



CENTRE FOR PEACE &
CONFLICT STUDIES

Strengthening strategic interventions into violent conflict with the overall aim of fostering sustainable peace in the Asia region

Invitation to Tender

External Evaluation of the project “Supporting Conflict Transformation in Rakhine State”

Funder by European Union



I. Background

CPCS is a Cambodian NGO working in the field of peacebuilding and conflict transformation in Asia. Our mission is to strengthen strategic intervention into armed conflict with the overall goal of reaching sustainable and positive peace in the Asia region. CPCS is home to a range of interconnected programmes and initiatives that are informed by on-going analysis and consultation with a myriad of local partners from the various contexts in which CPCS works, including Myanmar, the Philippines, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka.

CPCS focuses on demand-driven interventions that are informed by critical analyses and tailored to the needs of stakeholders within their conflict contexts. To enhance the sustainability of outcomes, CPCS prioritises long-term accompaniment over one-off programmes. Through this approach, CPCS expands safe spaces and creates platforms for dialogue and understanding, which are essential for establishing mutual trust and an environment conducive for transforming conflict. CPCS also works to build relationships with key individuals and institutions directly involved in peace processes, as well as key actors driving or influencing conflicts. These relationships provide a myriad of perspectives on conflict dynamics as well as opportunities to support and strengthen locally led efforts. New projects are frequently identified through feedback from these partners and are designed to fill identified gaps, strengthen conflict transformation approaches, or to bring together key actors to develop new strategies for reducing conflict.

II. Context and Purpose

The conflict in Rakhine state is complex with multiple factors that contribute to the reoccurring violence and instability in the state. While there have been various attempts by national and international stakeholders to provide solutions to the crisis in Rakhine state (i.e Kofi Annan Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, UNHCR's Solidarity Approach, and bilateral agreements between Myanmar and its neighboring countries), it is unclear how these efforts come together to shape the future of the state positively. The security situation inside the Rakhine state continues to deteriorate due to the on-going armed conflict between the Arakanese Army (AA) and Myanmar military (Tatmadaw). At least 170,000 civilians from central and northern Rakhine have been displaced since the fighting began in December 2018. On the other hand, the recent attempts to repatriate the Rohingyas failed as the group refused to return to Rakhine state without Myanmar citizenship and guarantee of security and freedom of movement. The return of the Rohingyas remains uncertain with the deteriorating security situation inside Rakhine.

Based on the above context, the project "Supporting Conflict Transformation in Rakhine State" is designed to build capacity and strengthen relationships between key stakeholders operating in Rakhine state to foster the peaceful resolution of the conflict(s).

CPCS theory of change acknowledges that the conflict in Rakhine State is complex, with multiple stakeholders and their competing interests contributing towards deteriorating conditions of trust, security and accountability. For the conflict to be resolved: (a) political leaders must build trust with key conflict actors and local communities, and (b) key stakeholders from different sectors, including women and youth, must develop a shared understanding of the conflict dynamics, and strategies to address them.

For this reason, CPCS' shall work with key leaders (men, women, and youth) across Rakhine and Rohingya communities to pursue pragmatic ways forward to end violence and find meaningful and sustainable long-term solutions to end the conflict.

III. Objectives & Deliverables

The situation in Rakhine state remains dynamic and complex. The armed conflict has significantly escalated since the project implementation begun in December 2019 due to the on-going confrontations between the Myanmar military and Tatmadaw. This resulted to increasing number of Internally Displace People (IDP); human rights violations; disruption in the local economy; postponement in the implementation of

foreign investments; and deteriorating humanitarian condition. The current political landscape remains unstable due to the upcoming elections. More importantly, the COVID-19 pandemic significantly shifted the way interventions in Rakhine state are carried out. Given the significant changes in the context of Rakhine state, this consultancy aims to provide insights as to how CPCS is delivering its contractual obligations while adapting to the changing security, political, and humanitarian landscape of Rakhine state.

Deliverables

The consultant shall conduct an interim evaluation of the implementation of the project from December 2019 to date. The evaluation shall cover the following areas:

1. **Effectiveness** - the extent to which CPCS has delivered activities based on the target outcomes stated in the approved proposal and Logical Framework.
2. **Adaptability and relevance** - the success factors shaping the project's relevance and the degree to which CPCS's efforts met with the priorities and policies of the target groups, thus the degree to which they fit the contexts and the requirements for transforming the conflict. It is also important to consider the factors that lie behind this.
3. **Efficiency** - value for money at the administrative, programmatic and strategic levels
4. **Challenges** encountered and key lessons learned
5. **Recommendations** for consideration for remaining project implementation period

The work shall include review of relevant project documents; key informant interviews, and writing of evaluation report.

The consultant shall submit a draft evaluation report by December 1, 2020 and the final interim report on December 15, 2020.

IV. Methodology

The consultant shall coordinate with the Project Director on Rakhine and CPCS Strategic Partnerships officer on logistical and technical needs during the contract period.

All relevant activities to this consultancy shall be done remotely. Key informant interviews shall be conducted online. CPCS shall contract an interpreter for the non-English speaking respondents.



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V. Timeframe and Budget

A total of ten (10) days consultancy service shall be rendered between October 15 – December 15, 2020 for this contract. Specific dates of the activities shall be determined depending of the availability of the target participants. Remuneration shall be based on CPCS consultancy rate. All expenses associated with activity (travel, accommodation, meals, etc.) will be covered by CPCS.

VI. TECHNICAL REQUIRMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS

About the consultant:

- Extensive experience in project monitoring and evaluation
- Knowledge of the conflict dynamics in Rakhine state and Myanmar politics, and familiarity with conflict transformation and peacebuilding work
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Deadline: Interested applicants may email their application letter with consultancy rate and CV on **October 12, 2020 at 5pm Cambodia time** to Ms. Heng Hally at henghally@gmail.com, centrepeaceconflictstudies@gmail.com