

Request for Proposal 2021-27 National Advisor for Sri Lanka (Consultancy)

About GCERF

The Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) is a global fund working on preventing violent extremism, based in Geneva. GCERF is the first global effort to support local, community-level initiatives to strengthen resilience against violent extremism (VE). Operating at the nexus of security and development, GCERF works in partnership and consultation with governments, civil society, and the private sector in partner countries to support national strategies to address violent extremism's local drivers.

GCERF is governed by a multi-stakeholder Governing Board with representatives of donor and partner countries, the private sector, foundations, research institutions, and civil society.

GCERF has 35 employees who are currently all based in its office in Geneva. GCERF is actively working with governments, civil society, and the private sector in Albania, Bangladesh, Kenya, Kosovo, Mali, Nigeria, North Macedonia, the Philippines, Somalia, Sri Lanka, and Tunisia. GCERF is expanding its activities in other countries, such as the Sahel and the Western Balkans.

Description of Services

- Supporting GCERF's grant making and grant management efforts in the six programme districts¹ as part of GCERF's Sri Lanka portfolio, including participation in programme design processes, etc;
- Conducting regular activity monitoring of GCERF's programmes as per an agreed schedule with GCERF;
- Supporting coordination and capacity strengthening of GCERF's grantees, including provision of guidance on mainstreaming best practices;
- Serving as an interlocutor between GCERF's Secretariat and key in-country stakeholders (Government partners, donors, grantees, other in-country agencies, UN, NGOs, and CSOs) as requested by GCERF.

Background

The Islamic State (IS)-inspired Easter Sunday bombings of 21 April 2019 that took more than 250 lives brought Sri Lanka under the international spotlight on matters of VE. In light of this, GCERF approved Sri Lanka as a Partner Country in September 2019. Up to USD 1 m has since been made

¹ The Ampara, Batticaloa, Colombo, Kalutara, Kandy, Kurunegala districts of Sri Lanka form GCERF's programme jurisdictions for now

available for an initial investment of 24 months in promoting community resilience against radicalisation to VE. GCERF's investment prioritises women and children, youth, and men of diverse, religious, ethnic, and other backgrounds. Specifically, juveniles aged 15-17 and young adults within the 18-29 age bracket are at the core population group.

GCERF is looking for a National Advisor for Sri Lanka to support its current programming activities. An integral member of GCERF's Sri Lanka team, the successful applicant will combine relevant expertise in P/CVE, peace building and reconciliation, programme management, monitoring and evaluation to support GCERF's programming activities. (S)he will provide a key support role to the Country Manager in the day-to-day management of the Sri Lanka portfolio, working collaboratively with colleagues in other units and with in-country partners. Experience with productively managing relationships with internal and external stakeholders, including governments is an asset.

Work to be done and deliverables

Grant Making:

1. Support the Country Manager to conduct the Due Diligence of potential grantees;
2. Support the Country Manager to finalise the grant proposals (theory of change, results frameworks, workplans, etc.) of the potential grantees;
3. Support the Country Manager to oversee and provide guidance to current grantees in Sri Lanka.

Grant Management:

1. In coordination with the Country Manager, conduct regular programme monitoring of activities implemented by grantees as per the agreed schedule;
2. Support grantees with the preparation of regular programmatic reports on an as-needed basis and contribute to the development of consolidated reports;
3. Oversee grantees' work on the development and submission of special terms and conditions documents, ensuring that recommendations are reflected.

Coordination and information sharing:

1. In agreement with the Country Manager, coordinate capacity strengthening for grantees, Country Support Mechanism, and civil society stakeholders, including Community of Practice (COP) events;
2. Provide the Country Manager with regular analysis of intervention contexts and proactive sharing of information (i.e. reports, maps, and invitations to events and fora) with GCERF and the Country Support Mechanism;
3. If requested, participate in P/CVE coordination meetings, discussions, workshops, etc. organised by the national government, donor community, and multilateral and international partners and report back to the Country Manager

Stakeholder Engagement (if requested by GCERF):

1. Build relationships with relevant P/CVE stakeholders to identify synergies and opportunities for collaboration;
2. In collaboration with the Country Manager, work closely with partner communities and grantees to ensure emerging needs are addressed in a coherent and compliant manner with best practices;
3. In coordination with the Country Manager, organise and deliver regular and ad-hoc update meetings with GCERF member countries in the country.

Deliverables

The National Advisor will be based in Colombo and will travel regularly to the project sites where the civil society partners of GCERF are implementing projects, to engage with grantees, communities, and local government representatives. Key deliverables include but are not limited to the following:

- 1) Report on each monitoring visit conducted, including findings, identified gaps, and recommendations for grantees;
- 2) Produce a bi-weekly report updating GCERF about the following:
 - a. A one-page context update and its relevance to the P/CVE landscape;
 - b. A one-page summary of each meeting attended with an outline of key points discussed, key stakeholders (P/CVE actors/organisations, donors, government authorities, and members of civil society) in attendance, and points for follow up discussion in other multi-lateral or bi-lateral settings;
 - c. A one-page summary of the donor landscape as relates to P/CVE;
 - d. A one-page summary of in-country travel with an outline of key takeaways.
- 3) Produce a final report at the end of the service agreement.

Timeline and Scope

The Sri Lanka National Advisor is a fully funded consultancy position. The initial duration of consultancy will be until 6 months and involves 80% level of effort.

In collaboration with the GCERF Country Manager, and the Head of the Portfolio Management Unit, a detailed work plan with clear deliverables will be discussed with the Consultant for each month and/or quarter.

Characteristics of the Sri Lanka National Advisor

GCERF is seeking a candidate with good knowledge of P/CVE programming and grant management in the South Asian context. Female candidates and applicants from marginalised ethnic groups are strongly encouraged to apply. The successful candidate will be based in Colombo, with regular travel to project sites. (S)he should speak 1 or more national languages. GCERF will not relocate persons from abroad to Sri Lanka.

The National Advisor will have the following skills and competencies:

- At least 5 years of working experience with national or international organisations in P/CVE, peace building, reconciliation or related areas.
- Strong understanding of P/CVE context and dynamics in Sri Lanka and South Asia;
- At least 5 years of relevant working experience in programme and grant management, monitoring and evaluation or related areas.
- Experience in donor reporting.
- Extensive experience in networking;
- Extensive experience in coaching and training of local CSOs;
- Ability and willingness to regularly travel to locations where GCERF's programmes are implemented;
- Fluent English skills, both written and verbal. The official language of GCERF Secretariat is English;
- Relevant language skills (Sinhala, Tamil, or others) for working with grantees, authorities, and communities i.e. knowledge of local languages;
- Strong presentational and analytical skills;
- A degree in political science, international relations, social sciences, law, or related field is preferred.

The candidates must comply with all applicable laws and regulations. The fees charged should be reasonable and competitive to the extent possible.

Submission of Proposals/ Applications

Proposals must follow the template provided below. Failure to follow the proposal structure or to comply with the instructions in this Request for Proposal will be at the bidder's risk and may affect the evaluation of the proposal.

Proposals should be sent latest by **11 February 2022** by email to bids@gcerf.org with the clear subject "Bid reference: 2021-27".

Period of validity of the proposal

The proposal must be valid for a period of 120 days following submission.

Cost of preparation and submission of the proposal

The Candidate shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the proposal, including but not limited to the possible cost of discussing the proposal with GCERF, making a presentation, negotiating a contract and any related travel (e.g. associated with security clearance if needed). GCERF will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the selection process.

Selection of applicants

Applicants are requested to provide the most appropriate and suitable solution to meet the requirements. Please note that GCERF has limited resources in the budget for this position, therefore we would consider only the most cost-effective solutions.

The selection will be made based on a number of criteria that will be applied systematically to all proposal received:

- Responsiveness to request;
- Suitability of the applicants profile (previous experience and qualifications, required skills and competencies);
- Credibility of the applicant (references, certificates);
- Quality of the offer document; and
- Financial Offer.

Proposal structure:

Candidates must submit their proposal following the template below:

The application document is made up of three different sections

1. Disclosure form
2. Profile of the applicant (CV with relevant experience, cover letter, references)
3. Financial proposal (the fees charged should be reasonable, competitive to the extent possible)

Please keep the overall proposal within 4 pages. You may annex additional information as needed.

1. Disclosure form

I (name and title of the Applicant) confirm that I can perform the Consultancy work in Sri Lanka and hereby submit this proposal in response to GCERF's Request for Proposal 2021-27. I confirm that all statements and representations made in the proposal are true and correct.

Date submitted:

Submitted by: (Name of Applicant)

Signature

2. Profile of the Applicant

Please provide a CV and one-page cover letter highlighting how your skills and experience qualify you for the role of National Advisor. Please briefly provide recent examples of similar projects you have recently undertaken. Please provide references that GCERF may contact.

Please explain the legal status of the applicant.

Please explain your individual strengths and values and the suitability of your approach to the above mentioned project.

3. *Financial Proposal*

Please explain the basis of the proposed fees and any other charges to GCERF and their level. Please include the basis for invoicing and terms and conditions for payment.