

External Mid Term Evaluation

Somali Religious and Traditional Leaders' Peace Initiative

Somaliland

PURPOSE OF EVALUATION

The Somali Religious and Traditional Leaders' Peace Initiative programme is a joint effort between Finn Church Aid (FCA) as Funding Agency and Danish Refugee Council (DRC) as the Project Holder guided by the Contract Agreement of 26th January 2009 and the Project Document of 13th October 2008, aimed at peace building and reconciliation initiatives through traditional mechanisms targeting religious leaders, traditional leaders, Government representatives and peace makers in Somaliland and Puntland.

FCA and DRC have signed a Contract Agreement with International Horn University, Hargeisa (IHU) as the implementing local partner. A Steering Committee consisting of representatives from the three organisations is responsible for the overall steering and monitoring of the programme and related activities and approves the financial and narrative reports. The programme was launched in 2008.

The purpose of the evaluation is to provide an objective and independent review of the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the Peace Initiative programme in order to learn from the experiences gained, share the findings and decide on the future direction of the programme.

BACKGROUND

Since the civil war the traditional authorities have regained considerable importance, especially in creating peace, security and upholding law and order. Successful sustainable development requires building durable policies, the rule of law and representative political institutions.

Despite the fact that different social institutions have suffered and been weakened by the continuing conflicts, the religious and traditional leaders are nonetheless still respected amongst the different sectors of the population and their importance in the everyday life of the Somalis should not be underestimated. Religious and traditional leaders with their authoritative societal role can bring communities to peace and at the same time allowing the communities to gain understanding, and participate actively, in the processes leading towards sustainable peace. Using religious and cultural traditions as a resource to facilitate dialogue and mediation drawing on religious and traditional leaders may transform debates and mediate conflicts by utilising a mix of traditional and new methods.

The aim of the project is to improve peace building and development through dialogue and collaboration between Somali religious leaders, clan elders, women's groups, government officials, and minorities at regional, district and village level in order to reduce conflict and create a conducive environment for peace and development among Somalis.

The overall objective of the programme is:

- To significantly reduce the levels of active conflict in Somali regions and facilitate accelerated efforts toward reconstruction.

The immediate objectives are:

- Dialogue on peace and reconciliation between religious leaders, traditional leaders and government officials has been strengthened at village, district and regional levels.
- Religious and traditional leaders have been exposed to peace making techniques and approaches that draw on community, religious and evolving approaches to conflict resolution.
- Religious and traditional leaders have been linked to ongoing peace and reconstruction efforts.

SCOPE OF CONSULTANCY

The evaluation needs to give a comprehensive overall understanding of the Peace Initiative programme and an in-depth analysis of strategy, implementation, impact and results. The primary focus of the evaluation is to

assess the achievements and gaps of the project. The evaluation should also identify opportunities for the Peace Initiative Program to provide further targeted technical support to religious and traditional leaders and partners in order to strengthen their ability to implement and/or to advocate for peace building.

METHODOLOGY

The consultant is required to detail their approach and methodology as part of the selection process, highlighting the key evaluation criteria.

OUTPUTS (REPORTING)

- i. The evaluation report will be written in English a maximum of 20 pages inclusive of the summary conclusion and remarks (annexes can be separate).
- ii. A one day workshop to present and discuss initial findings and to receive feedback before the final report.
- iii. The final evaluation report to be presented to the Steering Committee for the Peace Initiative programme.

The final report should include:

- An executive summary
- An overview of the evaluation methodology including stakeholder analysis, detailed result based work plan with clear time lines and deliverables.
- Provide recommendations concerning the future direction of the Peace Initiative programme.

The Consultant expressly transfers to DRC all patents or copyrights related to any work created in connection with services provided.

CONSULTANT REQUIREMENTS

- The Consultant should have experience within organisational capacity building, conflict resolution and peace building, Somali traditional governance mechanisms as well as knowledge regarding implementation of development programmes preferably in a Somali context. Knowledge of local language is an asset.
- Masters degree in conflict studies, social science, development or other related field.
- Proven expertise and experience from previous capacity development evaluations. Prospective candidates may be asked to provide examples of recently completed evaluation reports.
- Demonstrated ability and excellent communication skills to facilitate interviews and focus group discussions
- Independent from parties involved.

CONDITIONS

The Consultant must be available to commence the evaluation in September 2010. The evaluation will last 14 – 21 days, of which 50% will be field based.

For general information about the Danish Refugee Council, please consult www.drc.dk.

APPLICATION, BUDGET AND PLAN

Applicants need to submit a concise proposal that includes:

- A brief methodology paper.
- CVs of those directly carrying out the evaluation.
- Time chart.
- Fee requirements.
- References or documented evidence for other similar consultancy services.

Submit your proposal to drcjobskenya@gmail.com, indicating “**Mid Term Evaluation of Somali Religious & Traditional Leaders Peace Initiative**” as the subject heading.

The deadline for application submission is **August 13, 2010**