present an inception report of no more than 8 pages, detailing further how they will explore the major questions listed above, with a tentative list of the people to be contacted, the criteria for any choice of locations, and a tentative timetable.

Draft report: A draft report will be presented to the Kofi Annan Foundation, and shortly thereafter discussed in a workshop format.

Final report: The final review report will be in English and contain findings with analysis and supporting evidence and recommendations. An executive summary of no more than 4 pages will precede the full report. A map, a list of key documents consulted, a list of people interviewed, eventual longer case studies and other detailed materials will be attached in annex.

The report will:

- Provide a brief introduction, followed by sections with the findings, analysis and supporting evidence for the main domains of inquiry listed above ("key questions").

- The closing section of the report will provide a reasoned and balanced appreciation of the overall relevance and performance of the programme indicating strengths and weaknesses, and recommendations for the future of the work.
- The annexes will include a list of people interviewed, list of key documents consulted, and possibly longer case studies. Illustrative case studies should be no more than 2-3 pages, succinctly spelling out the background context, what happened and what resulted from it. They should also provide substantiating evidence, for example, in the form of quotations, anecdotes or testimonies; referencing to documents relevant to the case; observable or observed changes in behaviours or relationships; and apparent changes in trends, among others.

6. Qualifications

The evaluator will be expected to have the following skills and experience:

- Experience in conducting evaluations of programmes seeking to build peace and/or prevent violent extremism and of their specific sensitive and security-relevant nature; and a proven record of delivering professional outputs against Terms of Reference;
- Strong knowledge of and experience with programmes aiming to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism (P/CVE);
- Experience working in the South and/or Southeast Asia region;
- An advanced command of English; knowledge of Urdu, Filipino and/or Bengali is considered an advantage;
- Good drafting and excellent writing skills;
- Ability to work with tight deadlines.

7. Tentative Timeframe

The evaluation itself (review of documents; interviews and report writing) is envisaged to take a maximum of 28 days. This will include a visit to two of the three countries of the project. The evaluator will submit a draft report within 10 days of completing the fieldwork. They will provide a final report based on feedback on the draft report within 3 days of receiving such comments.

The evaluator will hold a feedback meeting with the Kofi Annan Foundation, CYAAD, KRIS, GCERF and the EU. This will be an opportunity to debrief stakeholders on the evaluation and share and exchange views on the preliminary findings and recommendations.

8. How to apply

Applications must be sent in English to HR@kofiannanfoundation.org by **23:59 CEST, Sunday 15 August 2021** and include the following:

- Letter of motivation (max. 1 page) and CV (max. 2 pages) detailing relevant previous experience of evaluation and knowledge of the region;
- A sample of a previous evaluation report, when possible;
- Financial offer expressed as fee/per day in EUR;
- 3 references.

Important:

- Only applications received before the deadline and conforming to the requirements set out above will be considered.
- Applicants will be contacted only if they are shortlisted.