



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

Call for Tender

Consultancy for Listening Project in Rakhine State under “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 is an outsider organisation, and conducts research and delivers resources that are not available within the communities, thus not competing with local organisations. Being based in Cambodia also provides space to bring participants of our interventions out of their contexts when hosting programmes, allowing for more freedom to critically reflect on their context and strategies for moving forward towards peace.

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 60,000 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

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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, this project 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 Arakenese 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 listening project is aims to enhance the capacity of Rakhine state based Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in research and analysis to promote a deeper understanding of the root causes of the conflict and explore opportunities for future reconciliation. The listening research methodology aims to support a locally-led analysis that hopes to reflect the multiple factors that reinforces the cycle of violence in the state; the impact of the conflict on communities and on the vulnerable groups (i.e women and children) across Rakhine state; and the communities' perspective on the long-term solution to the conflict and their aspirations for the future.

The civil society leaders, women, men and youth, from different ethnic groups in Rakhine state are crucial stakeholders for raising voices of communities through research and analysis because of their access to strategic actors driving decisions at the policy level and grassroots communities. They are grounded in the daily realities of conflict, insecurity and underdevelopment. Thus, supporting a civil society led research and analysis will build their capacity in evidence-based advocacy while generating a credible, participatory and inclusive community-based analysis that will deepen local and international stakeholders understanding of the root causes of conflict and its impact on communities across Rakhine state. Moreover, the report will provide community's insights in policy development and conflict interventions in Rakhine state.

Activities:

Through the guidance of the **consultant**, the civil society in Rakhine will conduct research that will seek to understand the impact of conflict to communities and on diverse groups (women, men and youth), and their aspirations for the future. This will be done using the gender-sensitive listening research methodology - a qualitative research approach that seeks to gather community voices and channel it to decision makers who can make change. As a conflict transformation intervention, this particular listening publication is expected to:

- Raise awareness and develop deeper understanding of the conflict dynamics that can then be used to inform key stakeholders and policy-making to support more nuanced approach in rethinking long-term conflict transformation approach in Rakhine;
- Build a sense of ownership of long term solution among Arakanese and other ethnic minorities living in the state;
- Build Rakhine CSOs capacity for raising voices of communities through research, and enhance their skills to strategically engage with different stakeholders; and

Deliverables:

The consultant shall design and facilitate a learning process for Rakhine State-based civil society focusing technical workshop on listening research methodology; processing of outcomes that emerged from the listening research process; and editing and processing of analysis report.

The consultant shall deliver:

- A design and schedule for the training on listening research methodology, processing workshop, including the identification of key themes emerging from the research, elucidation and identification of anomalies in the research and direction on the drafting of the final publication.
- Facilitation services to implement the plan and schedule for the learning process.

IV. Methodology

It is envisioned that the consultancy will be based on a number of interviews with key individuals and organisations involved in the projects, including CPCS project staff and project participants. The consultant will also be involved in the designing of training materials; identification of key questions and issues that provide insight into the overall learning goals of the project; and the development of a roadmap for the way forward.



V. Timeframe and Budget

The consultation services shall be availed for a total of twenty two (22) days within the project period (between **January 10, 2020 to June 30, 2021**). This shall cover the following activities:

- a) *Training on Listening Research Methodology*
5 days including 1 day for preparation for the facilitation of the forum, 2 days for travel time, and 2 days for the facilitation of the process itself.
- b) *Processing Workshop*
5 days including 1 day for preparation for the facilitation of the forum, 2 days for travel time, and 2 days for the facilitation of the process itself.
- c) *Final consultation for researchers*
5 days including 1 day for preparation for the facilitation of the forum, 2 days for travel time, and 2 days for the facilitation of the process itself.
- d) *Editing and proofreading*
7 days

Remuneration shall be based on CPCS rate for consultants. All expenses associated with activity (travel, accommodation, meals, etc.) will be covered by CPCS.

VI. TECHNICAL REQUIRMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS

About the consultant:

- Expertise on listening research methodology, with published research using the listening methodology.
- Demonstrated capacity to design and facilitate conflict-sensitive and gender-sensitive training workshop on listening research methodology.
- In-depth knowledge of the conflict dynamics in Rakhine state and Myanmar political economy.
- Established network with key stakeholders, particularly with Civil Society, in Rakhine state is an advantage

Deadline: Interested applicants may email their application letter with consultancy rate and CV by January 7, 2019 to Mr. Zabra Siwa at zsiwa.cpcs@gmail.com.